



## Kebabaret Night - A Sell Out

On Saturday 28th October, the crème de la crème of the UK Cabaret circuit descended on Westbury for; Kebabaret Hallo-wiener Special. Curated by local lass, and award winning, International Burlesque Performer, Titsalina Bumsquash - the SOLD OUT event was a super success.

The audience were titivated by burlesque from Coco Deville, Sandy Sure, Raven Noir and Cheryl Coal! Comedy juggling was delivered by the super talented Jon Udry and Amuse La Bouche delivered exquisitely timed lip syncing.



There was a Best Dressed Competition, won by "The Mummy" ) and a raffle. One of the highlights of the night were the delicious Kebabs and Wieners made available from the kitchen of Mother Bumsquash! The entire event was supported and hosted by an incredible bunch of volunteers from the village and Bumsquash familia.

*Katie Hyett*



**A**fter the usual formalities, the October Parish Hall Committee meeting heard about the complications involved in sorting out the various utility contracts and bills. Jan D'Ambrogio has had to spend a lot of time on this and all agreed that there are better ways to spend one's day than negotiating terms with the various companies involved. The gas tank which fuels the changing rooms needs a refill and this cost will be taken into consideration when the rents are reviewed in February.

There are numerous hall improvement projects on the list and committee members had been asked to consider which were the most important as there are insufficient funds to do them all. An opportunity to replace the chairs in the lounge for a reasonable price had arisen and Ken Boulton and Neil Wyman agreed to collect these from Cirencester. An electrician is also coming to advise about the lighting in the lounge. There were mixed feelings about whether the hall floor needed treatment but it was agreed that some unsightly cables could do with boxing in and Brian Wyman, Mike Edginton, Tim Smith and Max Skipsey volunteered to form a maintenance committee to deal with similar issues in future.

#### **Severndipity (Bar) Report**

Val Morgan Townsend had circulated the bar figures and reported that the bar will now be open on Tuesday evenings instead of Wednesdays. There was some discussion about how best to make the bar more

profitable and it was agreed that the problem of the wastage from serving draft beer for small numbers will need to be addressed. A new treasurer will also be needed as Val will not be continuing after the next AGM.

#### **Fundraising**

Tickets for the Kebabaret were selling well and helpers had been enlisted. The recent Jumble Sale had made a profit of £440 and another is planned for next February. We can now look forward to our Pre-Xmas Bash on Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>. This was a great success last year and a chance to get an early start on Christmas celebrations. For details of this and our other upcoming events see page 3.

#### **Doctors' Surgery**

Gen Riley went through the draft of the Heads of Terms agreement and it was agreed that this could now go ahead. The Parish Hall are required to pay for the installation of a separate electricity supply to the surgery building and the cost of insuring it and it was agreed that both Westbury and Newnham Parish Councils should be asked to contribute towards the electrical cost, as it is a large sum to come out of the charity's funds and local residents will all benefit from keeping the surgery with its good parking facilities. The meeting was longer than my report suggests but it felt as if good progress was made and we were able to adjourn to the bar feeling very positive. *Di Landon*

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#### **Message from Jan**

**T**he beginning of October saw our fund-raising start with a good old fashioned jumble sale and thank you to all those that made donations of clothes, shoes and bric a brac. To those that helped on the day, to sort and sell the jumble, it was well worth it as we made a

staggering £444 for hall funds, thank you. Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> – Pre Xmas-Bash. Why not join us for a 2-course meal and live music from Steel Weasels - £15 a ticket, food and a boogie to live music - bargain! Please put this in your diary, we had a great time last year. It's become a bit traditional at our events at the hall that the ever-popular Sausage plait with various salads and profiteroles will be on the menu. Call Jan or send an email for tickets.

As we've said before we will be keeping the costs down as much as possible as we think it important for the community to have the opportunity to socialise in difficult times, whilst ensuring the running costs of the hall and the events are covered.

If you want to contact us, please feel free to on [info@wosph.co.uk](mailto:info@wosph.co.uk) or ring 01452 229570



## Nosh and Natter

### Westbury Parish Hall

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Food served between  
12.30pm and 1.30pm

Vegetable soup  
\*\*\*

Beef stew and dumplings  
\*\*\*\*

Chocolate sponge with custard

£8.00 two courses £10.00 three courses

Call us to say that you are coming and please let us know in advance if you have any dietary requirements

Please either see in person or call  
Gail on 760495/ Jan on 760630



## Parish Council

**T**he October Parish Council meeting got off to a slow start as there was an electrical problem at the Hall which meant that the lounge was in darkness! However, after a bit of attention, the lights came on, although we did have a few more dark moments as the evening progressed.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been agreed we moved on to public comment. This month, the matter raised concerned the rules regarding graves and boundary markers in the burial ground.

**Planning** Another matter raised by a member of the public was regarding a retrospective planning application for a barn conversion in Adsett Lane, following some concerns that the development was not compliant with the original permission granted. It was agreed that we should make a site visit to the property the following weekend, which we did and agreed to support the application.

Our clerk, Fiona, then updated us on decisions made on earlier applications for glamping pods at Elton and extensions at Chapel House at Broadoak, both of which had been granted.

**Finance** The financial statements were agreed. Contractors have been given the go ahead to carry out the work needed on several of the bus shelters in the parish. The grass cutting contracts run out at the end of the year and Fiona will be asking for tenders.

**Highways** Hunt Hill still awaits repairs but the overgrown footway through the village has been cleared. The drains between Rodley Court and Bluboy's have been jetted and while this was being done, it was found that a telephone pole had been put right through the middle of the drain.

**Play Area** Mike Townsend reported that there are areas of the wetpour which need

repair and he is in contact with Severn Trent regarding the broken manhole cover.

**Burial Ground and School Playing Field** Fiona has heard nothing more from the solicitors regarding the lease of the playing field so she will chase this up.

**Footpaths** There are two or three new footpath problems, including one near Elton which will be reported to the Public Rights of Way (PROW) team. Mike Townsend will also again raise the issue of a footpath at Hartland Hill which has been blocked for a long time with the PROW team making no progress with getting it open again.

**Climate Change** A project is underway in the Forest of Dean to look at ways to make communities more resilient to the hotter and drier summers and heavier winter rainfall that we are likely to experience in the future. Attention is mainly focused on the four Forest towns, but parish councils are also involved and technical support is available.

**Doctors Surgery** Westbury Parish Hall have asked if the Parish Council can help financially with the high cost of installing a separate electricity supply to the surgery, which is required as part of the lease agreement. It was agreed that some financial assistance can be given to the Hall in the next financial year but it was agreed that Newnham Parish Council should also be invited to contribute.

**Other matters** A

new solar powered community speed-watch camera has now been installed in Westbury which has automatic number plate recognition, so hopefully

this will help to slow traffic through the village. It is similar to the one installed in Minsterworth, so see p5 for more details.



Mike Townsend reported problems with the bus service in Northwood Green as the bus is often late and on one occasion recently did not arrive at all. This has been reported and it is understood that Newent Dial-a-ride will be taking over this route to Gloucester next year.

*Di Landon*

### **Road Closure**

**R**odley Road will be closed from 13th November 2023 until 15th November 2023 from its junction with the A48 to its junction with Strand Lane for a total distance of approximately 100 metres. This is for remedial repair works to the carriageway.

### **Closed Churchyard**

**W**e had a very successful and well-supported working party in the churchyard in October. We were able to tidy up the roadside hedge and get rid of a lot of the ever-returning nettles, elder and ivy.

We also had a bit of drama when some bags of rubbish, that had been dumped over the churchyard wall opposite the Lyon, were investigated. Inside one of them was found a large knife and a gun! A swift call to the police brought an armed response unit, who removed the bags, and we carried on with our weeding.

The grass has been growing rampantly and this causes a problem when you are trying to encourage wildflowers as all the cuttings need to be removed so that soil nutrients are reduced and the growth of coarse grasses is curbed. We have tried sowing yellow rattle, which is semi-parasitic and dampens the vigour of the grass, but so far this has not been very successful. Perhaps next year!

The advice from the experts at Caring for

God's Acre is that we should 'manage our expectations'. They point out that most people think of wildflower areas as a dazzle of colour from plants such as poppies and cornflowers, which are often grown from imported seeds, rather than the subtle tapestry of colour produced by our native flowers.

Our next session, weather permitting, will be on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November between 10 am and 1pm. All are very welcome and many thanks to our many regular helpers.

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### **Minsterworth Community Speedwatch Camera**

**F**ollowing a bid to Gloucestershire Community Speedwatch Fund, an initiative jointly run by the County Council and the Police, Minsterworth Parish Council now has a community monitored speed camera called Autospeedwatch. Located on the A48, the camera became fully functional in June 2023.

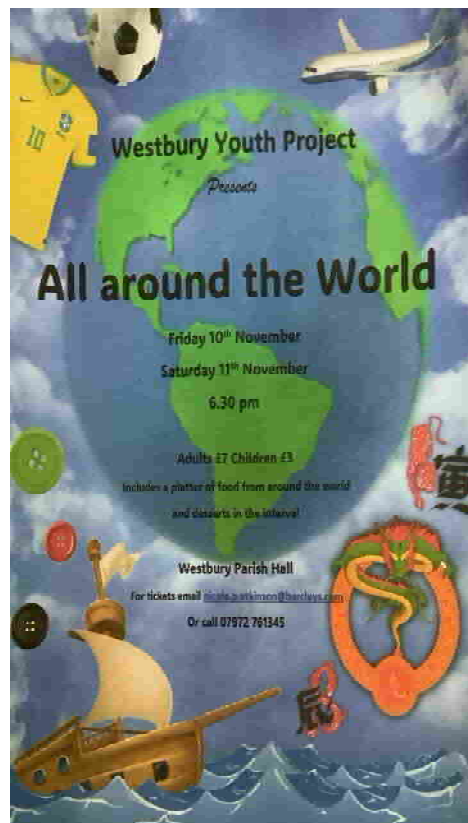
Although not continuously monitoring traffic passing through the village, it has been set up to take a photo when vehicles pass, travelling over the speed limit. The data from the camera is kept secure and confidential, and operated under the terms of a Service Level Agreement with the Police. It is positioned so that it does not take photos of the occupants of any vehicle, only its registration plate.

Information about speeding vehicles, and any recorded as not having Tax and/or MOT, is now being sent on to the Police on a weekly basis, and as a result the Police will be contacting the vehicles owners.

It is hoped that the level of anti-social driving through Minsterworth will reduce as the number of people contacted by the Police increases.

So, if you are travelling through Minsterworth – please smile for our camera!





### Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School

Our 175th anniversary is quickly approaching. During the week from November 13th, we will be taking part in another Dream Big week, which will celebrate our school and its history over the last 175 years. We will begin the week with a Victorian Day, with children dressed in Victorian clothing for the day and experiencing Victorian teaching! Throughout the week each class will be studying an aspect of history from 1848 to the present day, which will be shared with the school on Friday.

Also, on Friday 17th November from 4pm, there will be a display in the school hall to celebrate those 175 years. We are fortunate as a school to have a large selection of photos, maps and artefacts that we will be sharing with our families and the community.

Thank you to those who have offered to let us borrow items to add to this display. It is very much appreciated, and thanks also to members of the community who have shared stories about their time here at Westbury.

This is a community event, so please bring along any family members, whether they have a connection to the school or not - we may have a photo of them during their time here at Westbury! The PTA have kindly offered to serve tea and cake, so do come along - we'd love to see you there! We are very excited about this special week in the life of the school. *Sian Landon Sycamore Class (Y2/3) Teacher*

### Cafe on the Green

Many thanks to everybody who attended the Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th October, and special thanks to the stand-in helpers as the regular team was a little depleted.



A total of £135 was raised in aid of the Social Hall, Northwood Green. The hall provides a valuable asset to the village and is the venue for many social events throughout the year. The Hall needs your support to continue to provide this community hub. Thinking of having a party/celebration, then the hall is just the venue. Why squeeze everyone in at home, when you can hire the hall?

Next month's Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 4th November, when the team will be back to support the Western Air Ambulance. *Kay Manning*

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### Vale of Castiard W.I.

At our last meeting, members honed their artistic skills with the guidance of the Forest of Dean Camera Club, who gave us tips on how to take better photos and then gave us the opportunity to try still life and portrait photography, with some invaluable feedback.

The next meeting, on Wednesday 15 November, is our Annual Meeting, following which we will be making decorations for a tree for the Westbury-on-Severn Christmas Tree Festival.

Meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Flaxley Schoolroom. Visitors £5. Please contact Gill Western, President, on 07879 532060 or Karen Johnson, Secretary, on 07879 386573 for more information.

### Memory Café Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Nov

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

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

11.00am arrival, a cuppa and a cake

11.30am activities by Mindscape tutors

12.30pm – 1.15 Soup and rolls

**There is no charge so why not pop along and join us? For further information: Call: 07926 986 247**

**On-site parking, disabled access and facilities. Stagecoach Bus No 22/23 also stops and departs every ½ hour from outside the centre.**

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

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### Weather Report for September

We all enjoyed that September sunshine so thanks to Simon Phelps for jogging our memory with these statistics.

Warmest Day. 8th. 30c

Warmest Night. 6th-7th. 18c

Coldest Day. 20th. 15c

Coldest Nights. 21st-22nd and 22nd-23rd. 3.5c

Wettest Day. 20th. 19.5c

Total Rainfall. 52mm

Number of Days with Rain. 15

Predominant Wind Direction. Westerlies

Average Maximum Temperature. 20.8c

Average Minimum Temperature 10.5c

He also pointed out that Saharan Dust fell on the night of 6th -7<sup>th</sup> September. Apparently these dust particles create intensive hues of red and yellow at both ends of the day and this is why we had some stunning sunrises and sunsets in September.

### Northwood Green Gardening Club

In October, we enjoyed a lively and entertaining talk by Paul Green from Green Leaves nursery in Newent. Paul brought along a fabulous selection of perennials and grasses for sale, which members were keen to snap up. The meeting ended with our annual cheese and chutney buffet, with members bringing along some delicious home made produce for everyone to try.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 9 November, at 7.30pm in the Northwood Green Social Hall. This will see a welcome return by Julie Ritchie from Hoo House Nursery, who will talk to us about *Penstemons* and other sunlovers. Julie will be able to pass on her experience and expertise to help us choose the right plants and to make sure they prosper from year to year. This will be followed by our AGM and the usual refreshments.

Visitors £3, annual membership £12.

Please email:

karenfayjohnson@gmail.com or call 07879 386573 for more information.



### Westbury on Severn Young Farmers

We will be holding our Annual Bonfire & Fireworks night at The Red Hart Inn, Blaisdon on Sunday 5th November.



We will be raising money for Club funds and our chosen charity of the year... MND Association - a very close to home charity for members within our club.

"The MND Association focuses on improving access to care, research and campaigning for those people living with or affected by MND (Motor Neurone Disease) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland"

Entry:£5 per person £1 for under 10's  
Hog roast, Burgers & Hot dogs for sale  
Gates open at 6pm

Free Car park

Fireworks to be set off at 7pm

CASH ONLY EVENT

We can't wait to see you !



### Remembrance Day

Collecting boxes and supplies of poppies and other British Legion merchandise have been placed at numerous local outlets and some door-to-door collections will also be taking place, although this is no longer possible in all parts of the parish. Please give generously if you can.

This year, the Remembrance Service will be held at Westbury Church on Sunday 12th November, with the Official Party entering the Church at 11am. After the service, wreaths will be laid at the war memorial. Previously the A48 has been temporarily closed for this ceremony but this now requires an official road closure notice, which has cost and time implications for the British Legion. It has therefore been decided that the ceremony will take place inside the churchyard. We will be standing on the grass rather than the pavement so please bear this in mind when you choose your footwear for the occasion.



## Westbury-on-Severn Parish Church Friends 100 Club

### PRIZE WINNERS FOR OCTOBER 2023

1 <sup>st</sup>	92	David Brooke	£50
2 <sup>nd</sup>	88	Harri Grieve	£20
3 <sup>rd</sup>	71	Alex Mitchelmore	£10

If you would like a chance of winning in our quarterly draw, please contact WoSPCF at: west-burychurchfriends21@gmail.com

We have 2 free numbers available on a first come, first served basis. Thank you for your support.

Many thanks for your support of WoSPCF throughout the year as we raise funds for the church to have essential and expensive rewiring work completed on the insistence of the insurers.

## Walmore Hill School

Here we are in the last week of this half term and all is well at Walmore Hill. We have had a busy term with lots of exciting things to do.

Our Macmillan Coffee Morning was a great success with lots of parents and grandparents coming to take part in this special event. It was held in our Reception classroom...with tables rearranged it looked like a cosy café!

As we have had lots of warm Autumn sunshine we have been making the most of our playtimes outdoors. The younger children have been really energetic on their scooters; the older children have been helping the younger ones build ramps for the toy vehicles in the play zone.

Recently the children have been playing skipping games at playtimes using the long ropes. It's great to see them perfect-

ing their skipping skills! I had a look on the Internet yesterday to research some new skipping rhymes to add to the children's repertoire.

We have made the most of our gardens and planters this term to support our art work in Key Stage 1. The children have been following a topic called 'Earth Art'



which has encouraged the use of natural materials

to create pieces of art. The children have enjoyed weaving, using a simple loom made from twigs. They used wool for the warp, then added leaves, herbs and flowers to complete their work.

After all the heavy rain, the children have noticed the common has flooded again. We could hear the ducks and geese yesterday, so hopefully the Bewick Swans will be arriving again later in the Autumn. The children have also been able to use natural materials to create collage pictures.

Our clubs have been well attended this term...art club, drawing club, Lego club and hockey. It's been lovely for the children to have the time to follow their interests.

We are looking forward to a week off school and having a rest. It's been a busy time for us all...and then it won't be long until we start preparing for Christmas!

*Suzanne Loten*

Teacher: Millie, give me a sentence starting with 'I.'

Millie: I is..

Teacher: No, Millie..... You should always say, 'I am..'

Millie: Oh all right .... I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.

## Allan Wintle 1932—2023

Westbury Church was filled with Allan's family and friends for the celebration of his long and fulfilling life. Allan was a much loved husband, father, 'Grampy', great grandfather and brother, and his family paid tribute to him with wonderfully warm words and poems.

Allan was born at Lydney Hospital and spent a happy childhood at Crookham Farm in Blakeney with his grandmother, parents and siblings. His parents worked a milk round and were also busy with contract farming and Allan helped out on the farm as soon as he was old enough.

His family summarised his life within three titles— 'life', 'love' and 'passion'.

'Life' for Allan was definitely farming, and this was what brought him to Rodley in his early working years, where he worked at the family's Hillside Farm, Gravel Farm and Yew Tree Farm. He met Ruby at a dance in Lydney Town Hall and in 1961 they married and settled in their self-built Cleeve Bungalow, before moving to Yew Tree Farm in 1967.

Milking cows was his daily constant until the late 1970s, when he switched to sheep, and the 'full on' nature of farming meant that holidays were rare. Ruby was always by his side, supporting him throughout their 62 years together.

The 'love' in his life was his family, and his children described with fondness and gratitude the wonderful, loving upbringing that he gave to them all. In 1988, his first grandchild, Laura, arrived, since followed by six grandsons and now two great grandsons. Allan and Ruby have been a constant in all the grandchildren's lives and gave so much time to them. Allan adored nothing more than having a baby on his lap to cwtch and he also had a wealth of farming knowledge to share with them.

The 'passion' in Allan's life was undoubtedly his love of horses. Before he became a family man, he rode both under National Hunt rules and point-to-point locally and while the arrival of his family led to his decision to hang up his boots, there is hardly a horse-related discipline that Allan had not tried. Over his son Adrian's 20 year riding career, Allan rarely missed a meeting and he was also a regular at Ascot Horse Sales. Ruby used to joke that if ever Allan were unable to attend, the sales would be unlikely to go ahead without him. A bargain that became a winner was the very best result in Allan's eyes.

Two very special winners for him were granddaughter Laura's point to point win in 2009 and the family-owned Stay out of Court's win at Hereford Racecourse in 2019.



*Allan and the Wintle clan with their horse  
Stay out of Court in the Winners  
Enclosure at Hereford in 2019.*

So, Allan had a hugely fulfilling life packed with hard work and lots of patience, and was a "gentleman" in the true sense of the word. His kindness, helpfulness and selflessness was what brought a church full of people together to say their farewells and celebrate his life.

For those who knew him, this little bit of Rodley will never be the same.



**It's nearly Panto time!**

**Box Office  
Sun 19th  
November 11am**

**Performances  
Meal nights  
£17.50**

**Sat 20th Jan  
Friday 26th Jan  
Sat 27th Jan**

**Matinee  
Sunday 21st Jan  
Adults £5  
Children under  
16 £3  
1 child free with  
every paying  
adult**

### **Warm and Well**

**T**he Home Upgrade Grant scheme is designed to help off-gas householders in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire make improvements to their homes that will make them more energy efficient. This means that these improvements will reduce your energy bills, lower your carbon footprint and make your home easier to heat and power. There are a range of improvements available (depending on your circumstances), but most eligible homes will begin by benefitting from:

Insulation – the most effective way to reduce your bills and make your home affordable to heat

Air source heat pumps – a low carbon central heating system that uses outside air to heat your home

**Eligibility** Funding is offered based on a range of criteria. You **may** be eligible if the following apply to your household:

- Your gross household income is under £31,000 per annum; **AND**
- The property has an EPC rating of D, E, F or G **AND**
- Your property does not use mains gas for its heating

*Funding is first-come, first-served*

If you think you could benefit from the scheme or would like to find out if you're eligible for support, **call us on 0800 500 3076**. <https://warmandwell.co.uk/grants-and-funding/>

## WESTBURY SPORT

*Sports Sub-Editor Mark Landon*

### Cricket Presentation Evening

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct, Westbury CC hosted their prestigious Presentation Evening. Awards flowed like wine as did the...er...wine, The evening was excellently organized by the committee, chaired as ever by Ian Dunn who also gave a fine speech on the subject of cricket, I think. Mike Edginton also gave a polished speech on the subject of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club, celebrated this year, and the values and efforts of those young and old, then and now, in maintaining the club to such a high standard.

Pete Wilson acted as MC in his usual professional manner. Space restrictions mean I can't do full justice to the food, prepared by Jan D'Ambrogio and her team but I remember eating it all up and even blagging some seconds.

But on to the awards. I shall eschew all second places and nominations as we don't have much space and it's a results business. Starting with the main awards, yours truly came second in the 3<sup>rd</sup> team batting. That concludes this report.

*Ah, Ed says it doesn't and I have contradicted myself.*

**Overall batting winner** : Alex Wyman : 692 runs at an average of 38

**Winner of 1<sup>st</sup> team batting** : Dan Jarvis with 414 runs at an average of 41.

**Winner of 2<sup>nd</sup> team batting** : Ian Dunn with 307 runs at an average of 76

**Winner of 3<sup>rd</sup> team batting** : Chris Wayman 244 runs at an average of 81

**Centurians** : Two new centurions were welcomed into an exclusive club, complete with honorary tie, Andrew Cueto (101 not out) and Oli Jelfs (110 not out).

As a side note, I umpired both of these innings and clearly didn't give either of them out – I get little credit for that, not even a tie.

**Overall bowling winner** : Devin Rodgers 29 wickets at an average of 14

**Winner of 1<sup>st</sup> team bowling** : Devin Rogers 29 wickets at an average of 14

**Winner of 2<sup>nd</sup> team bowling** : Glyn Bayley 19 wickets at an average of 9

**Winner of 3<sup>rd</sup> team bowling** : Andrew Cueto 10 wickets at an average of 7.

Dan Jarvis won the **best individual performance** in scoring 116 not out against Kingsholm and at the other end of the spectrum Neil Wyman claimed the coveted **Golden Moment(s)** award becoming the first ever player to score a duck for all three Saturday teams in one season, thereby showing excellent dedication to getting back to the pavilion in time to open the bar.

Hot competition ensued for the **Young Player of the Year** with Andrew Cueto nabbing the award (and he will be too old for it next year) ahead of fine efforts from Talia Scott, Charlotte Dunn and Henry Watkinson. Devin Rogers slipped into the category as well but that can't be right, so I've discounted that.

**The Spirit of Cricket Award** is awarded to the player, or club member, who is always ready to lend a hand, go the extra mile, show willing whilst maintaining a cheery positive outlook. This year's winner was Oli Jelfs who did all this and also contributed with the bat and ball. Unusual to do all this, it's often seen as an award for a player who had a nightmare season but the club don't want them to retire because they always pay their match fees. Not this year!

**Players Player of the Year** was Devin Rogers who is good at everything and so has no business being in the Young Player of the Year category for developing talent, as per previous.



*Devin Rogers receiving Players Player of the Year award from Club President Clive Tempest*

**Clubman of the Year** is like the Spirit Award but with machinery and this year it went deservedly to Ed Edginton for the efforts put in to maintaining the square and outfield throughout the year.

I haven't mentioned young Kade Clowes, our visiting Australian, who secured a series of runners up awards but won the hearts of the club with his good humour and company, willingness to help out and valuable team performances - so he gets a sort of Koala Award or something I imagine.

I won the raffle, drank it and got grief for not paying corkage so an evening of highs and lows for me. *Mark Landon*

## Rugby

### Westbury v Coney Hill on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept

This was a game of two contrasting halves. Westbury on Severn RFC took to the field, after a mammoth warm up, as a finely tuned match ready squad of 20, all set to entertain the bulging assembled crowd (*Mammoth? Bulging? - is this a Slimmers World advert - Sub Ed*). The Chairman was overheard saying

should have charged a gate fee to pay for the post match sausages' (all supplied by the local butcher Rory Pritchard). Westbury welcomed a number of returning players and a couple of new signing debutants.



The game started apace with Westbury taking the advantage all the way to half time where the scoreboard sat at 13 - 12.

The second half kicked off with a turnover try for Coney Hill that was converted easily. The game then unfortunately had to go uncontested scrums due to an opposition injury - a twist that totally changed the game for Westbury, who were undone with some moves in open play they couldn't contain. The game ended 13-26 in favour of the opposition. All in all, it was a great physical game so thanks to Coney Hill RFC and we look forward to the return leg. Man of the Match for Westbury went to debutant Andrew Cueto (who joins an elite group of players who have played first team Rugby, Football and Cricket for Westbury), Andrew handled the wing like a pro. Performances of note from the vets Matt & Lee - with a special mention for prop Aaron who's scrummaging in the first half was mercurial.



### **Westbury Veterans v Frampton Cotterell on 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**W**estbury on Severn RFC Vets made the road trip to Frampton Cotterell RFC for a clash of the oldies and what a game it was. Westbury were a few players short due to illness so we turned up with thirteen and so thanks to Frampton for providing the extra players. The game saw Frampton putting Westbury under pressure in the first half and scoring four unanswered tries despite some Herculean defence.

The second half kicked off and the Westbury lads had the wind up 'em and they managed to cross the whitewash three times making the second half a battle royale for the assembled 300 hundred plus supporters (and dogs). Westbury saw some mercurial performances of note in Will Boulton, Ken Boulton, Webby, Flea, Hifi, Ali G, Cratch, Jamie, Tidy & Ash Hathaway, in fact everyone played a part. The game ended 39-19 to Frampton who now hold the Codgers Cup.



*Westbury Veterans v Frampton Cotterell*

Some massive shifts put in by all. The oldies today were led for the first half by President Ken ...who at 76 years gave his prop opposition 'a game and a half' ! Kudos to Ash who scored a darting try from the '22', his last try being in a school game in 1982 !

Looking forward to the return leg, where we hope to win back the prestigious Codgers Cup.

### **Westbury v Cirencester 2s on 21st Oct**

**A** day out at Cirencester Rugby Club as Westbury on Severn RFC went on the road this week. The game kicked off five minutes early which caught out the Westbury travelling supporters who were still having travel wee's & getting libation. The game kicked off and a real game of tit for tat rugby ensued, from one end to the other and at half time the scoreboard (that didn't exist) sat at Ciren 8 - Westbury 24.

The second half was a festival of end to end running rugby that saw the scoreboard (that still didn't exist) spinning like a slot machine. The game ended Westbury 50 Cirencester 30. Some special mentions for Westbury try scorers Robbie, Harry Janneh, Nathan, Will, Max & Shay.

Man of the Match was the evergreen Lee Prince.

### **Football**

*By Clive Tempest, ably assisted by  
George Ford*

Westbury Utd 2. Charfield 1  
Whitcroft 2. Westbury Reserves 1

**O**n Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, County Cup Football returned to a Westbury still basking in the memory of last year's cup run to the Final, which ended in narrow defeat. This year the visitors were Charfield, riding high in the Stroud League. Soon, we saw why. Rapid movement and passing left Westbury in its wake and after fifteen minutes they struck as Westbury conceded an own goal under pressure. At half time spectators glumly (*surely not !*) forecast a probable loss.

However in the second half Westbury awoke. Ackeen Wright constantly probed the Charfield defence and a re-organised Westbury back line looked firmer. Tom *(not Landon)* came back into midfield to support Joe D'Ambrogio.

Soon Dillano cut in from the wing and lashed in an unstoppable shot. Shortly after, a rampant Westbury forced a penalty which Lewis Cromwell powered into the net to give Westbury a deserved victory.

The seconds lost their first game of the season to Whitecroft. They fought like dogs (*who, it must be said, are not famed for their footballing skills and often get put down for too much of that sort of thing – Sub Ed*) and eventually Alex Worrall got a goal back but it wasn't enough. Skipper, Lee, was satisfied with the effort and prophesied a come back next week, hoping their star striker Joel would be back.

#### **Harrow Hill Res. 0-3 Westbury Utd.**

**O**n Saturday 7th October, Westbury United took on Harrow Hill Reserves, in an entertaining and slightly frustrating game of football. In surprisingly fine October weather, Westbury secured a 3-0 away win over Harrow Hill in an incredibly dominant showing. On the face of it, the result suggests a Westbury performance that would be given no criticisms - but this was not quite the case. With the Westbury side being forced to play with no typically recognised centre backs, an attacking game could be predicted, but what couldn't be foreseen was the lack of accuracy in front of goal. Over and over again Westbury stretched the Harrow Hill defence, but over and over again the ball pinged around in the box, with endless blocks, saves, and slightly poor finishing keeping it from hitting the back of the net. However, eventually the deadlock

was broken. After what felt like ten minutes of straight pinball in the box, Lewis Cromwell poked home a chance to put Westbury 1- 0 up, and finally the Westbury faithful on the touchline could let out a sigh of relief.



Soon after, Dillano Pennant unleashed a curling shot, after beating many players from the right wing, putting the away side 2- 0 up, and it finally seemed that Westbury wouldn't stop scoring. Then, the second half came, but the goals didn't come as plentifully as expected. Striker Ackeen Wright squandered a "few" one-on-ones with the keeper, much unlike his usual self, but with the side 2-0 up, the feeling on the touchline wasn't quite as nervy as earlier in the game.

Eventually, in the closing stages, Ackeen Wright got his goal, with a skilful take-on of the Harrow Hill defence, before burying Westbury's third- and putting the game to bed.

A much deserved win, with a comparatively low scoreline, saw Westbury put three more points on the board. Man of the match was awarded to right back and captain Jamie Ward, a relentless performance despite the attacking frustration.

To top off the day, Westbury United Reserves put four past Harrow Hill Thirds in their 4-2 home win, and moved top of the table. An overall brilliant day for Westbury football, with 7 chances scored, despite many, many more being smashed over the bar.

**Huntley 3. Westbury 1.  
Westbury Reserves 4 Sling 1**

**T**eams, notoriously, have bogey teams. Westbury always struggle to beat Huntley. Yet again, this proved to be the case on October 14th. We were 2 nil down in the first quarter thanks to a mix up and weak defending and then a once in a lifetime long range shot, that sailed over the Westbury keeper's head.

In the second half, down the slope, Westbury then made ten solid chances to score. We took one of them through Cam, but that was it. A cast iron penalty was turned down and then one awarded against us, that was very dubious.

The bogey is still there — and, they did not have Mark Matthews, the bogey man of the bogey team! Soon we will score a lot of goals...When the finishing improves...

The reserves won easily and top the league. Joel scored two goals and Michael one. Denny the other one. And they did not have their skipper, Lee, playing! (*Can we have some surnames please – Sub Ed*)

Broadwell A 0 Westbury Utd 4  
Westbury Res 2 Redbrook 12 (Twelve!)

**T**he enigma that is Westbury United visited the Hawthorns in Broadwell on October 21st. The team that turned up was the one that we love. Dynamic, fluent and deadly.

Anchored by a powerhouse, Harry Howells, in midfield the front three of Cam, Ackeen and Delano tore the Broadwell defence to shreds only to find the seventeen year old Broadwell goalkeeper in the form of his life, clawing and palming endless strong shots round the post over the bar. He was outstanding and saved at least ten certain goals. However, Delano, Morgan and Ackeen still passed

him three times in the first half, one a sublime lob from Ackeen who added a second in the second half. Pierce and Cam played solidly at the back and Lewis Cromwell and Morgan had their best games this season. On this form we looked like potential champions but we must keep up this form consistently to become immortals (*that is, win the North Gloucestershire Premier Division, not rise from the dead or find a solution to the Middle East conflict etc – Sub Ed*).

**A**las, the wheels came off the Seconds at Westbury. Redbrook brought some first teamers over (*allegedly – WoSP legal Dept*), as their game was cancelled, and it really showed. Westbury scored early through Player Manager Michael Edwards but then a disparate team, who did not always know each other, degenerated into a mewling mess. Used to winning, the team started arguing among itself and with the ref. A



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to re-

group and sort things out. This was the first week that both teams had five subs and a couple of the first team subs would have made a difference in the Seconds. The selection committee need to think this through. (*Is this a report or an internal memo ? – Sub Ed*)

Editor: Andrew Landon  
Everything Else: Di Landon  
diana.landon12@gmail.  
Hayden Farm, Rodley, Westbury-on-Severn  
GL14 1RE  
01452 760531