



Back in April 2018 we reported on the arrival in the village of the new incumbents at the Red Lion, Chris and Sue Light. Since then the pub has undergone a transformation, well, a couple of transformations, as this energetic couple seek to make the Lyon (as it is now known) relevant to 21st century tastes and habits while maintaining the tradition and heritage of the English pub. They are helped by the quintessentially English setting, in the lee of one of the most iconic church spires in the county and a majestic cedar in the churchyard. Yet pubs everywhere have been under threat for some years as drinking habits changed, and now find themselves in the eye of the Covid-19 storm, yet these two are fighting back, and in a most emphatic way. No one passing could fail to notice the

eye-catching murals now decorating the walls. Gone is the deep blue exterior, which Chris himself says he never really liked, and in its place a series of drawings of almost Chaucerian quaintness. At first glance they are merely novel and slightly intriguing, but closer inspection reveals a theme, or perhaps a story, connecting the pub with the local community, a subject close to Chris and Sue's heart. It's worth a stroll round the outside of the premises to discover references to old farming practices, local produce, local history and of course, the local river.

Of course it's not simply part of an attempt to place the pub at the heart of the community, although it does that. Chris, an astute businessman, admits that it is also designed to draw attention to the place, and to get people talking—which

it also does. It brightens up the centre of the village, and raises the spirits (no pun intended) at a time when they need it. Their efforts have been recognised at the Forest of Dean Business Awards, where they won the 'Pub of the Year' trophy. And the food's good. *Ed*
The new murals are by Tom Cousins, a Forest of Dean artist

PARISH COUNCIL

After my failed attempt to join last month's Parish Council Zoom meeting, I was very relieved that this time it worked perfectly for me, thanks to Fiona's time and trouble earlier in the day. After the usual formalities, we got straight down to the planning applications.

Planning There were three of these – for the construction of a manège and stables at Cotshill Farm, the change of use from a machinery store to a games room at Elmfield Court and the conversion of a cattle shed to a dwelling at Rock Farm. We had no objections to any of these, so Fiona then updated us on the result of an earlier application, which was for the erection of a two-storey and a single-storey extension at Lower Ryecroft in the village. This had been refused due to the scale and siting of the building in a conservation area.

Eco-village There have been no further developments as far as the eco-village proposal is concerned, but it is still a threat and it appears that, while the possibility of this project looms over us, it may affect house prices in the immediate area. It is quite possible that councillors from elsewhere in the Forest district will be supportive of the proposal and so the threat is still very real, as the District has to find sufficient sites for

the provision of more housing. We have on previous occasions sent in suggestions for sites which we considered could be suitable and these have not been taken up, but we will try again, as we would much prefer small scale development on sites where the landowner is in favour of development. Chairman Simon Phelps and Fiona will draft a short list of our suggestions once the landowners have been consulted again.

Finance – The accounts were approved and the books had been sent off for the internal audit. We reviewed Fiona's salary and agreed a 1.5% increase.

County Council report – Brian Robinson joined us at this point with news that a local coronavirus testing facility is now open in Cinderford and that the County Council has received £2m from the government to develop the Test and Trace system. The first full council meeting since the lockdown is scheduled for next week and will take place on Webex, and normal council business is beginning to get up and running again. Brian mentioned the Communities Fund which is a County Councillor led grants programme that invests in projects and activities that will make a positive difference to local communities. One suggestion has been a cycle route from Newnham to Gloucester but there is not enough in the kitty for that, but Brian did seem interested in our suggestion of a safe cycle route from Westbury village to the Parish Hall.

The footway alongside the A48 on Wintles Hill has become overgrown and difficult to negotiate, especially with a pushchair, and Brian will arrange for



this to be cleared. Overhanging branches near the footway at the Dinney were also reported as being dangerous for cyclists. The grass verges along the lanes are being trimmed, but priority is given to danger spots where the plant growth is impeding the view of motorists, and the rest will be cut in two to three weeks time.

Burial Ground – the double hedge along the western side of the burial ground has always been a bit of a problem as it is difficult to keep under control and it then spreads over the cremation burials, so a meeting is being arranged with the neighbouring landowner to see what can be done about this. Our adviser, David Crofts, is still waiting for written confirmation from the Environment Agency that it is permissible for burials to take place in the lower part of the burial ground, as there are very few spaces left on the higher ground. Chairman Simon has also asked David for assistance with arranging the new lease with the County Council and also how best to meet the requirements of the District Council and Sport England regarding the new school playing field.

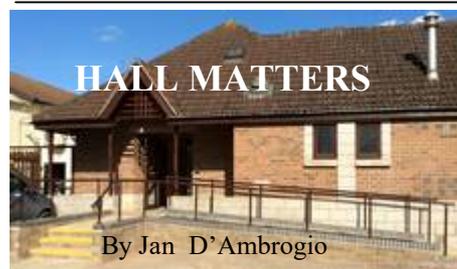
Brian Robinson raised the subject of Community Awards that are being given to those who have made a significant contribution to their community during this pandemic and we had been asked for nominations. However, it was felt that so many people in our community had gone out of their way to help, not only their friends and neighbours but also people previously unknown to them, that it was impossible to select any individuals.

Lydcare Westbury Parish Council makes regular annual donations to the charity Lydcare, as several of our pa-

rishioners use their community transport service, but we were sorry to see that only a couple of other parish councils make a similar donation. It was agreed that we see if there is any way that we can put some pressure on other parishes that use the service to make a similar donation.

Telephone Kiosks Mike Townsend reported that some more book shelves have been added to the kiosk at Northwood Green but it needs a coat of paint and he will see to it. It was also mentioned that the kiosk at Hartlands Hill is missing its door and Fiona will get a quote for fixing it. On behalf of all of us, Chairman Simon also wanted to thank those who had done such a good job on the kiosk in the village and had cleared up around the cross.

The next meeting, also on Zoom, will take place on Monday 20th July at 7pm.
Di Landon



I thought I would just give you a little up date as to what is going on at the hall. At the moment that is very little and we are going to take a softly softly approach to anything going on at the hall for a while yet.

Rugby and football are beginning to train at the beginning of July, taking in to consideration all the guidances as laid down by their respective associations and the cricket nets are operating

under a booking system and again observing guidances from the ECB. The hall and changing rooms during these periods remain closed.

We have had a couple of Parish Hall meetings via Zoom and these have been short and to the point and it has even been mooted that this should be the way of future meetings as they are done and dusted in half an hour, but we do want to get back to as near normality as possible and look forward to our meetings at the Parish Hall.

Whenever the hall does re-open though, be assured that we will be following all the relevant guidelines to ensure the safety of those using the hall is being met.

As you will all probably be aware of by now, the Summer Show, along with the Flower and Produce Show, has been cancelled – the not knowing what we could or could not do meant that planning was going to be difficult.

However if you have already planted your sunflowers then we would like you to pot one up or as many as you like, and bring it to the hall on Sunday 6th September as a way of marking the day, bringing a smile to those passing through Westbury on their way to wherever.

If there are any major changes we will let you know but at the moment large gatherings are still not to be and that is what the hall is good for.

Hope you are all staying safe and well and we look forward to opening the hall doors as and when it is the right time for us all.

A friend is a person who knows all about you and still likes you.

Moral indignation is jealousy with a halo

A letter from the Headmaster to parents



Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School

It was with sadness, that after 50 years of service to our community, we learned that Bright Horizons pre-school would be closing permanently from the end of this term. At Westbury-on-Severn Church of England Primary School, we have loved every minute of working in partnership with this organisation, which has served the village of Westbury and surrounding areas for 50 years. As a school, our thanks go to everyone who founded, worked in, supported and led this amazing organisation and brought early years education to many generations of children.

Recognising that this will inevitably leave a hole in the community, I am delighted to announce that, from September, **Westbury-on-Severn Church of England Primary School will be opening a pre-school of our own.** We are all extremely excited about this, and our governors are working extremely hard to prepare our building for new arrivals. We have already had an overwhelming expression of interest, which suggests this is the right provision to offer at the right time. Covid-willing, a wonderful building project is set to take place over the summer holiday in preparation for a new pre-school zone, which will see this group really at the heart of our school community.

You may have already seen information in the community about some of the provision we will offer. This is currently being finalised, so we will have a

lot more information to share very soon!

Our offer to parents will be consistent with the existing vision and aims of our Church school, which, as you will undoubtedly know, already acts as the heartbeat to our school. The school team and I are so excited about extending this to our pre-schoolers and our current pupils are equally excited to welcome new pre-schoolers from September.

With complete flexibility to suit the needs of you as parents, and an extended team of Early Years practitioners leading the learning, this is going to be a wonderful addition to our school. Whether you need morning sessions or afternoon sessions, five full days or a single day, we want to help and support you in your need. We will be continuing to offer 15 hours funded childcare as part of this offer. Initially, we will be operating with the same times as our current school day, which is 8.45am until 3pm. This means that if you already have children at our school, you can drop-off at the same time, or collect at the same time. We will also be providing rich opportunities for family learning, that we hope will support and encourage you in the amazing jobs you do as parents. Again, more information about this will follow in September.

If you do not currently have need for this provision yourself, please do share this with those that you know who might. The beauty of our pre-school is that it will be open to all. So, please spread the word and phone for more information on 01452 760303. Registration forms can be emailed to you, upon request. However, we are currently taking names of interested parties

and this is filling up fast already! To begin with, we will aim to accommodate 12 children at each half-day session, so if you know what provision you might require, do let us know!

During the summer holiday we will be completely changing the landscape of the school and reorganising learning spaces so that all our amazing children will be able to return to fresh and exciting learning, in new and improved locations. We now just need to hope that we can all return together, on time, in September!

As you know, it has always been my joy and delight to serve the families of our Westbury community and surrounding villages and parishes, and the staff and I look forward to welcoming not only our new reception children, but pre-schoolers at the same time in September!

With warmest wishes,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher

As popular as a Bournemouth beach!

The Gloucester Journal of 16th July 1932 reported that concern had been expressed at the Parish Council meeting that licences had been granted to motor coach operators for use of the lanes to Rodley Sands. Three hundred and fifty people had apparently travelled from Gloucester to the Sands on a recent warm Sunday and it was felt that it could soon become as popular as Bournemouth. It was decided that warning notices should be put up along the lanes because of their narrowness.

Parish Churches Re-opened for Individual Prayer

I am delighted to be able to announce that all four of our Parish Churches have opened for individual prayer from the middle of June. Visitors are very welcome to sit quietly and pray, keeping social distance from members of other households. Please observe protocols detailed on notices at each church. All these arrangements are subject to further change as circumstances develop, and have been established due to the efforts of wardens and PCC in each parish, to whom my sincere thanks are due. At the time of writing (15.6.20) the arrangements are planned to be as follows:-

Blaisdon – Daily, am and pm;

Flaxley – Sun 10-2 approx;
Wed 2-6 approx;

Minsterworth – Daily, am and pm;

Westbury – Sunday, 10-4 approx;

If anyone has any questions about these arrangements, please contact me or your wardens.

Rev. Steve. 760756
stevewillstay@gmail.com

Church Wardens Annette Ellis and Simon Phelps add:-

We are delighted to be able to report that Northwood Green Church will also be open on Sundays between the hours of 10.00 a m to 4.00 p m . The restricted times for all the churches are to enable the Church to be available for small family funerals during the week. Please observe social distancing as advised by the Government. For those of you who wish to leave a donation towards the running costs of the Church we have placed a box on the main Churchyard gate post, this has been because of the spate of thefts from

the box within the Church itself, we hope that as this situation is overlooked by several houses there is less likelihood of interference. This box will be checked frequently. We hope to install a stronger collection box within the Church as soon as conditions permit.

VE Day



VE Day was commemorated at Northwood Green with all the rules on social distancing properly observed. Our picture is of only one of many hubs and at the angle taken it may look as if people weren't keeping the right distance but they were.

Most people in the village brought chairs and tables to the end of their drives. This meant the village had about five or six hubs with people at each side of the road.

A very successful event when most people had the chance to exchange news with fellow villagers. It boosted everyone's morale helped by the glorious weather.

Pat Brooke

Acting is merely the art of keeping a large group of people from coughing.
Ralph Richardson

Coronavirus Helpline

The Westbury Parish Helpers helpline has continued to link those who have been advised not to leave their homes with our wonderful band of volunteers who have been collecting prescriptions, doing shopping and running various other errands. During May, we were able to help eighteen residents with various requests and it looks as if this month's total will be similar. However, now that Westbury Surgery has re-opened for the collection of prescriptions, several people who could not safely collect from Newnham have been able to do so from Westbury, where they are issuing the medication through the dispensary window.

As the lockdown eases and those who have been shielding can look forward cautiously to more freedom of movement, the helpline is likely to be less necessary. This is just as well as many of our volunteers will be returning to work, if they have not done so already. We will continue to help as much as we can and will keep a close eye on the coronavirus infection rate in case there are signs of a 'second wave'. *Di Landon*



'Oh, come on—you didn't expect "woof to be still available as a password?"'

TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH
OF
WESTBURY ON SEVERN
ARE YOU BORED?
STUCK INDOORS WONDERING WHAT TO
DO?

PERHAPS IT IS TIME TO DO SOME
SPRING CLEANING?
HOW ABOUT SORTING THROUGH THOSE
OLD PHOTOS & NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS
& HELP PRODUCE A BOOK TO RAISE
FUNDS FOR A LOCAL GOOD CAUSE?
THE IDEA IS TO PRODUCE A
WESTBURY ON SEVERN SCRAPBOOK - A
BOOK OF LASTING MEMORIES FULL OF
PHOTOS, ARTICLES, PROGRAMMES,
NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS THAT REFLECT
LIFE IN THE PARISH OVER THE LAST
COUPLE OF CENTURIES.

THEY CAN BE PHOTOS OR ARTICLES
OF WEDDINGS, SCHOOL, FETES,
CARNIVALS, SPORTS, BUILDINGS,
PUBS, PEOPLE OR PROGRAMMES,
TICKETS, LEAFLETS, MENUS,
POSTERS - ANYTHING THAT TELLS
THE STORY OF THE AREA.

THEY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A
SCRAPBOOK THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH
WILL GO TO A CHOSEN LOCAL
CHARITY OR FUNDRAISING PROJECT.

HAVE YOUR SAY AS TO WHERE THE
MONEY SHOULD GO. IT COULD BE THE
CHURCH OR THE PARISH HALL OR A
LOCAL GROUP - IT IS UP TO YOU.

WHITECROFT NEAR LYDNEY HAS
PUBLISHED TWO SCRAPBOOKS
RECENTLY AND BOUGHT A
DEFIBRILLATOR WITH THE PROCEEDS.
GET THINKING & SEARCHING!
CONTACT JENNY on 07908 374291 or
jennycare@btinternet.com for
further information. Images can
be sent by text or email.
All contributions will be
credited.

*The trouble with facts is that there are
so many of them*

Resources for Worship in these trying times

In these times when our worship together is curtailed, you may be interested in a range of resources available to help.

Please join us for our regular Zoom services at 11am and 5pm every Sunday. Instructions for joining the services are available from me or any of the wardens.

The Church of England offers four services a day on its own website. They may be found at:

churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-service-daily-prayer
Gloucester diocese offers resources at: gloucester.anglican.org/your-ministry/your-prayer.

The 8 Prayer Booklets reflect 8 different styles of praying.

Highnam Parish have an excellent pre-recorded weekly service available at www.highnamchurch.org It lasts 30 minutes and can be watched at any time.

The churches of Cinderford have an excellent youtube channel, offering daily morning and evening prayer. It is at: [cinderfordchurches.org.uk/Our YouTube Channel](http://cinderfordchurches.org.uk/Our>YouTubeChannel) .

If any of you would like a list of the Sunday bible readings or my sermon notes for the month, a longer full text sermon or a shortened Communion Service for the current week, then please email stevewillstay@gmail.com or phone 760756. The same resources are available from parish wardens. *May God be with us all. Rev. Steve Taylor.*

"When I was a boy I was told that anyone could become president. I'm beginning to believe it"

Clarence Dallow

Peggy Fisher

In our previous edition, we missed a landmark birthday in Northwood Green. On 22nd May, 1920, in Bishops Cleeve, Isobel Edginton was born. Now, Edginton is a well known and well respected local name but only a few will recognise Isobel Edginton as Peggy Fisher, who clocked up a century last May.

When Peggy was two, Peggy's father bought Frowens Farm, and from the age of five, Peggy was catching the train to school in Gloucester from Grange Court station. Aged 10 she went to Kingsholm Senior School, and recalls her father collecting her from the station on rainy days in a pony and trap, with her raincoat. In those days, she says, women teachers had to be single, presumably why to this day they are all addressed as 'Miss'

Of course she was expected to help out on the farm, and she remembers how the ridge and furrow contours of the fields, for drainage purposes, made hay-making very hard work.

War came, and in 1940, Peggy went to work at the Gloucester Aircraft Company (GAC) in Hucclecote, working on the hydraulics of the undercarriages of Hawker Hurricanes and Typhoons, getting up at 5.30 every morning to catch the bus to Gloucester for work at 7.30, getting home at ten to nine in the evening, seven days a week. But it wasn't all work, and Peggy joined the Young Farmers club and went to dances at May Hill, where she met her husband to be, Marcus Fisher, known to everyone as 'Bun', apparently because he looked like a bunny rabbit when he was born.

While at the GAC, Peggy was hit by flying glass when a bomb landed in the

bus park, and as Bun had also had an accident, they decided to get married as soon as possible. They were married in Westbury Church, with the reception in the Red Lion and a honeymoon in Malvern. Daughter Janet was born in 1944, followed by Bruce in 1946 and baby Geoff in 1955.

Bun had joined the RAF, and was demobbed in 1945 under a quick release scheme as he was a much needed bricklayer. They took over the Kings Head in Huntley in 1947, and used Bun's gratuity to buy a plot of land in Bulley Lane, but due to post war austerity, couldn't get the necessary coupons for building materials, so they moved into the pub, which had a licence to sell beer and cider, but not wine or spirits. But it did have an acre of land, where Peggy kept 200 chickens.

Bun carried on working, and eventually they were able to buy Oaklands Farm in Northwood Green in 1961. Raising the money wasn't easy, and they struggled to afford the stock and machinery needed to run a farm. But by dint of hard work and sacrifice, they succeeded. Bun died suddenly and unexpectedly in 1988.

Peggy's story is a true epic of triumph over adversity, of calm acceptance of circumstances over which she had no control and dogged hard work. Today Peggy's eyesight is failing, something she accepts with equanimity. In fact she considers herself lucky, saying that she can still picture everything in her mind. A truly remarkable centenarian, and wish her a very belated happy birthday.
Ed

I am grateful to Pete Wilson for letting me have a recording of an interview he did with Peggy for BBC Radio Gloucestershire a couple of years ago. Also to Frank Treasure for the notes made by Joan.

Walmore Hill News

It has been a very different Summer Term for us at Walmore Hill this year, but we are beginning to feel things are changing in a positive way now that more of our children have returned.

The staff have been really impressed with how well the children have settled back in to school. They are so keen to learn and are always ready to take part in the activities we have planned. They love chatting with each other, particularly at lunch times when we have had picnics on the school field. We have re-organised our classrooms to allow for social distancing and the children have adapted really well to our new routines, especially more frequent hand-washing! Our topic this half-term is Dinosaur Planet and we are learning so many interesting facts about dinosaurs... teachers as well as the children! Children who are still at home are able to access activities on 'Google Classroom' and it is encouraging to see the work they have been doing, as well as photographs of their learning outdoors. We hold weekly Zoom meetings with the children too and some of them love to talk about what they have been doing at home. It has been good to see pet cats, dogs, ducklings and baby brothers too!

Looking ahead to September... We are hoping all of our children will return to school. We are missing them very much. We are looking forward to welcoming a new group of Reception children to Cygnets Class too.

It is with great sadness that we will be saying 'Goodbye' to Bright Horizons playgroup this term. They have been a big part of our school community for many years. We will miss Dawn and Jo very much. As the Reception teacher at Walmore Hill I have particularly appre-

ciated their help in ensuring the new little Cygnets have settled in to school happily each September.

We are now preparing for the next academic year and establishing our own pre-school group for 3 to 5 year olds. If you would like to find out more about our plans please contact the school office on 01452 750373 or send an enquiry to Jo, our school administrator at admin@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk. She will be happy to answer your questions,

With best wishes,
Mrs. Suzanne Loten, Cygnets Class Teacher

Churchyard Working Party



No shortage of daisies here!

The appearance of the closed churchyard has suffered somewhat from the lack of working parties for the last four months, although the brambles have obviously been celebrating our absence. However, their days are numbered, as we aim to start meeting again (at a safe distance obviously) on Sat July 11th. We shall have to bring our own refreshments but, weather permitting, we can resume our efforts to turn the area into a wildlife haven. If you would like to join us, we shall be there between 10am and 1pm and if the weather is bad, we will meet instead on 18th July. *Di Landon*

Lockdown & Life Ceremonies

I don't think we realised how much we interacted with other people until lockdown cut us off from them. This has been felt strongly in ceremonies celebrating life's major milestones – especially marriages and funerals.

Weddings which were planned a year ago were either cancelled or reduced overnight to a maximum of five people – and that figure included the bride and groom and the minister/registrars/celebrant. Funerals varied from a Direct Cremation with no-one present, to a small number at the service, depending on where you were and the ability to maintain social distancing. Inevitably, a lot of people, who dearly wanted to attend, simply couldn't.

However, all is not lost. Celebrant-led Wedding Ceremonies can now be conducted via Zoom. This would suit couples who don't want to wait until next year and those who had a Five Only wedding or Registry Office service but still want to share their commitment with their nearest and dearest. Gather your family and friends on Zoom and your chosen Celebrant will lead the ceremony which she/he created in accordance with your wishes. When the ceremony is over, the Celebrant will disappear discreetly, leaving family and friends to catch up and party on. You can split guests into different Zoom rooms which makes conversations easier. Baby-Naming and other family ceremonies can be done in the same way.

Some people feel unsettled and find it hard to move on if they have been deprived of the opportunity to say goodbye to a loved one. A Memorial Service, celebrating the life of the deceased, could be conducted via Zoom or you could wait until Lockdown regulations have been eased enough to allow larger groups to meet, perhaps on the first anniversary or on another significant date.

I am not the only Civil Celebrant in the Forest so please feel free to use my website

www.cradle-to-grave-ceremonies.co.uk as a benchmark for your research. If you have any questions, you can phone my mobile: 0776 534 2708 or email helen@cradle-to-grave-ceremonies.co.uk . *Helen Roberts*

WESTBURY SPORTS

Another month and the sports clubs of Westbury are showing remarkable efforts to come through the current circumstance, with varying degrees of success, as we can report below.

FOOTBALL

News from Portugal that FC Porto fans had been seen standing on the roof of the stadium to watch a “behind closed doors” match had clearly reached Frank Treasure who had to be talked down from the Parish Hall roof where he had taken residence in readiness for football training to recommence. Such commitment can only be applauded.

None of this, however, raised the mood of Director of Football Tempest who was seen pacing the touchline still furious about the disappearance of the statue he had personally crafted out of mud, grass clippings and stale pizza crusts during lockdown. The work of “art” fashioned in his own likeness had been recently installed in the car park. However, as part of a team building exercise, the first (and now known as ‘only’) team squad had removed the effigy and transported it to the River Severn where Baccary was deputed to hurl it into the water. Sadly, but not unsurprisingly, Baccary missed the 220 mile wide target, pulling his effort just wide and so the monument was left upended, half buried in Rodley Sands. All that can be seen is part of the inscription on the base reading “Look upon..and despair”. A strangely fitting statement in these troubled times.

However, on a more positive note word has reached the WOSP via the Tesco Se-

curity grapevine that Leon Mendy may be making a welcome return to midfield duty this season (whenever that is). For all his jumping, leaping, flapping and stomping young Reagan Warrington's 5'6" frame has not entirely replaced the 6' 3" figure of Mendy, particularly when Westbury employ the “hoof it” strategy required on windy days. Moreover Mendy is a useful asset whenever visiting foresters threaten to “kick off” whereas fiery Reagan is something of a liability in these situations. Additional good news is that Anthony Owens has also delayed his retirement plans and 1st team captain Tom Landon declined a couple of offers from rival clubs who were trying to tempt him away with outlandish claims of having “training sessions” and other such nonsense. Also Jerome Lee is back to lead the line up front and has brought his brother along so the team should be full of goals but sadly Sean the Keep has left so either Ivan the Terrible or A N Other will be between the sticks. Sadly goalkeepers of yesteryear Mike Matthews, Ian Martin and Duncan Teague can barely muster one functioning limb between them.

RUGBY

In rugby news, things are also moving forward. Director of Operations (for want of another title) Simon Roberts announced that “fist” training starts on 2nd July which, for those familiar with recent performances, would represent a marked change in strategy but reflects a commendably flexible approach to a full contact sport.

However, before players even had the chance to consider these new tactics, Roberts revised the announcement and so the rugby club's *first* training session starts on 2nd July under the new coaching team and looks set to take on a more traditional approach than initially planned.

CRICKET

Cricket has of course borne the brunt of

the current locked down/out/in situation which is a shame as the wicket prepared by head groundsman Charlie Gayther looks to be a spinners paradise and the Edginton Mowing Corporation have created an outfield that looks full of runs and in fine fettle. However, cricket in the nets are slowly starting up and club cricketers should be checking the Facebook page for instructions on the Stage 3 rules of engagement. Sadly there are still no matches scheduled and therefore I am still unable to adjudge Ian Martin out LBW but hope springs eternal. Some are planning on attending Umpiring courses soon, although I'm not - Ray Jones taught me all I need to know.

This is not to say that the cricketers have been idle and club stalwart and returnee (if he ever left) Dan Hockaday is galloping around the streets of Gloucester in an attempt to run 100 miles in June for the charity Action For Children, at the time of writing he has already completed 40. I urge those who haven't spent any money at the Parish Hall recently to send some via the Just Giving website instead - there isn't much else to spend it on. Oh, Ross Martin is doing it as well but he went off to play for Painswick and his dad keeps complaining about LBW decisions so sponsor Dan instead...!

Other notable athletic efforts have been registered by Greg Artus, Dan Jarvis (who seems to be doing a Tour De Gloucestershire at the moment) Jacob Brown and Arron Leese-Williams so we should be well set in the event of Div 1 cricket requiring lots of running after the ball - which it will. *Mark Landon*

*A woman who strives to be like a man
lacks ambition*

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Following the strict guidelines on social distancing whilst partaking in individual training sessions the boys are in fine fettle and raring to go. Chairman Ken led a group of lads to St Anthony's Well, unfortunately the Lyon had started serving takeaways so the distanced running group was easily distracted and to say Ken was a little miffed when he arrived alone at the well is an understatement.



So with the hard work done W o S RFC will now start training for next season on the 2nd of July under the watchful

eyes of new coach Dan (Stan)Hanby All sessions will follow government & RFU guidelines - we welcome all to come along and join in. *Peter Miles*



*Rodley Road in lockdown.
Pic:David D'Ambrogio*