



STARRY, STARRY NIGHTS

The Stargazer articles each month gain a great deal of interest and comment within the villages and a suggestion has been made that those with an interest should meet in person. A chance comment made during the opening of the Pear Tree Field project sparked the possibility of an 'observatory' for the village. This could mean many different things to different people from a simple meeting place where people can observe the dark night skies to a domed building housing a telescope. There is the possibility of an exciting Astronomy project within the village if there are sufficient people who would make use of any facility.

There will be a meeting in the back room of the Wheatsheaf Inn at 7.30 on the evening of Wednesday 7th September for about an hour to gauge the level of support for such a project. All are welcome, young and old, all you need is an interest in the night sky at any level.



KNOCK-KNEED!

There are still some critics of Badsey and Aldington Parish Council regarding the siting of the new cemetery at Pear Tree Fields. The initial remit for the Parish Council was to provide a new cemetery for the village as the churchyard was full. Finding suitable ground in the heart of Badsey was nigh impossible as they would have been bidding against the large house builders, a no-win situation when you are

on a budget. So a compromise had to be found, which was to spread the net further. A much larger piece of land was available at Pear Tree Corner which meant that Badsey not only got its cemetery it also got allotments, an orchard, and wildflower meadow.

This forward thinking by the Parish Council means that there will be a legacy for future generations of parishioners. The location of Pear Tree Fields may be closer to Badsey's kneecap than its heart, but you have to admit that its now 'one hell of a patella!'

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Colwood Motor Hoe, built in the 1940s, single pneumatic wheel, engine turns.

CULTIVATING A PROJECT

If you are interested in agricultural machinery or just like to get your hands greasy for a hobby then The Badsey Society are looking for someone to take on their Colwood Motor Hoe as a restoration project. The machine was donated to the Society by Les Hartwell but has sat in their archive shed collecting dust for the past few years. It would be a 'labour of love', and once restored would be returned to the Society bright and shiny ready to be exhibited and demonstrated at future events.

For further details phone Will Dallimore on 831012.

JUPITER - RUNNING RINGS ROUND SATURN

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

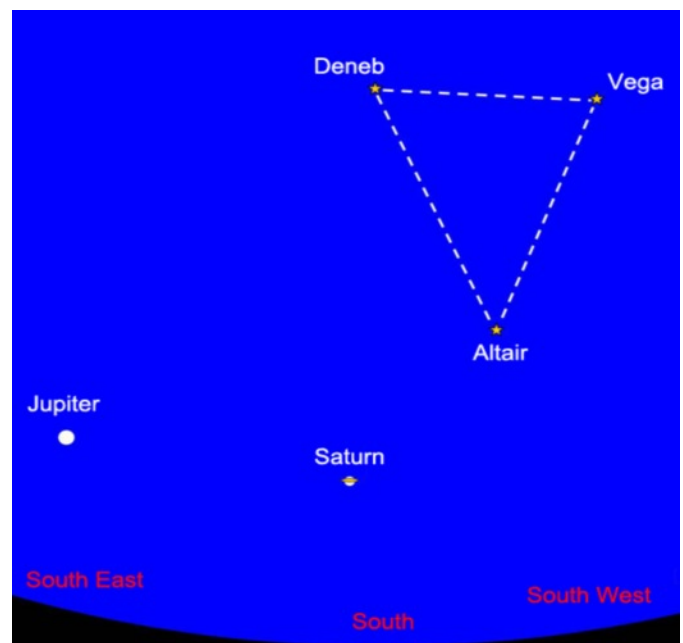
I plan these little articles about the night sky about a year in advance so that I can describe different types of stellar objects each month. I read through the Almanacs and the object that called out to me for this month is the planet Saturn. The ringed planet was in opposition on August 14th this year. This is the point of closest approach to the earth in their combined orbits. It is called opposition because it is on the opposite side of the earth to the sun and will therefore appear due south at midnight Greenwich Mean Time also known as UTC. This is at 1.00 a.m. British Summer Time and is just a little late for all but the most dedicated astronomers. However a month later Saturn is in a good position in the southern skies that bit earlier in the evening, making it the perfect subject for September.

During the nineteenth century there was much discussion about the nature of the rings around Saturn, were they a solid object, or were they made up from a fluid like structure? There were stances taken on both sides of the argument and there was no way at the time to solve the issue. However, it was the Scottish scientist James Clerk Maxwell who demonstrated mathematically that a solid ring would be torn apart by gravity and that a fluid ring would break up into blobs. He therefore concluded that the rings must be made up from orbiting particles that he called "brick bats". He was awarded the "Adams Prize" in 1857 for his work and although fully accepted by astronomers, it was not until 1980 when the Voyager probes flew past Saturn that Maxwell was proven to be correct in his assumptions. Maxwell went on to develop the first colour photography and also presented a description of the nature of light that went on to influence Einstein while developing his ideas about Relativity.

If you go out to look for Saturn you will find it slightly to the east of south during the early evening. The

three stars making up the arrangement known as the Summer Triangle are very prominent at present and can be used to orientate yourself. The rings are in a very good position at present and it is well worth taking some time to look at them through a small telescope that will show them in all of their beauty. While checking out how easy it is to find Saturn at the beginning of August while writing this article I could not help to notice that it is completely "upstaged" by another planet, Jupiter. Jupiter is incredibly bright in the late evening and reaches opposition on the 26th September and completely outshines everything in the night sky with the exception of the moon. A good pair of binoculars will show the four Galilean moons and with a reasonable telescope you should be lucky enough to see the most prominent lines of brown clouds either side of the equator. Jupiter and its moons change each night and it is always worth revisiting this wonderful object on successive evenings.

I therefore leave you with two outstanding objects in the late summer skies and I hope you enjoy looking at them as much as I do.





HARVEST SUPPER

The church's annual Harvest Supper will hopefully be back this year following a break of three years. Saturday 8th October has been pencilled in at the Remembrance Hall, further details next month.

BOOT UP YOUR LAPTOPS

The Badsey and Aldington Computer Group will re-start on Monday 5th September at 10.30 in the back room of the Wheatsheaf (please enter through the rear courtyard).

The group is very informal and aims to help those that need a little help with computers, from switching on, to how to use various applications to make life easier.

Most sessions start with a coffee and a short chat about a particular topic and then leave time for personal questions and advice. This month's topic will look at family history and we will meet on alternate Mondays thereafter until December.

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HARVEST

A seasonal message from the Revd. Ralph Bolland



September reminds us that once again we are approaching harvest time, but of course, nowadays we can harvest many crops at different times of the year, and in different ways.

With the very hot summer that we have experienced this year, some of the traditional harvesting will already be taking place. Autumn is the time when the evenings draw in and the nights get colder, and we begin our preparations for Christmas.

Over the years Badsey now part of the East Vale and Avon Villages Benefice has welcomed many Vicars to share their ministry with us and we can look back and see the various harvests that each one has given. Each Vicar has brought something fresh to their time amongst us and we need to be very appreciative of that fact, because without their input the Church and Benefice would not be where we are today.

We need to thank God for each one of them and the 'harvest' which they brought. We are once again in a period of Interregnum when we await the appointment of a new Vicar.

When Jesus Christ chose His Disciples, I for one would have questioned His choices but He is Lord, and He knows what He is doing.

As we await the new appointment, let us pray that this person will be truly God's choice and not ours, that they will be here to take our Benefice on to the next level. In the meantime, let us do all that we can to support those who will be sharing in ministry and governance with us over this period. Let us remember in our prayers, the Readers, retired Vicars, Churchwardens and members of each PCC, that they will know the blessing of God upon their lives.

CHURCH SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE - SEPTEMBER 2022

Due to the absence of a vicar the rota of church services has not been drawn up. However, services will still be held and details of these will be shown in the Church Porch, or on the notice boards. For services at churches in the Benefice other than Badsey please see the Benefice website. www.eastvaleavon.com

WEDNESDAY MORNING CHURCH GROUP

If you have nothing to do on a Wednesday morning then why not pop along to the church. A happy band of volunteers are there each week tidying up the church and churchyard between 10am and noon. You will be made welcome.



A BADSEY MAN FROM LONDON

The memoirs of Roy Page

This month we continue our series on the memoirs of Roy Page. Ninety year-old Roy came to Badsey from London at the age of seventeen—and never went back.

F C JONES

In the spring of 1957 I heard of a job going at F.C Jones who had a yard in Badsey Fields Lane. I found out that they paid £7-10s a week (plus piece work sprout picking) which was more than I was getting with Joe Albutt. I could also go back after tea on overtime because it was local.



F.C Jones was a small family firm of market gardeners and wholesalers. Fred Charles Jones started the business before the war buying produce in the markets and then taking it round greengrocers' shops in Tewkesbury, Cheltenham and Gloucester. Fred retired just before I joined them and his sons Fred, Cecil and Ron carried on the business. They took on 30 acres of land around Badsey and another 30 acres in Hampton growing their own produce and selling to about 25 shops and market stalls in the three towns. They employed three or four of us and while I was there, there was a chap called Arthur Thompson from Fairfield in Evesham. He was one of those people who hated anything mechanical. So he did a lot of hand work like hoeing, cabbage cutting etc. While another chap called Dave Bowley and myself did some tractor and lorry driving. I passed the driving test in a lorry while I worked for Jones's and Cecil and myself would take two lorries around the shops every Tuesday and Friday loaded with fruit and vegetables. We started out at 3 am and got back some 12 hours later.

The lorries were Austin and Bedford 4 tonners with no side racks so the boxes and crates were stacked on the flat bed and tied on with ropes (roping was quite an art). I remember once on the road between Cheltenham and Gloucester hearing a loud bang. I watched in the mirror as the load moved out to one side, luckily the ropes held and I carried on to Gloucester a few miles away.

Another time I was not so lucky – myself and Cecil Jones cut a full load of cabbages, 7 crates high, from a field along the Broadway Road and when we had loaded it we realised that we hadn't got enough rope. Cecil said, 'We'll rope every other stack

and as we only have 2 or 3 miles to go things will be alright.' I was not happy and wanted to borrow a rope from the next farm but Cecil said no. So I made sure that Cecil got into the driver's seat to drive back! Just as well because as we turned the corner by the Sandys Arms in Wickhamford all the stacks that were not roped shot out of the load into the garden of the cottage opposite. It took us longer to sort them out than it did to cut and pack them in the first place!

Fred Jones bought an old pre-war Midland Red single-decker bus and parked it at Hampton for storage, having a few seats left at one end for us to sit and have our sandwiches in comfort. One winter's day Arthur Thompson and myself were having our midday break in the bus when I noticed some pigeons settling on the sprouts. They made a terrible mess of a sprout plant in no time so I picked up my gun and poked it out through one of the little windows at the side of the bus and fired. What I didn't realise was the noise a shot gun would make when fired inside a 'big tin box'. I thought my ear drums had exploded but worst of all was I hadn't realised that Arthur had dropped off to sleep on some old sacks at the other end of the bus. He must have shot 3 feet into the air and when I looked at him he was as white as a sheet and shaking like a leaf.

F Jones had land in Badsey up Badsey Fields Lane and one of their neighbours was Frank Caswell who had taken on 2 acres when he had retired from being the local blacksmith. I would sit and have my bait (lunch) with Frank whenever I could because he knew a lot about the locality and told good stories. A tale that he told was that during the war the government needed to know how many houses there were in the villages and Frank and Dick were given the job of counting and listing all the houses in Badsey and Aldington. Frank told me one day when we were having bait that the number they arrived at was 365 (the same as the days in a year). A couple of years ago I was told that close to 850 Parish magazines were delivered to both villages which suggests that there are over double the number of houses today if their count was right.

One day Old Fred told me that he had had a phone call from someone calling himself 'The secretary to the Duke of York' asking if he would be interested in a special order of strawberries to be supplied to the Duke on a daily basis. Fred was pleased of course knowing that he could get a good price because the fruit would have to be of excellent quality. What he wasn't prepared for was a special condition laid down by the Duke which was that the fruit had to be guaranteed to have been picked by people wearing white cotton gloves! Fred agreed to this condition but whether it was carried out is a different matter! This all happened in the 1930s and I cannot see this happening today.

Abridged for the Community News by the Editor

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Jane Neill's
Nature Notes

Butterflies with moths are insects called lepidoptera meaning 'scale-wing'. The wings are made up of thousands of overlapping coloured scales determining their pattern. Butterflies, unlike most moths, fly by day. The name 'butterfly' may have come from the earliest butterfly to appear each Spring, the yellow brimstone. Butterflies all lay eggs that have three stages after hatching. The larva (caterpillar) that feeds and grows; the pupae or chrysalis the resting stage; the imago when the insect becomes winged and sexually mature. Once the mating and egg laying is done the butterfly usually dies within a month. However some butterflies such as the peacock, tortoiseshell, brimstone and comma hibernate while the red admiral and painted lady are migratory. All butterflies feed on the nectar of flowers especially the daisy variety. They are found in all habitats in meadows, woods, gardens and marshes. Butterflies have many predators. All stages have developed strategies to survive. Some caterpillars have spines, irritating hairs or taste unpleasant. The pupae are coloured and shaped to fit into their surroundings. Butterflies use markings or camouflage to confuse the enemy! In flight butterflies zig-zag to avoid bird predation. Their life is so brief but all the more reason for us to enjoy their ephemeral beauty.



Poem of the Month

With the 'FOR SALE' signs on the old Royal British Legion building it is only a matter of time before this part of Badsey's history is no more. It was in 1928 that the Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford British Legion was formed. The members met in the various pubs in the two villages. In 1951 they were offered ground for a clubhouse but this proved unsuitable and it was not until 1962 that they finally found a permanent home when they bought the Old School off G.H. Stewart. Much building over the following years by its members led to the provision of a comprehensive social, indoor sports, and entertainment club for the villagers.

Our poem by Will Dallimore features Marge Syril, a vice-president of the Ladies Section, and one of those instrumental in ensuring that the members had many a charabang outing as our fictional poem describes.



The local British Legion held their annual mystery tour
 And fifty lady members boarded coach at Clubhouse door,
 They hadn't reached the top road when old Marge stood up and said,
 "Let's guess where we are going, and pay 20p a head."

The ladies all applauded, then they searched for 20p's
 And one young dear did volunteer to save old Marge's knees,
 She started at the front seats getting everybody's choice
 For quite a few said Dudley Zoo, and some said Hidcote Boyce.

After an hour or so the coach pulled into Weston-Super-Mare
 And Marge rose to her feet again, the winner to declare,
 She scanned the list of place-names and then said without reproach
 "The winner is young Albert—the driver of the coach."

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Badsey Flower Show

The Badsey Flower Show Cup Winners for 2022

THE SIR JULIUS SLADDEN CHALLENGE CUP
THE A.C.SPARROW MEMORIAL CUP
THE EDGAR OLIVER CUP
THE HENRY KING CHALLENGE CUP
THE ORIGINAL G H STEWART CUP

all Amanda Stanley

THE C.A.BINYON CUP
THE MARY LESTER MEMORIAL CUP
THE E.M.NORTON TROPHY

all Alan Stewart

THE RON JONES CUP
THE G.H.STEWART CUP

both Julie Gardner

THE IAN SIMMONDS TROPHY
THE JASON MEDCROFT MEMORIAL CUP

both Simon Poxon Marks

THE ELLEN EXON CUP
THE PARISH COUNCIL SCARECROW SHIELD

both Lucy Bird

THE A.J.BRAZIER CUP
THE TED WHEATLEY CUP
THE TONY FOWLER CUP
THE T CUP

George Duff
Henry Duff
Archie Duff
Holly Puddy

THE WINNIE JONES MEMORIAL CUP
THE CARRIE JOHN CUP
THE W.HATCH & P.SANDFORD CHALLENGE CUP

Chris Helm
Hazel Stewart
Adrian Jones

THE WILL DALLIMORE LITERATURE CUP

Carol Penfold

THE SEWARD HOUSE TROPHY
THE LIZZIE AND RICHARD CUP
THE EGG CUP

Jeanne Boon
Finn Appleyard
Julie Irons

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our July meeting was our annual garden meeting where we exchange our Prayer Partner Gifts and we discover who has been praying for us in the past twelve months. The meeting ended with a delicious tea provided by the committee. On the 25th July several members attended the Diocesan Festival Service in Pershore Abbey where the celebrant was the Bishop of Worcester. Four of our members received long service awards. Marlene Atkinson, Maureen Davies and Yvonne Haynes for thirty years service, and Sandra Sparrow for forty years. On Tuesday September 13th at 7pm we are having a Communion Service to celebrate the Mothers' Union's 100th Anniversary which is a wonderful achievement. Visitors will be welcome.

If you would like to know more about the Mothers' Union then please contact Sandra Sparrow on 833368.

St James Flower Guild

Thank you to everyone involved in our recent flower festival over the August bank holiday. Thanks extend to sponsors, and our supporters for their hard work before and after by way of publicity, preparation and clearing, stewarding, refreshments and not least, of course, our team of flower arrangers who did a wonderful job of interpreting highlights of the Queens reign over the past 70 years!

September Rota

1st Sunday Hazel and Hazel
2nd Sunday Mary and Alan
3rd Sunday Sheila and Annette
4th Sunday Louise and Rachel

Any queries regarding church flowers contact Julie Gardner 831573 after 6pm please or 832007.



on Christmas pantomimes!

The heat meant that our July speaker, Graham Sutherland, did not show his slides but his talk, 'Have Bell, Will Travel', on the activities of a Beadle and Town Crier, proved both comical and interesting. We were very pleased to be back at the Flower Show on 23rd July and would like to thank all those residents who dropped by for a cup of tea and a slice of cake, as well as thanking the Flower Show Committee for inviting us. It was great to see so many people out enjoying themselves. We are looking forward to hearing David Wornham, speaking about volunteering with the Canal and River Trust, in

Our summer of visits continued with a tour of the RSC Costume Department in July and other trips are now being planned, although in this glorious sunshine it is difficult to concentrate

August and then a representative of St John's Ambulance on 14th September.

Please do think about joining us. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our secretary, Alex Owen, on 01386 830083.

Badsey Film Club



Luvvies, here is our film for September 2022.

Saturday 3rd September **Belfast**

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts at 8pm
Back Room of the Wheatsheaf Inn, Badsey. New members are always welcome, for further details contact Clive Richards on 832685.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BADSEY



Although the village is currently without a full-time vicar it is still business as usual at the church.

Weddings, funerals and baptisms can still be booked and Sunday services will continue as normal.

Our administrator, Faith Quin, is available to help you arrange an appointment. Faith can be contacted via Email: eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

Our Church Website: www.eastvaleavon.com

Churchwardens:

Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland MBE Tel. 830638
Email: lizral.bolland@btinternet.com

Mr. Chris Smith Tel. 830217
Email: smithvce@msn.com

Readers:

Mrs. Margaret Pye Tel. 833537
Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Bache Tel. 839464

Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Farmer Tel. 40401

Safeguarding Advocate: Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council can be contacted by emailing badseypc@yahoo.co.uk, or by telephoning 07591533557 (Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 3pm) or by visiting www.badseypc.uk.

Meetings are held on 3rd Wednesday of the month (except in August) at Badsey Remembrance Hall at 7.30pm.

Date of next meetings: Wednesday 21st September
Wednesday 19th October

Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall	Sue Brooks	641234
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Brooks	830867
Badsey Church Bell Ringers	Richard Lewis-Skeath	07747802555

Badsey Church Flower Guild	Julie Gardner	832007
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Organisations, Institutes and Societies

The Badsey Society	Shirley Tutton	831539
Women's Institute	Lorraine Goodman	832653
Mothers' Union	Sandra Sparrow	833368

Youth Organisations

1st Badsey Scout Group	Adam Johnson	07510042307
1st Badsey Guides	Katie Richards	
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830043
Messy Church	Penny Christison	830367

Sports and Entertainment

Badsey Film Club	Clive Richards	832685
Air Rifle Club	Ashley Green	832296
Archery Club	Ian Trout	831509
Badsey Cricket Club	David Powell	833122
Badsey TaeKwonDo	Marie Hall	0748 478 5882
Model Engineering Club	Roger Cull	831933
Round of Gras Cricket Club	Andrew Ogg	0779 216 2577
Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club	Andy Osborne	0797 068 1505

NEIGHBOURS QUIZ

No, not about the residents of Ramsay Street, but our neighbouring village of Wickhamford. Three questions to test your knowledge, with multiple choice answers to help you along. Please email your answers to the Editor.

1. What relation was Penelope Washington, who is buried at Wickhamford church, to the first president of the USA, George Washington?
(a): Granddaughter
(b): Stepsister
(c): Second cousin twice removed
2. Which football league will Wickhamford Football Club play in this season?
(a): Stratford Alliance
(b): Cheltenham Football League
(c): Evesham Sunday League
3. What was removed from the rear of the Memorial Hall in Manor Road when the car-park was added?
(a): Cycle Shed
(b): Sheep Dipping Equipment
(c): A WW2 Bomb

Last Month's Picture Competition featured Wickhamford born Hazel (Whiting) who 50 years ago married Brian Smith of Badsey. Brian is also known as the Aldington Poet. The winning entries included:- Rosemary Blyth, Valerie Magan and Terry Sparrow.

Articles for publication in **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Please contact The Editor
(Will Dallimore)
on the following email address:

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LEGAL IMMIGRANT

The concluding part of the story of Puff the Romanian Underdog



Arriving in Badsey many hours later was so different from anywhere I had ever been before. My new family showed me my new bed, something I had not ever had before apart from a straw filled kennel. I was very nervous and stayed in the hall for some time to acclimatise to my new surroundings.

I began to look forward to my daily walks with lots of new smells and sounds. One day I jumped out of my skin as the noise was something I had never heard before. Passing me by on the road was this large mechanical beast, blowing smoke, lights flashing and followed by a huge smelly trailer. My family sat me down and explained it was very usual in the village to see a tractor towing a trailer full of spring onions. Very quickly I settled into village life meeting people who were interested in the new dog on the scene. Some 8 months later my sister Ditto arrived to share her life with me in a home where love and (((hugs))) were the order of our days. Exciting times going to the Gower and Cornwall and wonderful Weston super mud where it took us hours to walk along the Esplanade as everyone wanted to chat and ask us where we came from. Maybe we even helped people decide to adopt a Romanian rescue. Our favourite place to walk has to be Croome Court, our humans just have to mention Croome and we are ready to jump in the back of the car. We just love the place and all the people too, always stopping to sit and look over the island and feed the ducks and Canada geese. Our favourite place to hide was tucked back on the left of the white iron bridge before going over the lake. Sitting on the steps of the Rotunda is a great place to watch the cattle when they are roaming the fields. We've had many a picnic lunch on the grass just down from there, in winter

and summer. Sadly I won't be able to join the family on their trips to Croome or wander round the village with Ditto and Cookie as on the 1st June this year, I was diagnosed with an aggressive form of Lung Cancer, even though CTH is a non-smoking house. I was in the garden on my bed with the sun's rays warming my back, J and G either side of me, having our usual morning drink together thinking what a wonderful life I ended up having with my family and giving them as much love as they gave me, I crossed the Rainbow Bridge peacefully on the 30th June at 10.10 am. Puff was a dog in a million giving so much to each and every person who met him. We are so grateful that he came into our lives leaving us with wonderful memories of an amazing beautiful hairy Romanian Underdog. He will be sorely missed by all of us and realise we were the lucky ones to have him in our lives. Puff came to Badsey on the 22nd April 2012 aged 4 years. He won his first award at a Charity Dog Show in Wickhamford for the Most Handsome Dog on the 30th June 2012. He truly lived up to those three words. Ditto arrived on the 19th December 2012.

Sadly, Paula and Lesley Hill have also suffered a loss recently. Our special retired Guide Dog Gilbert passed away on Monday 11th July. Gilbert was born in 2010 and after spending his early life with his mother at the Guide Dog centre he was then placed in the loving care of a Puppy Walker and life opened up for Gilbert. He enjoyed his new experiences. After his final training he became a guide and friend to David Vincent. As well as being a working Guide Dog for David, Gilbert and David helped with fundraising for Guide Dogs. When Gilbert retired in 2019 Paul and Lesley gave Gilbert a home for his retirement years.



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