

Pershore Times

A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages



Issue 107

August 2025

FREE



The Lionesses are victorious!

England's Ladies' football team are Champions of Europe again. The popular Lionesses retained the title after beating Spain. On their way to the final, they won crucial quarter-final and semi-final matches with seconds to spare! The never-give-up English spirit was in evidence throughout the whole tournament and the win was a brilliant achievement, watched by a global audience of forty five million!

The summer sport has continued with another brilliant Test Match. The Wimbledon tennis and the Open golf championship were incredible to watch. We do stage these events well and they are very enjoyable.

We also celebrate the eightieth anniversary of VJ Day, the end of war in the Far East and the end of WW2. My Father and relatives were involved and it was a day of great rejoicing in Worcester. Many house parties

followed as family members started to arrive home, including street parties. A new life began with a father!

In local news, we have received reports regarding the South Worcestershire Development Plan. This mammoth project and its implications for local villages is concerning many people. Some appear to have similar feelings as they did towards the Tiddesley Wood development project. In this case, residents took to the streets in protest, including our MP, Dame Harriet Baldwin.

However, on appeal, the development was approved. So now there seems to be a feeling of inevitability about things, a feeling that this plan will happen anyway. There is a long way to go in the planning stages and some years before anything is implemented.

August sees the annual Plum Festival in Pershore, this is always a well organised and well attended event. The weather forecast looks good and it should be another fantastic success.

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Chain Reaction: The latest adventures of Pershore's Mayoral Chain

In sizzling summer sunshine, I glinted on the shoulders of Mayor Julie (Hemming), gratefully sharing in midsummer joy and community spirit. Thirty-five bands filled Pershore with Midsummer Brass and, as I swayed to trumpets and tubas, I marvelled at the talent and organisation of a uniquely Pershore celebration of sound and spirit. Things took a quieter turn at the charity coffee morning for Camden Home Nursing, whose care and

Town Council News

Mrs Charlie MacIntyre, Town Clerk



compassion uplifts even the hardest days. Then Julie – with much appreciated help from many – held a coffee morning for her chosen Mayor's Charity; Pershore's Wellbeing Hub. Mugs and funds raised with community togetherness on full display.

In Worcester, I stood with other chains as a symbol of Pershore's shared humanity to mark the 30th anniversary of the Srebrenica Genocide. Worcester's magnificent Male Voice Choir struck lighter notes performing a positively nostalgic programme in Pershore Abbey, raising funds to beat the scourge that is Motor Neurone Disease. I wish chains could singalong. Julie certainly did.

The Avon offered its banks for Pershore River Festival – a joyful celebration of water, music, and community. And at

the Plum Festival Races in Worcester, my golden links paired perfectly with Julie's purple as racegoers cheered tradition and thrill in equal measure.

In our town, whether it's Sunday afternoon bands in Abbey Park or an array of fabulous festivals, summer doesn't just arrive – it parades, performs, and paddles. It reminds me how lucky we are to call Pershore home.

PS:

I got my wish – not just a polish, but a beautiful new collar (pictured) thanks to clever fingers at Nellie's Fabric Shop. No more snagging on Sunday best. A perfect nod to Independent Retailer Month in July, and to Pershore's brilliant local businesses who serve us with creativity, care, and character every day.



Lighting up the Town Centre

A new lighting scheme is brightening up Pershore High Street as part of efforts to improve the look and feel of the town centre. The overhead chain of LED festoon lights zig zag across the street from The Angel to The New Inn – double the length of the previous lighting scheme. As an added bonus, the lights also change colour, with various options available, meaning they can be switched on to support the town's festivals and national holidays. They will go on at dusk during the summer and from about 3pm in the winter. The project forms part of wider

efforts to enhance the town centre and support the nighttime economy. Pershore Place Board has led the project in partnership with Wychavon and Pershore Town Council. The scheme has been funded by Wychavon's share of the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

"The lighting is LED and colour changing, so we can support the various events the community of Pershore so brilliantly put on," says Charlie MacIntyre, Clerk of Pershore Town Council. "We are very lucky to live in such a wonderful town!"



Gregory Sidaway joins Hughes & Company!

Gregory first became associated with the Pershore Times as a Work Experience student when he was fifteen years of age and attending Pershore High School. He wanted to be author/journalist.

Alan Hughes, the proprietor, was so impressed with the work he did that he offered the schoolboy a monthly column. Gregory grabbed this opportunity and it was called 'Teenage

Focus', later 'Gregory's World'. He has been writing articles for our newspapers ever since. He won a place at Exeter College, Oxford University, where he recently obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree 2/1 in English Literature. A brilliant achievement. A few days after completing his final exams and before the results were published, Alan phoned and offered Gregory a full time position with the

company, and he immediately accepted.

He is being trained to assist in editing and making the newspaper. He will in addition be using his outstanding journalistic skills to the full. We consider this a major appointment in our company and, with five newspapers, a great opportunity for Gregory to develop his skills.

Editor



The Daily Telegraph Top 500 Pubs

The Masons Arms, Wadborough



Such excitement in Wadborough after the beloved village pub, The Masons Arms, has been selected for the prestigious Top 500 Pubs in England list, compiled by Will Hawkes for The Telegraph.

What an achievement for a small village pub that only re-opened in 2021 after lockdown closure. Lydia and Simon, ably assisted by Tash and a small crew of helpers, ensure there's always a welcome. Wadborough itself is a village of only about 80 houses and the loyal band of pub supporters are delighted to see

regular non-villagers plus occasional passers-by swell the numbers. The pub provides such a friendly atmosphere, with a great range of expertly kept beers and ciders, a wine list to please all tastes, and just about every other refreshment you can imagine – alcoholic and non-alcoholic!

The menu covers all tastes with regular seasonal offerings, from summer specials to Christmas dinners and everything in between, including 'festivals' such as Mother's and Father's Days, Valentine's, Easter Sunday etc. Be sure to book for special occasions though as they soon reach capacity. Oh, and did I mention Sunday Roasts that are exquisite – but again need to be booked. Lydia wants the 'pub to be the hub' of our community, and it certainly fills that role. A village association, which includes Lydia and Simon; arranges celebrations that have included the late Queen's Jubilee and King Charles' Coronation, using the pub as the venue and focal point. The recent VE80 event brought villagers together for a poignant commemoration.

Funds raised during these events have supported a wide range of causes in addition to funding the village defibrillator, which is based – where else – on the front wall of the pub. Beyond this, donations have been made to support Ukrainian refugees, MacMillan, Alzheimer's Society, mental health support, UNICEF, Royal British Legion, St Richards Hospice – the list goes on. Regular pub-based activities include a very well supported golf society, monthly quiz nights, book clubs, bike meets and annual one-offs such as the Traitors Day and the Summer Party – all of which help create the bond so vital for a community. There's that word again – community – The Masons Arms offers everything a great pub needs and has been recognised for this. 'The Pub's the Hub' is the greatest priority. Next up, it seems our local MP is drawing up contenders for best pub in the constituency – nothing more to say! It's been difficult to find out how many pubs are still open in England, but it's likely to be something over 35,000. To be



within the top 500 is such a brilliant achievement – big cheers to Lydia and her team. Mind you, it'll always be the Number 1 pub in Wadborough, and a quick poll of customers places it top of the county and well towards the top of that 500 list! Cheers!



Acorns Superstore - now recruiting!

Acorns children's Hospice superstore in Pershore are recruiting new volunteers. Since opening in December 2024, it has been a huge success and the original team that transferred from the old shop would love some extra superheroes.

"We will be holding open days every Monday and Thursday with Margo between 9:30 - 1:00 for new volunteers to pop in and have a guided tour to see what we do behind the scenes. If we can help find a suitable role, we have a diverse group of volunteers who want work experience and skills for future employment, retired people who want to keep active and some who just do it for such a brilliant cause," says Craig Powell, Store Manager. "We make sure every day is fun and full of laughs to keep the motivation to create a family feeling within the team." This is what our lovely current volunteers say about their experience

Cynthia, till and back of house, a volunteer for over 20 years:

"Always good to meet new people and make new friends, lots of tea, cake and the most important thing is raising money for the children of Acorns."

Helen, in charge of children's books, a volunteer for fourteen years:

"Volunteering here gives you motivation and purpose everyday."

Steph, children's clothes champion, a volunteer for two months:

"The team are great company, you get a feeling of helping others and it's a great way of getting out and about in the community."

Sarah, till and back of house, a volunteer for six months:

"A lovely feeling to give something back. I meet people from all walks of life and being able to connect often with people who need someone to chat to. The team are so warm and welcoming. Always a highlight of my week."

Pam, a volunteer for two and a half years.

"I recently had a wonderful

opportunity to visit the hospice in Worcester, which I was so impressed by. The gardens were so well looked after catering for all as well as the hydrotherapy pool which has a ramp to enable a bed to be taken in for family use. Wonderful staff and a very bright and cheerful place, it's knowing that my volunteering helps things like that which makes it so rewarding and worthwhile." Deputy managers, Kyle, Jen, Fiona and Paul, would like to add that the shop's success is thanks to the local community, who they would like to thank especially for their gift of time, stock and the sales which raise money for Acorns children's Hospice.



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Pershore Mill – part 3



On 15th July 1976, the great fire broke out in Pershore Mill. Mr and Mrs Cecil Partridge, who lived in Mill House and were both in their 80's, noticed smoke coming from the mill as they left their house in the early evening. Mr Partridge called in the Pershore Fire Brigade. As well as the Pershore Brigade, Evesham, Worcester and other towns came to help. The nearby houses were all warned to draw their curtains in case of their windows shattering because of the heat. The current owner, Mr Philip Partridge's wife, Ruth, tells me she came to see the fire but, as she was expecting one of her sons at the time, had to stay at a safe distance. The size of the fire from this tall, imposing

building drew many of the town's families to view the spectacle. The onlookers could hear a series of explosions as the grain hoppers burst in the heat. Fortunately, although the mill was destroyed, the Mill House and other neighbouring buildings were not touched. The view from Pershore bridges would never be the same. Gone was the high Mill building that had dominated the approach to Pershore from this side of the town. It was amazing what a change it made. Part of our childhood had gone forever. Now, looking at the Mill site today, it is hard to remember the great imposing building that was once there.

Sue Price

History and Heritage Society

Planners win top award



Malvern Hills and Wychavon's Planning Team won Planning Authority of the Year for the region at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Awards for Planning Excellence 2025. The award recognises a year of transformational achievement for the team, including successfully driving the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review, with support from colleagues from Worcester City Council, through the crucial examination stage. Significant progress has also been made in delivering complex developments, such as Worcester Parkway, which now has government backing and will set new standards for a well-planned, modern, and sustainable

community. The team was also a key part of the bid and delivery of, the £20 million Levelling Up project at Malvern Theatres. The service is playing its part in tackling climate change, including embedding policies around sustainable development, biodiversity net gain, tree planting schemes, and supporting the delivery of energy-efficiency measures at Malvern Splash and three community energy-efficiency projects in Pershore. It was noted that 13.5% of all planning enforcement notices across the West Midlands were delivered by the joint service, demonstrating the councils' willingness to use a mix of approaches to ensure compliance with planning rules.

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A few words from... Dame Harriett Baldwin MP



Dame Harriett Baldwin MP held a debate in Pershore to discuss the challenges facing the international community responding to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The MP was invited to speak to people in Pershore following local people signing a petition, which has been shared with Foreign Secretary, David Lammy. Over 30 people attended the event to question Dame Harriett and share their views about the conflict in Gaza, the continued detention of Israeli hostages and the urgent need to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza. She agreed to write to the Government expressing the views of the people in the room. Dame Harriett said:

"The humanitarian situation in Gaza is intolerable and I am grateful that the people of Pershore took time out of their Friday night to come and share their views. I am glad that we live in a country where people are able to come forward and express their strongly-held opinions to their MP in a peaceful and constructive way. We all agreed to convey to the Government the urgency of finding a way to get more humanitarian assistance to the civilian population of Gaza. I have pledged to convey to the Foreign Secretary the clear view that we would like to see our Government do everything it can to end the humanitarian crisis in Gaza."

Friendship flourishes in Evesham and Pershore



If you've strolled through a Worcestershire park and spotted people tossing pétanque balls with the focus of Olympians, followed by laughter and the familiar call of "Are we playing for points or pride today?", you've likely met the Evesham and Pershore Friendship Group. Founded by fun-loving locals who refused to believe a social life ends after a 'certain birthday', this group is the area's answer to loneliness, boredom, and watching TV reruns for the third time. Designed for mature adults (yes, the kind who remember landlines), we welcome both singles and couples looking for company, conversation, and shared adventures. We like to say: "Old enough to know better, young enough to do it anyway." Whether it's catching a film or a theatre show, enjoying a walk

or simply chatting over a flat white or something stronger, we offer a wide range of social activities. There are day trips, meals, quizzes (everything from 70s TV knowledge to royal trivia) and even holidays together, and yes, we still speak afterwards - a true testament to our friendship!

We also love our games, playing anything from rummikub to skittles; the competition is fierce but in the nicest possible way. If you're looking to expand your social circle, we could be just what you're looking for. No pressure, no drama, just friendly people making the most of life together. Because friendship doesn't retire, it just gets better with age.

To find out more or join us at our next get-together, contact Pam on 07501023391

Development plan likely to pass key stage

Planning Inspectors have indicated that the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR) is likely to pass a key stage, allowing it to move forward to formal adoption. The SWDPR was subject to public examination during hearings in March, which scrutinised the policies and the evidence the Plan is based on. A final session takes place in September, after which the independent Inspectors appointed to consider the Plan will release their full report. The Inspectors' initial findings confirm, with some changes, that the SWDPR is likely to be found sound and legally compliant. Changes requested by the Inspectors will be put out to consultation in the autumn, after which the Plan can be formally adopted by Malvern Hills District, Wychavon District, Worcester City Councils, allowing planners to resist housing development in inappropriate locations.

In their interim letter, the Inspectors recommend, due to changes in housing-need calculations, a reduction in the number of homes that should be delivered before the Plan ends in 2041, from 21,440 to 18,852. They express support for new settlements at Rushwick and Worcestershire Parkway, confirming they are necessary to provide significant housing growth. But they raise concerns about the ability of the plan to deliver 2,000 new homes on land at Throckmorton by 2041 due to several issues, including land ownership. They acknowledge the site has potential for future housing and recommend the land be reclassified from an allocated housing site to an 'area of local search' - meaning more work needs to be done before homes can be built there. They have also challenged the proposed use of windfall sites - land that unexpectedly comes

forward for housing outside the official plan. Doubt is also cast on the delivery of part of the Worcester South urban extension - covering a total of 2,204 homes south of Taylors Lane - within the next five years. While it remains an allocation in the Plan, the Inspectors believe the outstanding part of the site cannot be considered part of South Worcestershire's five-year housing land supply. When combined with proposed changes to windfall sites, the Inspectors believe the Plan would not deliver a five-year land supply on adoption. Having a five-year land supply in place would allow the councils to resist housing development in inappropriate locations. However, despite this, Inspectors say they still feel the Plan is worthy of adoption as it would 'boost the supply of housing as a whole and meet the identified need across the

plan period.' They also note the Plan will need to be reviewed shortly after adoption to meet the Government's increased housing targets. Cllr David Harrison said: "We're pleased the Inspectors believe the Plan is likely to be found sound and legally compliant and we look forward to their final report. We are disappointed with their initial conclusion about the five-year housing land supply. In particular, we do not share the concerns raised about the Worcester South site, which already has outline planning approval, a committed landowner, a selected developer, and positive engagement between all parties and with some areas with detailed planning submitted. We believe the site can make a significant contribution to the three South Worcestershire Councils' five-year housing land supply. We will provide further evidence to the Inspectors about this."

Pershore's River Avon is in trouble — and it starts at home

Michael Chapman Pincher



The River Avon at Pershore may look clean, but it is quietly choking beneath the surface. Not from factory sludge or farm runoff, but from something much closer to home: us.

This summer, with barely a drop of rain and dry tributaries, traditional sources of pollution are largely absent. Yet testing shows worryingly high levels of nitrates and phosphates in the river. The difference? Most of the water now flowing through the Avon has already passed through our homes via washing machines, toilets,

showers, and sinks.

A group of volunteers, coordinated by Geoff Sallis as part of the SafeAvon Project, has been taking regular water samples from Pershore Bridge. Their findings point to a build-up of household waste chemicals that treatment plants, under pressure from low flow and high use, simply cannot filter out effectively. Residue from everyday products such as phosphate-rich detergents, nitrate-heavy food waste, and synthetic chemicals from toiletries flows back into the river, feeding the spread of

weed and algae. These block sunlight, lower oxygen levels, and suffocate aquatic life. In a dry year like this, there is no rain to dilute the damage. It just sits and brews.

This is not about blaming farmers or regulators, and it is not a guilt trip. It is a reminder that we are not powerless. Every household in Pershore can help turn this around. It starts with small changes. Choosing phosphate-free cleaning products can reduce harmful discharges. Using water more wisely reduces pressure on overloaded treatment plants. Avoiding pouring fats, scraps, or medicines down the drain prevents unnecessary chemical buildup. Rethinking garden products can stop runoff before it reaches the river.

None of this requires a major lifestyle overhaul. Just a bit of awareness and a shift in habit. Yes, we should expect better from water companies. But real, lasting change begins when communities stop waiting for someone else to fix the mess. That is the spirit behind

the SafeAvon Project. It is not just about collecting data; it is about reclaiming ownership of the river's health. You do not need to be a scientist to take part. You just need to care. And this is not a one-town mission. From Stratford to Tewkesbury, residents, anglers, WI volunteers, and local groups have been working for years to monitor and protect the Avon. Geoff Sallis has brought many of them together, with support from Wychavon District Council, charities, and people giving their time and energy on riverbanks, roadsides, and even bridge parapets. The credit belongs to everyone who keeps showing up. We are just helping amplify their work. So let us stop wringing our hands and start making smarter choices. This is Shakespeare's River. Let us protect it, not because it is someone's job, but because it is part of who we are.

"The river keepeth no account of blame, yet suffereth all. Let us be its stewards, not its scourge, lest beauty drown in our neglect."

Pony visit brings joy to Cherry Orchard House



Residents at Cherry Orchard House in Pershore were delighted by an unusual but very welcome visitor - a miniature therapy pony. The four-legged guest brought smiles and laughter to residents living with dementia and limited mobility. The visit was organised by the care team at Cherry Orchard House, an extra-care housing scheme managed by Radis Community Care in partnership with Rooftop Housing Group. The service provides independent living for older people, with flexible personal

care and support available around the clock.

"The residents loved it," says Kimberley Rouse, Service Manager at Cherry Orchard House. "Many were thanking us for arranging it and asking if we can organise more in the future. It brought many residents down who don't usually come out, and some really came out of their shells. It was a great day." Therapy ponies are increasingly recognised for their positive effects on elderly people. The gentle presence of a pony can help reduce feelings of loneliness,

improve mood, and stimulate memory recall through sensory engagement.

The visit was made possible thanks to K L Pony Therapy, a specialist provider based in North Yorkshire that brings gentle, trained miniature horses to care homes, schools, and community settings across the country. Their sessions are designed to promote emotional well-being and spark moments of connection through therapeutic interaction. Katy Smith, Owner of K L Pony Therapy, said: "I felt the visit was very special for the people we met, because of the conversations it sparked, the memories it brought back, and the sense of togetherness. The laughter and smiles just made the visit. We have twelve miniature horses, each with their own personality, and they all bring something special to the visits we do. Any worries or anxiety seem to just fade away. We travel up and down the country to bring the magic of pony therapy." This visit was one of many regular and varied activities

hosted at Cherry Orchard House. Weekly sessions include bowling, darts, knit and natter groups, art workshops, bingo, and coffee mornings. These events are resident-led and designed to encourage social interaction, combat loneliness, and support emotional well-being.

Cherry Orchard House comprises 52 one- and two-bedroom flats and a bungalow, all refurbished to a high standard. On-site amenities include a café, lounge, guest rooms, and peaceful communal gardens.

This joyful pony visit is just one example of how Radis Community Care brings warmth, independence, and community spirit to those living in its care.

To find out more about Cherry Orchard House or the wider services provided by Radis Community Care, please call 0330 100 8150.

Changing tack on airfield development!



A local councillor has welcomed the decision by the Inspectors for the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review Inquiry to postpone the plan for a 5000-house development on Throckmorton Airfield and is calling for a complete change of approach.

Throckmorton Councillor, Charles Tucker says "The Inspectors' decision reflects the sterling work done by the 4-parishes team in showing up the failings of the Throckmorton proposal. It now gives an opportunity to take a fresh look at this whole area and alternatives to mass housing. My feeling is that we ought to be looking at developing an Energy and Biodiversity Park here, based around a solar farm, and supporting industry. Maybe wind turbines too, if their problems can be ironed out. The landfill to the south already generates power from gas and studies show the Airfield sits on a reservoir of geothermal energy, so the whole site could make a significant contribution to local energy needs. It could also become an important part of the County's Local Nature Recovery

Strategy by restoring biodiversity and creating new wildlife habitat. It's already an important site for birds and bats."

The Inspectors' decision effectively sterilises and halts plans to build houses on the site for several years, until at least the next review of the Local Plan. This is unlikely to be ready now before Local Government Reorganisation and formation of a Unitary Council for the area. Tucker adds: "I think this puts off any decisions on housing on the Airfield until at least 2030. This is good news for Pershore because it will cut the amount of traffic on Wyre Road and Station Road that the New Town would have generated. So now is the time to take a different tack. I believe Wychavon should plan to use the Airfield to provide the energy we will all need and to help nature recovery. Seeing how strong the sun has been recently, this site could generate enough electricity to power whole communities."

For more information contact Charles Tucker: chast10t@gmail.com 01386 462441

Great Comberton Flower Show



The 79th Great Comberton Flower Show will be going "out of this World" on Saturday 23rd August, in the wonderful setting of Braille's Orchard, with the Church and Bredon Hill as a stunning backdrop. This quintessential Village Horticultural show - dating back to the post war years - still has its roots in the wonderful display of fruit, vegetables and flowers in the Main Traditional Marquee. Since then, the arts and crafts, cookery and floral art classes, as well as the beverages section, have increased. The show holds the only Plum Jerkum class in the world, an alcoholic beverage made from our local plums, know to rival cider and perry. The National Plum Jerkum Challenge Tankard is awarded to the proud winner. We will be sharing the recipe at the show! New this year is a Men only cookery class - lemon drizzle cake. There is a strong children's and teenage section, with free-to-enter classes like 'A Model Rocket from waste materials' or 'Alien Landscape in a Seed tray.' The show has a reputation as a very friendly show - with lots of locals gathering to enjoy the BBQ, a drink at the renowned village bar, or a glass of sparkling from our own award-winning Deer Park Wines. Village stalls do great trade

with homemade jams, chutney and cakes, plants, tombolas, and a bargain from the White Elephant.

The afternoon kicks off with children's fancy dress "Out of this World". The Novelty Dog show is followed by the judging of the classic cars. For many, the highlight of the afternoon is the Great Comberton egg throwing championship. The winner gets to write their name on the Big Egg. For the younger members, we have face painting, Smoothie Bikes, a lucky dip, a sandpit, and mask colouring-in. And for the more mature, skittles, a coconut shy, China smashing, plank plodding... Then an opportunity for an ice cream or yummy WI tea and cakes before the cups and trophies are presented and the grand raffle is drawn. The afternoon closes with the grand auction of exhibits donated by exhibitors. An opportunity to haggle for a prize-winning fruit cake, bag of apples or red hot chilli's! Classes open to all.

*Visit our website
www.theflowershow.org.uk
or contact
Suzanne on 01386 710466.
The show opens 2pm.
Entry for adults: £2.50,
children and parking free.*



Pershore Times Collection Points:

Hughes & Co - CO-OP store - Tesco Express

Acorns - Fruit Salad - Upper Crust Bakery

Pershore Library - Riverside Fish Bar

St Richards Hospice Shop - Drakes Broughton Village Shop

Eckington Village Shop

Elmley Castle, The Queen Elizabeth

Peopleton Village Shop

Upton Snodsbury Post Office & Shop

August Events at community run The Queen Elizabeth Inn

VISIT WORCESTERSHIRE PUB OF THE YEAR 2022/23 GOOD FOOD AWARD 2024/25

Who knew that a rural community pub could be so exciting !!

The Queen Elizabeth Inn Elmley Castle

CHARITY PUB QUIZ

Tuesday August 12th 7.30pm
In aid of Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre



Teams of up to six
£3 entry
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The Queen Elizabeth Inn Elmley Castle

SPANISH TAPAS NIGHT

Thursday August 28th

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The Queen Elizabeth Inn Elmley Castle

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Tuesday August 26th 7.00 pm



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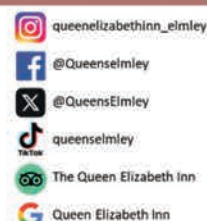


We are a multiple award winning, dog friendly, community-run, 16th Century Inn. We aim to provide a sustainable 'heart' for Elmley Castle and the surrounding villages, and a friendly destination venue for visitors. Thank you for your support

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Our Historic Bridges

Tim Hickson



Worcester Bridge

These bridges, sometimes replacing fords, sometimes earlier bridges, have a rich history. Let us start with Worcester's bridge. In the C11th, there was no other bridge between Bridgenorth and Gloucester. Almost certainly, there had been a Roman wooden one before. In the C14th, the bridge was rebuilt with a fortified gate tower in the middle like that at Monmouth. These bridges crossed the Sever between the end of Tybridge Street on the west bank and Dolday on the east bank. Trade across the river made a large contribution to Worcester's prosperity. Then, in 1781, a bigger, new bridge, designed by local architect, John Gynn, was built further downstream between Bridge Street and New Road. The old bridge was then demolished. Later, the new bridge was widened to what we see today. However, there is, of course, another bridge south-west of the city, Powick Bridge, still there crossing the Teme. This is a late medieval structure with C18th additions. Here, at the beginning of the English Civil War, in

1642, the first major skirmish took place as Parliamentary cavalry crossed the bridge heading for Worcester. It seems they were unaware of the large body of Royalist troops camped on the north side. In the ensuing fighting, the Parliamentary soldiers could not retreat fast enough across the narrow bridge. Some tried to ford the river, which that day was high, and fifty were drowned. Interestingly, in 1651, fighting over this bridge was part of the Battle of Worcester, the final act in the war. This time, Cromwell was involved and, of course, he won. To see what the citizens of the loyal city thought of that, go and look at the front of the Guildhall. Going downriver to Upton upon Severn, there is another bridge. Looking at the geography, it is easy to see that a crossing here was important, as it linked drove roads. We know there was a medieval ferry that was replaced by a wooden bridge that was there in 1539, when John Leland visited, and then by a stone one in 1609. During the English Civil War, the Royalists in Upton



Monmouth Gate Tower

destroyed the central arch to prevent Parliamentary troops crossing and heading to Worcester up the west bank of the river. However, they put a plank across the gap so they could cross and then went to the pub. Guess what? Under cover of darkness, the Roundheads quietly crossed the plank and surrounded their opponents. Later, the bridge was repaired but in the great flood of 1852, it was swept away. Two years later, a cast iron arched bridge was built in its place. One arch of this could be slid away to allow tall ships to pass. However, this took a long time to do and, in 1882, that arch was made to swing, which was quicker. When cars and lorries came on the scene, that bridge was too weak so, eventually, in 1940, the current one was built further upstream. Visit the town or find an aerial photograph and you can see the abutments of the old bridges. Moving to the Avon (an Old English word meaning 'river!'), Pershore's old bridge similarly had an arch demolished during the Civil War to stop Parliamentary troops crossing.

Although it was repaired, the advent of motor cars and lorries meant that it was deemed sensible to replace it with the wider modern one that we use today.



The Roundheads crossing Upton Bridge

Finally, Eckington Bridge is still in use, battered but repaired. It still has its refuges where pedestrians can cower whilst horses, cars, lorries or buses pass. When I lived in Eckington there were no traffic lights at the bridge and the unwritten rule was that the first vehicle to the brow of the bridge had right of way. That caused a lot of fun.



Powick's Old Bridge



Eckington Bridge



The Daily Telegraph

No 28,131 LONDON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1945

and Morning Post

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4 A.M.



JAPAN: UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

MIDNIGHT BROADCAST BY MR. ATTLEE

GEN. MacARTHUR TO ACCEPT CAPTULATION

VICTORY DAYS TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

Japan has surrendered unconditionally. This was announced simultaneously at midnight in London, Washington and Moscow—by Mr. Attlee, President Truman and in a statement broadcast by Moscow radio.

Gen. MacArthur has been appointed Supreme Allied Commander to receive the Japanese surrender, stated President Truman. Britain, Russia and China will be represented by high officers. In the meantime Allied armed forces have been ordered to suspend offensive action.

In Britain victory holidays will be to-day and to-morrow.

Mr. Attlee and President Truman both read the Japanese reply to the Allies' surrender terms. This reply was received through the Swiss Minister in Washington last night. President Truman said it was "a full acceptance of the Potsdam declaration, which specifies the unconditional surrender of Japan."

The Emperor of Japan was broadcasting to his people at midnight local time, four a.m. B.S.T.

JAPANESE REPLY

Mr. Attlee, broadcasting in London at midnight, said:

"Japan has to-day surrendered. The last of our enemies is laid low."

"Here is the text of the Japanese reply to the Allied Command:

"With reference to the announcement of Aug. 10 regarding the acceptance of the provisions of the Potsdam declaration and the reply of the Governments of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and China, sent by Secretary of State Byrnes on the date of Aug. 11, the Japanese Government has the honour to reply to the Governments of the four Powers as follows:

"1. His Majesty the Emperor has issued an Imperial rescript regarding Japan's acceptance of the provisions of the Potsdam declaration.

"2. His Majesty the Emperor is prepared to authorise and insure the signature by his Government and the Imperial H.Q. of the necessary terms for carrying out the provisions of the Potsdam declaration.

"3. His Majesty is also prepared to issue this communication to all military, naval and air authorities to issue to all forces under their control wherever located to cease active resistance and to surrender arms, and to issue such other orders as may be required by the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces for the execution of the above-mentioned terms.—Signed, Togo."

"Let us recall that on Dec. 7, 1941, Japan, whose onslaught China had already resisted for over four years, fell upon the United States, who were then not at war, and upon ourselves, who were sore pressed in our death struggles with Germany and Italy, taking full advantage of surprise and treachery.

"THE TIDE TURNED"

War Lasted 3 Weeks Short of 6 Years

The war lasted a little over three weeks short of six years, Britain's participation being from Sept. 3, 1939, to Aug. 14, 1945. For the four chief Allied nations its duration was:

China: 2,960 days, from July 7, 1937, to Aug. 14, 1945.

Russia: 1,420 days, from June 22, 1941, to May 9, 1945, and Aug. 9-14, 1945.

United States: 1,346 days, from Dec. 7, 1941, to Aug. 14, 1945.

Russia's war with Japan was over on its sixth day.

Hostilities between Britain and Germany in the last war began on Sept. 1, 1914, to Nov. 11, 1918.

BONFIRES & SHIPS' SIRENS GREET NEWS

Cheering Crowds In London

News of Japan's surrender was received in the Thames-side districts by a medley of noise from ships' sirens. Many people were awakened by continuous blasts and firework explosions.

Across the Thames in Kent, as far as the eye could see, bonfires were blazing in a manner reminiscent of the nights of the blitz.

At 9 or 10 a.m. American forces in the main hall of the American Forces Bandstand in the West End of London were playing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Japanese music programmes are being heard in news and talk-shows.

MINISTERS CHEERED

Story before on prime members of the Cabinet left Downing street. Mr. Attlee and Mr. Bevin, who were recognised by the small crowd, were waiting outside a great cheer.

A few minutes later the crowd, which had considerably thinned, was still cheering.

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WEeping CROWD AT IMPERIAL PALACE

"OUR EFFORTS ARE NOT ENOUGH"

Waiting "Forgive us, O Emperor, our efforts are not enough," a weeping crowd of Japanese bowed to the ground before the Imperial Palace in Tokyo to-day after a message announcing an Imperial decision had been read in the palace grounds.

A report of this scene was broadcast by the Japanese News Agency to its offices in the Far East to-day and picked up in New York.

Then, without explaining what the Imperial decision was, the agency spoke of its transmission and asked visitors to hold up the radio. This implied that what was being broadcast was not to be used until the Emperor's decision was made public.

The Emperor's message, the agency said, was referred to the people gathered before the Imperial Palace. This is the nearest point to the broadcast of the Emperor's decision. Here the people of Tokyo were asked to hold up the radio.

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PARLIAMENT OPENING MARKS END OF WAR

RECORD CROWDS EXPECTED FOR TO-DAY'S ROYAL DRIVE

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The State opening of Parliament to-day will form part of the celebrations which are to mark the end of the greatest war in history.

Police arrangements have been made to cope with crowds far larger than had been expected when it was first decided to restore some part of the panoply associated with similar occasions before the war.

It is expected that all records will be broken by the number of spectators lining the route from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords. In expectation of the announcement of Japan's surrender, several additions were made to the ceremonial previously arranged.

The King, in his speech from the Throne, will refer to the capitulation of Japan. He will follow in anticipation of Japan's surrender, but which he will announce finally to approve until the Emperor's decision is made public.

An alteration in Parliamentary business has been necessitated by yesterday's events. After the State opening has been carried through in accordance with previous arrangements, both Houses will adjourn. They will be reconvened at 4 p.m.

Mr. Attlee will then, in the House of Commons, and Lord Addison, in the House of Lords, propose a vote of thanks to the King and the Queen.

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Farming

Mike Page

I did say in last month's article that in life I try to remain optimistic. That approach has to be one of the bedrocks of farming life, because farming is an industry with little or no control over many of the major input factors that affect it, and one of the more important of those factors is weather. Between the seasons of 2023-24 and 2024-25, we have swung from far too much rainfall, preventing many fields from being used to grow crops or graze animals in 23-24, to prolonged semi-drought conditions in 24-25; crop yields at harvest – not so very far away as I write this in early July – will likely be sharply down, along with the increasing likelihood that both grazing and conserved forage for livestock will be in tight supply later this summer and into winter. It has rained this morning here (7th July – Pinvin) but something and nothing rain, certainly not enough to encourage any real recovery in growth; the latest weather forecast is for continuing dry conditions, perhaps the occasional shower. I am not talking 'drought' in the sense the word is understood in some other parts of the World – where in some areas it may not rain at all for months or even years; such parts of the World are not used for grain crop production, but might be used for animal grazing, but on a different scale to the UK; here



Wheat crop changing colour already as it moves earlier than usual into the final grain ripening and bulking-up phase

we might be thinking of grazing five sheep per one acre on good grassland; in the outback of Australia it is more likely to be one sheep per five acres, or very often even lower. Regrowth of grass fields harvested already for silage/hay has been poor as yet from lack of rain, combined with well above average temperatures drying the soil out yet more. Another result can be seen in the photograph, showing a wheat crop changing colour already as it moves earlier than usual into the final grain ripening and bulking-up phase; soil moisture has to increase through some fairly heavy rain very soon, or grain yields in this area and also much of England are likely to be low; combine-harvesters will already be on the move by the time this

is being read and perhaps they will show results better than those I am predicting. I hope so. But one way or another, farmers cope with difficulties as they arise, because coping with such circumstances is what the job is all about. We can but hope that the present Government will not push further troubles our way as their tax and other policies have in the time they have been in office. Perhaps a general election and some other Party elected into office? They all have been promising: "It will all be so marvellous, with everything sorted out, if we are in power." I have my doubts! A quote – and meant as a joke (I hope!) – that has always stuck in my mind is: "It is better in life to be a pessimist, at least that way you are never going to be disappointed in the way

things turn out." But I will stick with being an optimist and I am sure that cattle and sheep think the same way, ever hopeful that there is 'better stuff' in the next field than in the present one. In the times I have gathered sheep or cattle together to move them, once they as a group, realise that your intention is moving them onto a new field, they are enthusiastic to make that move, ever hopeful of the promise of something better and ready and willing to go through the gate full of optimistic enthusiasm. Occasionally, it does not work out, but that does not seem to dull their optimism when the next opportunity arises. Like them and regardless of this year's outcome, you are likely to find me still here farming come next season!

A magical summer visitor

Karen Rose

It's August and the long, hot, early summer means that the fields around Pershore are sun-scorched and already harvested. This is a time of change for nature, as we move towards Autumn. Hedgerow fruits and berries appear, birds start to depart and the long summer evenings begin to get shorter. Some of our summer visitors are still with us though, so keep an eye out for a very exotic bird imposter. If you've ever spotted what looks like a tiny hummingbird darting among your garden flowers, chances are you've encountered the Hummingbird Hawk-moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*). With its rapid wingbeats, hovering flight, and long proboscis for sipping nectar mid-air, this day-flying moth is a wonderful summer

surprise. Unlike most moths, the Hummingbird Hawk-moth is active during the day, especially in warm, sunny weather. That's why we've been getting reports of them visiting local parks and gardens. It's a migrant species, often arriving from southern Europe, though in recent years warmer UK summers have encouraged some to stay and even breed. Their favourite nectar stops include honeysuckle and buddleia, making our gardens a perfect stage for their aerobatics. With their tiny wings beating up to 85 times per second, they hover with astonishing precision - just like a hummingbird - and their orange hindwings flash as they dart from flower to flower. So, next time you're in the



garden on a warm August afternoon, keep your eyes peeled. That blur of wings and flash of orange might just be one of nature's most charming

imposters—the Hummingbird Hawk-moth. *Karen Rose is a biodiversity officer for Wychavon District Council*

Sunny Sunflowers

It's August, which means it's Sunny Sunflower season! Their joyful blooms really brighten up the garden and make fabulous cut flowers too, but there is so much more to the humble sunflower than first meets the eye. I love looking at the centre of the sunflowers and the patterns created by the seeds - it's called the Fibonacci Sequence. This is where the sunflowers arrange their seeds in spirals, with two sets of spirals winding in opposite directions from the centre, which means space is optimised and it maximises seed production by ensuring each seed gets sufficient sunlight. Isn't nature amazing! So whether you're after a statement plant for a wildlife-friendly border or a compact bloom for a container, there's a sunflower variety to suit your space. Sunflower 'Titan' is a whopping variety with a flower head that

could reach 60cm in diameter. It's perfect for competing in 'the tallest sunflower' competition. Most sunflowers are annuals which means you need to sow seeds every year. However, if you're looking for a perennial variety that will bloom year after year, try the Helianthus 'Happy Days', which is a stunning dwarf variety with dramatic bright yellow flowers, with double centres, and blooms from July to September, on stems approximately 90cm high. Another favourite is Helenium autumnale 'Short and Sassy' - which technically isn't a sunflower, but they're both members of the Asteraceae family. They're great for the front of borders and pots as they only grow to around 45cm tall, so don't need staking, and they have a fabulous common name of 'sneezeweed'. Ideal for late summer colour too. An interesting fact about

sunflowers is that they can clean up toxic soil and were planted at Chernobyl to absorb radioactive isotopes after the disaster. In 1994, researchers planted sunflowers on floating rafts in a contaminated pond near the reactor. Within just ten days, the plants had absorbed about 95% of the radioactive isotopes from the water. This technique has since been explored in other contaminated sites, including Fukushima in Japan and industrial areas with heavy metal pollution. It's a low-cost, eco-friendly way to help heal damaged landscapes. Sunflowers are the perfect plant for a wildlife friendly garden as not only are the flowers loved by bees and other pollinators, but their seeds are adored by finches in the autumn. They're edible and nutritious for us humans too and are packed with vitamin E, magnesium, and selenium. So add them to your granola for



Nikki Hollier

nikki@borderinabox.com
@borderinabox
www.borderinabox.com

extra taste, fibre and protein at breakfast time and if you have any left over, pop them into your bird feeders. I'm off to the Sunflower Fields at Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park, open until Thursday 31st August, which will be an absolute treat. For more information and to book tickets check out their website: www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk



August gardening tips

Early in the month

Keep dead-heading flowering plants and picking beans to maintain production. Liquid feed bedding plants in tubs and baskets but switch to high Nitrogen feed, which stimulates new growth for flowering later. If carrot fly bothers you, grow the crop under garden fleece or insect barrier mesh for excellent control. Thin out overcrowded water lily foliage on ponds. Start preparing the soil for laying new lawns next month. Vine Weevils will be laying eggs in tubs and containers now. One sure remedy is to water the compost with Bug Clear Ultra Vine Weevil Killer which makes the compost vine weevil proof for two months. For natural control, use nematodes or put a half inch deep layer of horticultural grit on the surface of the compost to deter successful egg laying and larvae development.

Mid-Month

Take cuttings from Geraniums, Fuchsias, Penstemons and other semi-hardy plants. Keep Camellias, Hydrangeas, Magnolias, Pieris, Azaleas and Rhododendrons well watered to prevent bud drop later. Semi-ripe cuttings can be taken from a wide range of shrubs. These are short side shoots, which have slightly woody bases. Pot some strawberry runners into 18cm (7in) pots. Leave them outside until January, then put them in the greenhouse for an early crop. Trim over lavender, Santolina (cotton lavender), Helichrysum (curry plant) lightly after flowering. Sow last outdoor carrots, lettuce, radish and spinach beet in the vegetable garden. Sow Japanese onion seeds soon or buy autumn planting onion sets next month. Summer prune Wisteria - cut

back all new growth to five leaves up from where it arises from main branch, unless it is required to extend the plant. Sow Browallia, Schizanthus and Calceolaria in the greenhouse for winter pot plants. Plant young strawberry runners for cropping next year. Take Hydrangea cuttings - they could make a flowering pot plant for next year. Try collecting some seed from your own garden plants - you could get a new variety. Take cuttings from heathers. Use 2.5 cm (1in) long shoot tips. Root in gritty compost. Look out for specially stored early seed potatoes, plant soon for new potatoes for Christmas dinner. *Later this month* Spring flowering bulbs will be around now. Buy Colchicums, Madonna lilies and Autumn-flowering crocus soon. Gather up and dispose of

Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester



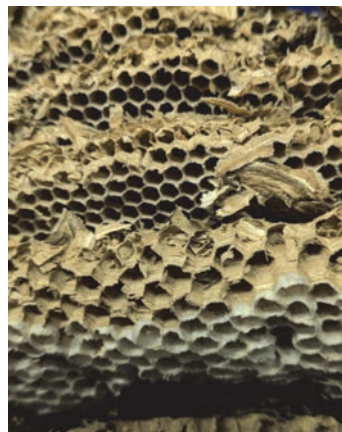
diseased rose leaves as they fall. Prune rambler roses. Summer prune trained forms of fruit trees. Clean and check over greenhouse heaters. Pot up some herbs dug from the garden ready to bring indoors in October for winter use. Sow a final batch of parsley seed outdoors and some spring cabbage. Check over any bulbs e.g. tulips that you have in store to ensure that they are fit to re-plant.

Bees versus Wasps

Martyn Cracknell



A tiny phase one wasp nest with just seven cells in a shed roof



A mature phase three nest with horizontal layers of cells for raising workers.

Like many people in this part of England, I have taken advantage of the fine weather, dining alfresco and enjoying an occasional barbecue. Until July, we had seen virtually no wasps, and we were certainly not bothered by them, and neither were the bee hives. Then suddenly, in the first week of July, I noticed action at the entrance of one small colony. Further examination revealed that the bees had been raided and killed, and some hundreds of wasps were pillaging the remains of the honey stores. It is not unusual for wasps to attack, destroy and strip a beehive. More often than not, there is some underlying problem which has led to the bees failing to defend

themselves. In this case, the colony had a newly hatched queen and no brood to defend. I reduced the entrances of all other hives to a single bee passageway and checked that there were no other gaps through which wasps could enter. Prevention is always better than cure.

What was so surprising was the timing of the attack. Normally, mid-August is the critical time, coinciding with the removal of the summer honey crop. The intervention by the beekeeper in opening the hives and taking the boxes of honey inevitably creates an aroma of honey around the hives and breaches the hive's structure, thus attracting wasps and then permitting their entry. We have various strategies to

minimise the risk, but wasps can be a serious problem, and bees have to spend considerable time and energy to defend themselves. Even so, some hives will succumb under the relentless attack. Wasps are very strong and it may take six bees to wrestle an invader and drag it out of the hive.

As soon as ivy starts to flower and plums and other fruit start ripening, usually in September, the wasps can get a sweet reward without a fight, so they leave the bees in peace. A look at social media revealed that many other beekeepers had noticed the onset of wasp attacks and there was a lively debate about the deployment of wasp traps. So why do wasps change their behaviour from barely noticeable to positive nuisance? Wasp biology is discussed in detail for each of the species of British wasp listed by BWARS (Bees, Wasps and Ants Recording Society). Their website describes eight species of social wasp which all have a broadly similar life history, and can be divided into five phases.

1) Large mated Queens emerge from hibernation and begin to build a nest of paper made from chewed wood and saliva. They lay a few eggs and hunt for flies or caterpillars on which to feed the grubs. They feed themselves on nectar from flowers.

2) The queen stays at the nest and lays eggs. The first cohort of new wasps chew wood to make paper to expand the nest. They also forage for caterpillars, flies, etc. to feed the grubs. When they feed a grub, it exudes a drop of sweet liquid as a reward, which reinforces the workers' foraging behaviour. These grubs are often poorly fed and hatch as rather small wasps.

3) The nest expands. With more workers, the income of food into the nest is better, resulting in better growth of the grubs and larger wasps. Their predation on aphids and other garden pests is a valuable service to gardeners and fruit growers. After the nest has reached peak size, the queen produces drones (male) and virgin queens. These leave the nest and mate. The queens seek somewhere to hibernate. The males die after a few weeks.

4) The nest now has fewer young grubs to be fed. Workers returning with a meaty offering are unable to find a grub to feed and do not get their sweet reward, so they begin to search for sweetness directly. They attack ripening fruit, such as plums, they rob honey from beehives and try to get in our drinks at picnics and outdoor cafes.

5) The nest dies out and the paper structure will not be re-occupied.

To be continued ...

Village Life

John Driscoll

The summer of 2025 continues to provide long hot days (and nights!) that have encouraged many of us to adopt a slower pace of life while seeking shade and a cool drink. All very well if you don't have pressing activities to fulfil, but of course many have jobs requiring them to keep going no matter the temperature. Hopefully, we've all had the opportunity to enjoy at least some of the long lazy days the summer keeps giving!

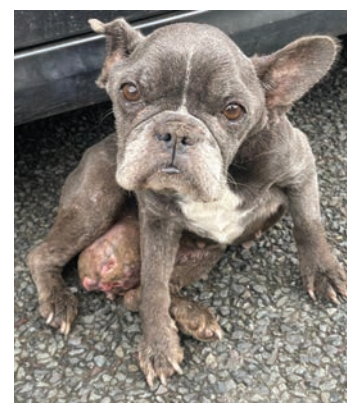
Our amazing community has once again shown itself in its best light after helping a poor little canine friend in need of help. An afternoon walker found the poor dog abandoned at the side of a road just outside the village. She was in very poor condition, showing signs of hunger as well as infections and other likely health problems. A heartbreaking picture on our WhatsApp village chat received immediate supportive responses.

Within a very short time, two village residents had taken her to a vet in Pershore where she was fed and treated for immediate ailments. She was microchipped, efforts would be made to contact the owner, and, if there was no response, she would have been placed in the care of the dog warden. Sadly, she was more poorly than originally thought and had to be laid to rest to save her further suffering.

I know a sad situation like this would have been dealt with similarly in years past, but our local telegraph – WhatsApp – meant the story could be shared in real time. There would have indeed been no shortage of volunteers if help was requested on the village chat, especially as the enormous eyes staring up from this little dog would have melted many a heart.

Reflecting on life in our village and how lucky we are to live in such beautiful surroundings led

a few of us to think about unravelling some of our local history and stories that long-term residents have to tell. A visitor asked which was the oldest property in the village and some speculation followed. Tempting to say it would be the pub, but then who would build a pub unless there was a nearby community to support it? It will almost certainly be either associated with farming, the nearby estate or the church. We are mentioned in the Doomsday Book, so there are quite a few possible candidates. Luckily, we have some senior residents who can recall life in the village spanning quite a few decades, so maybe we should promote a project to create a record of their stories and recollections of village life – even if some names will need changing to protect dignity and avoid embarrassment! One for the winter months ahead perhaps. Which leaves me wondering



how many of our predecessors in the village were lucky enough to be able to say they were 'living the dream', as our redoubtable pub landlord often says? Without resorting to viewing the past through rose-tinted spectacles, it can only be hoped that was the case for many of them. Let's see if we can bring some of their stories back to life and can all be allowed a glimpse into their dreams. Here's hoping!

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Ailsa's Kitchen Ailsa Craddock

BBQ time - when the men of the house take over and say they've done all the cooking – apart from the planning, shopping, salads, puddings, drinks and inviting! Anyway, here are a few suggestions and, hopefully, harmony will reign over the flames.

BBQ Spiced Chicken with corn and cos lettuce

8 chicken drumsticks*
2 tbs sea salt flakes*
1 tbs smoked paprika*
1 tbs ground coriander*
1 tsp chilli powder*
1 tsp ground black pepper*
1/2 tsp ground cloves*
1/2 tsp ground allspice*
Extra virgin olive oil to drizzle
4 corn cobs
Chilli oil to serve (optional)
Lime wedges to serve
Cos lettuce wedges

(*Spice Rub)

Preheat barbecue to a medium heat. For the spice rub, place all the ingredients in a container and shake to combine. Extra spice mix will keep for up to six months in a sealed container. Brush the chicken with the olive oil then rub over 2 tbs of the spice rub. Place chicken and corn on the barbecue and cook for 15-20 minutes, turning, until chicken is cooked through and corn is slightly blistered. Remove from barbecue. Drizzle chicken with a little chilli oil and serve with corn, lime and grilled cos lettuce.

BBQ Salmon with dill, capers and lemon

1.5 kg salmon side
1/4 cup olive oil
2/3 cup baby capers, rinsed, chopped
1 small red onion, finely chopped
1 cup flat-leaf parsley, chopped
1/2 cup fresh dill leaves, chopped
2 tbs finely grated lemon rind
1 tbs Olive Oil

Lemon wedges to serve
Preheat barbecue to medium-high. Place a large sheet of foil on bench and top with baking paper. Place salmon on paper. Brush all over with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Fold baking paper and foil over salmon to enclose. Transfer parcel to barbecue. Cook for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, combine capers, onion, herbs, lemon rind and oil in a bowl.

Remove salmon from barbecue and rest for 5 minutes. Unwrap. Transfer to a serving platter and spread with herb mixture and serve with lemon wedges.

Vegetarian Bean Burgers

1 can of pinto or black beans (other varieties also work)
3 tbs tomato paste or ketchup
1/2 tsp salt
1 grated garlic clove



1 onion, chopped finely
2 tbsp flour
1/2 cup cooked diced vegetables of choice

Spices of your choice paprika, cumin, curry powder to taste
Drain, rinse and mash the beans. Stir in all the other ingredients to form patties, adding more flour if too soft. Preheat your bbq cook on a greased sheet of foil for 7-8 minutes per side. Serve with your favourite burger toppings—ketchup, mustard, avocado, onions, etc.—on buns or in lettuce wraps for a lower carb option.

BBQ Pineapple with chocolate dip

1 star anise
1 cinnamon quill
5 whole cloves
8 Szechuan peppercorns
100g unsalted butter, melted
1 pineapple, peeled, cut lengthways into 8 wedges
Finely grated zest of lime
100g dark chocolate, finely chopped
125ml of single cream

Place the star anise, cinnamon, cloves and peppercorns in a dry pan over medium heat. Toast for 3 minutes or until fragrant. Transfer to a spice grinder or mortar and pestle, and grind to a fine powder. Place half the spice mixture in a bowl. Add the butter and stir to combine. Set aside. Preheat a barbecue to a medium-high heat. Thread the pineapple onto skewers and brush with the spiced butter. Grill, brushing frequently with spiced butter, for 10 minutes or until lightly charred. For the chocolate dip, place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl. Place cream and remaining spice mixture in a saucepan over medium heat. Bring to the boil, then pour through a sieve over the chocolate. Set aside to cool for 1 minute, then use a spatula to stir until smooth and combined. Stir in a pinch of sea salt. Serve pineapple skewers with the chocolate dip, grated lime zest and extra sea salt.

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Campers and Candles

Angela Johns

We are just back from a successful frolic to France in the campervan, where every little town looks like a WW2 movie set. After last year's trip to France, my partner playfully suggested a budget just for votive candles. Another French town, another church, another candle lit and contribution made. The cathedral or church will usually be the most ancient part of the town. I love the architecture, stone masonry and wood carvings, the stained glass and the gargoyles, the sheer size or the simplicity – all that history moves me. I pay my euro or two, light my candle and then recite the names of all those that have gone before me, picturing each person in turn. I have nothing to say, just an acknowledgement that they were in my life and now they are not. The world continues to turn regardless, just as the flame continues to flicker as I stand there, the small candle serving to represent simultaneously both a continuity and a vulnerability. The act of paying, choosing my candle, lighting it and watching the flame dance as I recite the names, is a ritual that makes me pause a moment. I feel love and gratitude, occasionally regret and sadness. It is a small private moment of remembrance and connection. I am so disappointed, therefore, if I creak open the door (or file in with everyone else) with my coins at the ready in my pocket, and I see rows of electric candles. This change in tradition feels so soulless to me. You put your money in the slot (or wave your smartphone over the card reader) and a candle alights. You don't know which one it



will be and it looks identical to all the others, a fake flicker in unison. I have to send a wry message to the Ones That Have Gone Before telling them they will have to wait. Another day, another church to visit, until I'm all churchied out and my candle budget is blown. Luckily, with this kind of change, I can choose whether I accept it or not. I walked away on this occasion. I can honour the dead and feel grateful to still be alive by feeling the tingle of the sun rays on my skin, by hearing the leaves being rustled by a welcome breeze in a heatwave, by smelling the warmth of a freshly baked baguette, and tasting the perfect balance of cream and strawberry in a tartlette fraise. I don't need a candle – but it is really, really nice to have one.

Currently training as an Emotional Therapeutic Counsellor with the AETC, Angela is a qualified Reflexologist, Aromareflex Practitioner and Reiki Teacher/Practitioner. She is passionate about her therapies and spends quality time with her clients to facilitate their wellbeing. You can find her at angelajohns.co.uk

Navigating Change

Emily Papirnik

Is it time for change? How might you know? Sometimes, it's a quiet whisper: a restlessness, a sense of misalignment, or the feeling that you've outgrown an old way of being. Other times, it shows up louder—a repeated emotional pattern, a physical place or situation you keep returning to, even when it no longer nourishes you. It may be subtle or stark, but the invitation to change often begins with awareness. Many believe change only happens when we hit rock bottom. While it's true that crisis can be a catalyst, change doesn't always need to come from collapse. It can emerge incrementally, through conscious intention and small, steady steps. Conviction plays a role—when we know deep down that something must shift. However intention is equally powerful. It is the energy we bring to the change, the way we hold it, nurture it, and allow it to grow. For example, I once worked with a client who felt stuck in a cycle of self-doubt. Rather than waiting for a breakdown, they chose to explore that feeling gently, journaling, working with their energy and creating 'Truths' in a weekly exercise, and slowly shifting their inner narrative. Over time, that intentional practice



reshaped their experience of self-worth. Another client faced a sudden life transition and had to make a clear, bold decision. They chose conviction—stepping into a new chapter with courage, knowing that the discomfort of change was necessary for growth. Whether change comes in waves or whispers, the most lasting transformations often involve both conviction and intention. We must allow ourselves to see what is no longer working, focus on what we do want, and then take loving action toward it. If you're wondering whether it's time for change, trust your inner knowing. Tune into how your body responds to certain patterns or choices. Listen to what your heart is asking for. And know that small, intentional steps can lead to the most profound, lasting shifts. Change doesn't have to be overwhelming. It can be a gentle unfolding.

"Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must first set yourself on fire."

Fred Shero

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Romy's Uni Life

Romy Kemp *Liverpool University*



Thoughts over summer

The majority of my summer break so far has been meeting up with friends and family. I am currently trying to organise a university house meet up so that all seven of us can catch up and spend the night in our flat. Since we are all scattered around the United Kingdom, it is hard to organise a meet up with everyone because people are busy and the distance is certainly a factor to think about for the majority of us. By the time my article has come out, I will have gone up to the house - so I will give an update next month!

I honestly cannot wait to move into my flat in September and decorate my room and make the house our home. This is one of the best parts of moving in to a new flat/house because you can really make it your own which, I think, really helps students find out who they are as a person and it truly shows our growing independence as young adults. As much as I will truly miss my housemates from my second year, we all decided on different living arrangements for third year. I will stay in contact with both of them for life and will definitely meet up with them regularly throughout my final

year of university, and beyond. I will especially miss living with them because I had lived with both of them for two years (first and second years of university) so it will certainly be a change for me, but I plan to invite them over a lot throughout third year.

More work experience

In my last article, I wrote about the work experience that I did in a secondary school, and wanted to do some more work experience in another school. I decided that I should go back to my old school and do some work experience there. I went back for the final week of school before the summer holidays began. This meant that my work experience worked a bit differently to how it would at any other time of the school year. I worked with some Year 10s all week as a helper. Instead of helping in the English department, it was more of a work experience week for them. I really enjoyed going through activities with them and helping them reach their full potential for the week.

I also really enjoyed going back to my school because I was able to see my teachers and how the

school has changed. It was lovely to catch up with the teachers and get to know them not just as a former student, but as an adult who is thinking of going into teaching. They treated me with the utmost respect and I truly appreciated that as it made me realise that I could certainly be a teacher making an impact on the students.

Quite a few businesses from outside of the school came in to talk to the students about what avenues they could take in the future - from apprenticeships to talking about pensions, it was lovely to see the students learn about careers that they didn't know they could do. Even I learnt things about what I could've done before university, but also what I could do after university. It was lovely to go back to the school I grew up in and see a different side of it. I was welcomed back warmly and enjoyed every second of the day, and it is all I've been able to talk about! I will definitely go back and do some more work experience at my old school because I enjoyed it so much and it was lovely going back to my old school.

Beach Safety



Taking your dog to the beach can be a fun and enriching experience for you and your pooch. However, going to the seaside comes with certain dangers for dogs.

Make some preparations

Make sure that you have got poo-bags, water and toys at the ready? Can your dog swim? Do they even like water? Is the beach you plan to visit a pet-friendly one?

Prevent jellyfish stings

If your dog is stung by a jellyfish, the seawater can do a great job of preventing the release of further toxins.

Avoid heat exhaustion in dogs

Make sure you give your dog lots of fresh water to drink and take regular shade breaks.

Prevent wasp stings

If your dog is stung by a wasp, keep a close eye on them. It's a good idea to visit your vet to have the sting checked over.

Watch out for sharp objects

Broken bottles or discarded sharp items aren't so easy to spot when you're at the beach so you'll need to take extra care.

Don't let your dog drink salt water...

Bring your dog's bowl along with you, plus their own bottle of water, and make sure you offer it to them regularly.

For more information on keeping your pet safe and comfortable at the beach, or any aspect of their welfare, have a chat with us.

Best wishes *Eliza*

Gregory's World!

Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford

Hot off the Press

We've voyaged far and wide together, fellow reader. These last few years have seen the map of Gregory's World grow, filling with detail and colour, knowledge and experiences. Now, I'm gaining knowledge and experience closer to home. I've submitted articles for the Pershore (later Upton, plus Kempsey, plus Powick, now Whittington) Times for about six years. But for the first time since my week of Year 10 work experience in 2019, I'm writing to you from the inside, from the citadel of local news that is Hughes & Co. I have my own desk, my own comfy swivel chair, and even my own mug that says: 'Start the day with a smile ... it irritates people.' To my left, Tash is assembling a book called James Balfour's *Reminiscences of Golf*, binding it in blue Buckram, impressing the cover with gold foil, and carefully gluing in five folded maps by hand; she'll have to repeat this meticulous process for another hundred or so copies of Balfour, but she also told me she has Audible, so the hours should fly by. To my right, Andy is busying away at a hundred jobs a minute, ping-ponging between the phone, the computer, the photocopier, the

guillotine, and the till; just when he thinks he's found a quiet moment out in the yard, the phone chirps and he's back at it again. I'm sitting in a nook of paper, pens, and printers, and frequently ringing Simon; he's our tech wizard, training me in the ways of the force (otherwise known as QuarkXPress, the programme used to assemble each month's issue). I was surprised at the number of people who are involved behind the scenes in contributing to, producing, and distributing the paper you're now holding – many of whom often poke their head around the shop door like relatives popping by to say hello. Meanwhile, all of this takes place under the watchful eye of Alan, who assured us only this morning that he's never worked a day in his life because working at Hughes & Co. feels like a holiday! It certainly feels like a new chapter. After battling through Exam season (and finding my way out of that Thai massage), a calmer, cooler, suppler version of me enjoyed a honeymoon period of four final weeks at uni before the end of Trinity term. Four weeks of punting, pubbing and sleeping made for a fitting epilogue to these last three years. I even got to experience another Oxford

tradition: the schools dinner. This is essentially a victory dinner you have with your tutors and the rest of your subject cohort after exams are done and dusted. It's highly anticipated and fabled by students because of its two desserts, decanters of port, and snuff. The snuff was passed around the dining table in a small wooden box. A divider in the middle separated a lighter and a darker variety, the milder stuff from the stronger stuff. My tutor showed me how I should spoon a molehill of it into the dimple beside the base of my thumb – the same dimple you sprinkle and lick salt from before necking a tequila shot, but you were probably already thinking of that, fellow reader. Then I sniffed the snuff. My nostril fizzed. You only live once, so I opted for the darker variety. Also, you only live once, so I decided that was the first and only time I would ever do that. I was more taken with the Bath Oliver biscuits that were then passed around in a silver tin, and the cup of coffee that topped it all off – because it was only ten o'clock at night. Thinking about it one month on, I already appreciate what a wacky and wonderful bubble universe I'd got used to sliding in and out of over the last three



years. A trilogy is enough for me, brilliant, exhausting, inspiring, but enough. So, it was fortuitous when the phone buzzed and Alan reached out once again with an opportunity. This time, a nine to five at Hughes & Co. My first week on the job hurled me straight in at the deep end – thank goodness, that's where there's no faffing around and you learn quickly. I helped add the finishing touches to each of the five papers, before sending them to the printers and uploading them online. Six years after a shorter, specklier, school-uniformed me first stopped by to discuss a work experience placement, here I am, printing off proofs and about to take them upstairs to M. He'll make short work of any flowery language with a deft stroke of his fountain pen. Anyway, I'd better get cracking. Let the holiday begin!

Evie's Teenage Focus

Evie Aubin Oxford Brookes University

As you know, I've been to many concerts. It seems that every other month, I'm writing to you about someone I've seen or am going to see. And, unsurprisingly, this is going to be another one of those times. But hey, at least I'm consistent! Last time I wrote to you, I mentioned I was going to BST Hyde Park in London to see a variety of different artists; some of which I had seen play before, some I had been wanting to see for what feels like forever, and some people I had never heard of before, but now don't know what I would do if I was never introduced to their music. The first weekend I went to Hyde Park, was the Friday that Olivia Roderigo was headlining the show. My day started bright and early, meeting Daisy at the train station and getting the 10:30 train into London Paddington. I always forget how busy trains are supposed to be, since going to university I

usually only get the train up to Oxford (and on what seem to be quieter days). This train to London however was absolutely packed with regular commuters, as well as a few people we spotted going to the concert as well. Once we made it to Paddington, we got the tube to Victoria, where we met up with one of my friends from university and a friend she brought from home. After what felt like an eternity of trying to find each other, calls and text messages not going through, we finally found everyone and headed to Spoons for lunch before making our way over to the venue. By the time we got there, our gates had been open for about half an hour and so, after a brief security check, we were in! We had a quick walk around, scoped out a few spots where we could be for the headlining acts and then walked across the grassy field by the rainbow stage to get some drinks and listen to some music

in the shade. Whilst seeing Olivia was obviously a massive highlight from the show, I think the best moment was finally seeing The Last Dinner Party. I was supposed to see them last year but after the concert was cancelled, the group never rescheduled the show, and so this was the first time I had the opportunity to see them. To me at least, that was a very special moment. Olivia was of course amazing; she sang some of her hits and even brought out Ed Sheeran as a special guest. The weekend after followed a very similar schedule. I went to London on my own this time though, meeting a different friend from university when I got to London. We saw a bunch of my favourite artists, such as Gigi Perez, Sydney Rose, Asha Banks, Finneas, the Favours and, of course, Gracie Abrams and Noah Kahan, who I had seen before but will jump at any opportunity to see again. They



were amazing as always, Gracie bought out Aaron Dessner as a surprise guest and Noah bought out Lewis Capaldi. However, what made the night more amazing than anything else was when he played my favourite song of his: "strawberry wine". The song isn't on any of his set lists so I had never heard it live before and hadn't expected him to play it. When he did, I just started crying (very over dramatic I know but that's just me!). I promise you, this will be the last time I yap about a concert ... at least for a few months. Until next time, toodles!

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Do you want a VAT invoice?

Carol Draper



It sounds like a simple question, and it is one that gets asked in numerous situations but what is a VAT invoice, when should one be provided, who needs one and what does it contain? If you are buying something as a private individual, the answer is straightforward – in most circumstances, you do not need a VAT invoice. While we all pay VAT, only VAT registered businesses can reclaim it.

If you are a VAT registered business making a VAT rated supply to another VAT registered business, you are required to issue a VAT invoice. In the same way, if you are a VAT registered business and wish to reclaim VAT, you require a VAT invoice to support your claim for VAT. The format of the VAT invoice depends on the value of the supply.

For supplies with a gross value of £250 or below, it is possible to reclaim VAT with a less detailed tax invoice. Such an invoice must show the name, address and VAT registration number of the supplier, the nature of the purchase, the gross amount paid, and the rate of VAT included in the supply. Common forms of such supply include restaurant receipts, fuel and retail shop receipts.

For any supplies with a gross value greater than £250, in addition to the details included in the less detailed invoices, a valid VAT invoice must show:

- the name and address of the customer,
 - the date of supply of the goods and date of issue of the invoice,
 - an identifying, sequential number,
 - a description which identifies the goods or services supplied, the quantity of the goods or the extent of the services, and the rate of VAT and the amount payable, excluding VAT.
 - the unit price (where relevant),
 - the rate of any cash discount offered,
 - the total amount exclusive of VAT (the net amount) and the total amount of VAT charged.
- Of all the above requirements, the address of the customer is probably the information that is most often missed. If the required details are missing HMRC could legitimately reject a claim for VAT, so it is worth checking the documentation you have.

Carol Draper FCCA
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Margaret Thatcher



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the June edition of "Thoughts from the Snug", which pointed out the lack of common sense that exists in society today.

A few examples of this spring to mind. Firstly, why does a jar of peanut butter carry the warning "may contain nuts"? I would be disappointed if it did not contain nuts. Secondly, why does a box of cornflakes have a picture of said flakes in a bowl with the caption "serving suggestion". Really? One of my pet hates is when people press the button on a pelican crossing even when there is no traffic about. Or won't walk until the green man flashes, even though

there is no traffic about.

On a larger scale, the fact that the U.K. is not "allowed" to drill for gas in the North Sea because of the mad "net zero" agenda - instead we BUY most of our gas from Norway who obtain it from ... Oh yes, the North Sea. Or the fact that in April this year, our so-called government purchased coal from Japan to fire the last remaining virgin steel plant in Scunthorpe. How has an island that is surrounded by sea and has vast reserves of untapped natural resources become reliant on other countries at vast expense to the tax payer? I feel that the overriding reason for this is that people have

become accustomed to not thinking for themselves because it is so much easier not to. They have been programmed to farm out responsibility for everything in their lives, predominantly through the overreach of technology and governments. Many nefarious government agendas create problems, then supply people with the solutions to the problems that they created. If you are encouraged not to take responsibility for your own life, you become unable to think critically and listen to everything you are told without ever questioning anything. In the West, we are constantly told

that everything must be for our convenience, often just because we have become lazy; or that we are "worth it", which has created a self-obsessed culture. A dangerous combination when combined with the lack of responsibility for your own thoughts and actions.

The mainstream media should report the facts and express an opinion, but not mix up the two. It is up to us to take responsibility and do our own research, not just blindly go along with a narrative that is not always for our own good.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Reynolds

Dear Editor,

The Parkway project, part of the South Worcestershire Development Plan, is now in the advanced stage. It is going to happen! With the Parkway being the focal point, we will in time see a development the size of Droitwich. The area will extend or impact across the parishes of Whittington, Norton, Littleworth, Stoulton, Drakes Broughton, Wadborough and White Ladies Aston. It is not just about houses. The proposals include schools, community hubs, medical centres, shops, retail parks, business parks, safe cycle and pedestrian routes, and green spaces. The impact will be significant.

The positives include much needed homes, employment and business opportunities, recreational facilities, transport links and alternative means of travel. The concerns will be many: the delivery of the infrastructure required to support a new town, the impact and potential for disruption (particularly during construction) on existing residents, the road network, public rights of way, wildlife and open countryside. I have lived and worked in the District of Wychavon for many years. I have been involved in one way or another with the SWDP process from the start and recently represented the communities of Whittington at

the Government Planning Inspector's public hearing. I have for fifteen years, been a Parish Councillor and I am currently a member of the Joint Parishes Committee.

We all want this to be a success. We want this project to achieve the best, with minimum disruption to existing residents and road networks.

Consequently, Landowners, Developers, Homes England, Highways, Planning Officials, District and County Councillors have formed the Wychavon Garden Community Project Board.

The purpose of the Board is to guide the development and accelerate delivery of the Wychavon Garden Community

Settlement through a cohesive approach to planning and on-site delivery including infrastructure.

I have been invited (along with two other community representatives) to be a member of the Wychavon Garden Community Project Board.

If anyone has any thoughts, issues or concerns regarding the development that they believe should be subjects of representation to the Board, then I invite you to contact me via email: slbrookerwgcpb@gmail.com

*Steve Brooker
Whittington*

Talk the talk: learning a new language pays off

When we think about language learning, we often picture schoolchildren reciting verb conjugations or teenagers cramming for exams. But what if I told you that now might actually be the perfect time to start? Whether you're learning French for a long-awaited trip, brushing up on Italian to connect with your grandchildren, or simply looking for ways to keep your brain active, picking up a new language later in life is not only possible - it's incredibly beneficial. Studies have shown that it can strengthen memory, boost mental agility and even help protect against cognitive decline. It can be fun too! Gone are the days of endless grammar drills. Today's language learning is designed to be fun, interactive and focussed on real-life

conversations. And of course, language is all about connection. Joining language classes is a great way to meet people with shared interests as well as gaining insights into new cultures. And there's no pressure to be perfect. The joy is in the journey. Take Sue Peasgood, from Malvern: "Having dipped in and out of learning Italian at home, I eventually took the plunge and joined one of Louise's classes. What a refreshing change it was to be in a supportive, stimulating environment. When learning alone, it is all too easy to lose direction and to find the intricacies of a foreign language tedious, but Louise provides such a wide range of interesting activities that it becomes both motivating and achievable. It's

such a fun way to learn." Sally Morgan from Worcester agrees: "I never felt I could master languages at school, so the fact that I now love Louise's lessons and the Italian language is really wonderful. I recently travelled

to Tuscany and was so thrilled when I found everyone could understand my Italian. I loved it!"

*To find out more, contact:
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From the Boundary

Peter Jewell, Resolve Law

Who ever said test cricket was boring? In England, test cricket is appreciated and followed. Test grounds should always include Lords, the Oval and Edgbaston. They are always full, allowing the ECB to charge more to assist with ground root cricket. The third test at Old Trafford has become interesting. At lunch, England were talking 600 runs by tea on the fourth day, but in the event England lost Pope and Root going to Washington Sundar. I cannot give you any more because the editor is chasing me for copy. Worcestershire are dead and buried in the Division One. However, they are doing better against Warwickshire, and they have an outside chance of qualifying in the T20 . I watched some of the ladies' football quarter-final against Sweden, that was a close one!

However, some of the penalty taking was pathetic. What was admirable was how they bounced back from injury, including the Keeper, who was bloodied and bruised with cotton wool up her nose to stop the bleeding. Now, the men are more worried if their hair gets out of place, and they roll about in pain without being touched, such wimps. Well done to the Lionesses for the semi-final victory against Italy. Now, we await the final against Spain, who are quality. It seems the appeal over the Littleton County election is in the High Court. The council seem to be doing everything to stop it and frighten off the Reform candidate with costs. More of that at a later date. Talking about a shambles, the government now have '30 in and 30 out' scheme, an arrangement

undertaken by Starmer with his new chum in France. So what about the other 500 to 600 a day? And who is paying? Labour and the Tories are doing nothing. Starmer has changed the voting age to 16. Most children of that age are (or should be) at school, and learning about life. 99% of them are still in the stage of taking and not contributing. Let's be controversial. Why should someone not contributing to the state have a vote? Retirees who have contributed for 25 years should be able to vote. People who are disabled, excluding those who are on the lazy scam, should also be able to vote. Let's have a look at the politicians. I have met a lot and I would employ very few of them. Here's something I did not know: Starmer's father was a toolmaker and his mother, a nurse. I had

heard it perhaps fifty times but ignored it, because he still seems out of touch. Ministers on both sides of the house clearly do not know what really goes on and that the civil service runs everything (Yes Minister). So now we have immigrants here by the thousand, some who are here illegally. Just announced. Corbyn's new party have more members than Reform? God forbid that this no-named party gets a stronghold in this country, then we are really finished. Come on, you readers, let's hear from you! Send your letters to the Editor!



A View from the Middle

As another month passes by, I am sadly still confined to watching cricket from the sidelines and coaching rather than playing. I made some misjudged attempts to join in with my protégés from time to time, until a jolting pain and stern words from my physio put a stop to that. It is remarkable to watch others put their skills into practice and so interesting to find out how each responds to the various different coaching methods and pressures of attention and competition. It turns out that I get far more satisfaction in seeing a player respond positively to my coaching than I ever did playing, so this enforced absence from playing may become permanent. Happily, I passed my latest university module and can move onto my studies in sports and exercise psychology, which

I am very excited about. I'm a strong believer in lifelong learning and can't wait to discover new things. One thing my injury has allowed me to do is walk, and this enabled me to enjoy a terrific time with our neighbours at Tewkesbury Medieval Festival. Every year, I am astonished by the scale of the event but, this year in particular, I was full of admiration for everyone involved given the weather. Shielded by a large golf umbrella, I still sweltered in the heat but could barely imagine how much the participants were suffering. During one of the marches to battle re-enactment, we spotted one soldier spraying water under his armour in a battle to stay cool and wondered how authentic to 1471 that method might have been! Tewkesbury

Abbey, always so popular for its grandeur and solemnity, was a cool haven for weary (and toasty) festival goers. I was struck by a sense of calm and serenity, even if the sign at the door asking visitors to please leave their weaponry (including axes, maces, bows, and arrows) on the table before entering was a little alarming. There is such a wealth of history in and around Pershore that it can sometimes be forgotten among the hubbub of everyday life. It reminds me of the impermanence of things and how every age has built on the one before. We are as technologically advanced now as we have ever been, but the same was true of our medieval forefathers, who could not have imagined space travel, the internet, or artificial intelligence. This makes me wonder how life on



Earth might develop over the next 800 or so years. Or will it be life on Mars by that point?!

Thoughts from the Snug...

Here in the Snug, conversation regularly turns to the topic of food and drink; we are, after all, Hedonists! Good places to eat out and intriguing recipes often send Snug members into flights of ecstasy and, on one occasion, even poetry. This, in turn, prompted a suggestion that we should each come up with a poem that reflected our hedonistic

fascination with food and drink. Frankly, although a grand and noble aim, the results were, in poetic terms, rather shallow.

For example:

*'Round the teeth,
Then round the gums,
Look-out guts,
Cos here it comes!'*

Definitely the worst example, but two others (just suitable for print) followed:

*'There was a young Woman from Clyde,
Who ate a green apple and died.
The apple fermented inside the lamented,
And turned into cider inside her inside.'*

Food, drink and poetry

And ...
*'I love a Martini said Mable,
I only have two at the most.
At three, I'm under the table,
At four, I'm under the host.'*

Pathetic! Can readers provide better examples? Contributions welcomed by the editor.

Buddy Bach

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For more information, contact:

Len Evans at the Soldiers of Gloucester Museum, Gloucester Docks Tel. 07801 472 396 or

Steve Lewis, Q&C Militaria Shop, in Cheltenham on 01242 519815

We look forward to welcoming you to our next meeting!

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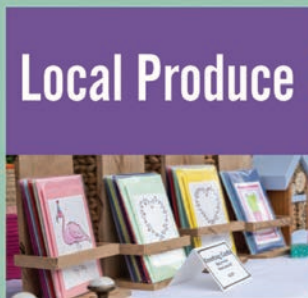
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Malvern Festival Chorus Open Rehearsal

Tuesday 2nd September 2025
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Down on the Farm

Brian Johnson-Thomas



Some forty years ago, as journalists we used to treat the nascent Glastonbury Festival, “in Farmer Eavis’s fields” (which I recall as being slightly shambolic at that time), with a certain amount of amused disdain, little appreciating that it would metamorphose into the entertainment giant it is today. Perhaps fortunately, there’s still space for more local music festivals which still cater for up-and-coming bands (the Glasto headliners of tomorrow?). A local one of these is the Down on the Farm Music Festival at Abbey Dore in the heart of Herefordshire’s Golden Valley. Starting as a one-day event in 2012, it’s now a three day festival under the tutelage of the owner of Gwatkin Cider, Denis Gwatkin, who has played in several bands since his teenage years with most of the practice sessions and performances being at the farm. Their aim is to give local up-and-coming bands the opportunity to play live on stage alongside more established names on the live music circuit. Over the years, they’ve hosted such names as the fantastic tribute acts: Hats Off to Led Zeppelin,

Guns n’ Roses Experience, and many, many more. Hot and cold food will be available, along with a diverse range of ciders and perries (all made onsite), a full bar, and tea and coffee. Camping is included free of charge when a weekend ticket is purchased and the campsite is close to the festival, with toilets and showers. Children are welcome. *For details, visit www.musicglue.com/down-on-the-farm.*

Note that last bit about children being welcome, because what to do with the little darlings during the long school holidays can turn out to be a bit of a problem. Even going for a family walk can be problematic, as some recent research for the outdoor chain, Mountain Warehouse, makes clear. (We have just seen their new store in the Cotswold Designer Outlet retail park just off the M5 at Tewkesbury, worth a browse). They say that the typical Family Walk Formula is revealed as one hour and eleven minutes long, up to two tantrums, three ‘treasures’ picked up and at least two snacks consumed per child. In more detail, the formula



reveals: tantrums start fast. The first meltdown hits just 19 minutes in – barely out of the car park. Top triggers? “I’m too tired”, “It’s too long”, and of course, “I need the loo.” Snack strategies? One in three parents bring two to three snacks per child. Parents do the heavy lifting. Nearly half carry all the bags, and a quarter end up hauling the child and their rock collection. Kids collect an average of three random items – from flowers to ... old rubbish. Only 18% of walks go to plan. Weather, snack shortages and emergency loo stops are the top culprits. Forewarned is forearmed! *For more family walk ideas, see www.mountainwarehouse.com/community/walking-3/the-family-walk-formula/* You could well find the family visiting nearby Croome Court, where the National Trust have planned a whole series of family days out at Croome as part of their Summer of Play. They say, for example, “we’re celebrating all things bugs and biodiversity, with critter-themed fairground games, hands-on creative workshops and a mini theatre for performers big and small.

Just go to: www.nationaltrust.org.uk and scroll down to find Croome. Don’t forget the other conservation charity, English Heritage, either! Nearby, Witley Court offers not just romantic ruins but a wilderness play area, the chance to wander the woodland walks and, of course, the opportunity to picnic in the superb gardens and watch the giant fountains (Perseus and Andromeda) fire off every so often. *Visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk and scroll down to Witley Court.* For those of us who are rather more mature, then the season at Longborough Festival Opera is, sadly, drawing to its close. We were fortunate to see a sparkling performance of Debussy’s *Pelleas et Melisande* last month and it was especially nice to see and hear Kateryna Kasper (Melisande), Brett Polegato (Golaud) and Karim Sulayman (Pelleas) making the Longborough debuts. The last performance of this season is Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas*, with the curtain coming down for the last time this year on 2nd August. *For details, see: www.lfo.org.uk*

Worcestershire’s biggest free art event is back!



Worcestershire Open Studios Art Week returns this summer for its 10th anniversary, running from Saturday 16th to Monday 25th August 2025. This popular event offers a rare opportunity to explore the studios and creative spaces of local artists and makers and it’s completely free to attend! Set against the stunning Worcestershire countryside, visitors are invited to step inside creative spaces, meet the makers, and discover a wide range of artistic disciplines. From painting and ceramics to jewellery, textiles, and printmaking, there’s something

to inspire everyone. Throughout the week, many artists will be offering live demonstrations and workshops, giving insight into their techniques and inspirations and perhaps even encouraging you to have a go yourself. Whether you’re an art enthusiast or simply curious, the event is a fantastic way to meet the artists and makers on your doorstep and also further afield. You might even discover your new favourite artist or a unique piece to take home. Many studios will have original artworks, prints, cards, and unique pieces available to buy

perfect for adding something special to your space or gifting to someone else. Don’t miss this inspiring celebration of local talent - a creative journey through Worcestershire you won’t want to miss!

To help you plan your visits, the official event website features an interactive map, a digital guide, and a full artist and maker directory: www.worcestershireopenstudios.org

A Turn Around the Ground

There is still time to sign up to be part of a fundraising event being staged in aid of The Baker Foundation, the organisation set up following the tragic death of Josh Baker last year. "A Turn Around the Ground" is a sponsored meander around New Road, Worcester, on Saturday 20th September where you can do as many or as few laps of the ground as you want to do – every circuit will make a difference. Weather permitting, the walk

will take place on the outfield around a course set out following the boundary line. Walkers will be able to start their laps from 8am onwards with The Chestnut Marquee available for toilets, rest breaks and refreshments.

Entry and registration is just £20 inc a commemorative t-shirt to wear on the day. If you fancy joining in, please contact Mark on 07506 747619 or via email: ma004g2691@gmail.com



Cancer Trust expands podcast platform



The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust has relaunched its podcast, 'Young Me vs the Big C', now available on Spotify, Amazon Music and Apple Podcasts. This exciting step makes the podcast more accessible than ever, allowing young listeners to tune in from home, download episodes for hospital visits, or listen on the move with their families. The podcast was created to offer a safe and stigma-free digital space for children and teenagers diagnosed with cancer, helping them feel less isolated

and more connected to others with shared experiences. The first episode features 14-year-old Ewan, who completed treatment for Acute Lymphocytic Leukaemia, offering a powerful and honest account of his journey. Two episodes are already live, with five more scheduled for release, one each week over the next five weeks. They share a variety of perspectives from young people who've experienced cancer themselves, as well as siblings and parents who all speak with warmth and courage.

Each episode offers listeners a chance to hear stories that reflect the challenges and strength found in the face of childhood cancer. Dr Jen Kelly, CEO of the Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust, said: "Being diagnosed with cancer is an incredibly isolating time for any child or young person. 'Young Me vs the Big C' is one of the ways we're helping them find connection, reassurance and a sense of community during a difficult journey." Now streaming on Spotify,

Amazon Music and Apple Podcasts, the podcast is set to grow in both reach and impact. Future episodes will explore a range of topics, including coping with diagnosis, returning to school, mental health and friendships. Listeners will also hear from parents, siblings, teachers, healthcare professionals and others whose lives have been touched by childhood cancer. There are exciting plans ahead, with themed episodes, guest speakers and opportunities for young people to take part in conversations that matter to them. The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust hopes the podcast will continue to spark important discussions and celebrate the resilience of young people facing extraordinary challenges. The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust welcomes anyone interested in sharing their story or getting involved. By contributing, young people can help others feel seen and supported, while being part of something uplifting and empowering.



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Jazz News

Peter Farrall



Pershire Jazz on a Summer's Day, again at Number 8 this year and themed "jazz royalty", presented a mini Debrett's of the jazz world, generating many queries as to how such a host of noble names and titles came to be. None of them are genuine, but mostly nicknames bestowed by fellow musicians, fans or critics with reference to physical appearance or some individuality in style of playing or lifestyle. Joe "King" Oliver, New Orleans cornetist, was so called simply because of his exceptional mastery of his instrument but it's sad that such a giant of early jazz eventually died in abject poverty. Edward Ellington was dubbed "duke" by early childhood friends because of his already gentlemanly demeanour and tidy way of dressing; he liked and adopted the name and so it was

Duke for the rest of his life. One of Ellington's closest friends and musical rival was William "Bill" Basie, who was being introduced on a radio show where the presenter thought Bill Basie sounded too mundane and jokingly said: "Can I call you Count?". Basie non-committally agreed but the name stuck, and the band soon became world renowned. Did the name change stimulate this rise to fame – probably? Earl Hines was not nicknamed Earl, that was his real name, but he was called "Fatha" (father) Hines in recognition of his huge part in the development of jazz piano. Greatest among the aristocratic ladies of jazz has to be Ella Fitzgerald, whose incredible vocal talent justifiably earned her the title "Queen of Jazz" right from the early days of her

long and stellar career. Friend and rival of Ella was Billie Holiday, called "Lady Day" by her great friend and often musical collaborator, Lester Young, who admired her sophisticated style and pronounced her a "real lady". Billie returned the compliment by calling him "Prez" (president) because he was "the greatest". So, there we have a brief acquaintance with the jazz "royals", but there were jazz musicians bearing genuine titles. Bhumbol Adulyadej, the king of Thailand, was an avid jazz fan and accomplished musician playing mainly alto saxophone but also clarinet, soprano sax, trumpet, guitar, and piano. He spent some time in America, appearing with many of the leading musicians of the day including Benny Carter, Lionel

Hampton and Stan Getz. Here in Britain, Lord Anthony Colwyn, trumpeter, band leader and crusader for jazz appreciation in the House, was a real hereditary peer. Sadly, he died of Covid-related problems in 2024. Pershire Jazz Club continues with an eclectic programme for 2025, culminating in a very special Christmas event. *Pershire Jazz Club Last Wednesday of the Month in the Function Room, Pershire Football Club* Doors open at 7pm, music at 8 Admission £12.50 to include a raffle ticket. Book in advance and pay on arrival, email: club@pershirejazz.org.uk Tel: 01527 66692 or find us on Facebook. Check out our website www.pershirejazz.org.uk

Music Matters

Steve Ide

Glastonbury kicked off the summer festival season in style, with the weather matching some unforgettable performances. There were many highlights, including Pulp sounding as good as ever and Ezra Collective with one of the most joyful and uplifting performances you will see for a while. Other notables are Wet Leg, Neil Young and Wolf Alice, all available on the BBC iPlayer if you want to spend a happy evening catching up. Oasis have started their much anticipated run of comeback gigs with their typical swagger. With such well known tunes, there's lots of love for the band and they seem to be enjoying being back performing again to rave reviews. The Gallagher brothers always come with a feeling of

jeopardy. Will they fall out again? Definitely? Maybe? There are countless festivals to attend and gigs from Coldplay, Stevie Wonder, Billie Eilish and many more. We're spoilt for choice this year, it looks to be a scorching summer of music and sun. **Notable new albums** *Moisturiser* by *Wet Leg* This highly anticipated album has managed to live up to the hype. They return with a new look and their simple, fun songs about relationships, with some killer snubs. Coupled with the deadpan, sarcastic delivery from Rhian Teasdale and killer guitar tunes, this is an album of great pleasure. Notable track: Catch these fists

All Asimov and No Fresh Air
by *Half Man Half Biscuit*

Nigel Blackwell works his magic again, with satirical, funny lyrics. This album pulls off the difficult trick of being witty without trying too hard. Also where else will you find a song about the history of Rawplugs? Notable track: McCalligog and his hens

Self Titled
by *Kae Tempest*

A typically honest and open album by Kae, covering the changes in their life and the journey they've been on. Notable track: Know yourself

Add to playlist
Mr Bojangles
by *Nina Simone*

Dignity
by *Deacon Blue*

She brings the sunlight
by *Richard Ashcroft*

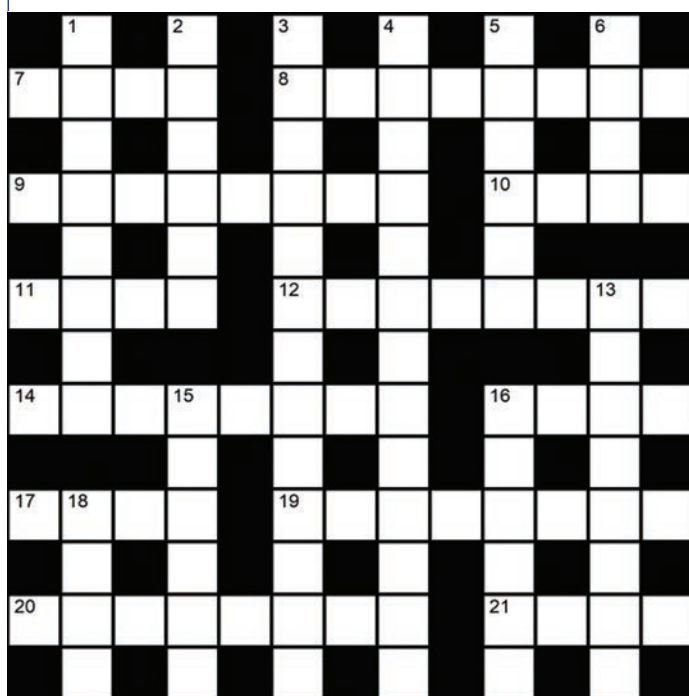
Dead stick
by *King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizards*

Songbird
by *Fleetwood Mac*



Coffee Break

Crossword



Across

- 7 "Good heavens!" (2,2)
 8 Poll's findings (8)
 9 Cross rats veer all over the place (8)
 10 Corn covering (4)
 11 "Private Benjamin" actress (4)
 12 Annoy (8)
 14 Wine crops (8)
 16 Where tadpoles might be found (4)
 17 Botanical balm (4)
 19 Yesteryear (3,5)
 20 Militant supporter (8)
 21 "It's good for what --- you" (4)

Down

- 1 Lost one's query (5,2,1)
 2 Abounding in trees (6)
 3 Accommodation for paying guests (8,5)
 4 No.2 who oversees moral weakness? (4-9)
 5 Million seller, for example (3,3)
 6 Burden of proof (4)
 13 With affection (8)
 15 Unlawful removals (6)
 16 Earliest (6)
 18 Desired by detectives and salespeople (4)

Sudoku

Each row and column must contain the numbers from one to nine, without repetitions.

5		3						
	2	7			5			3
4	9			3		7		
	3		9		1			6
	8	2				3	9	
9			3		7		8	
		9		5			7	8
3			8			5	4	
						6		2

9			3					8
							5	
	7		2			9		6
		5		4			6	
	9	4				8	1	
	6			7		3		
1		9			3		4	
	5							
8					9			3

				7	1		6	
	8			3				
							5	1
							7	
5								
	3		2		4			9
		4						6
2	1	3						
				6				3
	6		5	9				

Wordsearch

P	I	P	E	O	R	E	B	E	C	S
P	D	F	J	T	T	V	S	P	W	S
S	I	N	S	U	K	I	A	S	Z	E
F	A	C	L	B	T	O	N	E	G	M
B	N	A	R	A	M	L	E	N	T	I
T	L	E	R	W	N	A	E	O	A	H
G	A	A	A	A	T	H	V	B	B	C
N	Q	H	G	N	S	H	E	J	O	O
O	S	R	V	E	V	O	M	U	R	D
G	O	O	M	E	R	I	H	A	R	P
B	E	L	L	Y	R	E	L	G	U	B

ANVIL
 BANJO
 BELL
 BONES
 BUGLE
 CHIMES
 CRWTH
 DRUM
 FIFE
 GONG
 HARP
 LUTE
 LYRE

MOOG
 OBOE
 ORGAN
 PIPE
 REBEC
 REGAL
 SHAWM
 SHENG
 SITAR
 TABOR
 TUBA
 VEENA
 VIOLA

Brainteaser

What is the missing letter ?

B	D	2
W	?	3
C	G	4
A	K	10

Poets' Corner

XLVIII

Be still, my soul, be still; the arms you bear are brittle,
Earth and high heaven are fixt of old and founded strong.
Think rather, -call to thought, if now you grieve a little,
The days when we had rest, O soul, for they were long.

Men loved unkindness then, but lightless in the quarry
I slept and saw not; tears fell down, I did not mourn;
Sweat ran and blood sprang out and I was never sorry:
Then it was well with me, in days ere I was born.

Now, and I muse for why and never find the reason,
I pace the earth, and drink the air, and feel the sun.
Be still, be still, my soul; it is but for a season:
Let us endure an hour and see injustice done.

Ay, look: high heaven and earth ail from the prime
foundation;

All thoughts to rive the heart are here, and all are vain:
Horror and scorn and hate and fear and indignation-
Oh why did I awake? when shall I sleep again?

XLIX

Think no more, lad; laugh, be jolly:
Why should men make haste to die?
Empty heads and tongues a-talking
Make the rough road easy walking,
And the feather pate of folly
Bears the falling sky.

Oh, 'tis jesting, dancing, drinking
Spins the heavy world around.
If young hearts were not so clever,
Oh, they would be young for ever:
Think no more; 'tis only thinking
Lays lads underground.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Quiz!

- 1) Which is the largest ocean - the Pacific or the Atlantic?
- 2) Brian Lara played international cricket for which national side?
- 3) Which pop star was born in Gary, Indiana on August 29th, 1958?
- 4) Which smoked fish might you expect to be served with cream cheese and lemon juice in canapes?
- 5) Which TV character was first portrayed by William Hartnell in 1963 and more recently by Peter Capaldi?
- 6) Which former England footballer scored against Morocco in a pre-World Cup 1998 friendly to become, at the time, England's youngest goalscorer?
- 7) Russell Crowe plays Inspector Javert in which 2012 film?
- 8) Which colour gives it's name to the region of spacetime that has such strong gravitational effects that nothing can escape?
- 9) Which American actor and political activist is known for playing Moses in The Ten Commandments and Ben Hur as the title character?
- 10) Who is the Roman goddess of love?
- 11) Cordozar Calvin Broadus Jr. is the birth name of which US rapper known for hit singles 'Gin & Juice' and 'Drop It Like It's Hot'?
- 12) Appaloosa, French Trotter and Mustang are all breeds of which animal?
- 13) Which singer had a 2011 hit with Born This Way?
- 14) Which Steve Carell movie has the tagline 'The longer you wait, the harder it gets'?
- 15) Kurt Cobain was the lead vocalist with which US rock band?
- 16) In which sport might you compete for the Claret Jug?
- 17) Wolfgang Amadeus is the first names of which Austrian composer?
- 18) An Anglophile is a supporter or admirer of what?
- 19) The logo for Chang Beer features two of which animal?
- 20) Which former Question of Sport captain was known for his 'flying dismounts'?

Answers: 1) The Pacific 2) West Indies 3) Michael Jackson 4) Salmon 5) Dr. Who 6) Michael Owen 7) Les Misérables 8) Black (Black holes) 9) Charlton Heston 10) Venus 11) Snoop Dogg 12) Horses 13) Lady Gaga 14) The 40 Year-Old Virgin 15) Nirvana 16) Golf 17) Mozart 18) English (or British) customs or people 19) Elephant 20) Frankie Dettori

July Answers



August Brain teaser: W plus 3 is 26, or Z

Did You Know?

Worcestershire boasts the oldest newspaper in continuous and current production in the world? 'Berrow's Worcester Journal' began as the 'Worcester Post-Man' in 1690 and has been in print ever since.

Word of the Month

'Addlepatied'

Definition: to be confused; eccentric; flustered

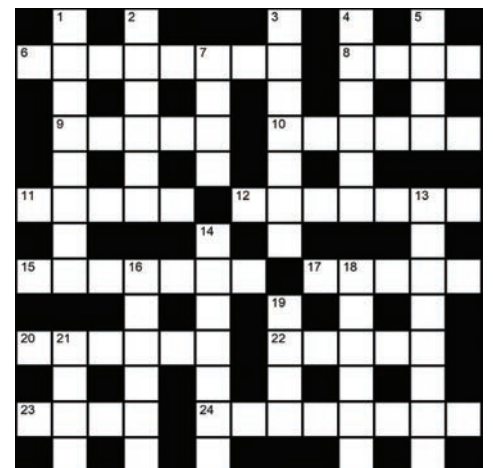
Anagram Crossword

Across

- 6 His toast (2,4,2)
- 8 Puss (1,1,2)
- 9 Rules (5)
- 10 End-all (6)
- 11 Swede (5)
- 12 Cabinet (3,2,2)
- 15 Toilets (1,1,5)
- 17 Dig in (5)
- 20 Mauser (6)
- 22 Gable (5)
- 23 Coat (4)
- 24 Baseline (8)

Down

- 1 Plasters (8)
- 2 Phaser (6)
- 3 One farm (7)
- 4 Clue in (6)
- 5 Nope (4)
- 7 Sots (4)
- 13 Noblesse (8)
- 14 Coulomb (7)
- 16 Ill - woe! (3,3)
- 18 Gun dog (6)
- 19 Able (4)
- 21 Raja (4)



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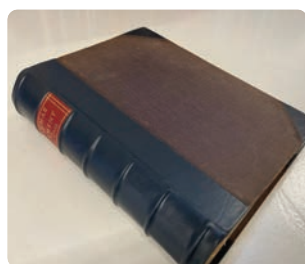
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***Copy Deadline for
September Issue - 21st August 2025***

Vale Golf Seniors Pairs Open Results



Winners Steve Hampton & Graham Whitehead with Seniors Captain Bryn Keast - Raffle winner Alan Charters with Bryn Keast

The glorious summer of sport continued on Wednesday 2nd July with the Seniors Pairs Open, played on the 18-hole International Course at The Vale Golf & Country Club. 90 players from 21 clubs from as far afield as Glasgow, Stirling and Market Harborough competed in a pairs Stableford competition with one score for each pair on each hole.

The exceptional conditions of the weather and the course led to a very high level of scoring:

1st - Steve Hampton & Graham Whitehead (Vale G & C Club) 50 points
2nd - Mel Locke & Rob Sharp (Vale G & C Club) 46 points
3rd - Eric Fennell & Grant Miller (Cotswold Hills GC) 45 points
4th - Michael Heard & Arthur Collingwood (Vale G & C Club) 45 points
5th - Andrew Jinks & Bryn Keast (Vale G & C Club) 45 points

Nearest the pin on 5th hole - Neil Croft (Evesham GC)

Nearest the pin in 2 on 17th hole - Antony Witt (Vale G & C Club)

Winner of the raffle and a golf bag was Alan Charter (South Staffs GC).

The raffle raised a further £450 towards the Captain's charity, The Evesham and District Meeting Centre, which helps members of the Meeting Centre Support Programme to live well with dementia. Powell and Associates, Accounts from Kidderminster, kindly sponsored the event.

The last event of the year, a Seniors Team Open Texas Scramble, takes place on Wednesday 17th September 2025. For further information or to register, please see Golf Empire or contact David Hamilton on 07712 165249 or via email at davie5@live.co.uk

Sit to Stand

I go to movement class, it's every Wednesday,
We meet at the village hall, making friends along the way,
We all sit on sturdy chairs and do our pelvic floor,
Told to stop and finish and then do some more,
Find a wall and spread our palms,
Do the plank and bend those arms,
We're told to breathe, in and out,
As we do, we forget to count,
Lose our thoughts, get in the zone,
Is it nearly time for home?
We sit to stand, or stand to sit?
It doesn't matter, it'll make us fit.
We thank you, coach, for all you do,
And, I know, one day we will all be fit like you!

By Christine Daly (28.6.25)

Spot & Shop - July Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1) Thersea Millward | 5) Liz Coward |
| 2) Clive Spencer | 6) Mrs Sheila Shettard |
| 3) Sonia Dorrell | 7) Hillary Price |
| 4) Mrs Derreth Thomas | |

Last month's answer:
Clean and Shine Cleaning Services

**SPOT
&
SHOP!**

COMPETITION TIME!

Take a look at the anagram
The answer is the name of a business that is advertising in the Pershire Times this month

Chance
to WIN
£50
CASH

This month's prizes!

1st - £50 cash

2nd - £25 cash

Donated by Hughes & Company

3rd £20 Food Voucher

at The Queen Elizabeth, Elmley

4th £10 Voucher

at Revills Farm Shop, Defford

5th £10 Voucher

at Craftypyro, Bakers Arcade, Pershore

6th Reg Moule Gardening Book

7th Pat's Pantry -

Jar of home-made marmalade/jam

This
month's
anagram
**BALDWIN
CANONISED
MUSTARD**

Complete and return this form or email:

news@hughes.company for your chance to win!

Pershire Times closing date: 22nd August 2025

Answer:

Name:

Telephone/email:

Return to: Hughes & Company/Pershire Times

8 Church Street, Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1DT

Friends of Pershore Care Centre

Pershore Care Centre opened its doors on 7th December 1987 and the following year, the "Friends of Pershore Care Centre" was registered as a charity. Their purpose was to support the work of the centre and the families that used the service. At that time, the centre offered day places for seven service users and a respite facility (now called 'Short Breaks') for two service users at a time. We were blessed with strong support from local businessman, Steve James, who raised tens of thousands of pounds for our charity. We must give a big thank you to Steve for enabling us to give practical assistance to the Pershore centre. With these resources, we were able to buy minibuses and specialist equipment for the centre. Perhaps our biggest achievement was to give social services a cheque for £29,000 towards the cost of extending the Short Breaks building so that more beds could be opened and more carers would benefit from the facility. The Day Centre has now moved in Pershore. In 2025, the Pershore centre will be in its 38th year of operation and during this time, the "Friends" have contributed £190,000 towards buildings, landscaping, minibuses, equipment and day opportunities.

Ajax, a local dog, dropped in to the Day Centre again in October. He had recently been filmed at Pinewood Studios for a part in a new film due out next year. Ajax was a real gentle giant and was great as "Pet therapy" for our service users. Originally, the Short Breaks patio consisted of two paving slabs. The "Friends" spent almost £8,000 on landscaping the garden and building a raised patio for the Short Breaks. Our efforts in the garden were boosted by the generosity of Sainsbury's staff, who supplied us with a gazebo and garden furniture (see picture). All this was to improve the quality of life of the young people who use the centre.

We invite you to join the "Friends" as we move forward and help us to work closely with the County Council to maintain a centre of excellence. Membership of the "Friends" is £10 per year and this includes joining the 100 club with a monthly prize draw. Please contact J. Bradley, Treasurer. 33 Barnes Way Worcester WR5 3AP Tel - 07816205837 Cheques should be made payable to the "Friends of Pershore Care Centre"



Flower Club

On Wednesday 16th July, we were delighted to welcome Andrew Key for the first time to Bishampton Village Hall. His demonstration was called 'May to September'.

He began with a simple basket arrangement and he was unashamed to announce that he uses and likes using floral foam. He had already placed a selection of leaves such as laurel and elaeagnus at the base of the basket and the flowers he used were yellow carnations, yellow roses and then purple lisianthus together with stems of a lighter shade of purple statice. He added stems of quaking grass. Then he produced a second matching similar basket and finally a large floral basket containing yellow and purple iris and gladioli. To use up the yellow and purple flowers, he decorated a roundabout with galloping horses using rolled aspidistra leaves, variegated hosta leaves and

yellow roses.

For his next design, a log holding a tray of floral foam containing variegated foliage at the base into which he stood sticks of cornus (dogwood) and red spider gerberas and dark pink roses. Then, stems of button chrysanthemums. And sure enough, a second log appeared similarly adorned. For a seascape theme, he decorated a plastic ring containing floral foam with variegated foliage, to which he arranged stems of blue agapanthus vertically in groups of different heights. He added tiny hosta leaves and into the midst of these, stems of white lisianthus and stems of light blue eryngium. To go with the nautical theme, he produced a boat container into which he placed the same flowers including some small white chrysanthemums. A phormium leaf was rolled and stapled as the bow. For sails, he had folded white paper onto kebab sticks. Then he



produced a white metal lighthouse which he stood inside the blue and white ring. Finally, a second slightly smaller boat was produced, similarly dressed with blue and white flowers. Next, a small wooden wheelbarrow containing a pot of screwed up chicken wire and water, into which he had already put palm and hosta leaves, bamboo stems, glorious sunflowers, and stems of crimson gladioli and purple buddleia. Finally, he produced a lady's head sculpted in fibreglass stone

and for her headdress, used a bulb bowl containing more chicken wire with large stems of fatsia, leaves of hosta and palm. To this, he added anthuriums in varying shades of pink, peach and red and then tall white gerberas. His fifteen designs were then raffled. It was altogether a wonderful evening. We meet again on Wednesday 17th September at 7:30 to enjoy Christine Ramsey's evening of 'Autumn Delights'. All visitors are welcome – further details on 07974 973861 and Facebook.

Pershore at War

Willow Pinchin



*My A.T.S uniform at Al Murray's
We Have Ways Festival,
Silverstone, 2024*

Pershore was home to my great-great grandfather, Len Preece. His childhood in the Edwardian period was characterised by purchasing mint humbugs and strutting about in a twill Norfolk jacket – much like other boys of the period. He was conscripted into the British Army in January 1916, aged just 19, and his service was relatively short lived. His service number was 27967 and he was a private in the 3rd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment. During his time with the unit (the 3rd Bn, a part of 74th Brigade, 25th Division), the 3rd Worcesters had, as many units had done, moved from division to division throughout the course of the war. In late 1914, the unit saw action with the 3rd division under the command of Major-General Hubert Hamilton. It was present at Mons, an action that was instrumental in laying the operational groundwork of the British Expeditionary Force at war. On the Mons salient, the division had, according to Everard Wyrall: “first made a magnificent stand against the hordes of enemy flung against them.” Despite the casualties sustained by the division, they had affirmed themselves in action from the beginning of the war. When Leonard joined the unit, they were preparing for the

German attack on Vimy Ridge in May 1916 and were under the command of Major-General Beauchamp Doran. This underpinned the notable attack on Vimy Ridge by the Canadian Corps that was undertaken the following April, from the 9th to the 12th in 1917. The 25th division sustained some 600 casualties in this action, so an influx of young conscripts aided the dwindling numbers. Leonard was wounded in action on 26th July 1916 at the Battle of Pozieres; this would define his wartime experience and leave him with a lifetime disability. Rescued by private Arthur Langford, whom he refers to as his “pal”, Leonard reflects on the day he was wounded in his 1918 diary: “I was quite unable to walk so had to dump myself in a shell hole, the battle still raging quite close to where I lay. Soon, prisoners started to come down by where I was, running for all they were worth with the wind right up; I got my field dressing out, but I found I couldn’t possibly bind my wound up. Each slight move brought a few bullets whizzing over my head from a German sniper, which placed me in a rather uncomfortable position. Meanwhile, while I was looking round for help, I spotted my pal crawling towards me and after a minute or two he noticed me in difficulties and at once made straight for me.” Leonard’s diary highlights the interconnectedness of other ranks in the field, and it is likely that he and Arthur were in the same company. Arthur Langford was a resident of Mill Lane, Pershore, and was unfortunately killed in action in October during the Battle of Ancre Heights. He left behind a wife and a child, and



*My great-great grandfather,
Len Preece*



Private Arthur Langford

Leonard owed him his life. His wounds were profound. He was bound to bed and splint and rendered immobile during much of his treatment – he’d have a portion of his femur removed and would have to walk with an aid for the rest of his life. This aid came in the form of a tailored boot with a tall sole. After months of ongoing treatment, Leonard was formally discharged from the Army on 2nd April 1917. He was subsequently declared medically unfit for further

service. But his experiences of war were not all negative; during this time, he had met my great-great grandmother, a young lady who had her own wartime troubles. Eva Barnes had lost an older brother at Suvla Bay. Her brother was also a Worcester, a private in the 4th Battalion, Oliver Henry Barnes. In 1919, the pair happily married and went on to have two children: their daughter being my great grandmother, Nanny Eva Morrison, nee Preece.



A mixed unit photo of the 3rd Worcesters and men in the Royal Artillery posing with Pickelhaube helmets at St Quentin

Friends of Croome

As you may or may not know, on Thursday 14th August, I shall have reached the young age of 92. On Sunday 24th August 2025, I shall have worked for the Earls of Coventry and The Croome Estate Trustees (plus volunteering for the National Trust and the Churches Conservation Trust) for 72 years. Over these years, I have given my life to looking after the Estate. I have given a lot of thought to retirement and have now made the decision to retire on Saturday 23rd August 2025 when I complete my shift as Steward in the lovely church at Croome at 1pm.

Over the years, I have made quite a few friends who work for the National Trust at Croome. I have a Complimentary Pass for Croome Parkland, issued to me back in September 2005 and, yes, I shall still visit Croome and hopefully talk to friends and, if possible, visitors to Croome. I am not giving up on Croome. It has been my life and my family’s life. Seeing as I am the last of the original workmen of the Estate, I feel very honoured to have known and worked with them. I also feel very honoured to represent them all when I talk to visitors to Croome. All the



workmen in my early years were loyal to the Estate. What wonderful tales I listened to as a young 20 year old. Sorry, I shall

not be having a retirement party. I am not saying goodbye. Love Croome as I have over the years.
Malcolm Walford



Tyddesley Wood Lane, Pershore

FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE

Entrance hall; living room; dining room; study; breakfast kitchen and separate utility room. Four double bedrooms-master with en-suite and there is a family bathroom. Wrap around garden, garage and driveway. Council Tax: D EPC: E

Asking Price: £625,000



The Green, Pinvin

AN EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW WITH WESTERLY FACING REAR GARDEN

L-shaped lounge/dining room with study area; kitchen; separate utility room; three bedrooms; shower room. Well established garden, garage and driveway. Council Tax: C EPC: B

Asking Price: £500,000



Drakes Bridge Road, Eckington

DETACHED THREE BEDROOM HOUSE

Entrance porch; entrance hall; living room; kitchen/dining room and cloakroom. On the first floor there are three double bedrooms and a shower room. Well maintained South facing rear garden; garage and driveway. Council Tax: D EPC: D

Asking Price: £400,000



Gosney Fields, Pinvin

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE WITH SELF CONTAINED OFFICE IN THE REAR GARDEN

Lounge; kitchen with integrated appliances and utility area; dining area with bi-fold doors into the garden; family bathroom; self-contained office/bedroom; driveway.

Council tax: C EPC: C

Asking Price: £335,000

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Chestnut Close, Lower Moor

THREE BEDROOM HOUSE IN A CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION

Entrance hall; living room; kitchen/dining room; conservatory; three bedrooms and a family bathroom; rear garden; garage and driveway.

Council Tax: C EPC: C

Asking Price: £295,000



Priest Lane, Pershore

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM MID TERRACE IN THE DESIRABLE PERSHORE TOWN CENTRE

Sitting room; kitchen/dining room; two double bedrooms and shower room; low maintenance garden with outbuildings.

Permit parking. Council Tax: C EPC: D

Asking Price: £230,000

www.nigelpoolestateagents.co.uk

Aug & Sept What's on

Friday 1st August

Summer of Music – Jake Rees

Angel Inn Hotel, 7pm – 9:30pm

Saturday 2nd August

Broad Street Market

Broad Street, 9:00am – 2:00pm

Sunday 3rd August

Pershore Plum Festival

Charity Quiz Night

Claude Choules, 7:00pm

Monday 4th August

Griff & Friends Jam Session

Pershore Football Club,

7:30pm – 10:30pm

Tuesday 5th August

Death Café

Angel Inn Hotel, 3pm – 5pm

Wednesday 6th August

Board Gaming Nights

Pickled Plum Pub, 7:00pm

Friday 8th August

Friday Film Club

Pershore Library, 2:00pm

Summer of Music, Dan Lumley

Angel Inn Hotel, 7pm – 9:30pm

Rose & Jazz Wine Tasting

Paul's of Pershore, 7:30pm –

9:30pm

Saturday 9th August

Jazz on a Summer's Day

Number 8, 2:00pm – 10:30pm

Tuesday 12th August

Summer Activity Morning

Pershore Abbey, 9:30am –

12:00pm

Ian's Acoustic Jam Night

Naval & Social Club, 7:00pm

Thursday 14th August

German Language Café

and film **Two to One**

Number 8, 6:30pm & 7:30pm

Friday 15th August

Summer of Music –

Honor Isabella, Angel Inn Hotel,

7pm – 9:30pm

Saturday 16th August

Plum Alley

(Plum Sales & Merchandise)

Chapman Court, 10am – 3pm

A Midsummer Night's Dream

St Andrew's Gardens, 2:30pm

Foyer Folk: Annie Duggan &

Dik Cadbury

Number 8, 8:00pm

Tuesday 19th August

U3a Picnic in the Park

Abbey Park, 12:30pm

Folk Night

Sports and Social Club, 7pm

Thursday 21st August

Plum Festival Bike Nite

Broad Street, 6:00pm

Friday 22nd August

Big Plum Quiz

Angel Inn Hotel, 7:00pm

Saturday 23rd August

Plum & Pour Wine Tasting

Paul's of Pershore, 7:30pm –

9:30pm

Plum Alley

Chapman Court, 10am – 3pm

Cider Festival

Angel Inn Hotel 1pm – 10pm

Plum & Pour Wine Tasting

Paul's of Pershore, 7:30pm –

9:30pm

Plum Festival FREE Open

Air Cinema

Abbey Park, Time TBC

Sunday 24th August

Big Plum Weekend Music

Festival

Angel Inn Hotel, 1pm – 10pm

Plum Festival Family Fun day

inc. Pershore Plum Plodder's 10K

Race, Abbey Park, 10am – 5pm

Monday 25th August

Big Plum Music Festival

Angel Inn Hotel, 12pm – 5pm

Plum Festival Day

across the Town, 10am – 5pm

Friday 29th August

Friday Film Club

Pershore Library, 2:00pm

September

Mon 1st September

Griff & Friends Jam Session

Pershore Football Club,

7:30pm – 10:30pm

Tue 2nd September

Death Café

Angel Inn Hotel, 3pm – 5pm

Wed 3rd September

Board Gaming Nights

Pickled Plum Pub, 7:00pm

Thu 4th September

History & Heritage Society -

George Cadbury and the

Bournville Village Trust Talk

Pershore Library, 7:00pm

Sat 6th September

Broad Street Market

Broad Street, 9am – 2pm

French Icons Wine Tasting

Paul's of Pershore, 7:30pm –

9:30pm



For more information come in
and see us at the Visitor Information Centre
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Visit-Pershore



Number 8

CINEMA - THEATRE - GALLERY

Cinema Listings

Juliet & Romeo (12A)

Fri 1 Aug - 7.30pm; Mon 4 Aug

- 11.00am; Tue 5 Aug - 7.30pm

2 hrs 1 min

Tickets £9.00

Slade in Flame (1975)

Sat 2 Aug - 7.30pm

1 hr 39 mins

Tickets £9.00

Goldbeak (PG)

Tue 5 Aug - 2.00pm (RS);

Thu 7 Aug - 11.00am

1 hr 34 mins

Tickets £7.00

Darling (15)

Thu 7 Aug - 7.30pm

2 hrs 8 mins

Tickets £9.00

Four Letters of Love

(cert tbc)

Fri 8 Aug - 7.30pm;

Mon 11 Aug - 11.00am;

Tue 12 Aug - 7.30pm

running time tbc.

Tickets £9.00

Two To One (12A)

Thu 14 Aug - 7.30pm

1 hr 55 mins

Tickets £9.00



Time Travel is Dangerous (15)

Fri 13 Jun - 7.30pm;

Sat 14 Jun - 7.30pm

1 hr 39 mins

Tickets £9.00

Along Came Love (15)

Thu 28 Aug - 7.30pm

2 hrs 5 mins

Tickets £9.00

Event Listings

Pershore Jazz on a

Summer's Day

Saturday 9 August - 2.00pm

Performance sessions run from

2.00 - 10.30pm, with a break

5.00 - 7.30pm

Tickets: £55 (admission to all
sessions)

Mrs Armitage on Wheels

Wednesday 13 August - 2.00pm

Tickets: £10, Child £8.50

Number 8

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Telephone Bookings: Mon – Sat 4pm – 6pm

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www.number8.org

Bands in the Park August 2025

Sun 3rd August –

Cleobury Mortimer Concert Band

Bandstand in Abbey Park

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Sun 10th August

Malvern Hills District Band

Bandstand in Abbey Park

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Sun 17th August

Band of the Gloucestershire Constabulary

Bandstand in Abbey Park

2:30pm – 4:30pm



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In memoriam

PROTHERO. Stephen Charles (Prov)

Passed away peacefully on 30th June 2025, aged 72 years. A much loved Dad and Grandad, Prov will be very sadly missed by his family and many friends. The funeral service was held at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury, on Friday 18th July. Guests wore a splash of red or white in memory of Prov and his beloved Liverpool F.C. Donations, if desired, for Thrombosis UK may be made online.

WILLIS. Gillian née Salter

Of Pershore, originally from London. Passed away peacefully on 26th June 2025, aged 95 years. Much loved wife of the late Peter, loving Mum to Mark, Nicola and the late David, and a dear grandmother. Gillian will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service took place at Pershore Cemetery Chapel on Monday 14th July followed by burial. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research UK or Dementia UK.



AMPHLETT. Lynne

Of Pershore. Passed away peacefully on 23rd July 2025, aged 76 years. A much loved wife, mum, nanny and great nanny, Lynne will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service will be held at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Wednesday 6th August at 10am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Dementia UK may be left in the donation tube at the service or made online via www.ehillandson.co.uk

Donations may be sent to:

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Rotary News

July saw the start of a new Rotary year and we welcomed our new President, Lynne Raymer, and her team to take us through the year ahead. Lynne joined Rotary in 2010, believing we should do things we enjoy. Many local young adults remember Lynne as their teacher of maths and computing at Pershore High School. A keen traveller, Lynne also enjoys the creativity and physicality of gardening and knows that her faith and worship at Pershore Abbey is fundamental to her life. She was Pershore Foodbank's Project Leader for eight years and chairman of Wick Parish Council for four years. Lynne's recipe for the year ahead includes developing lifelong friendships, supporting the local community, accepting new challenges and having fun, meeting new challenges and new people.

Jorja Woolston, a Year 12 student at Pershore High School, secured a highly prestigious place at the 'Rotary Youth World Affairs

Seminar' (WAS), held at Carroll University, Wisconsin, USA in June 2025. Jorja was one of three Rotary D1100 sponsored students attending the program, where students debated "Peacebuilding: Creating Lasting Change". Since 1976, the 'Rotary Youth World Affairs Seminar' has provided a unique forum, where 40,000 future leaders from thirty different countries have debated some of the most complex global problems. On her return, Jorja thanked Pershore Rotary for sponsoring her at WAS 2025 and said, "I had an amazing time! I met so many great people and made lots of new friends. I went to a range of lectures on subjects varying from leadership skills to the problem of human trafficking. You also get to listen to very inspirational people with unique stories."

Jorja was a great ambassador for Pershore Rotary. It's hoped she will encourage other students to apply to join WAS 2026.

On a scorching Saturday 12th July, Pershore Rotary held a "Tea in a Tent" event to celebrate ShelterBox's 25th anniversary. Cakes, scones and strawberries were served along with gallons of tea, coffee and cold drinks. We "borrowed" the café and kitchen from Wick Care Farm and greatly appreciated the support given to us by Isobel Meikle. Wick Care Farm is set in 270 acres of farmland near Pershore and supports adults and young people through engagement with a variety of farm-based activities. The event raised £600, enough

to buy a ShelterBox tent for a family of 10 and more. In its 25 years, ShelterBox has supported over 3 million people in over 100 countries. These tents provide shelter for the 120 million people around the world hit by earthquakes, floods, wars and other disasters.

If you would like to work with us, we would love to hear from you. Follow us on Facebook, check out our website www.pershorerotary.club or email at secretary@pershorerotary.club



Lynne Raymer



Jorja Woolston



As I mentioned in the July issue, there were a lot of Festival of Words events coming up in June – 17 in total.

The whole month went brilliantly. Lots of great events, lovely feedback from speakers and attendees. It's impossible to single out any one event. Author Ruth Hogan moved several in the audience to tears. Her books do tend to focus on death, though in a positive way. By contrast, author Jo Thomas, who arrived

with friends and fellow authors, Katie Fforde and AJ Pearce, injected a sort of carnival atmosphere into the proceedings. Coming up on Sunday 10th August, at 2pm, at Raphaels, Hampton Ferry, Evesham is a performance by the wonderful theatre touring company, Mikron. The play this year is 'Hush Hush! A Bletchley Park story'. This event takes place outside whatever the weather. Bring your own chair. No need to pre-book. There will be the usual Mikron 'pay what you feel' bucket at the end of the performance.

If you would like to have lunch before, please contact Raphaels

direct – 01386 45460

Then, in September, reflecting the huge variety of Festival events, we have a return visit by talented actor and pianist, Michael Lunts, performing 'Coward at Sea'.

Saturday 6th September, 7pm. Bretforton Theatrebarn.

Note there are steep steps into the Theatre. Currently no disabled access.

Tickets £15. available from: www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org Also, on Wednesday 10th September, 2.30pm, Richmond Villages, Wood Norton are sponsoring an event 'Producing the BBC's Antiques Road Show'.



Retired TV producer, Robert Arley, will be sharing some behind the scenes secrets. *Tickets £10 including tea & cake. Tickets for both the September events available from: www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org*

Christadelphians

We believe ... life after death is only through future resurrection. Few things in life are certain, but death is a certainty for all. God promised Abraham the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession, yet he died without receiving it.

How can this promise be kept? Job, a faithful man, expressed hope in seeing God after his death, indicating a belief in bodily resurrection: 'after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God' (*Job 19 v 26*).

King David shared a similar belief, expressing satisfaction in awakening in God's likeness.

The Bible teaches that death is not the end for those who have a relationship with God. It is described as a 'sleep' from which believers will awaken to life again. The prophet Daniel spoke of a future resurrection where 'those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt' (*Daniel 12 v 2*). Jesus himself rose from the dead after his crucifixion, demonstrating victory over death. He was able to eat, drink, and interact with others, yet he was immortal. We are promised the same thing by the

apostle John: 'when [Jesus] is revealed, we shall be like him' (*1 John 3 v 2*). The Bible is clear. If we have come to know

God and live faithfully like Abraham, Job and David, we can be raised bodily to everlasting life when Jesus returns.

Interested in learning more about the Bible?

Pershore Christadelphians invite you to a talk explaining why

'We believe life after death is only through future resurrection'

On: 7th September @ 10am, God willing and why

'We believe the Bible is God's inspired word'

On: 5th October @ 10am, God willing

**Both talks will be held at:
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Pershore Times



Pershore Phoenix battle the elements

Pershore Phoenix Dragon Boat Club has displayed resilience and spirit during the start of the British Dragon Boat Racing Association's National League. At the season opener in Liverpool on 27th April, the club competed admirably in glorious sunshine. Their two boats competed in events like men's and women's relay racing and a 3km distance race. Battling windy conditions, both Phoenix and Phoenix Rising teams demonstrated tenacity, securing notable finishes. The Stockton on Tees event, scheduled for 25th May, was unfortunately cancelled due to

high winds, disrupting the club's momentum. Despite this setback, Pershore Phoenix regrouped for the Milton Keynes BDA Race Day on 28th June at Caldecotte Lake and competed well in very hot and gusty conditions. With a vibrant community of around 45 members, including GB squad paddlers, Pershore Phoenix continues to thrive, balancing social camaraderie with competitive drive. The 2025 season reflects the Club's commitment and ability to adapt to challenges while enjoying some great racing. With races in Nottingham,



London, and an event in Pershore to come, it will be an exciting season.

We are arranging taster and training sessions for new paddlers.

If you are interested in trying the sport, email us to have a go!

Email: hello@pershorephoenix.com

Robin Haines wins Twickenham experience!

Robin Haines, volunteer manager of house and grounds at Pershore Rugby, was one of twelve ground staff, chosen by the RFU from hundreds nominated by their rugby clubs across the UK, to enjoy a 'money can't buy' two-day experience at Allianz Stadium, Twickenham on 21st and 22nd May. The unique event was part of the Honda Volunteer Recognition Programme, which recognises the dedication of volunteers like Robin, who are an integral part of the success of rugby in their communities.

With meals, accommodation and travel included, the event involved a behind-the-scenes stadium tour, a personal chat with Jim Butter, RFU Grounds and Technical Operations Lead, and the chance to share the challenges of their own rugby grounds and learn how best to deal with them. Robin has played rugby for 42 years at Pershore, since he was 10. He was the 1st team captain in 1995/6 and now, as well as managing the clubhouse and keeping the pitches in magnificent

condition, he also acts as Fixtures Secretary, manages sponsorship and leads Pershore's Social Team, which encourages past players to remain in touch with the club. He says he volunteers at Pershore Rugby: "Because I love the club. It is like my second home. And maintaining the pitches, marking the lines and mowing in preparation for matches, I can fit around my work at Vic Haines Transport, and, because I am local, I can always pop to the club to do jobs or sort out a problem."



If you're interested in finding out more about Pershore Rugby, please email: enquiries.pershore@gmail.com

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