Pershore Times

A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages





Treat weather and great cricket, that is my memory of June, and I can't wait for the next test match! The rest of the month was filled with politics and devastation all over the place. Doom and gloom are a reality in parts of the world and those poor people need our deepest sympathy. Fortunately we live far away and hopefully, we will be able to carry on in our own quiet way and appreciate what we have more than ever.

Farm Shop & Farmhouse Café

The cricket in the 1st Test Match between England and India was brilliant and enthralling. The Indian batting was magnificent in both innings but somehow, we held on and played even

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better and against all the odds pulled off a fantastic victory. The sportsmanship from both sides was wonderful to see. I noted that in defeat, there was a shake of the head, a smile and

the hand was held out to congratulate the winner. As a number of my friends said when we were closing in on the score, 'it was a pity that anyone had to lose.' Sport is great education; it teaches us many things about ourselves and about other people. It certainly helps to take your mind off all the morbid news we have been having. Let's have more matches like this very soon.

In July, Pershore is celebrating the Midsummer Brass and the River Festival. Both of these events are always very popular and well attended. Let's hope the weather stays good and everyone will enjoy themselves.

Midsummer Brass

Saturday 5th July

River Festival Saturday 19th July

Further details on the What's on pages



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Chain Reaction:

My Adventures as Pershore's Mayoral Chain

Hello! Being a collection of links feels fitting—I represent the connections that unite Pershore through time, tradition, and shared purpose. My latest keeper, Councillor Julie (Hemming), had barely picked me up before we set off on new adventures! First, I was there for VE Day 80, witnessing how remembrance and community go hand-in-hand. Days later, that legacy of sacrifice shone in youthful faces of students welcomed to Pershore High School from our German twin town, Bad Neustadt-past divisions now shared values and friendship. At Worcestershire's Cricket Club, we honoured Pershore-born Sir

Town Council News

Mrs Charlie MacIntyre, Town Clerk



George Dowty, whose wartime aviation innovations shaped the RAF's success and whose Dowty Group went on to support families and drive prosperity in Pershore and neighbouring communities. I've met many chains in my time, but Julie's introduction to their new keepers at an informal riverside 'meet n' greet' in Evesham was a pleasure—especially since soon after, I represented Pershore among them at Worcester's Civic Service, a celebration of the city's duty and heritage. But life isn't all ceremony! I moved through buzzing crowds at Party on the Pitch at Pershore Town Football Club, felt the vibrant pulse of Pershore Carnival, and basked in the joy of these free community celebrations as happy visitors filled the town. Judging the walking floatsingenious, greener creations powered by human energy was no easy task for my keeper! Later, at Number 8 Theatre, PODS' Legally Blonde: The Musical dazzled, showcasing talent that way



outshone my glinting links.
Then, Pershore's rich
horticultural heritage took
centre stage in the unveiling of
St Andrew's Gardens, now
transformed into a thriving
haven for biodiversity and
reflection, enhancing this
landmark space for generations.
Our sports clubs, schools and
college, community groups,
and committees are the

heartbeat of it all—fostering friendships, belonging, and a town that truly thrives. They remind me how lucky I am to be part of a community where coming together matters. And, of course, they provide endless adventures for me.

As I look forward to more, I

As I look forward to more, I ask my keeper for just one thing—one careful owner, and a regular polish!

Inner Wheel Club of Pershore closing after 58 years!

The Inner Wheel of Pershore will be closing on the 30th June 2025 after 58 years.
The Club received its Charter

The Club received its Charter in 1967 when Inner Wheel Clubs were affiliated to the local Rotary Club.

Times change and Inner Wheel has become an independent international organisation of like-minded women from all walks of life.

With membership declining locally and existing members commitments increasing it is with regret that the members voted to close the club.

Nevertheless there are plans to still meet for the occasional lunch.

Over the years our club members have supported each other, provided support to many local organisations and as needs changed, raised money for many local, national and international charities while having fun at the same time. Events held to raise funds, which often involved food, have included afternoon teas, coffee mornings, a fashion

show, quiz nights, garden parties, a concert at Pershore Abbey and this year our Inspirational Women's Day held in March. Our last event will be a fundraising garden party to celebrate the 58 years of The Inner Wheel of Pershore. Charities supported over the years include Pershore Foodbank, Number 8 Arts Centre, The Riverside Centre, Caring Hands in the Vale, St. Richards Hospice, Acorns Children's Hospice, Campden Home Nursing, Midlands Air Ambulance, The Stroke Association and Parkinson's UK.

Further afield organisations we have been able to support are Hope and Homes for Children, Mary's Meals, Water Aid and The Himalayan Trust.

The Committee would like to thank all members past and present for their support, fellowship and friendship over the years.

Diane Cartwright/Jan Crouch. Club Correspondents



All members plus friends from Pershore Rotary and District 10 Inner Wheel.



Members after being presented with a certificate recognising us as Honorary members of Pershore Rotary

Memorial bench installed in town centre



The Michael Amies BEM Memorial Friendship Bench marks the life of a man who was devoted to raising awareness about the benefits of organ donation across Worcestershire. He was awarded the British Empire Medal for his work in 2017 and given the honour of carrying the Queen's Baton through Pershore in the buildup to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. During his life, Mr Amies was also involved in several other causes in the community, including Number 8, Pershore Market Town Partnership, Friends of Pershore Hospital and the environmental development charity, Welcome to Our Future.

Local Blacksmith, Steve Cooper, created the bench, which includes nods to Mr Amies' love for painting plums and blossom trees. A small cat can also be found within the detail of the bench, which was Mr Amies' favourite animal. The circular bench can be found on the corner of Broad Street and High Street. It is one of seven installed by Pershore Place Board, in partnership with Pershore Town Council, as part of their ongoing town centre enhancement programme.

The project is funded by us through our share of the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

David Briggs Organ Recital Pershore Abbey

While residents of Pershore may complain about joyriding around the town, no one seemed to mind David Briggs driving a Ferrari near Pershore Abbey on Midsummer's Eve. Praising the Italian Ruffatti organ as one of the most exciting in the world, he delivered a remarkable performance to a sadly small audience. He showcased a wide range of organ music, from a sublime cantata by J.S. Bach to a glorious improvisation based on a nursery rhyme theme that soared to great heights. Briggs expertly put Pershore Abbey's remarkable instrument through its paces, pulling out all the stops and producing an extraordinary array of sounds, from a tin whistle to a steamship foghorn. With a keen musical ear and astonishing technique, Briggs effectively transforms the organ into a one-man orchestra. His performance combined the flair of a virtuoso with the grounded humour of a dedicated servant of music, making it an evening to remember, at least for the few who managed to escape the

oppressive heat of the outside world and relax in the cool ambience of this architectural

Adding to the evening's quiet charm was the presence of James MacDowall-Scott, Pershore Abbey's own Director of Music. A whiz behind the keys in his own right, James introduced the maestro, then stepped discreetly into the role of page-turner—an act of musical camaraderie that said, this is a moment worth making

It was a three-for-the-price-ofone evening: a tearaway driver racing a supercar around a Grade One Listed site. Jeremy Clarkson, eat your heart out. For those unfamiliar with the maestro behind the mayhem, David Briggs is one of the world's leading concert organists. Schooled by a blind French master and now a globe-trotting improviser with the soul of a showman, he has played the great cathedrals of the world and still manages to make each performance feel like a private thrill ride.

Michael Chapman Pincher

Ukraine Freedom Company

As we Brits look forward once again to our Summer Holidays, it is perhaps a timely reminder that Putin's illegal war on Ukraine rages on! As Ukrainians suffer more and more attacks by Russian ground forces, drones and missiles, Brian Watkins, our local representative for Ukraine Freedom Company (UFC) reports that aid and support for Ukrainian troops has continued unabated. 'Comfort' boxes for front line soldiers, both male and female, are always well received, and many emails and texts of thanks are received from individual soldiers fighting in the front line. In addition, UFC continues to provide medical aid - everything from trauma packs with tourniquets, dressings etc. to mobility aids (crutches, wheelchairs, mobility scooters etc) - some items going direct to the front line, others to hospitals and aid stations. Hereford Elgar Rotary continues to fund ambulances and 4 x 4 vehicles, and UFC fill these

with medical equipment. Sad to note that a few weeks ago we received news that one of the 4x4s UFC had helped to provide had been blown up, with the loss of four Ukrainian soldiers. Aid is also sent for schools, orphanages and pets, and more latterly, one of our colleagues, Graham Cox, has discovered that there is a shortage of affordable baby milk across Ukraine. Relatively speaking, in certain areas baby milk can be up to 15 times more expensive than in the UK. Working closely with Ukrainian Rotary Clubs and the Gift of Life charity, Graham has identified in particular womens' refuges supporting young mothers and other vulnerable women – these can be victims of rape by Russian troops; teenage mothers made homeless by the war; those who have lost family members or have close relatives away fighting; women suffering PTSD and other issues. Travelling in his own vehicle, Graham has made numerous



crossings, and travels mainly to Ternopil and Kyiv – on his most recent trip he distributed 250kg of baby milk plus nappies and wipes. He tells UFC that in particular the women prefer formula milk from Aldi and Lidl, which apparently suits their babies. Happy babies means happy mothers, and in turn their husbands and fathers serving in the military! As Graham points out, Ukraine is literally a 'dying' nation – more people dying/being killed than are being born – so anything we in the UK can do to promote healthy childbirth and infant development is particularly important for the future of Ukraine.

UFC are always grateful to

local Rotary Clubs and their individual members within Herefordshire and Worcestershire for their support, and of course to the numerous local residents and other organisations that have contributed to the Ukraine Appeal. However, we are in constant need of funding to enable us to continue the good work, so please consider helping out, whether by financial contributions, donations of medical items, dried and tinned foods, but in particular at this time we are desperately in need of baby milk to enable For further information email Brian Watkins at: lovelacewatkins@uwclub.net or text 07771 694000







Defford Village Fete

It was a very successful fund raising event on Saturday 7th June, despite the rainy weather forecasted and the torrential rain which eventually arrived. The Pershore Ukelele Group provided the entertainment and enjoyed by all present. The beautiful Princesses Elsa and Anna were in appearance and charmed the people. We would like to thank all the volunteers and helpers for their time and effort and who worked tirelessly hard for this

charity event, the kind people for their generous donations of gifts, money, cakes, plants, lottery prizes, bric a brac, Reville's farm shop etc. and last but not least the visitors for making it a triumphant day.

It paid off and we raised a grand sum of £2,022.74 for the church and village hall.

Pershore Mill – part 2

Pershore Mill – part 2
The Partridge family took over
Pershore Mill from the
Ecclesiastical Commission in
the 1930s and still own the
land to the present day.
During the Second World War
an upper story was added to
boost production as part of the
war effort.

The main barge used for bringing the corn from the local farmers and taking the flour away was called the 'Pisgah' (named after a Mount in the Holy Land).

As a child I would watch the Pisgah go down the river and once, when they had tied up at the Angel, (probably for a quick drink!) I played jumping on and off it to amuse myself whilst my dad, granddad and my brother, Simon, were fishing there. Despite many warnings from my family not to jump onto the barge I continued and as another boat passed by on the river the wash sent me flying doing the splits into the river! Ouch! I never did that again!

The Mill had a 60 horse power water wheel. There was also a Watergate which controlled the water levels. After an extra story on the Mill was built it had problems with maintaining the water levels in the river, and the mill pond emptied too quickly. So the wheel was stopped at night for the pond to refill. Later a diesel engine was installed for these periods. By 1955-6 the old Watergate was removed, even though



conservationists wanted it preserved as it was the last working Watergate in England, this and the dredging of the river made conditions improve. The removal of the water gate made the height of the river change dramatically especially by the old bridge. Before this there were times when it was very shallow there. I can remember paddling near the old bridge when very young. Looking there now the water is very much deeper. I remember being told that during the Middle Ages there was a ford across the river just by the old bridge.

In 1972 the Pisgah was sold and the new owner took it to France where it was used as a pleasure boat on the canal system there.

Sue Price History and Heritage Society

"There is no unique picture of reality"

Stephen Hawking



A few words from... Dame Harriett Baldwin MP



L-R Jess Day, Dame Harriett Baldwin MP and Henry White

Students Get VIP Political Work Experience

Dame Harriett Baldwin MP kicked off her annual work experience programme welcoming two eager young people to shadow her in Westminster. Jess Day from Malvern and Henry White from Birlingham carried out work experience in Dame Harriett's constituency office and the Conservative association office to learn about the work the MP carries out on behalf of local people. The pair were able to see Prime Minister's Questions and the Chancellor's Spending Statement during their visit to the House of Commons. Each year, the MP encourages local young people to take part

in a week of activities tailored to teaching them the wide range of duties that an MP has to carry out. Dame Harriett said: "I find that my annual work experience programme is always over-subscribed and I am pleased to say that three local people who did work experience in my office ended up getting paid jobs in my team. It is a great way to spot the talent of the future, and I try to make sure that they get an engaging overview of the wide variety of an MP's work. Over the coming weeks, more young people will take part, and I hope that they are all inspired to get more involved in politics, either locally or nationally.



Branch news



June was a quiet month for the Branch after all the activities for VE Day in May. We had a gazebo at the Carnival at the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May. Our aim was to encourage recruitment and outline our work to support the military and ex- service men and women.

We are currently discussing plans for the celebration of VJ Day and will inform you through the medium of this channel once plans have materialised.

Breakfast Club continues on the first Saturday of the month at 0900hrs at the White Horse, opposite the Abbey. All members and friends invited. We always welcome new members to support the work of RBL and at the same time enjoy comradeship with colleagues. There is no need to have served in the Armed Forces.

Anyone interested may contact the Chairman, Gerald Gregory on 07802 897088

Flower Club

Members of Pershore Flower Club on the sunny and very warm evening of Wednesday, the 18th June welcomed Lucy Ellis from Bratton, near Bath, in Wiltshire for the third or fourth time to Bishampton Village Hall. Her demonstration this time was entitled "Picture This" so her designs were to be inspired by the works of well-known artists. To begin, she used Salvador Dali's 'Persistence of Memory' and 'Face of Mae West' and created a hand-tie frame using twigs dipped in coral paint. She used stems of pittasporum, snapdragons, hypericum, umbrella fern, tangerine coloured roses and similar coloured anthuriums with red-tipped grasses. Finally she added two aspidistra leaves which she had painted gold. This matched the gold-coloured "brick" on to which she had painted Mae West's vivid red lips! Next we had Lucy's interpretation of Van Gogh's painting "Starry starry night" for which she had created an



amazing structure of a gold moon and gold hoops lined with twinkling black dress fabric. For the base of the stand, she used leaves of various hostas, a fern variety of conifer, variegated ivy to which she added blooms of a purple hydrangea, lilac stocks and similar-coloured carnations, sprigs of a light purple clematis and finally lovely yellow sunflowers and two red anthuriums. For her third design, Lucy had copied a painting by Jackson Pollock in the Chicago Art Gallery on to a white board with black scrolling to which she had attached test tubes in a random way. Into these she inserted divided leaves of a palm and red roses called Naomi and stems of white anthurium and black canna lilies.



Next, David Hockney's "Mr. and Mrs. Clark and Percy" using amaranthus 'green pearl', tall gladioli, leaves of begenia, acuba and variegated ivy with sprigs of pittasporum, conifer 'hiba' to which she added orange chrysanthemums, shocking pink gerberas, dyed asparagus fern and green 'pistachio' anthuriums. For her final design, based on Dutch artist Rachel Ruysch, born in 1664's painting "Sheer Joy of Flowers", Lucy created a beautiful arrangement in a black shallow urn, using leaves of begenia, marble laurel, eucalyptus, pittasporum and stems of the bottle-brush plant and deutzia with variegated fatsia leaves. The flowers were a large purple hydrangea head, cream roses called 'carpe deum',



lisianthus and then she added various fruits – apple, fig and grapes. Having created this beautiful arrangement, she brought out a complimentary one in a tall vase – the one I did earlier!

We were entertained by Lucy's tips, details of her experiences in the flower-arranging world and music to accompany her designs - it was altogether a most enjoyable evening. Please come and join us for our next Club meeting at: Bishampton Village Hall on: Wednesday 16th July When Andrew Key from Sleaford in Lincolnshire will give his demonstration "May to September" Follow Pershore Flower Club on Facebook or email pershoreflowerclub@gmail.com.

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Magazine

Pershore, Upton, Powick, Kempsey & Whittington Times

Bredon Hill

Tim Hickson



Bredon Hill

Banbury Stone

Referring to Parson's Folly in my previous article set me thinking the Beauchamps (of about Bredon Hill itself. I knew that, geologically it is part of the Cotswolds and I also knew there were three Iron Age camps up there and that the folly stood on top of one of the ramparts of the western one. Archaeology has shown that this fort was attacked early in 1st century AD, but by whom is not known although it was, of course, before Civil War. the Roman invasion (although there are signs of Roman fortifications on the Hill). It was found that the inner gate was burnt and the mutilated bodies of over 50 young men were found. A row of heads, presumably set on poles over Stone' because of its the gateway, was also found. This fort is known as Kemerton Camp. Conderton Camp, to the

Elmley Castle built on top of it, high above the village. The castle is thought to have been made by a member of the

d'Abitot family (of Croome

The third camp had the Norman

east, is the smallest and was

second century BC.

abandoned in the middle of the

d'Abitot), was later passed to Madresfield) and then to the Earl of Warwick. So it became a secondary castle to Warwick, and thus less important, which led to its eventual lack of use and decay in the C16th. Later some of its stones were used to repair the old Pershore Bridge which had been deliberately damaged during the English

Near Parson's Folly, there are some very large stones. One large stone at the summit is called the Banbury Stone, deriving from a name for the fort in the C8th. It is known colloquially as the 'Elephant resemblance to that animal. Another pair of stones below the summit are called the King and Queen Stones. Local myth tells that if you pass between them you will be cured of illness.

Many poets have written about Bredon Hill. Probably the most famous piece is in A.E. Housman's collection, The Shropshire Lad. It begins

In summertime on Bredon The bells they sound so clear: Round both the shires they ring

In steeples far and near, A happy noise to hear. Here of a Sunday morning My love and I would lie. And see the coloured counties, And hear the larks so high About us in the sky. Authors notably include Tewkesbury's John Moore, who wrote the three Brensham novels, and Fred Archer who farmed at Ashton under Hill and wrote about his locality in the early C20th, beginning with The Distant Scene. Among the composers who

have produced music about Bredon Hill, Ralph Vaughan Williams is probably the best known. However, Bredon Hill. A Rhapsody for violin and orchestra, by the then Director of Music at Malvern College, Julius Harrison, is well worth listening to. This was commissioned by the BBC during WW2 and then broadcast to Africa, North America and to the Pacific.

Several artists have painted landscapes of the Hill. My own favourite, because it was done by my friend, the late Archie Nicholas, is this.



Its meteorological value is contained in the old saying, 'When Bredon Hill is wearing its hat, men in the Vale beware of that', meaning rain is coming! Also, in WW2, pilots hoping to land at RAF Defford would radio the control tower asking about Jumbo. If they were told, "Jumbo is still in bed", that meant the Hill was still hidden in cloud - so beware.

Finally, its name is amusing. Bre is the Celtic for 'hill' and don is Old English for 'hill'. So, literally, Bredon means hill, hill, hill.



The Megalithic Portal, Kemerton Camp



King and Queen Stones, Bredon Hill

The Walled Gardens at Croome Court — A Summer of Growth, Flavour and Celebration



As the 25th anniversary year of restoration at The Walled Gardens at Croome Court continues, summer is now in full swing; and the garden is thriving with colour, flavour, and life. Following the unveiling of the new water garden in May, and a surge in visitors keen to explore this privately restored gem, the season has brought even more reasons to return.

privately restored gem, the season has brought even more reasons to return. The vision of Chris and Karen Cronin remains rooted in their original purpose: to breathe life back into one of Britain's largest Georgian Walled Gardens. This summer, that vision is tangible in every carefully tended bed, every buzzing corner of wildlife, and every bite of fresh produce harvested from the soil. Take, for instance, the onion beds; a beautiful example of how practical planting can still be spectacular. From the deep hues of 'Electric' red onions to the golden glow of traditional yellow varieties and the early, hardy Japanese 'Senshyu', the diversity on display showcases the garden's productive roots. It's a reminder that the Walled Gardens are not simply a place of historic beauty, but a living, working space grown with purpose and passion. Elsewhere, signs of the season are everywhere: baby melons are beginning to form, cucumbers are ripe and ready to pick (available for purchase just outside the garden gates), and the rose garden is heavy with the perfume of David Austin blooms - a sensory delight in every direction. Wildlife, too, is thriving. The dipping pond has become a

Wildlife, too, is thriving. The dipping pond has become a sanctuary for ducks, Great Crested Newts, and elusive moorhens who glide gently across the surface. You may be lucky enough to spot the even more elusive pond dwelling serpent too. These moments of natural tranquillity add to the sense that the garden, while designed and restored by human hands, now pulses with

a life of its own.

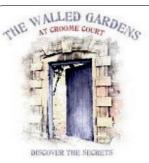
Special Events – July Highlights Building on the momentum of a landmark year, two immersive events will bring new dimensions to the visitor experience this July. Thursday 17th July -Hortus Croomensis promises a day of inspiration for garden lovers and heritage enthusiasts alike. With speakers including Chris Beardshaw, Jekka McVicar VMH, and Nicholas Dunn VMH, this one-day celebration of horticultural

excellence includes talks, discussion, and a light lunch, plus regular refreshments in the stunning garden setting (£75pp). Book tickets at: croomeht.org/cht-events.html Tuesday 22nd July -The gardens will play host to Garden to Table – A Taste of Croome, an exclusive collaboration with renowned chef Felice Tocchini. Guests will enjoy a guided tour with the Cronins before watching Chef Felice create seasonal dishes from freshly harvested produce - complete with tasters

and expert cooking tips. *Don't Miss...*

Croome Gallery and Pottery is open every Friday to Sunday and Bank Holidays, 11am–5pm, with access through the National Trust Croome visitor centre. Entry is free when the gardens are closed on Fridays (National Trust admission applies).

With nature at its peak and events that bring garden, food, and history together, there's no better time to experience The Walled Gardens at Croome — a living legacy still growing.



Visit The Walled Gardens at Croome Court, where history and restoration come to life.

Once forgotten and overgrown, these remarkable Georgian gardens have been lovingly restored by Chris and Karen Cronin since 2000.





Nestled within the Croome Court estate, near Pershore, the gardens are open every Saturday and Sunday from April to September, including Bank Holidays. Opening hours are 11 am to 5 pm, with the last entry at 4 pm.

Admission is £7 per adult, and children under 14 go free (regular National Trust admission applies).

All proceeds support the ongoing restoration of this historic landscape. Exclusive group tours outside regular hours are available for parties of 15 or more. For enquiries, email info@croomewalledgardens.com. Discover a hidden gem and explore centuries of history in bloom.

Website: www.croomewalledgardens.com
Facebook: The Walled Gardens at Croome Court
Instagram: @croome_walled_gardens
X: @Croome_Gardens

Farming

In the last article I mentioned seeing some of the earlier fields in the area being harvested for silage. Grass of course grows at its fastest in the summer and slows down to little more than zero during mid-winter. Grazing animals running wild will tend to concentrate their grazing activities to areas where the grass is growing best in the summer and spread out over a much larger area in the winter: they are regulating their ration in the only way they know how, to make it sufficient for themselves, if having the freedom to do so. When raised on a farm matters are very different as a herd of cattle may have access to (say) 100 acres of grazing – providing all the foodstuff (forage) they might need in summer, but in winter the area available remains the same; they have to be fed supplementary feed or they are housed and all food is supplied. After an incredibly dry spring and only limited rain in recent times this season may well result in even summer grazing being in short supply. Many years since I last remember it happening, but there have been seasons when the feeding of hay or haylage to livestock out in the summer fields grazing was necessary to supplement their ration even in June/July: a case of bringing some of it off the field just harvested and taking it straight into the livestock fields for immediate consumption, rather

Mike Page

than into store for winter rations: solving one problem but at the same time creating another requiring a solution later on. But I did say last month in life I try to remain optimistic! The making of modern-day silage/haylage and hay is a specialist process. The idea for any farmer is to end up with enough silage/hay of the right 'D Value' (digestibility) to suit the needs of their livestock. In simple terms, grass in the earlier stages of growth has a much higher feeding value, and in its later growth stages there is much more of it, but its value as a feedstuff, as it has gone up considerably in fibre content of much lower digestibility, will have gone downhill markedly. In my younger days as a farmer, the generally accepted 'D Value' giving the best combination of quality and quantity for productive livestock was 63, that being determined by proper analysis, or for a range of commonly grown grasses and other forage crops could be predicted fairly accurately by calendar date, that being linked closely to stage of growth. If making silage/haylage or hay for productive livestock [ie those growing rapidly or (say) producing milk], the aim is for 63D, or perhaps even higher; if the aim is to feed non-productive livestock not producing milk described in farming language as being 'dry') then grass can



A crop of grass this time (as yet not cut).

The drought conditions mean it has thrown-up much fewer seed stems than usual, without much base growth and the hay crop eventually harvested will be relatively light posing problems for next winter's forage supply

be harvested much later as although its feed value will have gone down considerably it will be adequate for the animals' needs – and there is more of it! Barley straw and even wheat straw (which has a very low digestibility and feed value) can be fed to cattle if other higher quality forage is not available or in short supply: it will supply the 'long fibre' material they need to keep their ruminant digestive system 'ticking over', and if supplemented by highly digestible concentrated grain feed as part of the overall diet the cattle will thrive. A bit like offering a child ice cream or a nicely prepared steak: you know which is best for them, and you know which they will likely go for; cattle or sheep offered straw will usually turn away to begin with, but not for long and as they grow hungry they will

soon be consuming it - and seemingly with relish: it does at least fill their bellies, and that seems to be enough to satisfy them. That invites a personal question: At one time I had a field of lucerne on this farm, harvested each year for baled haylage to feed to sheep; a very nutritious foodstuff satisfying all their digestive needs, and one taken to by the sheep with immediate and obvious enthusiasm. It has always left the question in my mind: "Do they go for it with such enthusiasm because their digestive system can recognise it is supplying all their bodily nutritional needs, or because it tastes so good?" Perhaps all we need to make feeding kids an easier process is for some chef to come up with a recipe that makes a steak look and taste like ice cream?

Dragonfly displays

We're now at the peak of the dragonfly season. Dragonflies, and their more delicate damselfly cousins, are brightening our ponds and riverbanks with their dazzling colours and beautiful wing patterns.

They may appear delicate, but they are one of nature's greatest hunters. Some people consider dragonflies to be the most successful hunter in the animal world, catching up to 95% of the prey which they chase. Able to fly in all directions, even backwards, and with eyes that are made up of thousands of lenses, their acrobatic flight and phenomenal vision mean they rarely miss their targets. And they can eat their own weight in insects in just 30 minutes! For most of the year our dragonflies are hidden from view. Life starts when an egg,

laid in summer near water, hatches into a nymph. This stays underwater, sometimes for years, feeding voraciously on insects and tadpoles until it is ready to become an adult. It then climbs out of the water, sheds its skin and emerges as a shimmering dragonfly, taking to the air to hunt and find a mate.

And while dragonflies love rivers

And while dragonflies love rivers and ponds you can do your bit for them at home as well. No garden is too small to help attract wildlife and any small water feature with aquatic vegetation can attract them. They will help to rid your garden of midges, aphids and mosquitoes and, for just a few short weeks, you can enjoy their beautiful colours and graceful aerial acrobatics. *Karen Rose*,

A biodiversity officer for Wychavon District Council Karen Rose



Emperor dragonfly

Summer to Autumn Flower Favourites

It's July and at this time of year, we are all spending more time in our garden, so, we can easily spot a gap that needs filling. However, finding the right plant for the right spot can be tricky with so many gorgeous plants to choose from.

Ideally, we want one plant to flower from now until Autumn, so here's my favourite flowers to fill the pots and borders with... If I could choose one annual flower, it would have to be Cosmos as they provide lots of colour and always look so cheerful in pots and borders. The 'Candy Stripe' variety has white flowers with magenta edges and stripes and are loved by bees and hoverflies. Their ferny-feathery leaves also add texture and as long as you dead-head them regularly they will bloom until first frosts. They're great value for money when grown from seed - which is simple to do in spring, but you can buy them



ready-grown from the garden centre.

Plant Cosmos with Verbena bonariensis for a gorgeous display. This is a perennial (comes back each year) variety which can grow to around 2m tall, so its best grown at the back of the border. They have slender stems with a purple 'bobble' type flower that are slightly scented and are also loved by bees. If that's too tall for your garden, try the 'Lollipop' variety, which is a small bushy option that grows to around 60cm tall. Under-plant them with Thyme 'Silver Posie' and you will have a lovely fragrant area which is also dog friendly. Whilst choosing your ideal plants, it's important to consider the wildlife in our gardens and here's my top tips...

Choose Single-Flowered Varieties: These provide bees and pollinators easier access to nectar.



- Plant in Clusters: Grouping flowers helps pollinators locate them more easily.
- Avoid Pesticides: opt for organic gardening methods to protect wildlife.
- Provide Shelter: Incorporate grasses and shrubs to create habitats for insects and birds. You can add some drama to your borders with Dahlias - purchase them ready to plant now or buy tubers in the spring. There are so many to choose from, such as the pom-pom styles to huge flowers such as the 'Café au Lait' variety which has flowers up to 25cm across and are very striking.

I grew Dahlia 'Bishops Children' from seed last year and although they started off well and were easy to grow, they didn't do much, but this year, they've put on a massive growth spurt and are covered in flowers. I really like the bronze-coloured leaves, but I'm not sure about the bright





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mix of flowers. If you want a bold border, these are the flowers for you. Add some cheery yellow and orange blooms with Rudbeckia and Helenium which are commonly known as sneezeweed (what a great name). These will also look good planted in swathes with the Verbena. Their open daisy-like flowers are also good for pollinators.



July gardening tips

Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester

Early July

When sowing seeds water the bottom of the drill, sow seeds and cover with dry soil. This maintains moisture levels around the seeds for a longer period. Cut back straggly violas to encourage new shoots, Use trimmings for cuttings. Water and ventilate the greenhouse regularly. Take clematis cuttings. Conventionally these are taken by cutting the stems into sections between the leaf joints but I find that they also root when cuttings are taken at the leaf joints too.

Prune plums, olives, fruiting and ornamental cherries now. Treat large cuts with wound paint but do it straightaway or it will not be effective. Prune and shape bay trees. They will tolerate fairly severe cutting back now. Mid July

Keep camellias and magnolias moist at all times from now until early October. This is an essential aid to the setting of next year's

blooms. Giving them a couple of handfuls of sulphate of potash now helps as well. Trim hedges including conifer and other evergreen hedges. Be careful with water - early morning and late evening are the best watering times. If you have slug problems morning is better. There is no need to water the lawn. Take particular care of planted containers. Keep them fed, watered and dead headed. I find using a more potash orientated fertilizer like Phostrogen is good. Cut down herbaceous geraniums and poppies as they stop blooming to encourage new shoots. Give roses a boost with a dressing of rose fertilizer. If greenfly attack water lily foliage, just sink the leaves under the water for a few hours.

Keep feeding and training tomatoes and other greenhouse fruiting plants. Try growing oriental vegetables, like Chinese cabbage, this is the best month for sowing. Sow beetroot,

Florence fennel, Swiss chard, raddichio, and turnips in the vegetable garden.

Spray potato foliage with Vitax Copper Mixture or one of the plant invigorators if attacks of potato blight are likely. You could also try using soluble aspirin two tablets per gallon of water sprayed over the foliage two weeks. Prune summer fruiting raspberries after harvest by removing old, fruited canes. Air layer straggly houseplants, usually near the top, to create a new plant. Pinch out the tips of unwanted grape shoots after one leaf, to concentrate the plant's energy on fruiting. Take conifer cuttings from stems that are characteristic of the variety.

Late July

Thin out oxygenating plants in pools as they can cause problems if over abundant.

Pinch out the tops of outdoor tomato plants once four trusses of fruit have formed. Sow parsley for winter use. Onions, garlic



and shallots are ready to harvest when foliage turns yellow and bends over. Sow autumn / winter salads, e.g. claytonia, salad rocket, corn salad, land cress, and winter hardy white Lisbon onions. Cut the old foliage off strawberry plants after harvest. New growth soon appears. Give them some sulphate of potash too. Take fuchsia cuttings to be trained as standards. Lantana, golden privet and elaeagnus are also suitable for training in this fashion. Take semi-ripe cuttings from most shrubs – they will root easily now. To encourage the production of plenty of embryo figs for ripening next year, pinch out the growing points of the new shoots once they have made five leaves.

Nectar flows

Martyn Cracknell

During the winter, trees may appear completely dormant but the cool conditions promote flower bud development. The buds gradually swell and burst into bloom as soon as warmer weather comes in Spring. This provides abundant nectar and if the weather is mild, bees will gather it, and store it. If we peep into the top of the hive we can see newly built white wax honey comb along the edges of the frames, and if a frame is lifted out and gently shaken over the hive, runny nectar sprinkles out like rain. We get excited because, 'there is a flow on', and we hope that it may translate into a honey yield. Unfortunately a period of cold wet or windy weather may stop the bees flying and they stay at home and eat it all.

Then we enter a period with few flowers which we popularly call the 'June gap'. That is now behind us and the shrubs which flower on the new year's growth, like privet, and brambles take their turn to provide a flower show. This heralds a second honey flow. This year I had a bumper Spring flow and virtually no June gap, because many agricultural holdings have been sown with wildflower or green manure mixtures giving a continuity of flowers. Fields of golden rape or field beans were followed by pinkish white buckwheat and mauve phacelia with occasional fields of pale blue linseed, borage or purple Echium. These benefit both hive and wild bees and other insects.

Now a second flow is underway. I have been kept busy trying to provide adequate space for storage of the large volume of watery nectar, which will ultimately become a much smaller volume of concentrated honey. With a modern hive ,this is achieved by adding honey boxes, called 'supers' to the top of the hive but in the old days of straw skep beekeeping, the top of the basket was usually closed.

In this case the skep was lifted off its base, and a ring of a few



coils of straw, called an eke, were placed underneath. This practise of adding space beneath was called 'nadiring' as opposed to 'supering'. Periodically through the summer, additional coils were added so that the capacity of the skep was gradually increased, or 'eked out'. In the UK it is normal to take two harvests, rather than a little bit at intervals throughout the

year, but some beekeepers take their bees to the hills of Yorkshire, Wales or Scotland, for an August holiday, to take advantage of the flowering heather, and thus gain a third harvest.



Village Life

So the year is half over, and the commonly held view seems to be this has happened all too quickly and how can 2025 be flying by at such pace? Is this a sign of advancing age and the number of days already witnessed – or is there something more sinister going on? Hard to know in our current world.

Anyway, it's summer and we seem to be having a great one so far. Sorry if you're a farmer or lawn-lover desperate for rain! Otherwise, what's not to love about long light evenings and no scrabbling around on dark mornings - unless of course you're venturing out before 4.00am. This brings the added bonus of having more time to just stop and spend time chatting with friends and neighbours when out and about. We don't have a village green or other focal point but our fabulous local pub does give us a gathering place with the added benefit of lovingly tended ales, wines etc, and always a great welcome.

Life in the village has actually been pretty quiet and uneventful of late, after our VE80 commemorations in May. I'm thinking this is basically how we like it round here and a big attraction for those of us seeking life away from the hustle and bustle of city life. I certainly don't want that to change radically. We can't expect to live in a time warp insulated from the outside world, but aiming for a little bit of peace and quiet among like-minded folk surely isn't too much to ask? This hiatus in village activities

has me pondering whether we should be arranging something over the summer months, or whether we should just let it drift and allow events to unfold on their own. We do need to raise funds at some stage to buy replacement pads for our village defibrillator.

Funding the defibrillator a few years ago was a great example of our community getting together and we've since kept adequate money in the village account to pay for planned replacements. We'll now need to raise a little to replace the money spent, and I for one am confident we'll have no problem calling on local generosity to achieve this.

Thank goodness we haven't needed the defib yet, but there's



such reassurance knowing it's nearby should the need arise. Lots of our village residents have completed training in the basics of defibrillator use and CPR, and we have an emergency contact arrangement for everyone to access. A great local community effort. Okay, many of us would admit to having an implied vested interest in having this support nearby, but surely that's alright!

Did I mention earlier that our

local pub is the centre of village life for many of us? Fittingly, this is where the defibrillator is

located, with our landlords acting as custodians as well as providing the necessary electricity supply without charge. I would normally avoid quoting Jeremy Clarkson maybe the ultimate 'Marmite' but during his current series, he refers to a 'pub as a hub' for any community, and in our case that's certainly true. It's also a great example of giving people the chance to get together so they can do what people do best work as a community. Thank you to our great hosts - and see you soon!

John Driscoll

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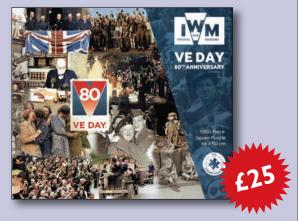








Imperial War Museum's VE Day 80th Anniversary 1000 piece jigsaw



This puzzle honours the incredible day of victory, hope and freedom - marking the end of six long years of war.

Featuring a unique montage of troops, iconic headlines, and scenes of celebration, it's a heartfelt tribute to those who fought for our freedom and the joyous moments that followed.

Available from: Hughes & Company

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Ailsa's Kitchen Ailsa Craddock

I have always loved ice-cream — not the Mr Whippy soft stuff but proper ice cream with eggs and cream and different tastes. When my brother was little, he used to think "various ices" on a menu was a flavour and there seems to be no ending now to the "various" combinations — you can even have savoury ones for in between courses. A few years ago, I entered a competition and won an ice cream maker but I also have a few favourites which don't need one — you just whip it up and freeze. If you haven't got a maker, and it's asked for, you can get by with taking the mixture out of the freezer and mashing the ice crystals in for a few times. Keeping it easy for you, these are all made without a maker — so you can definitely say you made these all by yourself.

French chocolate Ice cream

50g castor sugar 4 tablespoons water 175g plain chocolate 3 egg yolks (save the whites for meringues etc – you can even freeze them!) 300ml double cream Melt the sugar and water in a pan to a syrup. Break up the chocolate into a bowl and add the hot syrup. Mix until smooth and add the yolks. Whip the cream until stiff and add the chocolate, folding it through until all combine. Freeze. Simples!

Lemon Ice Cream

Large lemon, juice and zested 200g castor sugar 250ml milk 250 ml double cream
Combine the zest and sugar. Put the milk in a bowl and stir in the zest mixture until the sugar is dissolved. Stir in the lemon juice. Whip the cream until stiff and gently fold into the lemon mixture. Line a loaf tin with cling film overlapping the edges. Pour into the tin, cover over with the edges and freeze. Tip out and slice to serve.

Stem Ginger Ice Cream

4 eggs, separated

110g icing sugar
3 – 4 pieces of stem ginger,
finely chopped
275ml double cream, stiffly
whipped
Whisk the yolks and icing sugar
together until pale and very
thick. Fold in the ginger and
whipped cream. Using a clean
whisk, whisk the egg whites into
peaks and gently fold into the
mixture. Pour into a 1.5 litre
plastic container and freeze
overnight.

Peach Ice Cream

6 ripe peaches
600ml pot double cream
397g can condensed milk
Put the peaches in a heatproof
bowl and pour over boiling
water. Leave for 5 minutes and
peel off the skins and remove the
stone. Roughly chop them and
set aside. Whisk the cream with
the condensed milk until



thickened slightly and falls in ribbons from the whisk. Add the peach chunks to the cream, stirring gently. Put into a 2 litre plastic container and freeze for 3 - 4 hours or overnight. Take out of the freezer 20 - 30 minutes before you want it. Filo Crisps – something a little different to serve with ice cream. The contrast between crisp biscuit and soft cream is really lovely! Lay a sheet of filo on a baking sheet, brush with melted butter and sift over some icing sugar. Repeat with 2 or more layers on top, finishing with a thick layer of sugar. Cut the filo into small squares and bake in the oven at 200oC for about 10 minutes until golden and crisp. Sauces to serve with ice cream sometimes a good plain vanilla ice cream is all that is wanted and a good sauce will elevate it to ambrosia!

Hot Chocolate Sauce:

Put 150g dark chocolate into a pan with 25g castor sugar and 4 tablespoons of water. Melt together over a gentle heat then slowly increase and boil for 2 minutes. Beat in 25g unsalted butter and serve hot.

Melba Sauce: Mash or puree 250g raspberries. Stir in 75g icing sugar and the juice of half a lemon. The sauce can be served warm or cold.

Toffee Sauce:

Put 50g butter, 50g brown sugar and 2 tablespoons golden syrup into a saucepan and heat gently, stirring, until the butter and sugar have melted. Bring to the boil and boil hard for 3-5 minutes. Cool and stir in 150ml single cream and while still hot pour over ice cream.

Voices

Angela Johns

The air is full of the sound of bird life today. The swifts are squealing and wheeling, the sparrows are squabbling and scrapping. And if I tune my ear in there is a wren, its voice so big for such a tiny thing, that I only hear my favourite blackbirds in between its repetitive refrain. Each have something to say: feed me, I live here, look at me, this is mine, danger!

My voice too, carries my message. Sometimes loud and sure of itself (even when I'm wrong), sometimes no more than a squeak (even if I'm right). Usually I want it to carry the feeling behind it with emotion and sincerity. But there are times I don't want my voice to reveal my vulnerability, or when I wish for others to keep their faith in me even when I can't do that for myself.

Years ago I once got stuck in a funicular railway with my young boys with the Austrian August sun beating down on our glass carriage above Innsbruck. I calmly narrated all the sights we could see whilst simultaneously fretting about how I could secretly share my bottle of water just between us, not the ten or so other people sharing that confined space. As it turned out it wasn't long before one guy collapsed, pale as a ghost, and I whipped out the water and gave it straight to him without a second thought. Now the quivery fear of thirst was dialled up a few notches but I continued to use the calm strength of my voice explain to the boys that the train people knew we were stuck and would be working to get us off soon the next stop wasn't far and they always have a plan. Next, a lady started having a panic attack, screaming and wrenching at the door, and yet another was yelling down the intercom that someone was dying so they had better get us out quick. This was turning



into a precarious situation in a hot and tight space and I was starting to get a menopausal sweat-on. My boys moved in closer with their faces upturned and expectant. At this point I'm also reassuring myself. Fast forward to this year when my boys are legally, if not always practically, men and I have a partner that thoroughly knows my weaknesses. On a walk on a hillside in Spain with him this year I got stung by a bee. There was no-one I needed to show how brave I am so I screamed and cried like a fouryear-old demanding that he gets it off me, get it off me! I then whimpered for the next mile repeating frequently that it "really hurts". The child inside of me felt safe enough to reveal how she really felt about being stung and was very vocal about

Our voices are instruments but what tune will we play? And who is listening? More to the point, who do we really want to hear it? Anyone? Someone in particular? Or is it just that we want to tell a part of ourselves because it doesn't feel like anyone else has got the message yet.

Angela is a qualified Emotional Therapeutic Counsellor registered with the FETC and NCPS. Also a Reflexologist and Reiki 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

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The power of your uniqueness Emily Papirnik

As a therapist, one of the most recurring themes I see in my practice is people shrinking themselves to fit into someone else's idea of "normal." We try to belong, to blend in, to not stand out too much. However in doing so, we often silence the very parts of us that are the most powerful: our uniqueness. This is your gentle reminder — you are not meant to be the same as anyone else.

You have a unique combination of life experience, perspective, and energy. That alone makes you valuable. The way you see the world, the way you respond to it, the way you feel and express yourself — that's yours and yours alone. You are worth being seen, heard, and shared.

shared.
Sometimes we hold back because we think, "Who am I to share this?" or "No one will care."
What if your words, your experience, your insight — even if it seems small to you — is exactly what someone else needs right now?
You never know what moment, what truth, or what expression might be the catalyst for someone else's healing or

I see so many people playing

growth.



small, believing that their wisdom is only valid in private, with friends or family — if that. However if something helped you, brought you clarity, softened pain, or opened your heart... it's worth sharing. We don't need to speak to everyone, we just need to reach the one person who needs it most. When we let our uniqueness be known, we create ripple effects of connection. It's not about being perfect or profound it's about being real and loving in what you offer. Wrap your words in care. Allow your truth to be felt. Please don't waste a moment hiding it from the light. There is power in your presence. There is beauty in your perspective. Let your nuggets of insight and knowledge be known. Someone, somewhere is waiting for the very thing only you can give.

"Politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians"

Charles de Gaulle



Romy's Uni Life



My trip to Grasmere A few weeks ago, I went to Grasmere on an English course university trip. We departed at 9.30am on Tuesday and it was already baking hot. However, as the coach continued to drive to our destination, clouds started to show, and the temperature declined - I found this wonderful but others did not. Obviously, we couldn't take a lot of luggage because of space and I struggled with this. I felt rather underprepared, but I was fine and got on with everything just fine without a single issue. It was just because the weather was hot in Liverpool that I didn't

think it was going to be as windy and rainy in Grasmere, but I was very much mistaken. Quite a few people on the trip seemed to be taken aback by the high pollen, and it certainly stopped me from sleeping. My friends on the trip even commented on it the next morning saying that they knew I was tired because I had't started yapping away yet. This did make me laugh! For me, one of the most important parts of the trip was all of the nature that I saw. I know living in the countryside we all see quite a lot, but I've always been interested in it and seeing it across the country is wonderful. I saw a buzzard and deer on the way there, and then when we were in Grasmere, I saw cows, sheep, a lot of birds, bees and even wild rabbits. Our accommodation was right next to a lake which was a delightful sight to wake

We went to William Wordsworth's Dove Cottage and museum which was definitely a good place to go to if you visit the Grasmere area. I'm not always a fan of walking around a museum but I really enjoyed

Romy Kemp Liverpool University

looking at all the artefacts and history of the Wordsworth family. We also climbed a mountain to look at a waterfall and become one with nature - this blew a few city students minds who didn't grow up around greenery. I think my mind was stuck in a high school mindset because I didn't think we'd get as much free time as we did, so we were able to go and explore for ourselves. I'm so glad that I went on the trip and I definitely made some new friends as well as strengthening the friendships I already had with my mates on the trip.

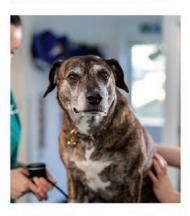
Work experience Recently I had some work experience at a rural high school in Herefordshire. I primarily wanted to do it so that I had something else to write on my CV. However, I really enjoyed it and it has honestly become a route that I'd maybe want to go down after university. I met the English department team and sat in on lessons, even helping students with work. At first, it's hard to get to grips with because the kids don't know me enough to want to ask for any help from me, but they

seemed to ask for my help pretty quickly which was good. It really brought me back to high school though but in a different light; I really enjoyed helping the students analyse poems and extracts which I didn't expect.

Although I loved writing when I was at school, picking out important parts of the language used was never my favourite because I didn't quite get to grips with it but I had so much fun helping the students grasp meaning from the texts. I think I had more fun than they did! Overall, the English department team really welcomed me and made me feel as though I had something to offer. They all had a different way of teaching, but they couldn't have done more for their students, and it is evident that there is a real sense of compassion and pride for what they do. Both teachers and students alike show respect and friendliness to all within the school community and I really enjoyed my time and I thank them for having me. It was a really insightful experience that I may pursue as a career in the future.

Preventative Health Care





info@martinandcarrvets.co.uk martinandcarrvets.co.uk Preventative health care is an important part of veterinary practice. It is a medical approach focused on maintaining good health and stopping diseases before they occur. The main way of doing this is through regular health checks for your pet with vets and nurses and keeping up to date with vaccinations. It can also include regular parasite control for both external parasites (fleas, ticks and mites) and internal parasites (gastrointestinal round- and tapeworms).

What happens at a health check?

At a routine health check the vet will perform a physical exam looking for anything out of the ordinary. Areas that are looked at include:

- Mouth checking for dental disease or other disorders
- Eyes looking for signs of aging of the lens and conditions like 'dry eye'
- . Ears and skin checking for signs of irritation or growths that can occur over time
- · Chest listening for indications of heart or lung disease
- · Abdomen feeling for any abnormalities like fluid or growths
- · Mobility are they moving around as freely as they should be

If anything of concern is found, then discussions can be had as to what the next steps could be. This might be further investigations, treatments or just monitoring.

As cats and dogs age much quicker than humans we recommend 6 monthly health checks, often an annual vaccination and health check with the vet and a visit at 6 months with the nurse.

Older animals also benefit from routine blood and urine testing and blood pressure checks. These can often detect conditions much earlier than when looking for clinical changes in your pet's health.

If your pets' vaccination has lapsed this can be quickly got back up to speed with a second 'top up' vaccine to ensure full immunity. We regularly run a Vaccination Amnesty where you can get the vaccination course for the cost of a booster vaccination if your pets' vaccines are overdue.

Best wishes Eliza

Gregory's World! Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford

Every Day is Saturday Nothing quite says looseness and a sense of freedom like a pair of baggy pants. Technically, they were 'fisherman's pants'; a pair of leaf-green pantaloons with selftie straps at the front, and a waistline generous enough to fit at least two very close friends. A sign on the changing room wall would show me in six cartoon stages how to tie these straps and avoid any unwanted reveals. Along with the pants, the receptionist at the front also handed me a light green shirt. I hadn't slipped into something so flowing and oversized since I'd performed in Macbeth back in Michaelmas. I looked in the mirror. All I needed now was a cap and feather, and my transformation into Peter Pan would've been complete. Perfect. I was ready. My mate stored our belongings in a locker - our last reminders of our former selves, of a former life marred by exam strain and exhaustion. I squeezed into a pair of flip flops and waddled out into the corridor to begin my rebirth. I was about to become a new Greg, a looser, calmer, more pliable model after exam season had left the old one hunched and desk-bound. It had long been one of my life goals to experience a Thai massage. My sauna-and-dunk-in-icy-water experience in Oslo at Christmas had been a step in the right direction. Now, finally, on Liberation Day, my first day of newfound freedom, it was happening.

Two masseuses beckoned us upstairs into a dimly lit room with a row of beds. The air was heady with the tang of tea-tree oil, lilting with a gentle piano accompaniment. My mate had done this before, so I followed his lead, perching on the end of a bed like he did, while my masseuse knelt and washed my feet (brave woman). Next, she asked me to take off my glasses and lie on my front. My nose and mouth were over a groove in the pillow so I could breathe and live to write this tale. As I began to sway into a cosy void of relaxation, my masseuse found my toes. She subjected them to the most intense round of 'This little piggy went to market' I have ever endured. Snap, crackle, pop! Up, she climbed, her fingers working away.

Originally, I thought there would be lots of back chopping. In reality, there was less chopping and more kneading. She pressed and

moulded me like a dough ball. The bed creaked – or was that my spine? Exam season preys on the spine and the head, in particular. Hour upon hour at a laptop had left me in dire need of straightening. Her thumbs found my shoulder blades and worked away at every crick. sinew and fleshy bit. Sensations rushed over me in waves, rising and falling along a scale of 'pleasant' to 'almost painful' then back to 'pleasant'. I couldn't believe it. She was so small but so strong. The head massage was a particular favourite – and sorely needed too. I flipped over, already feeling dozy. She shuffled around the bed and

particular favourite – and sorely needed too. I flipped over, already feeling dozy. She shuffled around the bed and pressed both thumbs into my forehead as if I were a brandnew Easter egg she was trying to crack into. As she rubbed my temples in rhythmic pulses, she flattened out the furrowed brow of essay concentration. I imagined long streams of memorised quotes being squeezed out of my ears, lost for good. Adios!

For the grand finale, I sat up

and crossed my legs, while she buried her kneecaps in my back, pulled my arms behind me and stretched me into a human slingshot. Stretch ... Stretch ... Click! A click deep



in my back – like a knuckle rapping on wood – and, with that, my fifty-minute session was somehow already over. Time passes differently in a Thai massage parlour. When I emerged, I was no longer waddling. My posture was lifted, my forehead relaxed and freed, and the baggy pants felt like an extension of myself. What a stranger I'd been to my body! This sounds cheesy, but I mean it literally: it turns out I have a pressure point below my right shoulder blade that makes me laugh involuntarily. And laugh, we should. Every day is Saturday, fellow reader. Exams are over, the possibilities are endless. We could do anything, go anywhere. Besides, now I'm far more flexible.

Evie's Teenage Focus

As I write this, I'm sat in my living room surrounded by my family; my cat purring on my lap as she digs her claws into me (her favourite pastime). It's been a month since I've come back home and I've fallen back into my calm and comfortable routine. The first weekend I had home (after spending time with all of my family) I deep cleaned my room whilst trying to throw away a bunch of, well anything and everything that was taking up space, either in my wardrobe, cabinets or shelves. And whilst I didn't end up chucking much out, after a bit (or a lot) of reshuffling I did get everything I needed back into my room. And soon after that, I started my new job at Costa coffee.

After going to university I had decided to leave my old job at McDonald's and had decided to try something new. And honestly, I love it so much

more than McDonald's; I had worked there for almost three years, I had made some amazing memories and friends, but it was time to move on. I still work within the same service station, I just decided to switch restaurants, but with that came a new management team, new staff, and a new menu. After going through my training, I was thrown right into the deep end, serving customers and making drinks. And surprisingly I actually really enjoy it; when I was working at my old job, I never really looked forward to it, the possibility of it being a good shift really just depended on which managers were in. But here at Costa everyone is just so lovely. And this theme goes into the customers as well; what really surprised me was difference between the customers at McDonalds and Costa even though they are all

in the same building, at McDonalds we would have customers fighting on the floor, velling at people and just being incredibly disrespectful to other people and staff, but at Costa everyone is just really lovely, and I think that's probably why it's so much more enjoyable than McDonalds. But as exciting as my new job is, that's not all I've been up to! I've met up with a couple of friends sometimes for coffee and other times for a Movie and lunch, me and Daisy recently saw the new how to train your dragon movie, and whilst it is essentially a shot for shot remake of the original one it was still really good. As well as that later this week we are taking a trip to London to BST Hyde park to see Olivia Roderigo perform, along with a few other people I'm really excited about seeing, such as The Last Dinner Party who I



Evie Aubin Oxford Brookes University

had tickets to see last year but the concert had been cancelled so I never got to go, as well as girl in red and others. And then I'll be going again a week later to see Noah Kahan and Gracie Abrams who I have mentioned time and time again. So, I'll tell you all about them next month; until then, toodles!

Worcester Podiatry now pleased to offer an extensive Physiotherapy service

Worcester Podiatry, based in St John's, are excited to be expanding their clinic space into 27 Bransford Road, as well as the current premises at number 23. This increased space will allow for a Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation clinic, which will allow us to offer patients immediate treatment and solutions, as well as longerterm strength and fitness plans, delivered in a private, one-toone medical environment. Meet our new Lead Physiotherapist;

"Hi, I'm Richie — a UK-trained physiotherapist with over eight years of clinical experience in both the NHS and private sectors. I completed my MSc in Rehabilitation Science at the University of Brighton after earning a BSc in Exercise and Sport Science from the University of Exeter.

I've worked in hospitals across Kent and Essex, specialising in trauma and orthopaedics before shifting my focus to musculoskeletal physiotherapy.

I help clients recover from joint surgeries, particularly hip and knee, manage sports injuries, and get back to doing what they love.

I'm qualified in acupuncture (AAĈP) and hydrotherapy (ATACP), and I'm a big proponent of strengthening exercises in my physiotherapy approach. I believe physiotherapy should leave you stronger and better than when you first saw me — not just simply recovered or healed. I've worked with a wide range of clients, from those with back or neck pain, those recovering from hip and lower limb surgery to young athletes and marathon runners and people with Scoliosis, Bell's palsy, and desk-based jobs.

desk-based jobs.
Outside of the clinic, I'm usually in the gym or looking for a good coffee spot. I'm currently working back toward a 200kg squat and planning further studies. I speak English, Cantonese, and Mandarin, and I'm committed to helping every patient feel informed, confident, and supported throughout their recovery journey."

Common conditions we treat

- Joint or muscle pain (e.g. back, hip, knee, shoulder, neck)
- Sciatica

CANCER

- Recovery following surgery or injury
- Sports injuries and overuse

conditions

- Tendon issues, such as Achilles or patellar tendinopathy
- Arthritis-related pain and stiffness
- Postural or workplace-related discomfort
- Balance or mobility difficulties What to Expect at Your Appointment

Your initial appointment will include:

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- · A clear explanation of what may be contributing to your pain
- A personalised treatment plan, which may include:
- Hands-on techniques
- Exercise therapy
- Postural or movement advice
- Guidance on managing flareups and staying active
- Longer-term, preventative, strengthening plans
 We focus not only on treating pain but on helping you understand your body and build confidence in your recovery.
 Why choose Physiotherapy at Worcester Podiatry?
- Whole-body approach We look at how different parts of the body work together, not just

where the pain is

- Lower limb expertise With podiatrists and physiotherapists working closely together, we offer in-depth care for feet, legs, and movement
- Tailored to you Everything we recommend is based on your lifestyle, goals, and preferences
- Experienced, friendly team We take time to listen and work with you, not just treat symptoms

Book your appointment Whether you're in pain, recovering from injury, or wanting to move better day to day, physiotherapy can help. Book your appointment today and take the next step towards better movement and less pain. Our podiatry clinics continue to offer treatments for Planter Fasciitis, Ingrown Toenails, Diabetic Foot Conditions, Verrucaes & Warts, Athlete's Foot, as well as routine care, wound care, Corns, Calluses & Bunions.

Richie's diary is now open to book an appointment online. www.worcesterpodiatryand lasercentre.co.uk





painting, that Susan produced for the Pershore Times.

The articles are of a very high quality, each one is different and a joy to read.

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Planning for your business | Are you protected?

Carol Draper

If you are starting up in business, it is likely you will need a business plan in order to apply for a bank account or financing. An initial plan will detail the structure of the business and what it is being set up to do, its customer base, anticipated turnover and profit, and plans for growth.

It is easy to get caught up in what ought to be included in a business plan and how to make the figures work. However, as a business owner, whether you are a sole trader or large company the important thing is to plan for your business. Forget the headings and take time to consider what you want to achieve and what is important to you. Having decided, you can then look at what needs to be done to reach those goals.

Planning is an ongoing process and should not just happen at the beginning. There is no wrong answer and as circumstances change, your plans are allowed to change

There is the tendency to think everything must relate to profit and tax but that can become very limiting. While profit is the end result, businesses comprise people, products, systems and values and any plans should relate to them. I took over at Clifton-Crick



Sharp a year ago. I was conscious that in our business the way the offices are set up means staff are split up from each other on different floors. This makes communication more difficult and has left some feeling isolated. My ideal when I took over was to have all staff on the same floor, closer together and more able to discuss issues and learn from each other. The situation has now arisen which will allow that to happen. While there is no guarantee it will work, I anticipate the whole team will grow and develop leading to increased job satisfaction and better work outputs all of which should be reflected in the bottom line.

Planning for your business allows you to be in control rather than events controlling you so if you don't already, why not give it a go.

Carol Draper FCCA Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co ltd

"Unless commitment is made, there are only promises and hopes; but no plans."

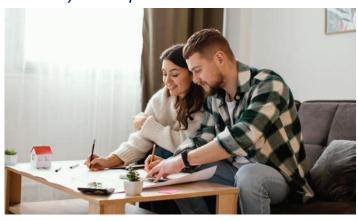
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Fossils Cricket Team 30th year celebration match

The Fossils cricket team played an inter-club match on Sunday 15th June 2025, exactly 30 years to the day since their very first game on 15th June 1995. The result was the same - a win for the Presidents team. The Fossils batted first and scored 159 runs in 35 overs. Rob Miles, Dave Mills and

Dave Turner all scored 35 runs, then retired not out. The Presidents team scored 162

for 8 in 34.1 overs, with Kevin Gilbert making his 35 before being bowled by Cliff Rawlings. Paul Wells, Simon Hudson and Malcolm Jones also scored their 35 runs before they retired not out. Pick of

The Fossils bowlers was Cliff Rawlings who took 4 wickets. The Presidents team won by 4 wickets.

Over 50 people attended the match, including 4 of the original players from the match in 1995. Two of them - John Reynolds and John Banner both played aged 83 years

young. The other 2 were Tony Neel aged 93 and Geoff White aged 81.

An excellent day ended with the cutting of a beautiful birthday cake and a draw for Acorns Children's Hospice raising £100.

John Reynolds Founder &President, Fossils CC



Diaries of Sir George Dowty event

Shown below are the attendees at the Worcestershire County Cricket Club on the 9th June at an event to launch the book containing the Diaries of Sir George Dowty- sometime President of the club in their Championship winning sides in the 1960s.

Four Mayors attend with their consorts giving an indication of the respect Sir George Dowty is still held in 50 years after his passing.

George Dowty's son spoke of his recollections of those heady Championship winning years when he accompanied his father to the ground. The Dowty News for September 1964 captures the time well as it records -

Champions:

Sir George Dowty, President of the Worcestershire County Cricket Club, is overjoyed at the first County Championship for his team in their centenary year, defeating Warwickshire at Edgbaston and noting also that the wicket keeper, Roy Booth works at Dowty Seals in

Ashchurch during the close season.

It was most poignant that the lady, who served as Sir George Dowty's secretary from 1970 until his passing in 1975, Caroline Flippance, and had edited his diaries for publication was presented with an inscribed goblet by Sir George Dowty's son. The Dowty Group acquired the Worcester based mining engineers Meco in 1969 and a grandson of Mr Mark Higgins,

who was the Meco chairman at

the time of the acquisition, spoke of his memories. Adrian (Viscount) Buckmaster who led the Dowty Mining Division during the 1980s completed the story telling of the ultimate acquisition of Meco by Japanese interests. The erection of a statue of Sir George Dowty in 2024 now followed by the publication of his diaries, covering the years 1919 until 1975, gives fitting recognition to one of Worcestershire's finest sons.

Martin Robins



Photographs by a Worcester based photographer Phil Harrison.

Peter Jewell, Resolve Law

From the Boundary @



As I said last month the weather plays into Worcestershire's hands. Warwickshire had they looked at the met forecast would have realised the impending weather. Worcestershire with the fluke draw are firmly stuck to the bottom of the Division One. In the first round of the T20 Worcestershire lost to struggling Lancashire who are one point from the bottom of Division Two. Things have picked up with two wins that have Worcestershire mid table but the next game against Warwickshire will see them either in the ascent or not. I met up with my old friend Barry Richards, who I knew from my Natal days. What would have world cricket seen from the like of Graeme Pollock, Mike Proctor and Barry Richards had South Africa not been isolated. Barry's Record saw him play only four tests against Australia with an average of 72.57 his first-class career including

mainly Natal and Hampshire, with an average of 54.74. England beat Zimbabwe and so they should. Zim. used to be a reasonable force in Cricket but sadly not now. England then played the West Indies at Edgbaston. What a performance, but again the West Indies are struggling. It is sad to see a once great and best in the world country fall to the lows at present. Speaking to Dessie Haynes and Collis King put this down to the islands infighting and other interests of the youngsters. Look at Welsh Rugby in the late 60's and early 70's no one could touch Wales. However, with the collapse of coal mining all the mine club sides disappeared. Well, the Local elections are over and we wait to see what next. The County Council has some serious financial difficulties. If there is not to be a cut in services, then they must undertake a forensic audit of all procurement

and contracts. I suspect that there is bad management. The latest news is that the Littleton's election result which was a draw is headed for the High Court. The Green Party win on the toss of a coin could be overturned or a re-run. I will not amplify the evidence as the matter is subjudice Starmer, spoke to the people a few days ago and really looked stupid. Half rolled up shirt sleeves instead of a suit and tie. Yes, we heard again for the 18th time that his father was a tool maker and mother worked in the NHS, so what, good jobs but what has that got to do with running the country and spending more time going around the EU, driving Britain back into the EU. He has allowed foreign fishing back into our waters and has cemented the ECHR. Our courts should be supreme. Starmer is considering lifting the two-child cap and may allow people to marry their

cousins, that is not only medically wrong it is disgusting. Jo Swinney wants to cull the cattle in Scotland to help global warming. What is with the politicians are they all that stupid. Labour are a dead duck the Conservatives have become impotent, they have had it! A third of the Tory vote want to in Reform a third want to be Liberals and the other third run around like headless chickens. The Greens and Liberals, Well I am sorry the mufty flufty world is not real. So, what of Reform? So far, they have not really put a foot wrong and have some good people, but soon the proof of the pudding will be in the eating. They cannot be worse. Labour will hang on for dear life for the next four years God help us and don't blame me I did not vote for them. My articles are becoming more controversial, please write to the editor and have your say. It is still a free country (just).

A view from the Middle

My dear readers, I had been so looking forward to regaling you all with tales of swashbuckling half centuries and hatfuls of wickets. However, soon after the first win I told you about last month, my cricketing world came shattering down with the onset of a knee ligament injury, ruling me out for the entire season. It has been a topsytury, difficult, but illuminating few weeks since.

The initial reaction to such a long-term enforced absence was disbelief followed very quickly by despair. I went through all the stages of grief, including anger at the pitch, my shoes, techniques, anything that

might have contributed to the injury, as well as bargaining with the medical professionals about how I could get back playing sooner. (This was incredibly unrealistic given that at first, I couldn't even climb up stairs or drive a car given the leg movements required!) With the support of friends and family, I eventually landed on acceptance and reframed my absence from the playing field into availability to do other things. I have found myself more able to spend time with friends who had not really expected to see me during the cricket season. I've been catching up on my reading.

And I've been able to fill the cricket void by coaching children at school and clubs around Worcestershire. It is a great joy to be about to pass on my knowledge - although I have to be careful how animated I get during demonstrations and often have to ask a player to do if. And I've discovered a far greater sense of satisfaction when a player puts something, I told them into practice than most this I ever achieved while playing. I'm very happy now to be engaged in something which will keep me involved in the sport long after my knees give up...which may be sooner rather than later!

Another good thing about the injury is that the mental



rollercoaster I went through inspired me to enrol on a sports psychology course for the next academic year. Hopefully, it will help me become better equipped to deal with any injuries that come my way as well as any suffered by the players I coach. And, of course, if I learn anything interesting, I'll tell you all about it!

Thoughts from the Snug...

All serious stuff.

In these troubled times it is usual for government agencies to warn the general public about levels of threat. The recent Covid Epidemic comes to mind. However, other threats to the public at large also exist including other epidemics, floods droughts, forest fires terror and cyberattacks, civil unrest, plus the possibility of aggression from another power. Government agencies will issue threat levels at high, medium and low risks or red, amber yellow and green.

In re-calling our Covid experiences we discussed the value of re-labelling the threat levels to a less vague and abstract sounding stages, but which certainly convey concern, but also embody a more British 'Stoic', 'Keep Calm' attitude. For example, the first is acknowledged as a 'Tiresome' level, next a 'Rather Irritating' stage and finally a 'Bloody Nuisance' level. One member of the Snug claimed the 'Bloody

Nuisance' phase was last

Don't panic, we're British!

reached in the 1940s Blitz when tea rations became scarce. More violent threats could be staged at; 1)'Miffed', 2) 'Cheesed off', 3) 'Irritated', and 4) a 'Bit Cross'. Apparently, Sir Francis Drake was a 'bit cross' when he had to abandon his game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe when the Spanish Armada was spotted in 1588.

An Australian visitor to the Snug offered some alert levels from down under: I) 'No worries',
2) 'She'll be alright, Mate' and

for the escalated higher levels 3) 'I think we may need to cancel the Barbi this weekend', finally, 4) 'The Barbi is cancelled', It is said this final escalation phase has never been used in our second largest colony. Nice to see the Australians have inherited some of our Britishness. Delightful! Let's hope we avoid the higher levels of escalations like our Commonwealth cousins.

Buddy Bach

Pershore River Festival 2025 -Saturday 19th July 10am - 4pm



The theme of this year's Pershore River Festival, to be held on July 19th, is "Rock the Avon (don't wreck the Avon)". "So much has been written about pollution of our rivers, we want everyone at the Festival to recognise that we must all help to keep our river alive. The Avon is a vital part of Pershore's environment for wildlife as much as for people. We must hold the river in trust for future generations." Organisers have written a song to emphasise the importance of the river to wildlife and to the town. It will be performed at the Festival and everyone can join in!

The River Festival is a free event for all ages. It has become a staple part of Pershore's annual calendar, raising funds for Pershore Riverside Youth Centre. Attractions on the river include a Bell Boat Regatta organised by Andy Train of Fladbury with races for community teams, including the Wychavon Parish Games. Avon Navigation Trust will have their floating Waterways Centre on site and there will be Boat Trips on MV "Princess Marina" and MV "Corsair". The Marine

Volunteer Service will entertain too. Other attractions on the river include stand-up paddleboards and try-it sessions in canoes and kayaks, organised by Wychavon Kayak and Canoe Club, based at the Riverside Youth Centre.

On land will be stalls for food, craft and

charities, plus a craft fair, inflatable assault course for children and mad Sumo Wrestling. Children's football and short tennis activities will feature and we hope to have displays by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and guided tours of Avon Meadows Community Wetland.

And of course a raffle with generous prizes, with all profits going to the Riverside Centre.

Refreshments will be provided at the Riverside Centre with generous donations of cakes and scones from Pershore WI and friends and family. Hot food is available from Pershore Football Club.

Entertainment includes no fewer than 14 different musical acts throughout the day.

All details are available in the free programme, available shortly.

organised by Paula Evans.

Quiet music
for a Summer Afternoon
A concert of light classical music
Joanne Jefferis & Mike Elden
'Cello & Piano
Sunday 10th August at 3.00pm



Followed by refreshments Free entry with donations to Church funds & Mentorlink

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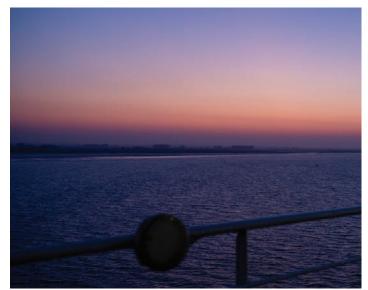
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Brian Johnson-Thomas

Declarations and Peregrinations



After his calamitous defeat at Worcester in 1651 King Charles fled for his life to the Continent where he stayed more or less in poverty for the best part of a decade. However the British people did not take kindly to government by a strong man and after the death of Cromwell there were calls for King Charles to return. The immediate consequence was a very British fudge known to posterity as the Declaration of Breda whereby in exchange for getting his throne back Charles promised to let bygones be bygones, issuing general pardons all round and retrospectively legalising all that had gone before.

So when it came to fixing a rendezvous for lunch with an old Dutch colleague Breda came to mind. It's a pleasant city, about the size of Worcester I guess, in the extreme south of the Netherlands close to the border with Belgium. We travelled there on a ferry from Hull to Rotterdam, from whose Central Station it's just 22 minutes on a high-speed line to Breda. The advantage of the ferry is that P&O, who operate that route, offer mini cruises at bargain prices starting at £105 per person for two nights' there and back, sharing an ensuite cabin. They add to that the connecting bus from the port to the railway station, giving a



pretty seamless journey. It's a twelve hour overnight journey each way but there's plenty to entertain us with everything from a casino to a disco. They also have a variety of eating and drinking options, we had an excellent all a carte meal in the Brasserie which would stand comparison with any upmarket restaurant anywhere.

Not only that but the staff were so helpful – I'm waiting for a new knee and so have a little temporary difficulty carrying baggage – but we were helped on and off and every step of the way. Nothing was too much trouble and they anticipated all our needs.

Not just us, either – we saw several 'wrinklies' like us and a lady with a small baby get the same VIP treatment.

I've travelled quite a lot in my life but the P&O service this week was easily as excellent as, say, Business Class on Emirates – and I used to really enjoy that as well!

See www.poferries.com for more information.

As I write this we're still on the road, enjoying a few days in Lincolnshire, a County which perhaps we tend to overlook, but we will be home in time for the next offering of the Longborough Festival Opera.



Debussy's enigmatic Pelleas et Melisande (playing on various dates until July 10th). More of that anon. However we really did enjoy Rossini's Barber of Seville (again playing on various dates until July 13th. Henry Neill played a superb Figaro and I was also very taken with Lauren Young's take on Rosina, (not to mention the topical

musical joke played with her name). My only slight regret is that the scenery shifters, an entire comic act in their own right, doing an essential task with humour and panache, didn't get a curtain call....
This year's season will end with Purcell's Dido and Aeneas which will be staged from the 26th of this month until the 2nd



of August and, as is now traditional, will gave a platform to the Emerging Artists of this year.

See www.lfo.org for details.

Also that weekend of the 26th will see a Diesel Gala on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway which runs from Broadway down to

Cheltenham racecourse. *See www.gwsr.com for details.*

(Since I vividly recall School trips by steam haulage the idea of 'vintage' diesel trains still seems a little strange to me, since I recall their introduction so vividly!)

Ah well, tempus fugit.....





150th anniversary of the birth of William Henry

This July marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Henry ("Billy") Reed, a name perhaps known now only to lovers of Elgar's music but an important figure in the history of the Three Choirs Festival. Reed was born in Frome in Somerset into a musical family and soon showed talent on the violin. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music, and within a few years was a member of the Queen's Hall Orchestra, founded by Henry Wood to perform at the newly established Promenade Concerts. As well as a performer, Reed had some considerable success as a composer, having several works played at the Proms in the early years of the century. In 1901, he was appointed Leader of the Gloucester Orchestral Society, playing and teaching at centres throughout the county, and thus began a relationship with the Three Choirs Festival which continued throughout his life. At the 1905 Worcester Festival, Elgar was presented with the Freedom of Worcester, and Reed

was amongst the crowd lining the High Street from the Guildhall to the Cathedral. Elgar sought Reed's help when piecing together his ideas for his Violin Concerto, and a close friendship was formed which continued until Elgar's death in 1934. The 1939 Three Choirs was due to begin in Hereford on September 3rd, the day war was declared, and the festival was cancelled. Undeterred, Reed packed his fiddle and travelled to Hereford to play a short solo during morning service at the Cathedral – he had played at every festival since 1902 and was not to be put off by a little thing like war! It was to be his last Three Choirs, as he died suddenly in July 1942 whilst adjudicating in Scotland. His ashes were interred close to the Elgar window in Worcester Cathedral.







Tuesday 15th July at 2pm "Healthy Ageing - is it possible & how?"

With Professor Janet Lord, who has researched and published extensively on this topic, renowned both academically and in popular culture

No meeting in August

Tuesday 16th September at 2pm
Inside the mind of a cryptic crossword setter...

With Mark Hartshorne, known as "PostMark" in his crossword life, delving into the world of words.

All welcome, including non-members

Meetings held at Number 8, High Street, Pershore
For more details, contact Sally Whyte Speaker Coordinator on
email: u3apershoresally@gmail.com
www.pershore.u3asite.uk



Peter Farrall

Jazz News

We're having a rollercoaster of events at Pershore Jazz during spring and summer with capacity audiences at every monthly club night. In May, Sarah Spenser's Sax and Bone Band transported us to Preservation Hall in New Orleans and by the time this is published, we will have enjoyed red hot Dixieland jazz by DixieMix from Norfolk. And now, as they say, something completely different; July will see the newly formed Emily Masser/Alex Clarke Quintette. Emily and Alex are two personable young ladies whose mutual love of traditional and mainstream jazz drew them together and generated the idea for this exciting new project. Alex is well known and loved by Pershore fans ever since her first public appearance as a fifteen-year-old at the 2015 Pershore Jazz Festival. Since then, she has become a much sought after performer on the jazz scene being voted Rising Star in the British Jazz Awards 2019 and finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2020. She leads her own quartet and is also much in demand as a featured star in many other prestigious bands. Emily Masser is perhaps not such a well-known name at Pershore Jazz Club but that is certain to change when we've experienced the talent of this twenty-one-year-old from Wigan. Emily is currently

studying at London's Guildhall School of Music and is already being hailed as the next rising star of jazz by audience, musicians and critics alike. She was featured on the Clarke Tracy Quintette album "Introducing Emily Masser" and has recently released an album of her own, "Songs with my Father" on which she is joined by her dad, top bebop saxophonist Dean Masser. Enjoy swinging arrangements of the Great American Songbook and mainstream jazz with perhaps a little Bossa Nova thrown in.

Emily Masser: vocals, Alex Clarke: saxophones, Tom Kincaid: piano, Mike Green: bass, Gaz Hughes: drums.

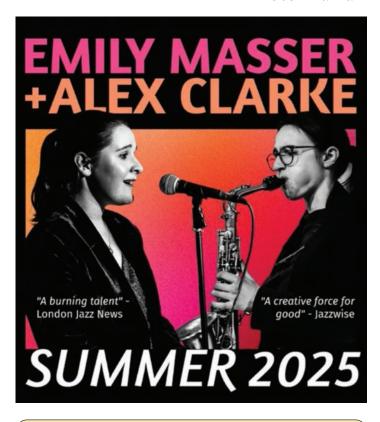
Don't forget!

"Pershore Jazz on a Summer's Day" which this year is full of Kings, Dukes, Counts, Earls, Queens and Ladies. A who's who of jazz royalty where you can learn how these jazz legends got their names and hear the timeless music they produced.

Saturday 9th August 2.00 – 10.30 pm at Number 8, with a break 5 – 7.30

One ticket covers the whole day.

Book an early evening meal at one of Pershore's prestigious restaurants to complete your day of classic jazz! Tickets: 01386 555488 online at number8.org or in person at the Box Office



Emily Masser + Alex Clarke Quintette

Wednesday 30th July 2025

Doors open at 7.00pm music at 8
In the Function Room, Pershore Football Club
Admission £12.50 to include a raffle ticket
Book in advance and pay on arrival
email: club@pershorejazz.org.uk tel: 01527 66692
find us on Facebook

Music Matters

Steve Ide

Music rivalries

There have been some classic rivalries in music, Oasis vs Blur, Hendrix vs Clapton, Oasis vs Radiohead, The Beatles vs The Stones, Biggie vs Tupac, Oasis vs Pulp, The Clash vs The Pistols and Oasis vs Oasis. More recently, the diss track has become a favorite of Hop Hop artists wanting to air their grievances. Drake's Family Matters is part of a long-term disagreement with Kendrick Lamar and Lauren Hill's Lost Ones is a savage dig at exboyfriend Wyclef Jean These disagreements can come from artistic differences, financial issues or love triangles. Some are manufactured to sell records, but some come from a genuine

dislike of each other and their music. Sometimes mutual respect and even friendship were part of the relationship. Rivalries are part of the entertainment of music and feed into the often-tribal nature that music can have. When you have creative people with massive egos, falling outs are part of the business. So pick a side and enjoy the fun, these squabbles have produced some truly hilarious moments and some fabulous songs. And most of all, we thank the Gallagher brothers for their consistently cutting and funny insults to everyone.

Notable new releases All Asimov and No Fresh Air by Half Man Half Biscuit

The boys from Birkenhead

return with their usual satirical take on British life, where else can you find songs about the history of Raw Plugs and a detective solving crimes with his chickens?

Lotus by Little Simz
This feels like a very personal album. Little Simz hits the mark with this raw release, in places it's a dark album, but she also brings the sunlight.

More by Pulp
Pulp Pulp returns after 24 years away to show they've lost none of the wit and wisdom of previous years as they reflect on the new England they find themselves in.

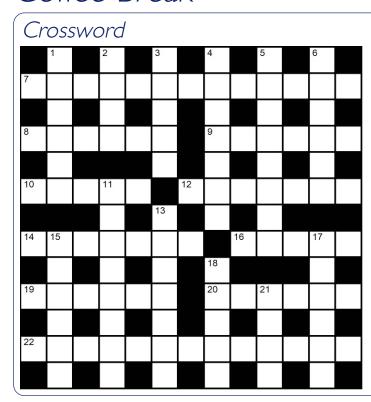
Add to playlist

Connected by Love by Jack White Rapture by Blondie Soul School by Cornershop Where's me jumper by The Sultans of Ping Ingrid Bergman by Billy Bragg



XVIII

Coffee Break



Across

- 7 Conclusively (4,3,3,3)
- 8 A mix of living tissue and machinery (6)
- 9 One or the other of two (6)
- 10 Eat like a king (5)
- 12 Having an interesting past (7)
- 14 Combat area (3,4)
- 16 Seaport in NW Israel (5)
- 19 Spanish fleet (6)
- 20 Walk softly (6)
- 22 Computer messaging system (8,5)

Down

- I Salad green (6)
- 2 Maidenhair, for example (4)
- 3 Pass into law (5)
- 4 Consequences (7)
- 5 Standards of judgment (8)
- 6 Arm cover (6)
- 11 Fairly large (8)
- 13 Dredge up (7)
- 15 Kind of airliner (6)
- 17 Baffles (6)
- 18 Performed terribly (5)
- 21 Career golfers (4)

Sudoku Each row and column must contain the numbers from one to nine, without repetitions.																										
8		5	9		3		7					2			4		3			2	7					6
6	7	9						5	9				7		1			8		4						
		2			7												5					4	8		1	
			3			6	2	1		8			4	9	6		7				8			6	7	
												1		7							6		9			
9	8	1			5				2		7	8	6			5			9	5			2			
			8			1			4										6		3	8				
5						8	3	7			8		9				6							5		7
	6		7		4	5		2	1		5			6				1					6	8		

Films Wordsearch

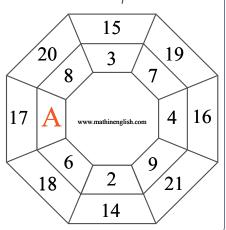


AMADEUS ARGO BABEL **BASOC** BE COOL BIG **BOBBY CARS CON AIR CRASH** E.T. **GANDHI GHOST HEAT HERO**

HOOK I, ROBOT JUNO **ONCE RAY RED EYE RUMBLE FISH** SAW SHINE **TANK TROY** TRUE GRIT UP WALL E ZOOM

Brainteaser

What I digit number replaces A in this puzzle



Poets' Corner

XLVII The Carpenter's Son

"Here the hangman stops his cart: Now the best of friends must part. Fare you well, for ill fare I: Live, lads, and I will die."

"Oh, at home had I but stayed 'Prenticed to my father's trade, Had I stuck to plane and adze, I had not been lost, my lads."

"Then I might have built perhaps Gallows-trees for other chaps, Never dangled on my own, Had I but left ill alone."

"Now, you see, they hang me high, And the people passing by Stop to shake their fists and curse; So 'tis come from ill to worse."

"Here hang I, and right and left
Two poor fellows hang for theft:
All the same's the luck we prove,
Though the midmost hangs for love."

"Comrades all, that stand and gaze, Walk henceforth in other ways; See my neck and save your own: Comrades all, leave ill alone."

"Make some day a decent end, Shrewder fellows than your friend. Fare you well, for ill fare I: Live, lads, and I will die."

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Quiz!

- 1) The War of the Roses was ended when Lancastrian forces defeated Yorkist supporters in the final battle of the war. In which county did the final battle take place?
- 2) In June 1936, Gone With the Wind was first published. Who was the author?
- 3) In 1913, Emily Davison a women's suffrage activist was fatally injured. How?
- 4) In 1883 the train line that is identified with intrigue and luxury travel started operations. What is it called?
- 5) On 15th June 1215 which significant document was signed by King John limiting the power of the monarchy
- 6) In June 1949 George Orwell published his political novel of life under a totalitarian government. What was it called?
- 7) In 1862, General Stonewall Jackson concluded his Shenandoah Valley Campaign. In which war?

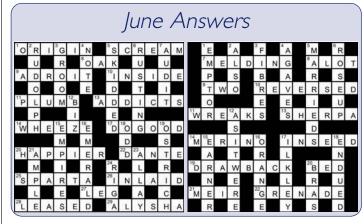
- 8) The first Boat race held on the Thames between Oxford and Cambridge took place in June of which year. Was it a) 1829 b) 1849 c) 1869
- 9) On her birthday, in 1942, Anne Frank began keeping a diary. How old was she?
- 10) In 1894 an international congress in Paris founded the International Olympic Committee to reinstate the ancient Olympic Games. Who led the committee?
- 11) Alexander Graham Bell was granted a patent for the 'telephone' in which year?
 a) 1836 b) 1856 c) 1876
- 12) American pharmacist and chemist Wilbur Scoville died in march 1942, but what is he best remembered for?
- 13) In March 1910 frenchwoman Raymonde de Laroche, became the first female to obtain a licence to do what?
- 14) James Earl Ray pleaded guilty in march 1969 to assassinating who?

Answers: 1) Nottinghamshire 2) Margaret Mitchell 3) Trampled by King George V's horse at 14) Martin Luther King

14) Martin Derby, 4) The Orient Express 5) Magna Carta 6) Vineteen Eighty-Jour

15) Creating the 'Scoville Scale' for measuring the heat of chillies 13) Fly a plane

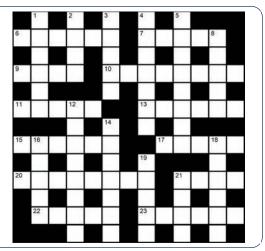
16) Martin Luther King



July Brainteaser:The number is δ

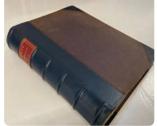
Anagram Crossword

Across Down 6 Heater (6) I Worker (6) 7 Trove (5) 2 Bone (2,2) 9 Owns (4) 3 Karts (5) 10 Trailers (8) 4 Magneto (7) 11 So - yak! (5) 5 Wine bars (8) 13 Danger (6) 8 Tilde (5) 15 Phases (1-5) 12 Layering (8) 17 Orcas (5) 14 Deforms (7) 20 Reels off (5,3) 16 Wells (5) 21 Diet (4) 18 Saddle (6) 22 Elton (5) 19 Parts (5) 23 Specie (6) 21 Meth (4)



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> Copy Deadline for August Issue - 21st July 2025

The Vale Golf Club Seniors Team Open Results

On Wednesday 21st May 124 players in 31 teams representing 31 clubs from the Midlands area including Hagley GC, Cotswold Hills GC, Sutton Coldfield GC, Puckrup Hall GC, Cleobury Mortimer GC, and Worcester Golf & Country Club, competed in the Vale Seniors Team Open (AM/AM). The format was a 4-ball better ball Stableford competition with 2 scores to count played on the 18-hole International Course. Our appreciation goes to P J Nicholls Ltd, Pershore's local KGM car dealership, for their generous sponsorship of the event including prizes for the team in first place, a putting competition and top prize in the raffle which raised the sum of £638 towards this year's Captains Charity, the Evesham and District Meeting Centre which helps members of the Meeting Centre Support Programme to live well with dementia. The results were;

Andrew Watson, Jonathan Rowe, Garth Tozer & Jim Syncox (Lilleshall Hall GC) 2nd Ian Macrae, Andy Vale, David Kent & Earle Andrews (The Vale & Worcester GCs) Chris Kerridge, Geoff Mace, Mark Butler & Robin Leach (Cotswold Hills GC) Peter Azizi, Will Reading, Nigel Smith & Alistair Rowley (The Vale GC) Graham Lloyd, Eric Rookledge, Andrew Chambers, & Dave Jones (Leominster GC) Nearest the pin on 5th hole was Phil Murphy (Handsworth GC) and nearest the pin on 17th hole in two shots was Rob Sharp (The Vale GC). Winner of the raffle was Peter Richards (The Vale GC). There were 19 winners of the Twos



Future Events Seniors Pairs Open -Weds 2nd July 2025

Seniors Team Open Texas Scramble -Weds 17th September 2025

For further information please see on Golf Empire or contact the Open Secretary, David Hamilton on 07712 165249 or via email at: davie5@live.co.uk

Spot & Shop - June Winners

- 1) Margaret Duffy
- 2) Steve Church
- 3) Mary Dexter
- 4) Joanna Baines

This

month's

anagram

ACHIEVING

LANDLINES

RENASCENCES

- 5) Ann Bradley
- 6) Carol Griffiths
- 7) James Thorp

Last month's answer: Bits and Bobs Antiques



Competition!

Winners from Lilleshall Hall GC with Bryn Keast (centre in blazer), the Vale Seniors Captain, and and Raffle winner Peter Richards (the Vale GC) with Jacob Scott of P J Nicholls Ltd

Part Time Girl Friday

To help with a variety of tasks including

a Litter of puppies in July IT knowledge important the home of a retired teacher

Tel: 01905 360767

email: margrethallmark64@gmail.com

ML	OM	IPE	TI	TI	Ol	V.	ΤI	1
SPOT	 Take	a lo	ok o	at t	he	ana	gro	าท

The answer is the name of a business that is advertising in the Pershore Times this month

Ist - £50 cash 2nd - £25 cash

This month's prizes!

1E!

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 -

|ar of home-made marmalade/jam

Complete and return this form or email: news@hughes.company for your chance to win!

Pershore Times closing date: 25th July 2025

Answer:

Name:

Telephone/email:

Return to: Hughes & Company/Pershore Times 8 Church Street, Pershore Worcestershire WRIO IDT



Cooks Hill, Wick A STUNNING HOME IN AN EXCLUSIVE GATED DEVELOPMENT OF JUST FIVE BARN CONVERSIONS

Four-bedroom, three-bathroom home; further reception room, a shower room and utility room. Rear garden/patio, car port and workshop. Tenure: Freehold EPC: B Council Tax: F

Asking Price: £850,000



Allesbrough Barns, Pershore GRADE II LISTED BARN CONVERSION

Sitting room with floor to ceiling windows/French doors to the South facing garden. Open plan kitchen/dining/family room. Three double bedrooms, master en-suite, family bathroom. Tenure: Freehold EPC: C Council Tax: F

Asking Price: £600,000



Pardoe Drive, Pershore THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME

Entrance hall; dual aspect living room/French doors to garden Kitchen/dining room; utility room with cloakroom; master bedroom en-suite. Detached garage and parking. Tenure: Freehold EPC: B Council Tax: D

Offers In Excess Of: £360,000



High Street, Pershore THREE BEDROOM, THREE STOREY TOWN HOUSE

Entrance Hall with w.c.; lounge; dining room; kitchen with French doors to garden; master bedroom en-suite. Family bathroom. Low maintenance rear garden. No onward chain. Tenure: Freehold EPC: C Council Tax: C

Asking Price: £315,000

Pershore 23 High Street 01386 556506



Evesham 1 Port Street 01386 556506



Goldfinch Rise, Pershore TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

Entrance hall; cloakroom; kitchen; living/dining room leading to garden. Two bedrooms- one en-suite and a separate bathroom. Driveway for two vehicles. NHBC guaranteed.

Tenure: Freehold EPC: B Council Tax: C

Asking Price: £250,000



High Street, Pershore TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM END TERRACE

Entrance hall; lounge; kitchen, a pantry/dining room opens to courtyard. First floor two double bedrooms and a new fitted bathroom. Permit parking available.

Tenure: Freehold EPC: C Council Tax: B

Asking Price: £250,000

www.nigelpooleestateagents.co.uk

July & August What's on

Tues 1st July Death Café

The Angel Inn Hotel, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Wed 2nd July Board Gaming Night

Pickled Plum Pub, 7:00pm

Thu 3rd July Coffee Morning by Local Charity-

Campden Home Nursing, Town Hall, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Pershore Heritage and History Society Talk

"An Archdeacon's View on the buildings which have influenced him" Pershore Library, 7:00pm

Fri 4th July Brass and Bubbles

Paul's of Pershore, 7.30pm — 9.30pm

Summer of Music - Frazer Lepford

The Angel Inn Hotel, 7:00pm – 9.30pm

Hidden Powers -Angus Baskerville Magic

Pershore Town Hall 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Sat 5th July Broad Street Market

Broad Street, Pershore 9:00am — 2:00pm

Midsummer Brass

4 Venues: Pershore Abbey, The Angel Inn Hotel, Rivers Leisure Centre, St Andrews Gardens, 10:00am – 10:00pm

Sun 6th July Think & Drink Charity Quiz Night

Claude Choules, 7:00pm

Mon 7th July Griff & Friends Jam session

Pershore Football Club 7:30pm — 10:30pm

Tues 8th July lan's Acoustic Jam Night

Pershore Naval & Social Club, 7:00pm

Fri 1 I th July Friday Film Club

Pershore Library, 2pm

Fri I Ith July

Summer of Music - Mark Walby

Angel Inn Hotel, 7pm – 9.30pm

Sat 12th July

"The Mix-Tape Concert Live!"

by Worcester Male Voice Choir, Pershore Abbey, 7:00pm

Foyer Folk – Wychwood Trio Number 8, 8:00pm

Sat 13th July

Chandos Symphony Orchestra Concert

Pershore Abbey, 3pm - 5pm

Tues 15th July u3a Monthly Talk -

"Healthy Ageing- is it possible and how?"

Number 8, 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Folk Night

Sports & Social Club, 7:00pm

Thu 17th

Sip & Sketch

Number 8, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Fri 18th July

Summer of Music – Andy Robbins

Andy Robbins

Angel Inn Hotel, 7pm – 9.30pm

Sat 19th July

Pershore River Festival

Pershore Riverside Centre, 10:00am – 4:00pm

Wine by the Water

Paul's of Pershore, 7.30pm – 9:30pm

Wed 23rd July

Craft & Chat

St Andrews Centre, 2pm - 3.30pm

The Bookshop BandNumber 8, 7.30pm

Thurs 24th July

French Language Café
Followed by French Film,
The Marching Band

Number 8, 6.30pm

Fri 25th July

Friday Film Club
Pershore Library, 2pm

Wed 30th July

Pershore Jazz – Emily Masser/

Alex Clarke Quintet

Pershore Football Club, 7:00pm



For more information come in and see us at the Visitor Information Centre 34 High Street, Pershore or visit online at:

www.visitpershore.co.uk



Visit-Pershore



Cinema Listings

The Last Showgirl (15)

Tue 8 Jul - 7.30pm; Sat 12 Jul - 7.30pm I hr 29 mins Tickets £9.00

The Friend (15)

Fri 11 Jul - 7.30pm; Mon 14 Jul - 11.00am; Tue 15 Jul - 7.30pm 2 hrs 3 mins Tickets £9.00

Bridget Jones:

Mad About the Boy (15)

Fri 18 Jul - 7.30pm; Sat 19 Jul - 7.30pm; Mon 21 Jul - 11.00am; Tue 22 Jul - 7.30pm 2 hrs 5 mins.Tickets £9.00

Lilo & Stitch (PG)

Tue 22 Jul - 2.00pm; Thu 24 Jul - 11.00am I hr 48 mins Tickets £7.00

The Marching Band (15)

Thu 24 Jul - 7.30pm I hr 43 mins. Tickets £9.00

The Ballad of Wallis Island (12A)

Fri 25 Jul - 7.30pm; Mon 28 Jul - 11.00am; Tue 29 Jul - 7.30pm I hr 40 mins.Tickets £9.00

28 Years Later (cert tbc)

Sat 26 Jul - 7.30pm running time tbc Tickets £9.00

How to Train Your Dragon (cert tbc)

Tue 29 Jul - 11.00am; Thu 31 Jul - 2.00pm running time tbc Tickets £9.00

One to One: John & Yoko

Thu 31 Jul - 7.30pm I hr 40 mins Tickets £9.00

Juliet & Romeo (12A)

Fri I Aug - 7.30pm; Mon 4 Aug - II.00am; Tue 5 Aug - 7.30pm 2 hrs I min Tickets £9.00

Slade in Flame (1975)

Sat 2 Aug - 7.30pm I hr 39 minsTickets £9.00

Goldbeak (PG)

Tue 5 Aug - 2.00pm (RS); Thu 7 Aug - 11.00am I hr 34 mins Tickets £7.00

Event Listings

The Bookshop Band

Wednesday 23 July - 7.30pm 1hr 40mins (inc interval) Tickets: £15

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

Box Office Opening Hours

In Person Bookings:

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Telephone Bookings: Mon - Sat 4pm - 6pm
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High Street Pershore Worcestershire WR10 IBG
www.number8.org

Bands in the Park July & August

Sun 13th July – Tewkesbury Town Band Abbey Park, 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Sun 20th July – Alcester Victoria Silver Band *Abbey Park, 2:30pm – 4:30pm*

Sun 27th July –

Pershore Brass Band *Abbey Park, 2:30pm – 4:30pm*

Sun 3rd August –

Cleobury Mortimer Concert Band *Abbey Park, 2:30pm – 4:30pm*

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In memoriam

GODDARD. Michael George (Mick) Passed away on 24th May 2025, aged 71 years. A Loving husband to the late Helen, father to the late Stuart and Kirsty, brother to Dave and Frank and a loving grandad to Alesio. He will be greatly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service took place at Pershore Cemetery Chapel on Thursday 19th June, followed by burial in the cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research UK made online.

ETHERIDGE. Judith Grace

Passed away peacefully on 22nd May 2025, aged 89 years. A much loved wife, mother and grandmother. Judy will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service took place at Pershore Abbey on Thursday 5th June 2025. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Pershore Abbey PCC may be left at the service or sent to Pershore Abbey Benefice Office.

Passed away peacefully on 11th May 2025, aged 76 years. Devoted mum of Steven, Samantha, Sharon and James, mother in law to Zoe and Clive, a much loved nan. Ann will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service took place at Pershore Abbey on Wednesday 4th June. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research UK may be left at the service, or made online. Please wear smart casual clothing at Ann's request.

LOMAS. Andrea Dawn

Passed away peacefully on 3rd May 2025, aged 50 years. A much loved daughter to Linda, and sister to Amy. Andrea will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Funeral service took place at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Wednesday 28th May. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for the Injured Jockeys Fund may be left in the donation tube at the service, or made online.

E Hill & Son Funeral Directors, Pershore WR10 IHZ or via www.ehillandson.co.uk Tel: 01386 552141

In memoriam

LEACH. Cyril James

Lived and had businesses in Pershore since 1974. Passed peacefully surrounded by his family on 30th May 2025.

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Rotary News

This month's news starts with thanks to CJC Aggregates and Landscaping Supplies for their generous donation of a 'luxurious' chicken coop. Based in Upton Snodsbury, CJC provide a range of high-quality landscaping supplies to help create beautiful outdoor spaces.

Funds raised from the sale of the chicken coop were gifted to Wick Care Farm to support their incredible community work, where adults and young people benefit from farm-based activities that support both physical and mental wellbeing in a safe and welcoming environment.

CJC Director Richard Sadler shared, "We are delighted to be able to help out with the

donation of this beautiful chicken coop and hope the funds raised will provide much joy to the children and adults who use Wick Care Farm and also provide some 1st class accommodation for some great chickens!"



On Saturday 12th July Pershore Rotary will be helping to recognise the work of ShelterBox with a 'Tea in a Tent' event at Wick Care Farm from 2.30 to 5.00pm.

ShelterBox, now in its 25th year, is an international disaster relief charity that provides emergency shelter and other aid items to families around the world who have lost their homes to disaster or conflict. Known worldwide for its iconic green boxes containing the basic equipment a family of 10 would need to survive a disaster, ShelterBox responds to earthquakes, tropical cyclones, tsunamis, floods and volcanic eruptions. Over 120 million people around the world have been made homeless by disaster and conflict. ShelterBox is working to change this. Pershore Rotary has been an active supporter of ShelterBox for many years and the funds raised from our 'Tea in a Tent'

Richard Lees



event on Saturday 12th July will go towards re-stocking the contents of their boxes for future disasters.

For more information on ShelterBox's work, go to www.shelterbox.org Together we see a world where

people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.

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



By the time you read this article our busiest month of the year will be over. That is 17 events in total in June, including 11 as part of our main Festival weekend. At the time of writing we've completed just four events so a busy time lies ahead. We pride ourselves on quality, professionalism, friendliness and great organisation. Not to mention lots of home-made cakes!

Our first guest in June was Ariel Bruce, Specialist Social Worker (Adoption) for ITV's Long-Lost Family and Born without Trace. She held the audience spellbound as she talked about the mechanics of the programmes and some of the cases she has been involved with. A.E. Housman features prominently with three events, including a walk jointly with Evesham Walking Festival. (Readers will be familiar with the Housman poems published monthly in this paper). To give readers a sense of the variety of events featured in the festival, we have best-selling authors Ruth Logan, Sue Moorcroft and Jo Thomas; Rebecca Lee, Senior Editor for Penguin giving us an insight into How Words Get Good; Guided Walks focussing on Evesham -Heritage and People; a talk by

Antonia Keaney, Social
Historian at Blenheim Palace
on WWII at Blenheim —
Evacuees and Espionage; a
wordy Festival Quiznight;
award-winning photographer,
Doug Allan, with Every Picture
Tells a Story and finally local
speaker, Ian Boskett, unveiling
yet more stories about The
Great Train Robbery.
Hopefully that will have
whetted some appetites. There
are lots more events coming up
later in the year.

Do take a look at the Festival website:

www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org



Christadelphians

We believe...Jesus will soon return from heaven

When Jesus ascended into heaven, angels comforted the disciples who witnessed it by promising that he would return to take control of the earth. They said, "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:10-11) This promise should not have been news to his disciples because Jesus had previously explained that he would return "to reward the faithful" (Matt 26v27). At another time, Jesus told his disciples that his return would be a surprise for many people, even though there

would be many signs that it was imminent (Luke 21v25-27). Jesus described the signs and concluded by saying, "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.' When the Apostle Paul wrote to believers in Thessalonica, he repeatedly encouraged them by referring to Jesus' return. In one place, he wrote, "The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God.... (1Thes 4v16)

It's important to note that Jesus' return will not be in secret but will be evident to the whole world. Jesus likened it to lighting that flashes from east to west so that everyone will see it. (Matt 24v27) The return of Jesus will be a momentous occasion that will totally disrupt human activity for good. We can pray with words from the Bible's penultimate verse: "Even so come, Lord Jesus."

Interested in learning more about the Bible?

Pershore Christadelphians invite you to a talk explaining why

'We believe Jesus will soon return from heaven'

On: 7th July @ 10am, God willing

and why

'We believe God's promises will come true'

On: 4th August @ 10am, God willing

Both talks will be held at: The Christadelphian Hall 40 Paddock Close Pershore WR10 1HJ



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Morgan VIP car gathering



Morgan Motors' Gary Pearson (left) with Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

Dame Harriett Baldwin MP welcomed legendary car maker Morgan Motors to an event in London to celebrate small-scale car manufacturers. The Malvernmade Morgan Supersport lined up alongside cars from manufacturer including Aston Martin, Bentley, Lotus and McLaren as part of an effort to promote some of the country's most successful car brands. Morgan Motor's chief commercial officer Gary Pearson met with Dame Harriett to talk about the Malvern company's plans to compete on the global stage and update her on the challenges deal with US trade tariffs. Dame Harriett said "It was great to see a Malvern-built car lining up alongside some of

the greatest cars in the world to promote the best of British manufacturing. Morgan's historic cars are hand-built by local people at a factory in the heart of Malvern and it has been a proud champion of the town. I am pleased to see the Government recognising the importance of small-scale car manufacturers and hope that it will assist them, particularly as they all have to navigate the current regime of US trade tariffs. I will continue to speak up for Morgan Motors and its highlyvalued network of local suppliers as it competes on the world stage and puts Malvern in the global spotlight."







