

Pershore Times



A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages

Issue 74

August 2022

FREE



Plum Time, Pershore: © Jayne Winter FRPS, www.jaynewinterphotography.co.uk

The month has been dominated by 'the real experience' of global warming, with intense heat and considerable destruction by fire here in the UK! The Tory party coup and the votes to appoint a new Prime Minister has produced considerable turmoil. With the war in Ukraine, the resurgence of Covid, the cost of living crisis and with all the other pandemic aftermath challenges, that's all we wanted!

Covid has changed so many things. One example is more people are working from home, this affects the rail and bus services, causing unemployment and subsequent costs. Many decisions based on pre Covid are having to be re-thought. Air and road travel have been chaotic! Although we have full employment, we still have 1.3 million unfilled vacancies and yet, nearly two million people on income support! Not an easy quick fix situation!

Here in Pershore all this seems a long way away. We carry on with lots of local events re-opening after the pandemic, enjoy the countryside and get on with our lives. The Plum Festival is our main event this month, again for the first time since Covid. This is a massive event and brings many people to the town. The organisation is outstanding and all involved must be congratulated and thanked for their enthusiasm and commitment. We also have the

Birmingham Commonwealth Games to enjoy.

New contributor - This month, Romy Kemp from Hanley Castle High School, who wants to be a journalist and contacted us through work experience. We gave her a chance by setting two projects while she was with us, an article of our choice, and one of her own. If they were good enough we would publish them! They were so good we publish both, and we have given Romy, a monthly column. We did the same with Gregory Sidawell a few years ago and he has developed into a first class writer. He is well on the way to achieving his ambitions. We await with excitement his A level results as he has a seat at Oxford University waiting for him. He will continue to write for us while at University.

Pershore Times today!

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Late News!

The England women's national football team, also known as the Lionesses Win 2-1! Many congratulations!

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Peopleton Autumn Show 2022

The Peopleton Autumn Show will be held at the Village Hall and adjacent playing fields on 4th of September this year and will include over 200 classic cars, steam engines, fire engines, static steam engines and a number of WW2 army vehicles.

Competitions for best locally produced vegetables, flowers, cakes, jams, fruit, paintings and photos are held in one large marquee. Numerous stalls run by Peopleton villagers and others range from raffle, tombola, veg sales, books, bric-à-brac, children's toys, cakes, jewellery, local produced Peopleton cider, Peopleton post office and store, greeting cards, gifts, walking sticks, art club, honey bee display etc. Another large marquee houses the well stocked bar and stage for the various music groups, including the entertaining Worcester Ukulele band. The music continues all day much to the delight of many visitors sitting

listening and sampling local drinks from the bar. Full English breakfasts are sold in the morning followed in the afternoon by tea and cakes. Peopleton cricket club will sell hot dogs and burgers to many of the hungry visitors.

Activities were continuous in the arena/ring and range from displays by Peopleton ladies Zumba club, Pershore junior rugby section, dog training and handling plus well organised children's games and competitions, even a children's tug-of-war, plus the full traditional ladies and men's tug of war competitions. Two very large bouncy castles entertain the children.

The show is truly a day for all ages and capabilities to enjoy what is a truly quintessential experience. The profits go to support village amenities and causes, all essential in maintaining our unique village's life and environment.



Timetable for a thousand new homes announced

A consultation on a draft of the review of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) will take place later this year, subject to approval by councillors. The Regulation 19 Publication – effectively a draft of the plan before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate – will be published in October when it will be considered by councillors at Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon District Councils. If approved, the plan will go out to public consultation during November and early December. More details will be released at the time. Following the consultation, a detailed

timetable will then be drawn up to submit the plan for examination by an independent inspector and, if it passes that stage, to have it adopted. The review of the SWDP sets out where an extra 14,000 new homes will be built across South Worcestershire by 2041, including new settlements at Worcestershire Parkway, Throckmorton and Rushwick. The plan should have gone out to consultation this month (July) but was delayed because more work was needed on key documents relating to the infrastructure required to support the proposed new settlements.

A day to remember for Michael Amies



Photograph by: Chandler Tilling

Michael Amies was among the baton bearers to delight crowds in Pershore, when the relay passed through on Friday 22nd July. The celebration of the Commonwealth Games visited

Pershore in the final week of a worldwide tour for the baton which came to an end at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium for the Birmingham 2022 opening ceremony.

Hughes & Company book wins award

The winner of the British Golf Collectors Society prestigious Murdoch Medal was announced at The Open in St Andrews. Captain of the Society Bob Chadwick said, 'I am delighted to announce that *Swing Time: A Celebration of Golf and Music, 1870 to 1939* by Rand Jerris and Peter Lewis has won this year's Murdoch Medal. The book that celebrates the popularity of the game and how it featured in popular music, theatre and film of that era, is a *sublime publication and beautifully produced*.

The Murdoch Medal award is made in recognition of a 'contribution to the heritage of golf' and is usually, though not exclusively, given for what the Committee regard as the outstanding publication on the history of golf in the previous year.



The book was designed and produced by Hughes & Company, published by D W Wilson III of Grant Books Ltd., New York and Pershore.

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Plum Royalty reigns again



Picture by Stuart Purfield

Following a bleak two years, it was with much excitement and enthusiasm that the Pershore Plum Festival once again hosted its Plum Blossom Sunday event to find their 2022 Plum royalty. Sponsored by Thomson & Banks, taking place at and supported by the Angel Hotel, a record number of young ladies entered the competition this year and after giving judges one of the hardest decisions they have made for years, 10 year old Isla Driscoll who attends Crophthorne with Charlton First School was crowned Plum Princess whilst 8 year old Jenny Marks (who also attends the same school) and

Olivia Clarke aged 11 from Blessed Edward Oldcorne College were crowned attendants. Angela Taylor, Chair of the Pershore Plum Festival said, "Grateful thanks to everyone that made Plum Blossom Sunday such a great event. It is wonderful to be back. Congratulations to Isla, Jenny and Olivia with thanks to all our other contestants who did so incredibly well. We look forward to welcoming everyone to Pershore this Summer for plum filled events and activities"

For more information please visit www.pershoreplumfestival.org.uk

Free school meals over the summer holidays

Up to 2,300 children throughout the district will be fed during the summer holidays thanks to funding from Wychavon. Qualifying families will be given a £15 voucher per child per week to spend at their preferred local supermarket to ensure that they continue to put food on the table. Pupils at all Wychavon schools stand to benefit from the vouchers, which will provide a vital boost to many families struggling with the rising cost of living. After discovering that schools would only be receiving support for two weeks of the holidays, Wychavon acted quickly to commit up to £170,000 of funding to pay for the remaining four weeks of vouchers. During the summer holidays, additional support with food, finance, activities and more

can also be accessed through Here2Help and the Ready Steady Worcestershire scheme. Cllr Chris Day, Executive Board Member for Housing, Health and Wellbeing on Wychavon District Council, said: "It is so important that every child has a healthy and nutritious meal every day and we are so pleased that we can provide the additional funding to make sure that no one goes without during the holidays."

Please contact Leonie Silk at leonie.silk@wychavon.gov.uk, or visit www.wychavon.gov.uk/community-and-living/social-mobility, for more information.

Stamp Out Spiking Ambassadors

Worcester based Bully Beacon Ltd are proud to announce they have become Stamp Out Spiking Ambassadors to further support the local community. To mark International Stamp Out Spiking Day on Friday 15th July, family business Bully Beacon will be helping to raise awareness of spiking drinks, particularly within clubs and bars within Worcestershire. Christina Darling, Director at Bully Beacon Ltd explains, "I know that since the launch of our business, parents and young people across the County have highlighted their concerns about the increase in spiking of drinks on nights-out, so we are delighted to support Dawn Dines the founder of Stamp Out Spiking UK". Christina adds, "We will be supporting the campaign by highlighting the need for drink spiking awareness training courses for venue management, bar staff, security staff and all front-line workers. Plus, introducing practical drinks covers from the StopTopps range to help safeguard against drink spiking in bars and clubs." International Stamp Out Spiking Day is a way of raising awareness of the issue of drink spiking through educational promotions and social campaigns. The key aim of the campaign is to encourage governing bodies and relevant institutions to help stop the spiking of drinks. Bully Beacon

Ltd has been founded by Christina Darling who is also a Worcestershire Ambassador, and launched the family business in response to antisocial behaviour and bullying at high school. Becoming a Stamp Out Spiking Ambassador adds to their mix of practical support to aid people who are concerned about personal protection whatever the age or situation.

For more information about Bully Beacon Ltd visit their website here www.bullybeacon.co.uk or alternatively you can find out about Stamp Out Spiking UK here www.stampoutspiking.org



Cost of Living Support

Thousands of the local families will receive extra money to help with their energy bills. Rising energy costs across the world after Russia's invasion of Ukraine all resulted in household energy bills and soaring prices at petrol stations. The first payment of £326 was made directly to households hitting bank accounts from this week, with 8,400 people getting support in West Worcestershire. The second payment will be made in the autumn with local people receiving a further £324. This is on top of the £150 paid this Spring to those in households that pay Council Tax in bands A-D and all domestic energy customers will receive a £400 grant off their electricity bills. Across the UK, eight million households will get this means-tested support, combined with other support, low

income households will get at least £1,200 from the Government by Christmas. In addition nearly one in ten people will get the £150 disability payment this Autumn and pensioner households will get an extra £300 from the Winter Fuel Payments fund in November and December. The Government is acting swiftly to help people with their fast-rising bills. Low-income households are benefitting from government support in a variety of different ways. The support can be accessed by households entitled to a payment of the following benefits: Universal Credit, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Pension Credit. www.costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk

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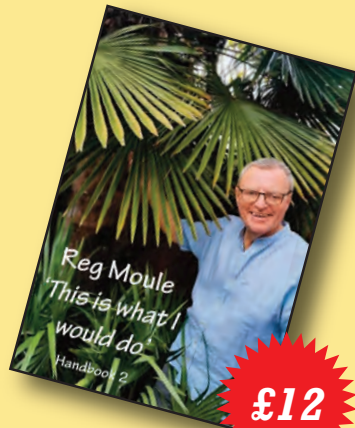
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A few words from... Harriett Baldwin MP



Regulator to Grow Electric Vehicle Charging Network

Harriett Baldwin MP has urged the power regulator to ensure that local drivers are able to access an extensive electric vehicle charging network. The MP has written to the chief executive of Ofgem – which regulates the power supply industry – calling on him to support plans to extend the network across the county. Harriett met with the local network operator – Western Power Distribution – over a year ago to hear their concerns and she had a follow

up meeting in Westminster this week to discuss progress. WPD has been told that Ofgem is blocking plans to extend the EV charging network as it doesn't believe there is local demand. Harriett said: "I held an event last year where there was clear support from the local business community for moving to electric vehicles but concern about how meagre the current charging network is. Western Power Distribution have told me that the issue is that there is not a resilient network to allow for more power to support vehicle charging and it needs Ofgem to back their investment plans. It is very regrettable that the regulator is telling them to spend less of their own money on doing this. The high temperatures of recent days bring into stark relief how important our net zero targets are and we, as a society, must do all we can to reduce our reliance on petrol and diesel cars. I'm a believer in the principle that if you build capability, it will generate demand. We've simply got to get more chargers out there running on a vastly improved national electricity grid and help more people to choose electric vehicles. I've written to the chief executive of Ofgem to ask him to look into this and to make sure the regulator supports the plans to invest in the grid."

Further £1.5 billion school funding boost

Harriett Baldwin MP has welcomed news which will see average school funding rise by 3.4 per cent next academic year. The increase in funding means that primary and secondary schools in West Worcestershire will receive over £65 million amounting to an average of £5,453 per pupil, with some schools receiving as much as a 7.7 per cent funding increase. Each school will get a minimum 0.5 per cent funding increase with the minimum per pupil funding lifted to £4,405 for

primary school pupils and £5,715 for secondary pupils. Harriett said: "As teachers head off for their summer break, I welcome this announcement which will see every school in West Worcestershire getting a budget increase next year. In England, core school funding is increasing by £1.5 billion as we repeat our pledge to help schools to give our young people the best possible start in life. I regularly visit my local schools to hear the feedback of local teachers and I am continually impressed by the great work they do. As a county, Worcestershire has historically suffered from poorer funding deals and I welcome this further step towards getting a better funding package for our high-performing local schools."

'Prisons are failing' HMI Prisons report

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons released its annual report into the state of the prison system in the UK, and it makes for shocking reading. Education, housing and work are key to cutting reoffending and this work starts in prison, yet this report shows that prisons are doing little to provide these basic rights. It is time for change. Campbell Robb, Nacro chief executive, said: "It is a truly bleak situation when the Chief Inspector of Prisons states purposeful activity and long lock-up times in prisons have not improved, and in some cases, they are the worst since 1982. Our prison system costs taxpayers

£5.63 billion a year, yet as today's report shows, it is clearly failing. Failing as a place of rehabilitation and failing to prepare people to re-enter society, we are setting people up to fail on the outside. The country's stubbornly high reoffending rates are testimony to this. Only by investing in education, work and rehabilitation programmes will prison become a place of change, rather than a road to nowhere." Nacro is a social justice charity with over 50 years experience working in rehabilitation and with prison leavers.



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Saturday 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th August
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Saturday 6th August
Street Food Festival at The Angel Inn Hotel. Brand new street festival celebrating plums, welcoming local vendors and live music performances all day.
www.angelpershore.co.uk

Sunday 7th August
Pershore Plum Festival Quiz Night at Claude Choules Quiz night, raising funds for Plum Festival and supporting local businesses.
www.claudespershore.co.uk
Plums, entertainment, festival merchandise.

Thursday 11th August
Plum Coach Tour. A guided coach tour celebrating the fruit that made Pershore famous.
www.royalmotorways.co.uk

Saturday 20th August
Plum Day at Walsgrove Farm Visit a traditional plum orchard.
www.walsgrove.co.uk

Saturday 20th August
Shop Window Competition. Decorate your shop windows in the designated theme and you could be in for the chance to win best shop window.

Thursday 25th August
Pershore Plum Festival Bike Nite in Broad Street. All bikes welcome at this evening of fun, live music, plum food and drink.

Friday 26th August
Pershore Plum Festival Quiz Night at the Angel Inn Hotel courtyard garden. Quiz night raising funds for Plum Festival and supporting local businesses.
www.angelpershore.co.uk

Saturday 27th August
Pershore Plum Weekend at the Angel Inn Hotel. A fun filled family weekend with a wide range of music and entertainment for everyone.
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Saturday 27th August & Monday 29th August
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Sunday 28th August Family Fun Day
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• Plum Fun Zone
• Entertainment
• Food Village
• South Worcestershire Lifeguards

New aerospace innovation

Solar-powered aircraft and NHS treatment carrying drones are among latest innovations backed by £273 million of government and industry funding. This is a package to help UK aerospace sector seize jobs and growth opportunities from the global green flight revolution and other emerging sectors like drone technology. Solar powered aircraft, ultra-efficient wings and medical treatment carrying drones are just some of the technologies backed by £273 million to advance low-carbon aerospace innovation, economic growth and jobs, Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng has announced. 81,000 jobs have been created so far through the Aerospace Technology Institute Programme, with £97 billion of value added to the UK economy to date. Today £155 million of joint government-industry funding has been announced to support new projects unlocking the latest in green aerospace innovation, such as

hydrogen and battery technology, and ultra-efficient manufacturing processes and technologies, such as digital and additive manufacturing – generating further job opportunities and leads in emerging technologies and sectors. A further £105.5 million of government-industry funding will be shared by projects focused on developing air transport systems and enabling new vehicle technologies through the Future Flight Challenge. The projects could create more than 8,800 jobs and include making motorways safer and improving journey times by using electric drones to survey hazards, also using electric drones to distribute medical treatments across Scotland. Up to £12 million is to be made available through the Regulators' Pioneer Fund to back initiatives that could unlock industries of the future through regulation – from flying cars to vaccine-carrying drones.



Horizons at Number 8



Between Friday 1st and 20th July, Number 8 hosted an art exhibition called 'Horizons' which featured the work of Susan Berth and Dan Holden. This was a colourful display of vibrant, original artwork produced by these two artists. Susan and Dan work out of Yew Trees studios at Bevere together with two other artists. Susan is a mixed media artist, producing landscape images which are bold and evocative. She uses a variety of techniques working with acrylics, inks and collage. She has worked professionally for the past three years, having given up her previous career to concentrate full time on her artwork. Don has also chosen to become a professional artist and loves his work. He creates abstract paintings, sometimes using a

layering technique and employing recycled materials. His style is very individual and has earned a place for one of his paintings in this Summer's Royal Academy Exhibition. A remarkable achievement! The title of their exhibition 'Horizons' reflects Susan and Dan's own creative approach and invites viewers to participate and explore through their own interpretations. They both intend to make the most of their new working environment where they will continue to open up their own horizons through the development of their artwork. Susan and Dan can be seen working in the studios at Bevere together with two fellow artists from Tues – Sat. 10-4. For more information visit: www.susanbirth.com www.danholden.art



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Rotary News

New President



July is when Pershore Rotary has a change of President and Richard Lees has now taken over from Lucy Thornton.

Our photograph shows Lucy handing over to Richard at The Angel Hotel.

Richard joined the Rotary Club of Glasgow in 1992 soon after taking over a small business in the city. Being new to Glasgow, a friend suggested he join Rotary as a way of getting to know local business people. He says this was the best decision he could have made as it opened opportunities for new customers and access to support from other professional groups in the city. Richard has been a member of two other Scottish Rotary clubs and was District Governor for

the west of Scotland in 2013/14. He joined Pershore Rotary in 2017 and has enjoyed being part of an active club in a community where Rotary can make a difference to people's lives. Pershore Rotary will continue to be an active force in the community, encouraging local volunteers to support projects, such as the street collection for Ukrainian refugees which raised £6,200 and the collection at Worcester Races' Plum Festival meeting on 26 July, which raised £308 for the Alzheimer's Society.

Rotary is for people of action. If you can help us or would like to know more, go to our website www.pershorerotary.club.

Sutcliffe & Co wins chamber award

Highly acclaimed Worcester City insurance broker Sutcliffe & Co, celebrate winning a prestigious Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce Business Award for 'Excellence in Professional Services'. Surrounded by over 700 business leaders at the Worcester Arena awards ceremony on 7th July 2022, the Sutcliffe Team proudly lifted the award for excellence, demonstrating their commitment to providing a 'Personal service in a commercial world'. As a fourth generation insurance broker, both their Sutcliffe & Co Insurance Team and their Mann Broadbent Division for sports, dance and leisure insurance, are going from strength to strength, building on a foundation of providing an excellent service. Duncan Sutcliffe, Managing Director says, "When they read our name out as the winners of

the 'Excellence in Professional Services' I just couldn't quite believe it. It was such a magical moment to remember. The whole team were so overwhelmed as they all work so hard to ensure we give our clients the best possible service". The passion for supporting businesses at all levels with risk management and insurance needs, is clear to see at Sutcliffe & Co Insurance Brokers. Their expansion programme is a success story and is to continue well into 2023, with further announcements planned for the autumn.

For more information about Sutcliffe & Co winning a Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce Business Award, contact the Sutcliffe Head Office on 01905 21681 or alternatively email Enquiries@sutcliffeinsurance.co.uk

Museum is looking for your sweet memories!



Black Country Living Museum is currently collecting items related to confectionery from the 1940s to the 1960s as part of its 'Forging Ahead' development. Did you have a sweet tooth in the post-war period? If so, they need your help! The Forging Ahead development includes the ambitious creation of a new historic town, complete with buildings set in eras ranging from the 1940s to the 1960s. Amongst others, these buildings will include Halesowen & Hasbury Co-operative (set in the 1940s), Burgin's Newsagents (set from the 1950s-60s) and Spring Hill Post Office (set in the 1960s). A common theme amongst these shops is that they would all have sold sweets and confectionery to the young (and young at heart!) in the post-war period. Forging Ahead is the Museum's largest capital development since opening in 1978. It will include a brand new visitor welcome centre, learning spaces, a new industrial quarter, and historic town. The project will take the Museum's story into the 1940s, 50s and 60s – one of the most dynamic periods in recent history, which saw the economy, society, and popular culture transform. It presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to save Black Country heritage, inspire people with stories that would otherwise be at risk of being lost, and transform the local community. To properly furnish the buildings and set the story for their

visitors, the museum is looking for donations related to sweets and confectionery from the 1940s to 60s. They are particularly looking for any examples of the sweets in their original paper packaging, as they are proving to be a very rare find. There are several brands the Museum is keen to represent in their new development. These include items from world-renowned companies such as 'Cadburys', 'Rowntrees' and 'Mars', right through to smaller companies such as 'Barker & Dobson' and 'Callard & Bowser'. A particularly valued brand that the museum is looking to acquire examples of is 'Spangles', a fruit-flavoured sweet manufactured by the 'Mars' confectionery company. The sweets were reportedly the favourite of footballer, Duncan Edwards, who frequently visited Burgin's newsagents with his father. As well as original examples of the sweets themselves, the Museum would also gratefully receive any packaging, advertising, or related memorabilia to confectionery around this time.

Do you have anything they may find useful? Perhaps you or someone you know worked at or owned a sweetshop between the 1940s-60s? If so, please do get in touch with their Forging Ahead team at collections@bclm.com or call 0121 557 9643



Bricklehampton Hall Nursing & Residential Home

Bricklehampton Hall is a beautiful building surrounded by open countryside and with fine views to Bredon Hill. Built in 1848, it was a private house with three previous owners but became a Care Home thirty years ago. Shirley Grinnall, Manager, is justifiably proud of this Home, particularly since it has very recently been classified as 'Good' on its C.Q.C. inspection. Together with Karen Bayley, deputy manager, Linda Dulay, her Bursar, and her team of dedicated staff, she has made considerable improvements and changes to achieve this status. Bricklehampton Hall is not part of a group of care homes and has its own very individual character. This is partly due to the spacious accommodation and facilities but also to the particular care that is given to residents. The past two years have been challenging with Covid restrictions and requirements. Nevertheless, Shirley and her staff have coped and are now able to face a much more positive future. Families of residents have been very supportive. Visitors are allowed once more with an open

door policy. Residents can access a whole range of activities, including garden parties during the summer months. With a capacity for fifty-five residents, the Home can offer residential or day care, also for convalescence, respite and end of life care. Bricklehampton is well-staffed, offers on-site catering using fresh locally sourced ingredients and is set in its own extensive grounds of nearly thirty acres. It may be an old property but it benefits from modern equipment and is fully accessible for wheel chairs. This is a quality care home and it now has its official recognition as such.



The Property Market

It has certainly been a turbulent two years, but having experienced three 'boom and bust' cycles over the past 46 years we do have cause for optimism as sales gradually increase their momentum. Before the pandemic we regularly exceeded 20+ viewings over a weekend. The pandemic hit this industry hard, but now the number and range of properties we have available is recovering and viewings are over half our pre-Covid figures. Most properties are selling, but there is still a frustrating backlog for buyers and sellers as solicitors, probate offices, surveyors, mortgage lenders and Land Registry tackle the challenge of getting back into stride themselves after Covid. Whilst there are currently fewer transactions, house prices seem

to have stabilised and those looking for properties do not face the same kind of pressure completion of sales caused during the pre-Covid boom. In short, it is still a buyer's market. There are choices of a good range in style and price, with only a slightly restricted number of properties available in Worcestershire. Buyers have good options and time to make considered decisions. Furthermore, the immediate future seems positive. In past recessions interest rates rose - 18% at one point- but currently they remain low. As solicitors surveyors, etc. get back into stride, frustrating bureaucratic delays will diminish. In the meanwhile, keep your eye on the market; there are still bargains to be found.

Nigel Poole

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August Events at community run Queen Elizabeth Inn



Here's a small taste of what is going on over the next few weeks
.....who knew that a rural community pub could be so exciting !!

FISH & CHIP QUIZ NIGHTS

Join our Quizmaster at 19.30 on **Tues 9th August**
& **Tues 13th September (Music Theme)**

£10 per head entry fee including Fish & Chips. Max 6 per team

LATIN AMERICAN FOOD NIGHT

A kaleidoscope of cultural cuisines from Mexico to the tip of South America !
on **Thursday 25th August**

One sitting at 19.30 – early booking recommended

FRENCH FOOD NIGHT

Le Diner Traditionnelle on **Thursday 29th September**
One sitting at 19.30 – early booking recommended

Booking advisable via www.elmleycastle.com or by calling **01386 710251**



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Flybridge at Defford Marina

Situated on the River Avon at Defford 'The Flybridge' is the licensed bar and restaurant adjacent the Defford Marina. It is open to both marina boat owners, river traffic and the general public. It is also available for private functions by negotiation. The views from the Flybridge across the Avon floodplain towards Eckington and Bredon Hill are delightful. A more peaceful, tranquil location would be difficult to find anywhere in Worcestershire. Indoor and alfresco dining, chosen from a wide menu,

ranging from sandwiches, salads and snacks to more hearty choices of burgers, gammon, pasta and fish (Scampi, salmon and cod). These are offered with a choice of chips, rice or baked potato, plus extra 'sides'. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free choices are also available. Warning! The All-day Breakfast should only be ordered by those with a gargantuan appetite. The Flybridge not only has a large sun deck but a spacious bar with table seating for indoor dining. It is an ideal location for private, informal corporate



events and family gatherings for up to 40 people.

Flybridge host a live music night each month and also a quiz night. A classic car meet is planned for September. This year a voucher gift scheme has been introduced so it is now possible to provide a £20, £30, etc. voucher for a cream tea or any other choice from the extensive menu. More information is available on their Facebook page- The Flybridge@Defford.

Emma, Geoff and their daughters Ellie and Jess have created a welcoming atmosphere at The Flybridge. Dogs are welcome both inside and out-doors, but need to be kept on leads. This is certainly a family friendly place and well worth a visit to see the butterflies, dragonfly and

damselflies at the water's edge, plus the odd train that flies across the near-by bridge spanning the Avon. Booking for meals is essential and enquiries regarding corporate and private functions can be negotiated. Opening times:
Thursday 5pm-10 pm
Food served 6pm-9pm
Friday 5pm -11pm
Food served 6pm-9pm,
Saturday 12 noon -11 pm
Food served 12 noon -3pm & 6pm - 9pm
Sunday 10am - 5pm
Breakfast 10am-12 noon
Food 12noon -3pm

Contact: Emma Jones:
07496 883285 Email:
theflybridgeatdeffordmarina@gmail.com Post code: WR89BU



Flower Club News

Members of the Flower Club were delighted to welcome Beverley Clay who had travelled from a village outside Cardiff to the Village Hall in Bishampton on Wednesday, the 18 th July for her demonstration entitled "Out of the Garage". As she explained, this was her effort to clear out so called rubbish. She began with a metal watering can which leaked! So she had painted it white and placed a small dish with oasis on top and did a design using Fatsia leaves and sprigs of Leylandii, which hung down the sides of the can. To this she added tall white stems of a Waxflower, white carnations and sprigs of the white-edged Pittasporum called Irene Patterson together with white fluffy stems of Love in a Mist. In the centre to represent a water cascade, she tied together stems of Beargrass; all this gave her watering can a second lease of life. The next to be cleared out of her garage were laurel logs. These she had formed into a square to hide another unwanted tall black vase. Into this, instead of using oasis, she placed random twigs

and then fed tall stems of bright blue Delphinium, blue Agapanthus heads and more Love in a Mist round the edge. Finally she draped leaves of Fatsia from her so-called "triffid" bush round the edges of the laurel square. Beverley then produced an unwanted shallow glass container into which she had stuck a pinholder. For this design, she used two hardy fan palm branches Trachycarpus Fortunei with the prickles removed as background and then, as she jokingly said, another small leaved plant – a Phormium or New Zealand flax – about four feet tall! She added the most beautiful salmon-coloured roses called "Miss Piggy" in a downward cascade and reduced stems of burgundy coloured Cordyline in the centre. After years of flower demonstrating, Beverley said she had much equipment in her garage that needs using – and giving away. So she produced a black circular metal hoop with a dish containing oasis on top and bottom. Into the top dish, she placed branches of the Cotinus (the Smoke Bush) horizontally



together with stems of Hypericum with light-coloured berries. Also laid horizontally on top of these were stems of lilac blue Gladioli, blue Stocks and Verbena Bonariensis and then two heads of blue Hydrangea in the centre. In the bottom dish, she put more Gladioli, small sprigs of Choisya and the pink-tinged Pittasporum called "Elizabeth". Finally, she added stems of a peach-coloured Gemini Gerbera.

The last items to be jettisoned from the garage – another black metal stand and a large hot iron, but then a large piece of ivy root to which Beverley had attached orchid tubes. This she stood up against the stand and the iron, but instead of orchids she



inserted heads of bright yellow Sunflowers and stems of Eucalyptus. Finally she draped pieces of green and variegated Ivy from her garden over the root. We much enjoyed Beverley's chat about her life and her garden while she worked and once again, the raffle-ticket winners were delighted with the flowers together with the containers, thus helping Beverley to travel home lighter than when she arrived!

We do not have a demonstration in August, so our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30 p.m. at Bishampton Village Hall, when we shall be selling tickets for our Open Meeting at Number 8 in Pershore on 17th November.

u3a celebrates its 21st anniversary



Members of Pershore & District u3a came together last week to celebrate twenty-one years since its foundation in 2001. Over 200 members brought along a picnic to the Riverside Centre in Pershore and enjoyed a sunny afternoon of entertainment, demonstrations and an exhibition.

A highlight of the afternoon, founder members were invited to cut the 21st Anniversary cake. Jackie Jolley, the current Chair said, "We owe our founder members an enormous debt of gratitude for the huge amount of time and effort they put in at the very beginning to set up our u3a and support its growth in the early days. It is thanks to their exceptional contribution and dedication in the early years that

our u3a is still flourishing. I am delighted that they are here today and are all still active members, twenty-one years later." Entertainment was provided by some of the u3a's seventy interest groups. Members sang along enthusiastically to 1960s tunes performed by the Ukulele group and the Band-Age rock group. Chancers drama group put on an amusing show involving hats, and a flash mob choir surprised the crowd with a performance of "You'll Never Walk Alone". Croquet and Petanque groups demonstrated their sports and members' many talents were on show in an outstanding exhibition of paintings, photography and tangle drawing. Knitting and Crochet groups were busy for



Founder members with John Hunt, the first Chair and his wife Sheila, the first Groups Coordinator, cutting the 21st Anniversary cake. (Photo: SammiePix Photography)

weeks before the event, producing several metres of beautifully crafted bunting in yellow and blue u3a colours, to provide decoration for the day. Jackie, the u3a Chair, said, "Today has been a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the many talents of our members in a relaxed and informal setting. There is tremendous enthusiasm for the u3a in Pershore and the surrounding area. After a long and difficult time of not meeting, or meeting in small numbers, it is such a joy to see so many of our members getting together and enjoying each other's company in the sunshine. This is exactly what u3a is all about." Pershore & District u3a has over seventy interest groups studying a wide

range of subjects and active groups for sport, walking, music, games and nature. The Chair added, "It's vital for people in their later years to keep their minds and bodies active, and u3a is the ideal organisation to help them do that."

To find out more, go to u3asites.org.uk/pershore or email u3apershore@gmail.com



Ambitious Apprentice wanted...



As a teenager, I had two big ambitions; to be in business and to buy my own house. At fourteen, I started saving and began buying and selling all sorts of things from flowers to toys, to boost my 'fund'. It was always the buzz of doing a deal that gave me the greatest satisfaction. A career in property seemed like a natural fit and it all started with some work experience with Robert Johnson-owner of Evesham-based Johnsons Chartered Surveyors, when I was just seventeen years' old. My first few days involved cleaning the office, filing reams of paperwork and walking around Evesham with a clipboard

collecting details of homes for sale. By the end of the week, I was putting together the black and white newspaper adverts and faxing them off to the local papers. At the end of my work experience, I was offered a job as 'the Saturday boy'. Five years later I was appointed partner and have since become the proud owner of Johnsons Property Consultants, leading a wonderful team, who work hard every day to deliver an extraordinary customer experience to hundreds of landlords, tenants, buyers and sellers. I am now looking for an apprentice to join my team and to embrace their own journey in the property industry. The variety in our business; sales, lettings, property management, land and development, along with our desire to grow, means that for the right person there are some exciting opportunities to establish a successful career in property. As we expand, we would love to think that we can

develop more of our own local property experts and even business leaders of the future. Our continued growth plans include selling and managing many more homes across Worcestershire and beyond. The successful candidate will learn from our team's decades of combined experience while studying for a Housing & Property Management (Level 3) qualification. We are recruiting for great attitude and values, which are far more important to us than experience or existing qualifications. Each member of our team benefits from their own tailored personal development plan and fully funded training, their birthday off (an extra day's holiday) and joining our team social activities and events. If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please ask them to drop me a message and tell me why they would like to join us.



Tom Tarver BSc Est. Man. MNAEA MARLA

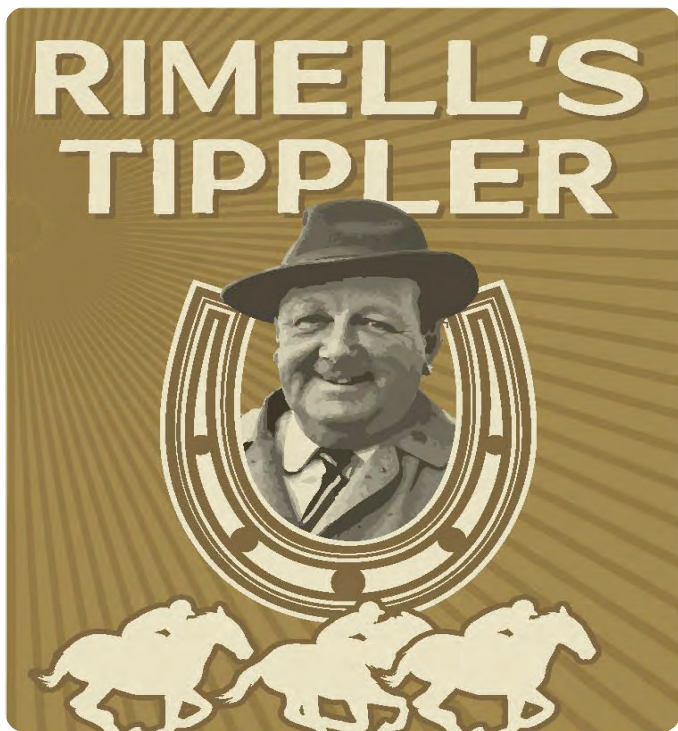
01386 761515

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A new ale is a winning bet!



The Royal Oak at Kinnersley welcomes a new ale to its stable! It is appropriately named 'Rimell's Tippler', after the pub's long association with the world of horse racing, and in particular the Rimell family and stables, for many years. Fred and Mary Rimell are not only known locally but have a world wide reputation, both of them as jockeys and later as trainers. Fred grew up in Worcestershire and loved living in Kinnersley. He was Nation Hunt Racing jockey and was champion three times. After retiring from racing himself, he and Mercy established their stables. The Rimell stables became famous for producing so many winning horses ridden by famous jockeys over the years. In their day, Fred and Mercy won every jumping race worth

winning, including two Cheltenham Gold Cups with Woodland Venture and Royal Frolic, as well as two Champion Hurdles with Comedy of Errors. Fred was Champion Trainer five times and was the first man, ever to train four winners for the Grand National – E.S.B., Nicolaus Silver, Gay Trip and Rag Trade. He gained the title of 'Mr Grand National'. The Kinnersley stable was the happy and extremely successful place for the Rimells. Mark, landlord at the Royal Oak, is hoping that his new ale will also be a winner. The pub displays a fine collection of images of favourite horses from the past that will revive fond memories for many of his customers. Whatever the going, Rimell's Tippler is a top tip for the season.

Thoughts from the Snug . . .

Graffiti

We had been discussing the graffiti artist Banksy and began to recall a few examples of inspired graffiti, written, rather than drawn, that had caught our attention. Some were humorous, but a few provided food for thought. Some examples follow:

My greatest failing is not being able to finish anyt.....

How is it that children can never find their shoes, but can always find a bit of onion in their dinner?

In life it is important to know when to stop arguing with someone and simply let them be wrong.

Silence is golden unless you have children. Then it is plain suspicious.

Richard Catford

The three hardest things to say:
1) I was wrong. 2) I need help, 3) Worcestershire sauce.

Behind every angry woman is a man who has absolutely no idea what he did wrong.

Money can't buy happiness, but it can buy cake. That's almost the same thing!

However, we decided the best one, seen outside a ladies loo at a pub in Kempsey; it ran like this:

O I C A Q ! & I 8 2 Q B 4 I P !

Hint: The clue to unravelling this graffiti lies in its location.

Women's Hour!

Congratulations and Celebrations!

Susan Catford



We all love a good excuse to celebrate happy events in our lives -birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, exam successes, new jobs and so much more! They acknowledge the milestones in our lives. An excuse to bring out the glad rags, enjoy special meals, raise a glass or two (or three or more!) and surround ourselves with friends and family is always welcome.

The Covid years made all this difficult and, sadly, the opportunity to celebrate together had to be postponed. Big birthdays slid by, weddings were delayed or severely reduced in numbers and life was strangely quiet without these opportunities to share special times. Zoom parties had to suffice but were really not the same!! Our own family wedding was reduced to six guests only but was nevertheless a memorable day. The wardrobe was sadly neglected. Unworn party frocks and summer outfits normally brought out for

holidays abroad, remained in their closets. The excuse to dress up was no longer there; people wore PJs and shuffled about the house in flip-flops. Everything was on hold. But now we are returning to normal. Birthdays and weddings can be celebrated again and those neglected outfits can be given an airing (well those that still fit!). Meeting with family and friends is no longer taken for granted though; it is something to be treasured and enjoyed, precious time.

Weddings have once more been allowed to become big events although the organising of them, and financing, seems to take a considerable amount of strategic planning these days. We have been fortunate in attending some amazing weddings in the past. From Worcester Cathedral, splendid hotel venues, wedding barns, huge tepees and a marquee in a field in rural Worcestershire - all have been fantastic events that we were privileged to attend. Compared with our own wedding many years ago, these are different altogether! Ours was arranged in a matter of a few months, unlike the year or eighteen months ahead which seems to be the norm now. It was a simple affair in a local church with a mainly family

reception at a pub. I made my own dress with no special make-up or hairdresser to prepare me for extravagant photograph sessions. The standard photographer, standard group photographs, standard speeches, and standard iced wedding cake were so uncomplicated by comparison. But it was nevertheless, the special event we wanted and there is another big anniversary to celebrate later this year!

Another difference these days are the 'Hen' and 'Stag' parties/events. They seem to be obligatory and often costly! In the case of the Stag, it appears to be a question of much drinking accompanied by the groom-to-be clad in suitably humiliating attire and participating in (sometimes) rather dangerous activities. With the Hens it also involves much drinking, the wearing of sashes and tiaras, expensive afternoon teas (with Prosecco of course) and dancing the night away. Amazingly the brides and grooms survive this partying (aka 'ordeal') which fortunately takes place well ahead of the wedding. Apart from weddings and birthdays, there are lots of other celebrations. Graduations have returned this year and all kinds of anniversaries and annual events. The Queen's

Jubilee, the Commonwealth Games, Wimbledon, World Cup football and rugby and The Open are just a few major events celebrated this year. Here in Pershore the Plum Festival is about to begin, celebrating our local harvest with events throughout August. By the time this goes to press, we will have had our own special celebration, the postponed wedding party from December 2020 for our son and (already!) daughter-in-law. The posh frock will be worn, the venue prepared, friends and family gathered and a very special guest- our new grandson. Congratulations and Celebrations indeed!!

Extra!

Very special congratulations to Hughes and Company for the prestigious Murdoch Medal 2022 award for their golfing book 'Swing Time'. Announced at The Open in St Andrews, this is a beautiful book designed and produced by the team here in Pershore.

Friday fish night

It's Friday

And already a queue has formed.

Customers wait patiently,

Shuffling their feet,

Memorizing their order.

Behind glass

Golden, battered parcels of fish

Waiting their turn.

Vats of hot oil simmering gently

Until suddenly,

A hissing and bubbling

As a basket of anaemic chips

Immersed, spitting furiously.

Minutes pass.

Then, a tap, tap as the basket is raised.

Hot, golden chips

Tumbled into a tempting heap.

And behind the counter,

Reflected in the mirrored wall,

A flurry of activity.

Chips are scooped into waiting

papers,

A fish is caught

And landed atop its new partners.

Salt and vinegar pots

Hover questioningly.

Deft hands fold and wrap.

A neat parcel now,

Placed purposefully on the counter

top.

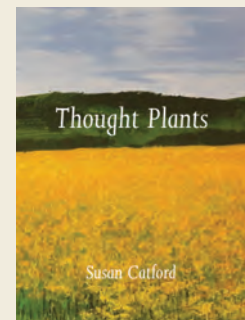
A satisfied customer

Accepts this warm package

Full of promise

For Friday night supper.

From 'Thought Plants' Book
by Susan Catford



120 pages A5 full colour illustrated by Susan Catford

'Thought Plants' is Susan's first book and is a new collection of writing and poems exploring ideas, events and everyday life. At times serious and thoughtful, at others enjoying the whimsical, lighter side of things. It has grown surprisingly well from early seeds and a fertile imagination.

Available for £9.95

from: Hughes & Company 8 Church Street Pershore

Tel: 01386 803803

hughescompany@btconnect.com

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Delivered by courier or post

Garden Watch



The garden is looking its least inspiring just now. The lawn is more brown than green and many of the flowers are now just seed heads. The trees have that slightly wilting look from lack of water and one is shedding its leaves already!! It has been a dry time with only a few showers to reinvigorate the plants. As for the temperature, that has been very variable! Two of the hottest days on record then it plummeted by 20 degrees. At the moment it is typical of an English Summer, sometimes warm and clammy, sometimes with a chilly breeze. One minute we may have the sun bursting through, then the clouds arrive to disappoint us. They say if you don't like the British weather, wait five minutes. So true! But it is still July just now and we have August and the rest of the Summer before us. Somehow nature carries on regardless and the birds don't seem to mind whatever the weather. We still have lots of tits visiting the feeders and the woodpeckers enjoying the peanuts. The magpies are visiting less but their quarrelsome squawk can be heard in the trees and hedges. Pots were replenished a few weeks ago and are doing well but needing lots of water. The hostas are now bearing tall lilac

flowers and seem to be slug free in their pots. The canna lilies are providing bright splashes of colour, including new ones planted this year. The clematis and climbing rose have run out of steam and only a few blooms remain. And still the alstromerias and geraniums prove their staying power! The pear tree does seem to bear quite a lot of fruit but still not fully grown and much of it high up on the tree. The fig does not have any fruit this year but it was severely pruned so perhaps next year?? The small plum tree didn't appear to have any fruit but Sophie has managed to find three plums which she brought to us in exchange for a treat! She is a cunning dog!! At least we have managed some time in the garden though that weeding still needs to be done. The gazebo came out of its wrappings not to provide us with shelter but to keep the sun off the kitchen! When it was hot, it was too hot to be out! The paddling pool bought for grandson was used to cool the feet of husband instead. I am sure the sun will come back though it has left us today, the skies are grey and the breeze is definitely chilly. The mole is still absent!

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Country file - Dragonflies & Damselies



Many of us are fortunate to get a glimpse of these attractive, delicate creatures in our countryside. There are two distinct sub-orders of Dragonflies, the Zygoptera (Damselies) and the Anisoptera (Dragonflies). There are a surprising number of different species (more than 3,000 worldwide!) some of which are on the endangered list. There have been 31 species recorded in Worcestershire. Dragonflies and Damselies can be easily confused. Dragonflies have a large robust body with hind wings shorter than their forewings. Damselies have wings of the same size which they fold into their abdomen whereas the Dragonfly holds its wings flat, away from the body. Dragonflies are incredibly agile in flight, enabling them to rapidly change direction, glide, hover and produce thrust for bursts of speed. Damselies have a weaker more fluttery flight. Both kinds have generally clear wings with dark veins. Dragonflies

have brilliant iridescent or metallic colours which make them conspicuous in flight. They have compound eyes and can see approximately 200 images per second with 360 degree vision. The biggest British dragonfly is the Female Emperor with a wingspan of about 10.5cm. The female Golden-ringed Dragonfly is the UK's longest dragonfly with striking yellow rings along its black body. The lake at Croome Park is a good place to spot Dragonflies and Damselies. The Hairy Dragonfly and Scarce Chasers are rare new species to have been seen there in recent months. If you happen to be near a stream, river or lake, see how many different varieties you can spot.

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Cooking for fun!

Ailsa Craddock

Time to turn up the heat with some of our sensational seasonal produce! I think August must be the most bountiful month in the year, giving us almost too much choice over what to cook and eat! So let's make the most of it all and have a summer dinner party – set the table outside with pretty crockery, napkins and candles; a pitcher of English Garden Cocktail and/or nice cold beers and sit and eat with friends into the small hours. . .

English Garden Cocktail

5 mint leaves, bruised
30ml gin
2 tsp elderflower cordial (use more or less, depending on how sweet you like it)
2 tsp lemon juice
large handful of ice
cloudy apple juice, for topping up
1 long strip of cucumber, peeled using a vegetable peeler

Mix the mint leaves, gin, elderflower cordial and lemon juice together in the bottom of a tall glass using a long-handled spoon. Add a large handful of ice, then top up with the apple juice. Stir well, then drop in the strip of cucumber before serving.

My Green Dip –

If anyone would like to come up with a good name, I would love to hear it!

1 teaspoon cumin
1 teaspoon coriander seed
40g flat leaf parsley
40g coriander
2 green chillies 3 cloves garlic
1 bunch spring onions 2 tablespoons capers or gherkins, chopped
2 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 – 2 tablespoons honey
100ml olive oil salt and pepper



Blitz altogether in a blend till smooth, store in a jar with a little more oil on top. Serve as a dip with tortilla chips, pitta bread, batons of carrots and cucumber.



Harissa Sea Bass with griddled vegetables

1 courgette, trimmed and cut into ribbons using a vegetable peeler
2 red peppers, deseeded and cut into thick slices
2 red onions, cut into wedges
1 tbsp vegetable oil
4 sea bass fillets
1 tsp harissa paste

Heat a griddle pan over a high heat until very hot. Brush the vegetables all over with the oil and griddle for 5 minutes, turning once, until charred and tender. Meanwhile, preheat the grill to medium. Put the fish on a baking tray and brush each fillet with the harissa paste. Season with freshly ground pepper and cook under the grill for 4-5 minutes, until cooked. Divide the griddled vegetables among the plates and top with the harissa sea bass.



Watermelon, feta and mint salad

650g watermelon, cut into triangles 400g radishes, thinly sliced, 80g bag watercress, spinach and rocket salad 15g fresh mint, roughly chopped 150g feta, 35g pine nuts, toasted 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil 1 lemon, juiced and zested 1 tsp honey

In a large bowl, mix together the watermelon, radishes, salad leaves and mint. Whisk the olive oil, lemon juice, half the lemon zest and the honey together and pour over the salad. Toss to

combine well. Transfer to a serving platter and sprinkle over the feta and toasted pine nuts before serving.



Poached nectarines in elderflower and lemon syrup

6 ripe but firm white or yellow-fleshed nectarines
37.5cl bottle dessert wine
3 tbsp elderflower cordial
A few pieces of pared lemon zest and juice of 1 lemon
A handful of pitted cherries, halved

Put the nectarines in a bowl. Pour boiling water over them, then leave for 30 seconds. Drain, then peel using a small sharp knife. Pour the wine into a wide-based shallow pan with the elderflower cordial and the pared lemon zest and juice. Bring to a simmer, add the nectarines and simmer gently, partially covered with a lid, for 15 minutes or until just tender. Using a draining spoon, transfer the fruit to a glass bowl. Pour over the poaching liquid. Serve warm scattered with the cherries. If you have any unsprayed rose petals, scatter over for an extra-special presentation.

Jazz News Peter Farrall



August 31st is the end of the financial and artistic year for Pershore Jazz when we review the past twelve months and begin planning for the year ahead. It seems only a short while since Washington Whirligig played us into the reopening of Pershore Jazz Club in the Function Room at Pershore Town F C but it was, in fact, September of last year. Memories of the lockdown years and the ever-present spectre of Covid hovering in the background

meant that a cap on audience numbers and due regard for distancing were deemed necessary. We introduced a system of advance booking and pay on entry which greatly helped with control of capacity and spacing. This policy, which continued throughout the year, is still relevant at present with the reported surge in Covid cases and consequent audience apprehension. Nevertheless, we've had eleven wonderful club sessions with toe

tapping, good time jazz from the Whirligigs, Graham Smith's Notables, Sarah Spenser's Transatlantic Band and Dave Browning's Jazz Cats. Spats Langham's Hot Fingers came to delight us with their programme of acoustic jazz from way back when, and then there was the dazzling violin virtuosity of Ralph Allin. First class jazz and wry humour were provided by Alan Barnes and Dave Newton at Christmas (no fish'n'chips this time, just mince pies) and an infusion of glamour came courtesy of the Hotsy Totsy all girl band. Two springtime months brought us back to back sophistication with Wendy Kirkland and TJ Johnson, two of Britain's finest vocalists, and their bands. Nick Ward's Jelly Roll Quartet rounded off the club sessions with an education in early jazz leaving just one more offering to come in August. "Pershore Jazz on a Summer's Day" features a

day of jazz from the 1920's, 30's and 40's performed by musicians from the Keith Nichols Memorial Orchestra – a tribute to the late, great man himself. We enjoyed a year of eclectic performances despite lingering effects of the Covid pandemic and lockdown and we are looking forward to an equally diverse programme for the coming season. Just a teaser from our forthcoming attractions; our longtime friends Jeff and Ann Barnhart will be over from the USA in September to present their "Sweet and Hot" show accompanied by Spats Langham and our own Graham Smith. An auspicious start to another twelve months. Keep Jazzin!
Pershore Jazz on a Summer's Day
Saturday 13th August
2.00pm - 5.30pm and
7.15pm - 10.30pm
at Number 8 Community Arts Centre, High Street, Pershore
Box Office 01386 555488
www.number8.org

Looking after the garden during hot weather

Nikki Hollier - Border In A Box



Watering is key to growing plants well, but we need to use this resource wisely and be mindful of the effects of climate change and protect the environment.

There is no general rule of thumb for watering as each plant has different needs - for example, a container plant in hot sunny weather may need watering daily, whereas a mature shrub might only need a drink in extreme drought.

Best time of day is to water in the morning - this helps reduce slugs and snails as they love a cool damp plant pot and soil and are more prevalent in the evening (or after rain).

A large plant in a small pot will need more frequent watering than one planted in a border. Rainfall, hours of sunshine, temperature, wind, and humidity will affect the rate of water use.



Generally speaking, plants use more water in the warmer summer months and less in the cooler winter months.

Wilting can indicate underwatering and overwatering. So do a touch test of the soil and put your fingers under the surface to see if it's dry, if so, water well.

Water the soil, not the plant/leaves so the roots receive the water and reduces the risk of disease on the leaves.

If you have saucers under your pots, don't let your plants sit in water for a long time - this could damage your plant roots and will freeze in the winter and potentially drown them in the summer.

Save rainwater - plants much prefer natural water rather than tap water. Install a water butt with a rainwater diverter which are designed to collect water from the down pipe and still lets the overflow enter the drain. You can avoid the water becoming smelly or carrying diseases if you clean water butts annually. Once your water butt is set up, you can attach a solar powered watering system. This looks like a hosepipe, but it has drippers at intervals to place into the soil/pots to water your plants.

Hozelock also have automated watering systems that you can fit to an outside tap with a timer so the watering can be done at the same time every day, which has been proven to reduce water consumption compared to a standard hosepipe.

More top tips:

1. Sunshine can cause damage to leaves and scorch them (it can turn the leaves brown and flowers to drop off), so if they're in pots, move them into dappled shade to protect them. If they're in the ground, you could use an open garden parasol to create some shade and protection from the sun.

2. Add a mulch to the surface (of the pot or border) to reduce water evaporation (this also reduces weeding too, so it's a double win!)

3. If you're planting a new garden, do it on a cloudy day and make sure the plants are watered regularly until they're established.



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 Royal Horticultural Society
 Silver Medal Winner &
 Peoples Choice Award Winner

August gardening tips

Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester

Early in the Month

Keep dead-heading flowering plants and picking beans to maintain production.

Liquid feed bedding plants in tubs and baskets but switch to high Nitrogen feed which stimulates new growth for flowering later.

If carrot fly bothers you, grow the crop under garden fleece or insect barrier mesh for excellent control.

Thin out overcrowded water lily foliage on ponds.

Start preparing the soil for laying new lawns next month.

Vine Weevils will be laying eggs in tubs and containers now.

One sure remedy is to water the compost with Bug Clear Ultra Vine Weevil Killer which makes the compost vine weevil proof for two months. For natural control use nematodes or put a half inch deep layer of horticultural grit on the surface of the compost to deter successful egg laying.

Mid-Month

Take cuttings from Geraniums, Fuchsias, Penstemons and other semi-hardy plants.

Keep Camellias, Magnolias, Pieris, Rhododendrons and Azaleas well watered to prevent bud drop later.

Semi-ripe cuttings can be taken from a wide range of shrubs. Pot some strawberry runners into 18cm (7in) pots. Leave them outside until January then put them in the greenhouse for an early crop.

Trim over lavender, Santolina (cotton lavender), Helichrysum (curry plant) lightly after flowering. Sow last outdoor carrots, lettuce, radish and spinach beet in the vegetable garden.

Sow Japanese onion seeds soon or buy autumn planting onion sets next month.

Summer prune Wisteria - cut back all new growth to five leaves up from where it arises from main branch, unless it is required to extend the plant. Sow Browallia, Schizanthus and

Calceolaria in the greenhouse for winter pot plants.

Plant young strawberry runners for cropping next year.

Take Hydrangea cuttings - they could make a flowering pot plant for next year.

Try collecting some seed from your own garden plants - you could get a new variety.

Take cuttings from heathers.

Use 2.5 cm (1in) long shoot tips. Root in gritty compost.

Look out for specially stored early seed potatoes, plant soon for new potatoes for Christmas dinner.

Later this Month

Spring flowering bulbs will be around now. Buy Colchicums, Madonna lilies and Autumn flowering crocus soon. Gather up and dispose of diseased rose leaves as they fall. Prune rambler roses. Summer prune trained forms of fruit trees.

Clean and check over greenhouse heaters.

Pot up some herbs dug from the



garden ready to bring indoors in October for winter use. Sow a final batch of parsley seed outdoors and some spring cabbage. Check over any bulbs e.g. tulips that you have in store to ensure that they are fit to re-plant.



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Knowledge gives you power

Karen Harris

In the last of this four part foray into the body's pain mechanisms, there are some points to ponder. You may agree or disagree with some of them but if they have caused you to pause and take stock of any pain cycle you are in, then that's a good thing. We started with 'Joy and Pain,' and how a client had gone back to playing rugby after giving up because of back problems. Next came, 'What truly causes pain,' focusing on the fact that the brain must also be treated along with the body, for long-term success. Last month 'You are not broken' took us further into healing the body and mind together (all can be accessed again @ Pershore Times online.) To finish we must remember that if we are going to rewire our brains to release a pain cycle, the following points are important.

1. Pain is designed to protect: It helps us survive by acting as a danger signal. Pain motivates us to take it easy when tissues need to rest and heal. Pain is designed to keep you safe and can be very important; however, it's also important to recognise when you are stuck in a chronic pain cycle that is no longer serving its purpose.

2. Pain is not just a physical experience: Old models taught us that pain is caused by physical damage to the body. We should recognise that this is just one of many factors, and in fact can be one of the least influential factors when it comes to chronic pain.

3. All pain originates in the brain The pain system is sophisticated and makes high level decisions. All pain originates in the brain. Your brain is always the one calling the shots and deciding how much pain to let you experience. Although pain is in your head it is very real. What's important here, is that you can have severe symptoms without structural damage. The pain of trauma and loss are also very

real and can very easily manifest themselves in what might seem like structural issues in any part of the body, or the stomach or vital organs. Pain such as this is easily misread, a holistic approach takes the guesswork out.

4. Pain is an opinion not a fact: Your brain determines how much pain you should experience in each moment to protect you. First assess whether there is "current" tissue damage. Then ask yourself, how much are you focusing on the pain? How afraid are you of the pain? How much are you trying to control the pain?

In many cases the brain keeps producing pain even when the structural tissue heals due to how you think about the situation and interpret it.

6. To get rid of pain you have to treat the brain:

The way you experience pain has to do with how you interpret the signal. Even if it started as a structural injury, at some point it will be important to ask yourself some questions

- What does your pain mean to you?
- Do you send signals to your body that you are fragile? Broken? How can you let go of tension in your body?
- How can you overcome your fear of movement?
- How can you retrain your body's pain response?

7. Knowledge gives you power: This is my final point, and to me the most important. You must begin to understand the biological processes of pain. This education (the whole Posture Alignment Therapy process is based on this) is linked with a decrease in symptoms, improved function, reduced fear, improved mobility, and a balanced nervous system. I hope that has given you food for thought, and if you are able to reassess any chronic pain symptoms you may have, then power - and control - to you!

'Musings from Mull'

Angela Johns

I have just got back from a great week cycle touring on Mull. Yes, it rained. How else would it stay beautifully green, like a jewel? As I wandered around the stone circle at Lochbuie, with the dramatic landscape as a backdrop, I wondered how the ancients felt about the scene before me. I do love a beach, but mountains move me. I was in awe. That night as we zipped the tent closed to the view of Ben Buie leaving us with the sound of lapping waves and urgent trills of the oystercatchers, I felt a thrill at immersing myself in my surroundings. The awe felt by the ancients must have been heavy with respect, as nature takes as well as gives. My awe, however, is heavy with wonder, for my experience is for pleasure not survival. With this different perspective it is a good reminder to brush up on my personal value of tolerance. The more I can accept that others may have a different viewpoint, the greater my inner peace. If I can think a little more deeply about the possible origins of someone's behaviour, I might find renewed respect. When I practise empathy by putting myself in someone else's shoes, my understanding grows. So, when I catch myself becoming irritated by another's actions or impatient in that queue, I must try to understand my judgement in order to find the path to a better day. Is my stance the only steadfast truth? Do I know better than everyone else?



Does the world really revolve around me? Of course not. I think a sense of curiosity is a key to developing tolerance. 'Why?' is a brilliant question. 'Why not?' is even better. Firstly, as a step to understanding another person a little better before you step in with your own story. Secondly, to understand ourselves better too. When you learn something about someone else it teaches you something about yourself. Learning about yourself is a form of self love when you can do it gently with some tolerance. We are our own harshest critic. Lesson 13 according to Guan Yin is: When you want to judge, be love.

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

"The perfect bureaucrat everywhere is the man who manages to make no decisions and escape all responsibility"

Brooks Atkinson, 1894 - 1984

Reg Moule

In addition to his award winning media work Reg is also available to speak at Gardening Societies and other organisations something that he has been doing regularly since 1972.

If you would like Reg to visit your group please email reg.moule@gmail.com for further details and to check availability.



Wellbeing Hub welcomes you!

What is wellbeing and why is it important?

Wellbeing:

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Research shows that there are a core group of actions we can proactively adopt to improve our levels of wellbeing.



So, what is this Wellbeing Hub all about? Originally coming from the Pershore Town Plan, such a facility was voted by residents to be the most important way to increase physical and psychological wellbeing in Pershore and the surrounding villages.

Where are we?

We opened the Hub on the 23rd June 2021 at No. 4 High Street Pershore. Look out for us next to KC Carpets.

What you will find

At the Hub you will be able to pop in for a chat with our friendly volunteers, who will be ready with a cuppa and time to talk, entirely for free, and of course, confidential. This may be all that is needed. However, we can help with everything from filling in complex forms, connecting people, to exploring what information, groups, clubs, or new hobbies that can enhance your wellbeing. Look for our website www.pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk on here you will find wellbeing information and a searchable directory of activities and services both locally and nationally. You'll be amazed at what is already happening in Pershore! We are also on Facebook.

I want to emphasise that the Hub welcomes everybody, and I hope will help you get the best from our community. Please do visit us online but more importantly pop into the Hub, where we would be delighted to show you round and have a chat.

We are open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and are seeing around 100 visitors per month. We look forward to seeing you.

Gill Perks



So much more than a massage.

Emily Papirnik



I remember training in 2006 for my first holistic massage course. It was extremely thorough and my tutor was always keen to share anything new she had learned. I remember learning about fascia and very early on realising what a huge game changer this was for hands on therapies, many courses didn't change their teaching for years later. A very comprehensive course taught by someone who thought it was vital to be truly holistic. She encouraged our own way of working for the individuals we saw and the individuals we were becoming as hands-on therapists. We danced around each other and the tables, we learned empathy but also our own boundaries. We understood the importance of stepping back and realising we can't always help everyone. I have found that my massage has evolved, as of course it should over the years with extra training that I have done. I have realised that I support my clients with words too and with energy work, if that is

wanted. Every client is different and every client has different needs to be addressed and supported with. I have noticed since the start of the pandemic such a lot has changed in the way people are seeing the world, seeing their world and understanding what they need as individuals. A selflove, a kindness to their bodies and a willingness to start to put themselves at the top of the pile. This is such a huge shift and so wonderful to witness. The better you feel, the more understanding, the more thoughtful and kinder you will be able to be to others



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“The first duty of a leader is optimism. How does your subordinate feel after meeting with you? Does he feel uplifted? If not, you are not a leader”

Bernard Law Montgomery



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Heritage & History Society

A wake was the name given to a holiday festival, once celebrated in all the English country parishes. Its usual purpose was to commemorate the birthday of the saint to whom the church was dedicated. A night of religious devotions in the church was followed by a day of merry making. But over the years the wake gradually lost its religious significance and became an excuse for drunkenness, rowdyism and immoral behaviour. Before the advent of the motor car there appeared to be street entertainment nearly every day. An old Bromsgrove resident recalled the 'Good old days' and complained about the loss of the strange characters that brought the streets alive. The medieval plays were a feature of all cathedral towns and cities. Worcester would have seen many companies of mummers performing for a number of pilgrims visiting the shrines of Oswald and Wustan. Not all wakes were riotous. Some were well organised as village sports. Such were Eckington and Crophome wakes in the mid nineteenth century. It was in Pershore, that the elephants came into their own. Apparently, it was not unusual to encounter a herd of circus elephants wandering from the Birmingham area at festival times. Pershore Fair had for centuries been held in the Abbey churchyard, for in the days of Henry III, the Abbot of Pershore had obtained a patent to hold a fair on the feast day of St Eadburga, the patroness of the



Abbey, like any other fair, by the nineteenth century, it became a rowdy and joyous event. It was at the time of the religious revival, and in 1836 Henry Sherwin, editor of the one and only issue of the 'Worcestershire Mirror,' published in Pershore, described the scene in the churchyard, 'Scarcely was the Sabbath worship concluded when the sacred gates were thrown open, the churchyard was presently filled with the very scum of society....' Henry Sherwin's words brought the churchgoers into action for after the service they barricaded and locked the gates of the churchyard to make a fence in front to stop the showmen entering and elephants rampaging. From that year Pershore Fair was no longer held in the churchyard! But annual festivals continue to host many events around the town. It was a privilege to be in Pershore at the time when our longest reigning monarch celebrated her platinum jubilee. Long live the Queen!

Heather Greenhalgh

"When business is good it pays to advertise; when business is bad you've got to advertise!"

Anon.



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Capital gains tax on second homes

Carol Draper

Recently I have been approached by a number of clients requesting help with filing Capital Gains tax returns to HMRC following the sale of UK residential property. As such I thought it would be helpful to give a reminder of the reporting requirements and provide a guide to anyone who wishes to brave the HMRC reporting system themselves.



From 31st October 2021 there has been a requirement to report the disposal of a second residential property and pay the estimated Capital Gains Tax due to HMRC within 60 days of completion.

The return needs to be made online using the HMRC digital service and while solicitors will help with the sale of the property and may well advise that a return must be submitted, they will not get involved in submitting the return itself.

Before any return can be prepared, the first step is to set up a government gateway account.

To report any Capital Gains Tax due to HMRC search online for reporting and paying Capital Gains

Tax on UK Property and from there you will be able to set up a Capital Gains Tax account using your government gateway details.

The system will guide you through the various entries that need to be made for both income and expenditure to calculate the tax that is due. If a property is jointly owned, a separate return needs to be made for each owner showing their proportion of the income and costs.

Depending on your other income for the year, Capital Gains tax on property disposals is charged at either 18% or 28% so you will also need to have details of your income such as salary, pension, investment and rental income for the year in order to calculate the correct tax liability.

While the system has been set up to enable individuals to make their own returns, I would always recommend seeking the advice of an accountant to ensure the return is accurate and the tax calculated is correct as it is easy to miss things or make mistakes, especially if a property has been jointly owned.

Carol Draper FCCA

Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co Ltd

"If people want a sense of purpose they should get it from their archbishop. They should certainly not get it from their politicians"

Harold MacMillan 1894 - 1986

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Polish Postscript

Tim Hickson



The Lincoln flying low on one engine

On September the 3rd, 1939, Britain and France declared war on Nazi Germany as that country had, two days earlier, invaded Poland. What we often forget is that just sixteen days after Germany attacked from the south-west, Russia invaded from the north-east. Not surprisingly, Poland was, in the end, defeated. Its military became Prisoners of War but many civilians were also

imprisoned. Of these, the Russians then murdered over 20,000. Because of the mass graves later found there, this episode became known as the Katyn Forest Massacre. Half Poland's military officers, thousands of police, landowners, lawyers, including women were killed, apparently, in case they might lead objections to their country being ruled by Russia.

No wonder the Polish people hated the Germans but more so, Stalin's Russians. No wonder those who escaped were such formidable allies on land, in the air and at sea for Britain, France and the USA - as I touched on last month. Soon after the end of that war, when I was a boy and living in Cornwall, we went to the local RAF station, St. Eval, to watch

an airshow put on by the aircrew for their families and for the locals. Many RAF stations did this then. The picture shows a dare-devil flight during a display at RAF Defford. The aircraft is a Lincoln, a derivative of the Lancaster bomber. Notice how low it is and that its undercarriage is retracted. Now look at how many of its four propellers are turning. Yes, one! This very experienced aircrew would have been in combat and now, in peacetime, they needed some excitement. What I saw at RAF St. Eval was similar flying by a Shackleton, another derivative of the Lancaster. It, too, flew above the runway, very low and with only one engine running. However, what came next was even more remarkable. A Spitfire, with its single engine, approached at the same height. This was flown by a Polish pilot who had just learnt that the Russians were back and had over-run his family home. His Spitfire was flying upside down. It was an amazingly skilful thing to do; the Polish pilots' ability was much admired in the RAF.



An RAF Shackleton



A Spitfire



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So near but so different.....

Brian Johnson-Thomas

Guernsey is just three hours by fast ferry from the British mainland at Poole, but it's in virtually a different universe from our crowded, frenetic, lifestyle. It's a compact island, but it contains a lot of surprises, a range of enjoyable activities and real value-for-money accommodation options.

We went with Condor Breaks, the package tour end of the Condor Ferries company (*See www.condorferries.co.uk/holidays*) which has the great advantage of being able to take your own car, for a more stress-free experience.

We left home at around 8am, had a late breakfast en route in Salisbury and checked in at the ferry port in time to have lunch on board the Condor Liberation fast ferry as it sailed into the Channel. Check in was swift and easy, as was getting off at St Peter Port, the island's capital. We enjoyed, too, the aircraft style reclining seats and the wide ranging views of the passing ships followed all too soon by the sight of the French coast, then the first Channel Island, Alderney, and then our destination. From the port to our hotel for the next few nights was a swift transit of some twenty minutes.

.....and that's to the other side of the island, the rocky west coast and the recently refurbished Driftwood Inn. This popular hotel has just eighteen exquisite rooms, most with sea views and staff who really cannot do enough to pamper their guests along with a good and varied menu.

(*See www.driftwoodinn.co.uk*) Because the island is quite

compact it's also easy to use the extensive bus service with circular routes passing the Inn in both directions, and also at what are for us on the mainland- rather cheap prices. Driving is also more of a pleasure on the island than it is here with a speed limit of 35mph and, because there's no VAT, cheaper petrol and diesel. (This also means that, for example, a ladies' dress bought in M&S in St Peter Port is cheaper than the selfsame dress bought in M&S in Worcester. This, of course, applies equally to all shops selling all goods. Gents you are warned!) For such a small island we were impressed by the range of entertainment on offer and the quality of the bars and restaurants generally. Given that you can drive all round the island in well under an hour it's indeed surprising to find so many different and interesting locations – and from so many periods of our joint history. 'Joint' and yet different because the Channel Islands are subjects of Her Majesty by virtue of her subsidiary title as Duke of Normandy and royal power on the island is still in theory vested in a Lieutenant Governor – although, in practice, the island and the smaller islands around – Alderney, Sark, Herm and Jethou are a flourishing democracy with their own parliament and government. (I'm already planning a return trip there which involves a stay on car-free Sark or possibly Herm.) One chapter of history which we don't share though, relates to the German occupation of the islands from 1940 to 1945. You may



have either read the book or seen the film entitled the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society and if you have then you will better understand the massive concrete structures which still litter – in some cases 'scar' – the island to this day. The most prominent of these are now often open as museums of some sort but there are so many of them... It was, indeed, a dark time and looking back on it now it seems barely credible. Other historical epochs are also well represented, from Castle Cornet whose grim presence still looms over St Peter Port (and which still fires a noon day gun) and where the long agony of the English Civil war was prolonged. (*See www.visitguernsey.com*) For our return home we opted for the slower ferry, the Condor Clipper which sails between the islands and the port of Portsmouth. Ours was an overnight crossing and we enjoyed a well appointed cabin, which had bunks for four, plus an en suite shower, toilet and washbasin. Two of these cabins are adapted for wheelchair users and the lift up from the car

deck is more than adequate for the disabled. There's a pleasant Brasserie on board, a duty free shop with some tempting bargains. Because of the unique status of the Channel Islands purchases qualify for British duty free allowances so, for example we can each bring into the UK duty free 24 bottles of still wine. It just so happens that, when we travelled, Condor were offering any six bottles from a wide selection for just £24, including a free carry-on bag, cigarettes were on offer at around £75 for 400 and there were many other bargains. *Scroll through the [Gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website for full details of all the allowances.* To be completely up to date the Driftwood Inn still has some vacancies this month and into September and Condor Ferries also have some capacity. If you're still unsure about where to go then this destination has the supreme advantage that there's no worry about possible flight cancellations, no need for a passport (as long as you have other photo ID) and, best of all, no queues. *Maybe see you there?*

Flying abroad

How to claim compensation if your flight's delayed or cancelled. If you are planning on taking holidays abroad it is worth bearing in mind your rights if your flight is delayed or cancelled? If your flight's delayed for long enough, your airline has to give you: food and drink; access to phone calls and emails; accommodation if you're delayed overnight - and journeys between the airport and the hotel. How long the delay has to be depends on the distance of the flight and the countries it's flying between. You can check the flight distance on the WebFlyer website - webflyer.com - for this information. The airline might give you vouchers to get these

things at the airport. You're entitled to get compensation if the flight arrives more than 3 hours late and it's the airline's fault - for example, if they didn't get enough bookings or there was a technical fault. You're entitled to a set amount of compensation depending on both: the distance of your flight, and the length of the delay - how late you are getting to your destination. You're unlikely to get compensation if the delay was because of something outside the airline's control, like bad weather or a security risk. You don't have to take the flight if it's delayed for 5 hours or more. If you decide not to take it or it is cancelled you can get a full refund. If you do take

the flight you can claim up to £520 in compensation if the delay is the airline's fault. You can claim from the airline to get compensation but you might be able to claim from your travel insurance – check if your insurance policy covers cancellations. If you claim from the airline this needs to be the airline operating the flight, even if you booked it through another airline. The airline's customer services department will usually help. Be ready to give all your flight details and booking reference numbers. Write your claim – say what went wrong and what you want the airline to give you. The Civil Aviation Authority has information about how to

write a good claim and you can download a template letter from the Which? website. Include copies (not originals) of your tickets and any receipts. If the airline refuses your claim you can complain to an independent regulatory organisation. Check if the airline is a member of an approved alternative dispute resolution (ADR) body. If they are, complain to the ADR body. If they're not, report your issue to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) using the form on its website. The CAA's Passenger Advice and Complaints Team (PACT) will deal with your complaint.



Teenage Focus

Romy Kemp (17)

You need a vision, a passion, a dream!

My passion has always been for the writing part of journalism, never for presenting. Whatever it is that I end up spending my life on, it will include the use of language and analysis. It will involve English. My plan is to study English at university, with possibly a joint honour in Politics (to go on to become a political journalist, teacher, or politician...).

A passion for writing or presenting may allow you to narrow your focus down to what it is specifically that you want to become/ do in the sector of the press. With a wide range of careers from sports, arts, celebrities, to (more serious issues) such as political, crime, education, environmental, and business.

Due to the media and publishing industry changing, and becoming more relevant than ever, journalists will become more necessary and significant to the developing world. It is part of a journalist's job to bring attention to overlooked and important issues that have arisen and should be a contributing factor to anyone wanting to pursue a job in



journalism as it's crucial to our planet's survival. Although sad for many, I have enjoyed the change from newspapers to online- as I'm sure it has helped the environment by not having to cut down as many trees. I care for the planet, and the environment is important to me (as it should be to all of you as well). With more drastic issues arising, such as global warming and war, more coverage will be needed on these urgent matters/ concerns.

Starting A-Levels and making difficult decisions

It is natural to be frightened in the last few years of school. It is an anxious and stressful time. The right next steps for you need a lot of thought. I want this to be a guide on how to decrease stress during those tough times. For future (and upcoming) A-Level students, here is my advice to you. Ask your teachers, or any professional, all the questions that you have- from tuition and finance to predicted grades, or anything else that you need help with. Keeping up to date with homework and notes as well as working neatly by keep everything structured, will help keep you organised.

If a subject isn't working for you and you are allowed to drop it, I'd advise dropping it early. Start writing your personal statement as soon as your school advises- you can then focus on revision later. Do your own research

about universities- it is your life, don't allow family members or friends to sway your decisions on important issues based on what they want, it will be you doing it, not them- find your own path, and choose the one that's right for you. Universities are interested in wider reading so show them your interest in your chosen subject. Start early with reading and make sure to write notes on it (podcasts, books, TED Talks are all useful)- you can look back on the notes if the universities ask you questions. These can all still apply to anyone moving further into education, and to anyone who thinks they're behind on work, or unorganised. You can work on it, buy folders and sort out one thing at a time.

To all of you, you can do it!

Gregory's world!

Gregory Sidaway (18)

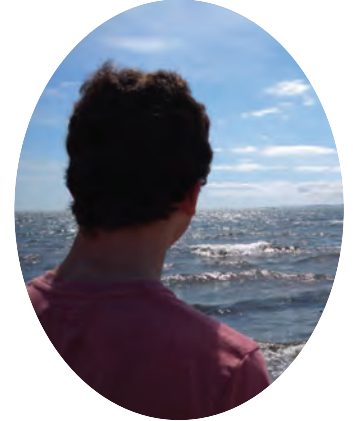
Heat, jobs and coffee shops

That was hot, wasn't it?

We survived those scorching two days at the end of June, fellow reader!

Everyone thought Monday was going to be the big one until the sequel on Tuesday turned out to be even more intense than the first. Hopefully, you remained close to an air conditioner, wet flannel or an iced latte as the whole country cooked. Did you see the before-and-after satellite images that were released? The 'before' one showed the country as we're used to seeing ourselves from all the way up there, rugged and speckly-green; the 'after' looked like we'd switched continents, everything was yellow and parched and in dire need of rehydration salts. After much speculation, the record temperature was broken after Heathrow reported 40.2 degrees Celsius at 12.50pm on Tuesday 19th. At home, we closed all the curtains and put tin foil in the windows to reflect most of the heat back outside, which worked very well but did remind me of the film, Bird Box, where Sandra Bullock has to black out all the windows to hide from unpleasant aliens outside.

(Thankfully, the heat must've kept the aliens away as well.) I don't know about you but I just lay there sweltering like a starfish with my face near a fan until I couldn't feel it any more. Every time I went outside, it reminded me of when you test the temperature of a steaming bath you've just run; just as people dip their toes in and pull them out immediately, I quickly retreated inside the house to put my head in the fridge. I've never been more thankful to see clouds in the sky. I guess you could say the heatwave was a learning curve for me, I now appreciate an overcast day. So what's been happening? Well, school's out; while I await my A-Level results with baited breath and loudly nervous gulps, I've been filling my time with day trips to the beach, the Forest of Dean, and Hay-on-Wye (all of which I recommend), along with coffee shops and even a new pair of glasses; these ones are thicker to accommodate for my



troublesome right eye, and wider so I've now upgraded to widescreen vision. I feel like a Toshiba TV. I've also been job hunting, as I think it makes sense to have some extra bob in my pocket for when I go to Uni. My heart was pounding as I walked down the high street with envelopes containing CV's under my arm. Two of them, I'm happy to say, were accepted and - fingers crossed - I may get confirmation soon. I'm glad I went for this option. For a good day or two, I had a keen interest in doing night shifts at Tesco; not quite sure what I was thinking - as the latest I've ever stayed awake was 4 o'clock on my eventful clubbing night and that nearly destroyed me. Perhaps I was sort of envisioning a scenario like in Le Carré's The Night Manager, or even the Night at the Museum films, where I help out in the background and fix everything up for the next morning, sorting issues for people when they have a problem. My plan is not to return to McDonald's, as I feel like a change is probably for the best after last summer. But oh well, maybe that might still happen!

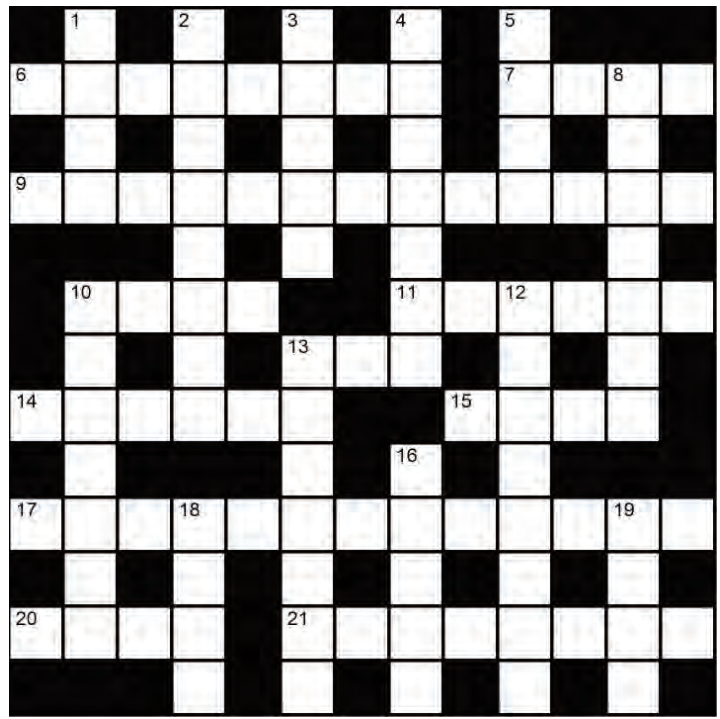
Have a fantastic summer, fellow reader, treat yourself to somewhere nice. Maybe don't try going via Dover, though. I look forward to seeing you again very soon!

Coffee Break

Pershore Times today! Do you enjoy Jigsaw puzzles? Play online for FREE, visit: www.pershoreline.co.uk/coffeebreak

- Across**
- 6 Addictive substance (8)
 - 7 Old Peruvian (4)
 - 9 Liable to mishaps (8-5)
 - 10 Exclamation to express sorrow (4)
 - 11 Simpler (6)
 - 13 And not (3)
 - 14 Improvise (4,2)
 - 15 Mountains (4)
 - 17 Junior officer (3-10)
 - 20 Scene of Christ's first miracle (4)
 - 21 Sporting competitors (8)

- Down**
- 1 Baby powder (4)
 - 2 Trigger (8)
 - 3 Yorkshire town on the Wharfe (5)
 - 4 Throw loosely about (7)
 - 5 Deceiver (4)
 - 8 Plead guilty (7)
 - 10 Sea north of Australia (7)
 - 12 Prevented from speaking (8)
 - 13 Feed container (7)
 - 16 Restless (5)
 - 18 Common church roof material (4)
 - 19 Want (4)



Sudoku

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

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

July Answers

1	S	2	A	3	M	4	C	5	S	6	D	7	A			
8	C	A	R	W	A	S	H	9	T	R	O	T	S			
	R		R		S		A		I		N		S			
10	A	T	O	M	S			11	S	O	T	H	E	R	E	
	P		G					T		C				N		
12	S	H	A	M	E			13	E	X	H	A	14	U	S	T
								N		N			E		N	
16	D	U	T	I	F	U	L	17			18	S	I	D	O	N
	W							O							E	A
20	E	A	R	D	R	U	M				22	S	Y	R	U	P
	L		A		C											
23	L	U	N	G	E			24	T	R	I	V	I	A	L	
	S		D													

Wordsearch

- | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|
| AILS | EAT UP | ONLY |
| ANECDOTE | ELFIN | PAY |
| ASKED | FACT | RCA |
| ASP | FAIR | SADR |
| AWE | GAS | SELLER |
| AYR | HST | SOY |
| BURST | IDEA | TOUT |
| CALLS | JOSH | TWICE |
| CID | LACKS | UNWIND |
| DAZE | MAD | VC R |
| DM ZS | MARK | YOU'RE |
| DUE | METER | |

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

Poets' Corner

A Shropshire Lad ii

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
 Is hung with bloom along the bough,
 And stands about the woodland ride
 Wearing white for Eastertide.

Now, of my threescore years and ten,
 Twenty will not come again,
 And take from seventy springs a score,
 It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom
 Fifty springs are little room,
 About the woodlands I will go
 To see the cherry hung with snow.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

A E Housman was born at Valley House in Fockbury, near Bromsgrove in Worcestershire. Housman was educated at King Edward's, Birmingham and later Bromsgrove School. Where he revealed his academic promise and won prizes for his poems. In 1877 he won an open scholarship to St John's College, Oxford.

Housman completed 'A Shropshire Lad', a cycle of 63 poems. After publishers turned it down, he subsidised its publication. At first selling slowly, it rapidly became a lasting success. the book has been in print continuously since May 1896. Housman died, aged 77, in Cambridge. He was buried near to St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, Shropshire.

Notice

Re-printing of Memories of a Childhood Book

We would like to republished 'Memories of a Childhood' in memory of Ruth Jackson. A remarkable story by a remarkable lady.

The original book was written by Ruth Jackson in 2004, Sadly Ruth died some years ago and we have been unable to trace the present copyright holder. Any information about this should be passed to the publisher so that it can be acknowledged in future editions. We do not wish to offend the copyright holder in any way but this story of heartbreak and courage should never be out of print.

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Pershore Times

today!

Today's news online

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Spot & Shop - July Winners

- 1) Graham Riches
- 2) Katherine Harvey
- 3) Maureen Giles
- 4) David Tustin
- 5) Jean Tomlinson
- 6) Toddy Andrews

Last month's answer: Ashwell Home Care Services

Fun Quiz!



1. Which Conservative MP resigned from the Cabinet over the Westland affair in January 1986?
2. 'Bom dia' means Good Morning in which European language?
3. Which ex-Beatle was born Richard Starkey in July 1940?
4. Colonel Mustard and Professor Plum are characters in which popular board game?
5. An audiometer is used to measure which sense of the human body?
6. Which Friends character famously insisted "We were on a break!"?
7. Which band had the highest grossing musical tour of the 1990s with their 'Voodoo Lounge Tour'?
8. Norwegian politician Jens Stoltenberg became head of which organisation in 2014?
9. Which shared name links an actor who played Captain America and a British radio DJ?
10. Which product, commonly used in the shower, takes its name from the Hindi word 'to massage'?
11. In a restaurant, to 'go dutch' means to split the cost of which payment?
12. Beginning with 'F', which company began offering wearable activity trackers in 2014?
13. Victoria Adams, aka Posh Spice, is now better known by which surname?
14. Which company founded by Richard Branson are known for it's Active, Galactic and Radio brands?
15. Wenlock and Mandeville were the official mascots for which event that took place in London in 2012?
16. A statue of which comedian, best known for his jokes about the mother in law, stands in the Lancashire town of Lytham Saint Annes?
17. On the big screen, actors Leonard Nimoy and Zachary Quinto have both portrayed which space character?
18. Sometimes known by it's initials MOH, which honour is the United States government's highest and most prestigious military decoration?
19. Which Spanish tennis player won the French Open nine times in ten years between 2005 and 2014?

Answers: 1. Michael Heseltine 2. Portuguese 3. Ringo Starr 4. Cluedo 5. Hearing 6. Ross Geller 7. The Rolling Stones 8. NATO 9. Chris Evans 10. Shampoo 11. The bill 12. Fitbit 13. Beckham 14. Virgin 15. The Olympic Games 16. Les Dawson 17. Spock 18. Medal of Honor 19. Rafael Nadal

COMPETITION TIME!



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



This month's prizes!

- 1st - £25 cash donated by Pershore Times
- 2nd - £20 Food Voucher at The Queen Elizabeth, Elmley
- 3rd - Revills £10 Voucher
- 4th Masons Arms £10 Guest Voucher
- 5th - Reg Moule's Gardening Diary
- 6th - Pat's Pantry - Jar of home-made marmalade

Complete and return this form or email: news@pershoretimes.co.uk for your chance to win!

Pershore Times closing date: 30th August 2022

Answer:

Name:

Telephone/email:

Return to: Hughes & Company/Pershore Times
 8 Church Street, Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1DT

In memoriam

Bunch. Michael Edward

Passed away on 27th June 2022, in Worcester Royal Hospital, aged 88 years. Beloved husband of the late Elsie and a much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service took place at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 25th July.

Tidby. Marlene

Passed away on Saturday July 9th 2022, aged 75 years. Devoted wife of the late Ray, a much loved Mother and Grandmother. Marlene will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Funeral service took place at The Vale Crematorium on Friday 22nd July.

Young. Margaret Peggy

Passed away on 8th July 2022, aged 87 years. Much loved wife of Arthur, a devoted mum and grandmother, Peggy will be sadly missed by her family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Cemetery Chapel on Monday August 1st at 2.30pm followed by a burial. Family flowers only. Donation, if desired for the Blue Cross may be sent to E Hill & Son

Donations may be sent to:
E Hill & Son Funeral Directors, Pershore WR10 1HZ
Tel: 01386 552141

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Copy Deadline

September Issue - 19th August 2022

"Yes. It's all very simple. I want you to abolish economists... Yes, all of them. They never agree on anything. They just fill the heads of politicians with all sorts of curious notions, like the more you spend, the richer you get."

Margaret Thatcher

Pershore Times

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

So now you know!

There's nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as can be;
I've Arthritis in my knees
And when I talk, I talk with a
wheeze,
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin
But I'm awfully well - for the
state I'm in.

I've got supports for both my feet;
without them I can't go on the
street.

Sleep is denied me night after night,
But every morning I find I'm alright.
My memory's failing, my head's
in a spin,

But I'm awfully well - for the
state I'm in.

The moral is, as my tale I unfold,
That for you and me, who are
now growing old,
It's better to say, "I'm fine", with
a grin,

Than to let other folk know of
the state we are in.

How do I know that my youth is
now spent?

Well, my get-up-and-go just got
up and went.

Old age is golden I've heard it
said,

But sometimes I wonder as I get
into bed.

My ears in the drawer, my teeth

in the cup, my eyes on the table
until I wake up.

As sleep overtakes me I say to
myself,
"Is there anything else I should
have left on the shelf?"

When I was young my slippers
were red,
I could kick my heels right over
my head;

As I grew older, my slippers
were blue, but I could still dance
the whole night through.

I'm older still and my slippers are
black,

I rush to the shops and puff my
way back.

At last dear friend, my tale is
now told,
So harken all you who are now
growing old,

Get up each morning, sharpen
your wits,
Pick up the paper and read the
obits.

If your name isn't there you'll
know you're not dead,

So have a good breakfast and go
back to bed.

And when you've read this, just
say with a grin

"I'm not bad at all- for the state
that I'm in"

*Courtesy of Harold Wilson
102, 9th Feb '23*



Pershore Town Choir

Always wanted to SING?
TRY PERSHORE TOWN CHOIR

All are welcome. No auditions

It doesn't matter if you are a complete beginner or if you are a regular performer, we'd be delighted to see you. Our choir members represent a diverse range of backgrounds, ethnicity and age groups

Every Wednesday Evening 7.30pm - 9.00pm

At Pershore Abbey, Church Walk, Pershore WR10 1BL

Join an amazing team contact 07933 172364 or just turn up

www.pershoretownchoir.co.uk



Next Monthly Meeting Talk

Tuesday September 20th 2022

at Number 8, High Street Pershore at 2pm
(NO MEETING IN AUGUST)

All welcome to hear

**Sara Downing, local author, talk about
her novel set at Croome NT property
and her other books.**

For more details contact **Sally Whyte, Speaker Coordinator:**
email: u3apershoresally@gmail.com



What's On?



Cinema Listings

Between Two Worlds (12A)

Thu 4 Aug - 7.30pm
Directed by Emmanuel
Carrère, 1hr 46 mins,
French with subtitles
Tickets: £8.50

The Phantom of the Open (12A)

Fri 5 Aug - 7.30pm
Directed by Craig Roberts
1hr 42 mins AD
Tickets: £8.50

Double Bill:

Dr. Who & the Daleks & Daleks Invasion Earth 2150 A.D (U)

Sat 6 Aug - 7.00pm
Directed by Gordon Flemyng,
2hrs 50 mins, 1965 & 1966
Tickets: £8.50

The Quiet Girl (12A)

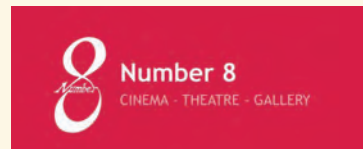
Mon 8 Aug - 11.00am;
Tue 9 Aug - 7.30pm
Directed by Colm Bairéad
1hr 35 mins,
Gaelic with subtitles
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Minions 2: The Rise of Gru (cert tbc)

Tue 9 Aug - 11.00am;
Fri 12 Aug - 2.00pm
Directed by Kyle Balda
1hr 30 mins
Tickets: £7.00

Jurassic World: Dominion (12A)

Thu 11 Aug - 2.00pm;
Fri 12 Aug - 7.30pm
Directed by Colin Trevorrow
2hrs 26 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00



High Street Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1BG

Box Office: 01386 555488 www.number8.org

Email: enquiries@number8.org

Box Office Opening Hours - Telephone Bookings:

In Person Bookings: Mon - Sat 10am - 4pm &
from 6pm on performance evenings

Telephone Bookings: Mon - Sat 4pm - 6pm

Dik Cadbury & Carol Lee Sampson Saturday 20th August 8pm

Singer-Songwriter Carol Lee Sampson, joined by blues guitarist Don Mac, will be performing her own soulful songs of love and hope. In addition we have Dik Cadbury, singer & multi-instrumentalist and former member of 70's Folk-Rock band Decameron. Dik has performed with Steve Hackett, Mike D'Abbo and Johnny Coppin.



NUMBER 8, High St, Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1BG
Tickets: £8 available from BOX OFFICE 01386 555488 number8.org

New evening craft group

Pershore Craft and Chat, A new evening art and craft group is starting in September.

After the overwhelming success of our art and craft for wellbeing groups, which run on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, we are delighted to announce a new evening group, commencing on Monday 12th September at 7.00pm until 8.30pm in the upstairs room at St Andrew's Parish Centre by the Abbey. We are aware that for people who work, study or who have the care of small children or relatives during the day, that many daytime classes are simply not possible. This group will run along similar lines to the current Monday afternoon group who, amongst other things, have made homemade cards, had a go at lino printing, painted stones, tried watercolours, decoupaged tins and made frosted candle holders for Christmas. We have tried our hand at a variety of simple yet effective art and craft projects

and I think we can all say we have surprised ourselves at our results! More importantly, we have created a supportive, friendly group of people from a whole mixture of backgrounds, who simply enjoy the space to meet, chat, craft and enjoy each other's company. We do also consume a lot of tea and coffee and cake!

The new group will run on the second and fourth Mondays of each month commencing on Monday 12th September. All resources and refreshments will be provided. There will be a limit of 16 people and the cost is £20 for the first 4 sessions, payable on the first session.

Do get in touch via email, text or phone call if you would like to book a place.

Wednesday Afternoon Group
The Wednesday group, which started in January, encourages people to come along with their own craft of choice and simply enjoy meeting others in a



friendly, welcoming environment. Whether you like colouring, drawing, painting, knitting, sewing or crocheting (or any other art or craft) you can come along and join the group over a cuppa and a biscuit. The sessions generally take place on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month

1.15pm-2.45pm – the current charge is £2 a session – all are welcome.

Email :
pershorecraftandchat@gmail.com
or text/ring Rachel Duke on 07891 866179
Facebook Page – Pershore Craft and Chat



Join the Arts Society Evesham & Pershore Embrace the return to normality!

www.theartsocietyeandp.org.uk

Support and enjoy the arts by joining us as a member. Fill in and return the cut out application form below. The £46 annual subscription includes free attendance to the nine planned lectures in our

membership year and a quarterly magazine as well as an opportunity to participate in our other activities. We are a member of The Arts Society which is a leading arts education charity with a global

network of local societies which bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. At a local level we also organise day visits, Special Interest Days and cultural holidays and have a group of

Heritage Volunteers and a Young Arts section. We have successfully run our 2021/22 Lecture Programme live and are now presenting our Lecture Programme for 2022/23 set out below.

Wed 14 September 2022

7:15 AGM Followed at 7:45
Lecture, The Art of 1935
Pamela Campbell-Johnston

Wed 12 October 2022

Henry Moor, From Past to Present
Juliet Heselwood

Wed 2 November 2022

Magic Realism in New England
The Mesmerising Work of
Andrew Wyeth - *Stella Grace Lyons*

Tues 6 December 2022

The Century of Deception
Ian Keable

Wed 11 January 2023

In the Kingdom of the Sweets
The Nutcracker
Nigel Bates

Wed 1 February 2023

How to get down from a Yak
Adventure in Central Asian
Nomadic Textiles - *Chris Aslan Alexander*

Wed 12 April 2023

The 10 Tudor Queens - A
Dynasty of Cultural and Artistic
Change

Revd Nicholas Henderson

Wed 10 May 2023

Painting the Modern Garden
From Monet to Matisse
Lydia Bauman

Wed 14 June 2023

The Coast of Cornwall in Art
From the Lizard to Falmouth,

Newlyn, Mousehole, and St. Ives
Catherine Wallace

Wed 13 September 2023

AGM
The Impressionists and the
Painting of Modern Life -
Lois Oliver

Bar, coffee & tea available
from 6.45pm - Lectures at
7.45pm prompt at The Henrician
Arts Centre, Evesham
Guests welcome to the lectures £8

Membership Application Form - £46 per member

Please pay by cheque payable to The Arts Society Evesham & Pershore or by BACS, details below, and in both cases return this Form to the Membership Secretary, Redfern House, White Ladies Aston, Worcester WR7 4QQ

Title..... First name Surname

Title..... First name Surname

Address.....

..... Postcode.....

Telephone..... Email.....

If you would like to pay by BACS our bank details are The Arts Society Evesham & Pershore,
Sort code 30-93-11, account number 02389821, quote your initials and surname as a reference and tick this space ().
On receipt we will send you the Programme Card and our General Data Protection statement

Butterfly scientists call on public for help

Wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation are today urging the whole nation to help Britain's butterflies by taking part in the Big Butterfly Count. Butterfly Conservation revealed in May that half of Britain's remaining butterfly species are now on the Red List and threatened or near threatened with extinction. Last year's Big Butterfly Count saw the lowest ever number of butterflies recorded. As butterflies and moths are an important indicator of the health of our environment, a reduction in their numbers is a cause for serious concern. However, taking part in the Big Butterfly Count is one really positive way that everyone can help. The information gathered is vital in helping scientists understand more about what is happening to the nation's butterflies and therefore put in place the conservation measures needed to protect them. In recent years Butterfly Conservation has helped save two species from extinction in the UK and halted the decline of many others. The charity has proved that with the

right information and targeted action, species can be brought back from the brink. With the numbers of butterflies in decline, learning as much as possible about them is more important than ever. Dr Zoe Randle says: "We really need people's help this year to help us figure out where our butterflies are and what we need to do to save them. It's not just the rare species of butterfly – the ones with restricted habitat or foodplants – that we are concerned about. Some of our previously commonly seen butterflies, like the Small Tortoiseshell, are also declining rapidly." The Small Tortoiseshell, which can be found all over the UK and was once a familiar species in gardens throughout the country, has declined by 79% since 1976. It's one of the species included in the Big Butterfly Count, and Butterfly Conservation hope that data from citizen scientists will mean more can be understood about its fate. Taking part in the Big Butterfly Count is not only good for butterflies – it's good for humans too! Dr



Amir Khan, Butterfly Conservation Ambassador, is one of a number of famous faces supporting the Big Butterfly Count. He says: "Spending time in nature is hugely beneficial to our mental health. Just a short amount of time spent in the natural world can alleviate stress, and connecting with nature can help us feel happier and more energised. Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count is a UK-wide survey open to everyone, of any age, living in towns, cities or the countryside. Taking part requires you to spend just 15 minutes in an outdoor space counting the amount and type of butterflies, and some day-flying moths, you see. It is easy to do and the more people who do it, the greater the benefits to our understanding of nature and how to help it. There were over 150,000 counts submitted to the Big Butterfly

Count last year, more than ever before. Though worryingly, 2021 also saw the lowest average number of butterflies logged since the event began thirteen years ago. More counts are undertaken and submitted year on year, but it seems there are fewer butterflies and moths to be seen. Butterfly Conservation scientists are keen to see if this is a trend that continues in 2022, and how the picture differs for butterflies across the whole of the UK. This means it's more important than ever that the public take part and help to gather the data needed.

This year's Big Butterfly Count runs from the 15th July to the 7th August. For more information and to take part simply visit www.bigbutterflycount.org or download the free Big Butterfly Count app.



VETERINARY ADVICE ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!



Neutering Your Pet

There are many advantages to neutering pets including avoiding unwanted litters, messy seasons and reducing the risk of many health problems such as mammary cancers in females and prostate disease in males. Whilst most owners agree this is the right course of action, we appreciate this can be a worrying time.

Neutering is a surgical procedure and is undertaken under a general anaesthesia. In males the testicles are removed, this is called castration. In females the ovaries are removed, often called a spay. This is done as a day procedure meaning your pet only needs to stay with us for one day. Cats, both male and female, can be neutered from 5 months of age. A castration in a cat does not involve any sutures and most can go back to normal after a couple of days. A female is most commonly operated on via an incision on her side. This often has stitches, and they need to stay rested for around 10 days after the procedure.

The timing of neutering dogs, both male and female, depends on their size. We are more than happy to discuss this with you as to when is the right time for your dog. Male dogs have one incision made just in front of the testicles, they often have stitches and need to stay rested for around 10 days after the surgery. It is important dogs do not lick wounds as this can introduce infections, often a 'cone of shame' is advised. Alternatively, we use surgical vests which are like big babygrows for dogs!

For female dogs we can offer keyhole surgery to spay them. This means we make two small holes and remove the ovaries with the help of a camera. This method means less pain and faster recovery with bitches allowed to resume normal activity 48 hours after the surgery. They do not need to wear a vest or cone and all stitches are buried under the skin.

Don't ever hesitate to ask us about options for neutering, we are more than happy to talk things through with you and explain what to expect.



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Coffee and cups for Bridge Club!



Ladies Pairs: Jan Garratt and Judy Knights



Mens Pairs: Jonathan Morton (pictured) and Tom Morton



Doug Stainton Cup: Marianne Thomas (pictured) and Ruth Simpson

Members of Pershore Duplicate Bridge Club enjoyed a splendid coffee morning at Croome recently where they were able to meet up again in person and congratulate some worthy prize winners. Since Covid the club has played on line twice weekly on Wednesdays and Fridays using the RealBridge platform that enables all four players at a table to see and chat to each other from the comfort of their home and a full programme of competitions and leagues has continued. The friendly nature of

the club has attracted new members domiciled well outside the local area - from Yorkshire to London and its membership now exceeds pre-Covid numbers! The latest prize winners (those who were not on holiday) were presented with their respective trophies: Congratulations to them all.

The club welcomes players of all abilities and if you wish to know more visit their web site at www.bridgewebs.com/pershore



Weir Trophy (Teams):
Veronica and Chris Enticknap;
Rosie Loh; Gethin Jenkins



Open Greensomes charity football match

Another very successful competition was held on 28th July at the Vale Golf and Country Club with the Ladies' Open Greensomes, with 56 entries from twelve different clubs in attendance, with an excellent £291 raised for the Lady Captain's Charity Myeloma UK. The winning pair were Sylvia Andrews from the Vale and Dawn Stanhope from

Redditch, shown in the picture being congratulated by Lady Captain Jan Ledbury, who came in with a super score of 43. Nearest the pin, silver division, was Jane George and nearest the pin bronze was Sue Hicks, both from the Vale, with longest drive silver Leigh Poplow from Redditch and longest drive bronze Jenny Azizi from the Vale.



Walking to Rome



Leaving Pershore Abbey in March 2010 after singing the John Bunyan hymn "To Be a Pilgrim", local man Chris O'Grady set off on a remarkable walk to Rome. This month Pershore and District u3a heard the uplifting story of his intrepid travels and heart-warming encounters with strangers. He planned to walk the 1200 miles through England, France and Italy in four months, staying the night in different beds; over 114 days he had arranged to visit friends or use ouchsurfing.org, but on the 20 or so nights he couldn't rely on that, he planned to knock on doors and ask for help. On each of these nights he was blessed with somewhere to stay and had to use his tent only once on the whole trip. There was the family who invited him in to share a birthday party and watch a rugby game of England v France, nights in village halls with the agreement of the local mayor, the Parisian judge who



trusted him enough to leave her two daughters alone with Chris, the lady who was looking for her lost cat but found Chris, the coachload of Swedes who allowed him to travel through the Mont Blanc Tunnel with them. The stories went on. The more we listened, the more we realised that the world is full of good, kind, trusting people. Chris shared his journal of the walk, filled with messages and good wishes from everyone he encountered. Truly an inspiring talk and walk.

Teams go head to head in charity football match



Two rival superstore football teams will go head-to-head on the pitch this month to raise funds for Worcestershire's St Richard's Hospice. The much-anticipated annual Retail Challenge Cup match between Tesco and Morrisons will be held for the 24th year at Evesham United Football Club Jubilee Stadium on Sunday, 24th July. Organiser Mark Payne founded the event in 1998 in memory of his mum, Gill, who was cared for by St Richard's. This year's event will see Worcester cricket legend Darryl Mitchell present the victorious side with the Retail Challenge

Cup. Tesco triumphed in the last match, winning 10 – 2. "Mum passed away in December 1997 when she was 54, but we are so grateful to the nurses at St Richard's – they were so caring and helpful," said Mr Payne, who works at Tesco in Worcester Road, Evesham. "It was a difficult time and they were so caring and understanding – they were always there. We are really grateful". Since its beginnings, the Retail Challenge Cup has raised around £20,000 for St Richard's to support patients living with serious progressive illnesses and their families.



Mark Payne with his daughter and the cup

"It will be a fun, family event to raise money for a great cause which is St Richard's Hospice," added Mr Payne. Ria Simons, Fundraiser at St Richard's, said: "This is a well-loved annual event in Evesham and has raised a tremendous amount for St Richard's over the years. It is set to be a great evening, so why not come

along and support a team – and the hospice too?" Admission on the gate costs £2 for adults and £1 for children under 16 with all proceeds going to the hospice. Kick-off is at 5pm. The Man of the Match award in memory of Tesco worker Shirley Barber will this year be presented by her daughter, Emma.

Vale Golf Club seniors - Third Open



Captain Brian Bunn (left) and Opens Secretary Nigel Smith (far right) congratulate Vale Winners

Vale Golf Club and Seniors held their third open of the season, a mixed team event attracting 88 players from 23 different golf clubs. The winning home team with a score of 89 points was Sally Smith, Shona Rollins, Mark Rollins and Steve Hampton. 2nd with 88 points were, Liz and Rob Brownsdon and Christine and Rob Finley.

First for the visitors with a score of 89 points were Deborah and Derek Spencer and Alison and Mel Turner from the Warwickshire Golf Club. 2nd with 84 points were Andrea and Richard Warrington, Lizzie and Phil Odell from Minchinhampton GC.

The raffle held on the day for our charity MYELOMA UK raised £390 taking the total so far this year to £3152. Thanks go to Cate Hooper for manning the raffle table. Thanks also go to the catering team for an excellent meal and the green keepers for the excellent course condition.

Earlier in the month on a glorious summer's day the first White Tee Medal Competition was held with the lowest Gross Score winning the Eric Salter Cup. It attracted 52 players. The winner on countback, with a score of 86, was Mike Roberts.

Nearest the pin was Colin Bartlett. Captain Brian Bunn held his first away day of the season at Kenilworth Golf Club. It was a very successful day with thanks going to John Milward who did much of the work putting the day together.



Results were:
Division 1.
 1st David Harmen 39 points (on countback)
 2nd Nick Lewis 39 points
 3rd. Steve Hampton 37 points
Division 2
 1st. Chris Hague 34 points
 2nd. Graham Whitehead.33 points
 3rd. Colin Powell.31 points
 So the winner of the Harry Adams Trophy for the best Stableford score was David Harmen



Seniors Captain Brian Bunn presents Trophy to Mike Roberts

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Ladies Club Championship 2022

Tuesday 26th July 2022 was the Ladies Club Championship at The Vale Golf Club, Bishampton. It was a super day as it wasn't too hot or too much rain. There were three competitions altogether as follows:

Ladies 27 hole Club Championship, The Lady Captain's Trophy and The Angora Cup. Format of all three competitions were Strokeplay and 95% handicap Allowance. Congratulations to all the winners.

Results as follows:

There were ten players in the 27 hole Club Championship.

Best Gross Winner - Sally Smith -128 Gross, Best Nett Winner - Audrey Sidwell -110 Nett, Best Gross Runner Up - Pauline Perla -141 Gross, Best Nett Runner Up - Terri Hawes -113 Nett
The Captain's Trophy had ten players.

Winner - Mary Collier - 75 c/b Nett, Runner Up - Patricia Darch-75 c/b Nett.

The Angora Cup had eleven players

Winner - Kathryn Cottell - 74 Nett, Runner Up - Catherine Hooper - 78 nett



Winners from l-r: Terri Hawes - Nett Runner Up 27 hole Club Championship, Sally Smith - Gross Winner 27 hole Club Championship, Mary Collier - Winner The Captain's Trophy Winner, Audrey Sidwell- Best Nett Winner, Pauline Perla - Best Gross Runner Up



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