

Pershore Times



A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages

Issue 79

February 2023

FREE



© Peter Hodge Worcestershire
"Sunday Stroll", Pershore Abbey

This is our first publication this year so Happy New Year to all our readers. We have lots to look forward to. First of all daylight is increasing slowly but surely every day. Spring is on its way, green shoots are appearing everywhere, flowers and shrubs are waking up! Within no time everything will be in bloom.

A great time of the year, a new season is beginning. We have good times ahead.

A year ago we were beginning to get over the Pandemic and the awful lockdown restrictions. Now we can socialise again, go to sporting and cultural events, in other words enjoy ourselves. Life has returned to normal.

We still have to be sensible as Covid has not disappeared and probably never will, but thankfully it is controlled.

We are suffering from all sorts of Covid aftermath, very frustrating, but we can't expect everything to come together overnight. It will take time and new ways will probably have to be found to solve some of the changes Covid has made to our lives. Business is taking time to get back to the levels of pre-Covid, which is understandable and economic forecasts are rather gloomy. We will get back on top again soon. We have a lot to be thankful for. The

challenges we have to face now are nothing compared to the dreadful Covid years.

We at Hughes & Co are 'grasping the nettle' and starting another newspaper, 'The Powick Times'. This will cover Powick, Callow End, Bastonford, Clevelode and Deblin's Green.. The publication will cover areas not supported by the Upton Times. We will also be extending Today our on-line daily newspaper. Exciting times!



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Plea for help as charity shop donations plummet

The Headway UK Pershore shop on the High Street, says it's in desperate need of quality winter clothes and bric-a-brac to help the charity continue its vital work providing support to brain injury survivors and their loved ones.

Carol Tennet, Headway's Head of Retail, said: "In the last six months, we have seen a 10 per cent decline in donations across Headway's charity shops. Whilst we don't know the exact cause of the decline, we do believe this is one of the many results of the cost-of-living crisis. "10 per cent is a huge drop in donations and the impact on our shops is vast. We are also seeing a six percent increase in the number of customers coming through our doors, so we are really facing challenging times at the moment. "We urgently need more donations so that our

charity shops can keep up with demand as well as continuing to support those affected by life-changing brain injuries." The Headway UK Pershore Shop Store Manager Karen Archer said: "As the days get colder, the nights get longer, and the heating bills get bigger, everyone is desperately searching for warm winter clothing to keep the chills at bay. We would particularly welcome donations of good quality jumpers, coats, tops, trousers, and bric-a-brac. "Every year, around 350,000 people are admitted to hospital with a brain injury. That's one every 90 seconds. The money raised from sales in our charity shops goes a long way towards ensuring vital care remains in place for those affected by brain injury. So please think of Headway if you are clearing space."



Headway is always looking for new people to join its friendly team of volunteers. If you can spare even a few hours a week, you could help make a big difference to the lives of people living with brain injuries while learning new skills and making new friends. To find out more, visit

www.headway.org.uk/donate/volunteer/

Donations should be delivered to the Headway charity shop 54 High Street, Pershore, WR10 1DP, or for more information, please call the Shop Manager Karen Archer, 01386 552 301

**pershore
carnival**



Quiz Night

Pershore Carnival Committee are running a fundraising quiz on Saturday 11th February at the Sports and Social Club on Defford Road, Pershore starting at 7.30pm.

Teams of up to 6 can take part with many prizes to be won. Come as a team or on your own to join up with others. £2.50 per person or £10 per team.

The Carnival will take place on Spring Bank Holiday **Monday 29th May 2023**

The theme for the procession will be **'Summer Holidays'**.

The event promises to be better than ever, with some exciting surprises being planned.

For more information about the event, or to offer help or sponsorship, please contact pershorecarnival.sec@gmail.com Entry forms for the procession will soon be available.

www.pershorecarnival.co.uk or by email: pershoreprocession.mgr@gmail.com

Anyone wishing to book a stall at the event should email: pershorecarnival.sitemgr@gmail.com

Jayne Winter photography



For many years Jayne Winter has taken beautiful photographs depicting Pershore and the surrounding countryside. She is also known for her photographic landscapes of Scotland. At Pershore Times we have been fortunate to be able to use some of these photographs on a monthly basis on our front

page. Jayne has retired, is traveling a great deal and doesn't have the time. We wish her well for the future and thank her for her wonderful photographs, which have represented this area across the seasons and enhanced our newspaper. Many thanks Jayne! Editor

**Pershore
Times
today!**

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(An increase of 3000 from previous month)

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Special Dates in February

Tuesday 14th February - Valentine's Day

Tuesday 21st February - Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday 22nd February - Ash Wednesday

Place Board to develop plans for the town

Led by Chair Darren Eden, Pershore Place Board consists of members from a range of professional backgrounds, all of whom are impartial, non-political and volunteering their time. Each Board member offers a unique perspective on their own area, e.g. North High Street and Pershore Markets, or subject, e.g. Public Transport, Cycling and Pedestrian. Pershore Place Board exists to facilitate the vision and objectives of the Pershore Town Centre Investment Prospectus and board members with relevant knowledge and experience will lead projects relevant to their expertise. The Board is accountable to Wychavon District Council and will produce an annual report of work undertaken, plus additional reports as needed. Wychavon District Council will assess and allocate UK Shared Prosperity Funds to approved projects recommended by Pershore Place Board between April 2022 and March 2025. The objectives of the funding are to develop or improve buildings, make improvements to public realms, and increase footfall by 10%. The Board has already received £10,000 from Wychavon District Council to kick-start development. This will be spent before the end of March 2023. Funding for these projects is provided via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The Board will also seek to generate investments and



facilitate economic development. In its early planning stages the Board has discussed its goals with local business owners, Pershore Town Council members and Wychavon District Council members. In the next 12 months, Pershore Place Board intends to prepare and present ideas for 'The Future of Broad Street', 'Traffic Flow through Pershore', a new 'Business and Commerce Association of Pershore', a new 'Pershore Events and Festivals Group', 'Christmas in Pershore' and 'The Potential for a Pershore Marina.' To help inform these plans, the Board will catalogue Pershore land use and key site ownership. Additional short-term plans include reviewing signage throughout Pershore and installing flagpoles across the town in time for King Charles III's Coronation.

*Darren Eden
Chair of Pershore Place Board*

King's in 'Top Ten for second year running!



The academic excellence of the King's School, Worcester has once again been recognised nationally as the School has been named in The Sunday Times Parent Power 2023 Schools Guide as one of the Top 10 independent secondary schools in the West Midlands. Just like last year, King's is the only school in Worcester and Worcestershire to be named in the Top 10 and is ranked an impressive 173rd in the national table out of 900 secondary schools. The Parent Power 2023 report is the 30th edition of The Sunday Times guide to Britain's highest-achieving primary and secondary schools in the state and independent sectors. This year's ranking is based on the most recent results in A levels and GCSEs from the summer of 2022, when pupils took public exams in a conventional form rather than receiving grades based on teachers' assessments. Last

year, the Sunday Times rankings were based on a three-year average of academic outcomes from 2017 to 2019, which were then used to produce a series of tables to reflect pre-pandemic performance in what would be classed as "normal" times. Headmaster Gareth Dodes expressed his delight at the School's recognition, "For almost all of our GCSE and A level pupils, these were the first public exams which they had ever taken, so maintaining our position is even more of an achievement. To be ranked in the Top 10 Independent Schools in the West Midlands, alongside traditionally academic big hitters like the two King Edward's Schools in Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Warwick and Solihull Schools, and to be recognised as the leading school in Worcester and Worcestershire is tremendous news.

Generous support for Community Cupboard



Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the Community Cupboard at Christmas. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of individuals and organisations

and delighted to receive gifts of money and food items. Pardon me if this turns into a list but we do want to acknowledge as many people as possible. Pershore Rotary Club donated money and time which was greatly appreciated. We are grateful to local companies OCM and Vic Haines Transport and to LDA butchers, K & J Mason and daughters, also Wychavon Council for their practical help. Several villages, local schools and Pershore Town Football Club provided much needed festive and store cupboard food

as well as our own families from far and wide. Our friends at Pershore Community Church gave us a generous donation as did individuals who appeared from time to time bringing money or bags of goodies. We are grateful to you all. The Cupboard is run by Pershore Baptist Church, and we thank them for adopting the Cupboard and for their ongoing support. Apologies if I failed to mention your donation here but be assured that we are very grateful to you all, if you donated in any way, it made a

difference. For those of you who don't know us, we are based at Pershore Baptist Church in Broad Street, our aim is to reduce food waste and provide food for our local community. Opening times are on our Facebook page and displayed outside the church.



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Reg Moule

In addition to his award winning media work
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A few words from... Harriett Baldwin MP



£1.5M Mental Health Support

Harriett Baldwin MP has welcomed a £1.5 million cash support package which will help to improve mental health support for local people.

The cash which was confirmed by the Department for Health and Social Care in a letter to Worcestershire's MPs, will see an extra £150 million invested across the NHS in England to improve emergency mental healthcare services.

Most of the £150 million cash will be spent on improving mental healthcare crisis

response infrastructure, supporting crisis hubs, assessment and care centres and £7 million will be spent on 100 specialised mental health ambulances to help patients in need of emergency care.

Harriett commented: "When I have met with our local hospital managers, the importance of helping people with mental health crises is often discussed. The worst place for people in a mental health crisis is in Accident and Emergency or police custody. "I also welcome the fact that the Government has supported the local NHS with many millions of pounds to help at the front door of Worcestershire's A&E departments including £15 million to build a new Emergency Department at Worcestershire Royal Hospital which will hopefully come into full use this year.

One of the bigger challenges that the county mental healthcare Trust reports is the challenges recruiting specialist nurses, and I hope that this broader national investment will be a positive sign for those already in the profession, or those who are thinking of a career in this specialism."

Plenty more fish in the sea?

Decades of bad fishing practices have left our oceans in a tragic state. Many species which were once commonplace are now threatened, dwindling to the point where there aren't enough to catch and make a profit. Over 90% of predatory species like cod and tuna have already been caught and many fisheries are overfished. Numbers of fish are dropping faster than they can reproduce and this is causing profound changes to life in our oceans. In reality, there aren't plenty more fish in the sea. The fishing industry has become high-tech and giant ships use sonar to find fish schools with pinpoint accuracy. Huge nets catch fish in vast numbers. These ships are also floating factories, with processing and packing plants to handle their catch more efficiently. All this means there is now capacity to catch many times more fish than are actually left. In the UK, we import most of the seafood we eat and export most of what we catch. But if you stick with sustainable options, going local can be much better for the environment.

It's important to note that 'local' does not automatically

mean 'sustainable' but there are some great options that you should consider eg Cornish sardines instead of Tuna; hake instead of cod; plaice instead of haddock. At the moment, mackerel remains a good sustainable fish, particularly if caught with hand lines.

The Marine Conservation Society (mcsuk.org) is a UK charity fighting for a cleaner, better-protected, healthier ocean, one we can all enjoy and support the fish we eat. They have produced a good fish guide where you can see for yourself what are the more sustainable fish available – there is even an app you can download to check out when you are next off to your local fishmonger!

The NHS recommends eating two portions of fish per week for our health – but let us also take some time to consider the health of our oceans and fish stocks and work for our mutual benefit. I've put together some fish recipes for you to try, swapping the usual for a more sustainable alternative –

See page 16 for recipes

Ailsa Craddock

Art really does boost wellbeing!



Pershore Craft and Chat has recently celebrated their one year anniversary and has now expanded to three thriving groups. Our Wednesday group is a 'bring your own craft'

session – so anything from colouring to knitting (or just come along for a cuppa and a chat!) During our Monday sessions, we lead simple art activities for all to have a go at.

The groups were started to encourage people to get together after lockdowns, as we knew how being creative together has been so beneficial to us over the years. We are not art teachers, just enthusiastic amateurs, so no one has to be an expert at any of our groups. Not only have we seen the benefits manifest themselves with our group members, but now it has been scientifically proven to be good for us too! Research by BBC Arts, in conjunction with UCL, has shown that taking part in even a small amount of creative activity can improve your wellbeing, with scientists being able to pin-point how the brain regulates our emotions during these periods. The research found that getting hands-on with something new and creative is important regardless of skill level. Indeed, researchers discovered a 75% decrease in levels of the stress

hormone Cortisol after participants had spent just 45 minutes crafting. Most importantly, we have created a supportive, friendly group of people from a whole mixture of backgrounds, who simply enjoy the space to meet, chat and enjoy each other's company.

We are always grateful for any donations of art and craft materials, we are always on the look-out for local artists to come along and inspire us by leading a session and we would welcome new attendees.

Do get in touch by contacting Rachel on persshorecraftandchat@gmail.com or 07891 866179

We have a Facebook page 'Pershore Craft and Chat' where you can see the groups in action.

We are here for Pershore residents



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Hospice Care at Home



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Pershore

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Read Easy Evesham and Pershore was established in 2020 under the leadership of the late John Hall with the aim of reaching adults who are struggling with literacy skills, whether due to dyslexia, poor or interrupted schooling, dislike of learning or other reasons. Since that time, a number of individuals in the Evesham and Pershore area have asked for help. Some have come forward themselves, others have been referred by friends or outside agencies. One thing is clear from this – Read Easy is making a difference to struggling individuals in our area. For this reason, we need to expand our team! Most urgently, we are looking for the following roles. Please get in touch if you feel you could help. Contact information will appear at the end of this article.

Management Team Leader
If you are inspired to lead others and be part of a genuinely transformational charity, then why not volunteer with Read Easy and use your leadership skills to guide and support a team of local volunteers. You will manage meetings, set agendas, take responsibility for the project network within your local community and be a passionate spokesperson for your local group. This is a very important role within the Management Team and you will be ensuring the proper and effective direction of your local group from the front. This role will appeal to people who are motivated by managing a team of diverse volunteers, and by the challenge of ultimately helping adults in their community who can't read.

Volunteer Recruiter
If you enjoy meeting a wide range of people, then volunteering as a Read Easy Volunteer Recruiter will give you an interesting opportunity to help manage recruitment and interviewing of volunteers for the local group. You'll need to be enthusiastic, a good listener and be able to spot a strong volunteer when you see one. By recruiting the right sort of volunteers to join the group, you'll play a vital role in ensuring the longevity of the group.

Coordinator –
A vital role Read Easy Coordinators are the first point of contact for adults wanting to learn to read with the local group. You would be responsible for meeting and enrolling adults who want to learn to read. You would then pair up new Readers with volunteer coaches and provide them with ongoing support and oversight throughout their reading journey. To be suitable for this most rewarding voluntary position, you must have strong people

and organisational skills and a certain amount of time to spare each week.

Referrals Networker
This is a vital and interesting role to create and develop relationships with local agencies, such as Job Centres, Social Services and others who may be able to refer potential readers to the group. This voluntary position will suit people who thrive on networking and making new connections. The longevity of local groups is down to securing a steady stream of reader referrals, so you will play an important part of making sure the group thrives. Volunteering for Read Easy other volunteer roles are also available within the local group.

*If you would like to know more about these or any other roles, please contact:
Email: kris@readeasy.org.uk
Tel: 07928 512872
Further information about Read Easy is available at www.readeasy.co.uk*

Call to dispose of batteries safely



Residents are being urged not to put batteries in their waste or recycling bins to help protect collection crews. Research shows across the UK 189 million batteries will be used to power various devices over the festive period. But worrying about a quarter of UK households admit to throwing batteries in either their waste or recycling bin. Batteries should never go in your waste or recycling. If they end up in the back of a collection vehicle they can leak harmful fluid when crushed or spark which can cause a fire, posing a risk to collection crews. A fire in a bin lorry collecting in Larkspur Drive in Evesham earlier this year is believed to have been caused by batteries mixed in with rubbish, causing the crew to tip the load into the street while firefighters tackled the flames. Batteries also pose a risk to staff working at the recycling

plant at Norton and the Energy from Waste Plant in Hartlebury. There are several ways to dispose of batteries correctly: Household batteries, including button batteries from watches, can be taken to battery recycling points in supermarkets and other shops where large quantities of batteries are sold. Household batteries can be placed in a bag on top of your black bin and these will be put in a cage underneath the collection vehicle by crews and taken for recycling. Household batteries, mobile phone batteries and car batteries can be taken to Household Recycling Centres.

If a battery cannot be removed, then the whole item should be recycled at a Household Recycling Centre or if it is a small electrical item, put it on top of your black bin and our crews will take it for recycling

Mulled wine tournament raises £80 for charity



Pershore Tennis Centre's annual tournament, in memory of Sue McLoughlin, raised a smile or two from local tennis members as well as £80 for local charity Cure Leukaemia. Event organiser, Jane Warner, says: "We raised £80 for Cure Leukaemia, with 18 players taking part! The winners were

Julie Howell, Andy Holmes and Sandy Foulkes. It was a great event, and lots of tennis played!"

To take part in tennis at your local club, please head to: www.pershoretennis.co.uk

February Events at community run The Queen Elizabeth Inn

Here's a small taste of what is going on in February!!
Who knew that a rural community pub could be so exciting !!

FISH & CHIP QUIZ NIGHT

Join our Quizmaster at 19.30 on **Tuesday 7th February (note new date !)**
£10 per head entry fee including Fish & Chips. Cash Prizes! Max 6 per team

VALENTINE'S NIGHT SPECIAL MENU

A romantic 3 course dinner including a glass of Prosecco each, for just £70 per couple.
Tuesday February 14th. One sitting at 7.30. See website for menu

PUDDING NIGHT

Indulge yourself in all your favourite puds! Light main course followed by all the
desserts you can eat – at least 10 choices with 5 sauces.
Just £29.95 per person. Early booking recommended.
One sitting at 19.30 on **Thursday 23rd February**

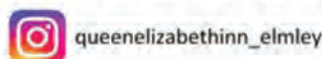


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Where has our community spirit gone?

There is a small pocket of community spirit tucked alongside Pershore market and it needs your help. In a small office, next to Pershore market, a team of people are working hard to pull our community together. Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre (PPVC) recruits volunteers for its own community schemes but also recruits for other charities such as Macmillan and the Pershore Plum Festival. There is an urgent need for volunteers. There are over 60 different roles available from the more practical hands on jobs to board level thinkers, so there really is something for everyone. The PPVC office has an open door policy and, in this era of shutting local offices, their door

is firmly open to people needing their services and also to those who want to help, so do call in the next time you are in town. Being a volunteer is so rewarding, giving a sense of purpose and satisfaction which benefits overall wellbeing. The pandemic has made it difficult for people to support each other but now is a time to rebuild those bridges. So, please do come forward and help us rebuild that community spirit in Pershore and the surrounding villages.
Find out more:
Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre (PPVC)
 1 Billing House
 Pershore, WR10 1EY
 Tel: 01386 55
www.pershorevolunteers.org.uk



Staff at PPVC from left; Jo, Donna, Robin, our CEO Karon, Gabby, Treena and Victoria

Evesham VeloPark now open to the public



Wychavon's new £2 million cycling hub is now open to the public. Evesham VeloPark, based on the site of Evesham United FC off Cheltenham Road, was officially opened at the end of October but until recently has only been available for club bookings while systems and software were tested. Anyone can now book online to use the park which includes a 1km closed road circuit and a pump track with a unique mogul area. There is also a learn-to-ride area with street markings to help children and adults build confidence before heading out onto a real road. Hourly slots cost between

£4.50 for juniors and over 65s and £5.50 for adults, while the learn-to-ride track is free when not being used for lessons. The park can also be hired by clubs and for private events. Visitors need to bring their own bikes and helmets must be worn. The project was part-funded by a £500,000 grant from Sport England and British Cycling with the rest coming from section 106 sports infrastructure funding. This is money provided by housing developers to provide new sports facilities in Evesham. *To book the park visit www.wychavon.gov.uk/eveshamvelo*

Crackdown on energy customer mistreatment!



Business and Energy Secretary Grant Shapps backs consumers as offensive launched to crack down on rogue energy suppliers. Energy suppliers told they must stop the practice of forced fitting prepayment meters as the answer to families struggling to pay bills, following a huge surge in cases. The Business Secretary asks suppliers to share data on the number of warrants they have requested for this purpose to name and shame worst offenders. He has written to energy suppliers calling on them to stop the harmful and anxiety inducing practice of forcibly moving consumers over to

prepayment meters without taking every step to support consumers in difficulty. He wants to see much greater efforts from suppliers to help consumers in payment difficulties before leaping to the extreme of forced prepayment switching, such as offers of additional credit, debt forgiveness or tools such as debt advice. In his letter, he has asked suppliers to discuss possible further action they can take to support customers and avoid forced fitting. Courts are being overwhelmed with applications for warrants as they continue to mount, with reports that huge batches are being approved in a matter of minutes.



u3a
Perschore & District

February Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 21st February 2023, at 2pm

All monthly meetings held at
Number 8 High Street Pershore, WR10 1BG

All welcome to hear

“A DAY IN THE LIFE....”

Common IT and internet issues

Addressed by Justin Rowling of Senior IT Support, Pershore

www.senioritsupport.co.uk

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Sally Whyte, Speaker Coordinator:

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Exploring the Severn

This January 2023 Monthly Meeting talk, following u3a AGM, was a visual and geographical treat. Rosemary Winnall, MBE, talked comprehensively about her quest to travel the River Severn. At 210 miles the Severn is the longest in England, and living in Bewdley on the river, Rosemary is conscious daily of the role the river has served over the years. So she set off to explore the water and wildlife by a variety of methods over fourteen days. She began 2467 feet up in deep snow in March 2017 at the source in Plynlimon, mid Wales following the trickle, and then switched to a bike to travel along the Montgomery canal between Welshpool and Newtown parallel to the river before returning to the river to walk to Pool Quay.

Rosemary then switched to canoe, and despite not having

had much canoeing experience, she was keen to stress the precautions she took as a solo paddler. She travelled 100 miles to Stourport, observing the flora and fauna from a different angle.

At Stourport friends gave her a lift in a motorboat to Gloucester and was able to relax and watch the working and recreational activities on the river. The final stretch from Gloucester to the Severn Bridge were by bike along the canal path past the ship graveyard at Purton. She also took the opportunity to see the phenomena of the Severn Bore. We were all left astounded at the incredible journey that Rosemary had undertaken, having felt at points watching her videos that we were travelling with her!

“You never lose,
you either win or learn”

Gianluca Vialli



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Joint Choir Concert fills the Abbey



Pershore Town Choir and Kidderminster Male Choir joined together for a Christmas concert on 16th December – and filled Pershore Abbey – with people and with sound! This was the first concert since Covid and attracted a bumper audience from the two towns. The evening began with a solo of Once in Royal David's City and an unaccompanied canticle sung by Musical Director David Barclay. Pershore Town Choir followed with Christmas pieces including “Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” and “Angel Carol”. Kidderminster Male Choir then took the stage, singing among others the Victorian anthem “O Holy Night” and the song made famous by Cliff Richard - “Mistletoe and Wine”. In the interval the audience enjoyed mince pies and wine, before the Town Choir again took the stage for the second half of the concert, including singing “Carol of the Bells” by

Ukrainian composer Mykola Dmytrovytch Leontovych and “What Sweeter Music” by John Rutter. Kidderminster Choir then entertained with “Sleigh Ride” and “Winter Wonderland”. The audience got their chance to participate in “The Twelve Days of Christmas” and to round off the Concert with everyone singing “Hark the Herald Angels”. Pershore Town Choir and Kidderminster Male Choir share the same musical director – David Barclay – so they already have a lot in common. Sharing the concert gave both choirs the opportunity to demonstrate their skills to Pershore people and to take advantage of the great acoustics of Pershore Abbey. David Barclay said “It was so good to be performing again after such a long gap. This was our first joint concert - but I don't think it will be our last!”

Spring Concert at Number 8

The venue for WPO Spring Concert on March 11 th has been changed to Number 8, High Street, Pershore. Due to the late arrival and delayed installation of the new organ in Pershore Abbey, the performance and audience spaces will not be available for the WPO Spring Concert. We are fortunate to have arranged a very convenient alternative venue at Number 8. This delightful theatre has raked seating, and therefore the audience will have a much better view of the whole orchestra. There are good refreshment and cloakroom facilities and it is in easy walking distance from main car park. The auditorium is smaller than Pershore Abbey, so early booking is advised. Joe Davies conducts the WPO and they will be joined by soloist William Hammond, in a performance of Weber's Clarinet Concerto No 2. This

popular programme also includes Beethoven's mighty Symphony No 5 and Schubert's Overture Fierrabras. William received a first class honours degree, followed by a Distinction in Instrumental Performance Postgraduate Certificate from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. He has recently worked with the Hanover Junges Orchester and Cumbrian Opera Group, alongside playing for the Welsh National Opera's outreach project 'Opera Tutti' based in the West Midlands.

The concert starts at 2.30pm in Number 8, High Street, Pershore WR10 1BG. Tickets £15 (free for accompanied under 16s) online at [ticketsource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk), Tourist Offices in Worcester, Pershore and Malvern. (Pershore accept only cheque or cash)

Worcester Philharmonic ORCHESTRA

Clarinet Soloist
William Hammond

Conductor Joe Davies
Leader Graham Longfils

Saturday 11th March 2023

2.30pm

Venue changed to:

Number 8, Pershore
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Weber Clarinet Concerto No. 2
Beethoven Symphony-No. 5

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Rotary of Pershore



On behalf of all Pershore Rotarians, thank you to all our supporters and readers of the Pershore Times for helping make a difference to the lives of so many over the past twelve months.

The year had many challenges and helping suffering Ukrainian refugees was high on our agenda. From a street collection in March and online donations we donated £6,200 to ShelterBox and DEC and our Social Group donated £1,000 to Ukraine. Our Tree of Remembrance Christmas Appeal in 2021 raised £4,000 for St Richard's Hospice, Acorns Children's Hospice and PProGS and a further £1,500 was donated to St Richard's Hospice from the Rock Choir concert in Pershore Abbey. Pershore's Wellbeing Hub and

Avon Navigation Trust shared £1,400 from the opening event at the Banking Hall and our Question Time event raised £2,800 for the Alzheimer's Society. We continue to support local schools, charities, the Carnival and Plum Festival. Over £4,300 was sent to the Pahar Trust for the refurbishment of school classrooms in remote Nepal. Closer to home, the need of local families at Christmas resulted in donations of food to the Pershore Foodbank and over £1,400 given to the Pershore Community Cupboard. A donation of £500 was sent to the Kids Cancer Charity to provide respite care for a local family. None of these donations would have been possible without local support and for that we are very grateful.

Finally, Rotarian Joe Oxspring's contribution to Pershore Rotary over many years has been recognised by a Paul Harris Fellowship. This



Polly and Joe Oxspring

was presented to Joe by District Governor, Jim Currie, at the club's Christmas party in December. So well done Joe. We wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year. Our

support for those in need continues and if you would like to be part of our team, follow Pershore Rotary on Facebook or check out our website at www.pershorerotary.club

British Legion starts 2023 on a high note!

We wish a Happy New Year to all members of the Pershore Community.

Our special news is that the Branch raised the sum of £17,072 for the Poppy Appeal. A huge thanks go to all volunteers who contributed to the Poppy Collection in the Town and all the surrounding villages, including Fladbury, Eckington, Defford, Pensham, Bishampton and Stoulton. This money, in Remembrance of the lives of those who died or whose lives were irreparably damaged due to war and conflicts, goes to support the care and rehabilitation of these veterans. The process of organising the Poppy Appeal is complex with the delivery of boxes, collection of tins, counting the money daily and banking it.

The Poppy Appeal team have spent many hours dedicated to this huge task. The work of the local Sea Cadets, Army Cadet Force, Air Training Corps and St. John's Ambulance personnel is recognised for their participation in the collections over the three weekends leading up to Remembrance Sunday.

Moving on to 2023 - we continue to welcome new

members and are planning events for this year. To be a member there is no requirement to having served in the Armed Forces.

If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Gerald Gregory, Membership Secretary, on mobile no. 07802 897088 or email geraldgregory@icloud.com

Saturday Breakfast Club takes place on the first Saturday of the month at 09:00 at Pio's, The White Horse, Pershore [opposite the Abbey].

The Branch Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday 29th April at the Bell Inn, Eckington.

More details to follow. Come and join us in 2023.



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Pershore Riverside Centre CIO (charity no 1156413) King George's Way, Pershore WR10 1QU

Woodland Trust offers young people a chance to secure funding for environmental action

Young people across the UK have been given an exciting opportunity to win funding to help tackle climate change as part of a ground-breaking initiative from the Woodland Trust. The Youth Innovation Competition offers young people the chance to secure part of a £20,000 prize to support their own environmental projects. The competition comes against the backdrop of an alarming Met Office announcement that 2022 was the warmest year in the UK on record, highlighting the desperate need for climate change action. Nine individuals or small groups (aged between 16-25) will win up to £5,000 project

funding each, along with mentorship from leading industry experts to deliver projects which directly fight the climate crises. The projects will need to fit into three categories: inspire, protect and create. This could include anything from tree planting projects and championing ancient trees, to innovative ideas that aid farming and the protection of UK rivers and wildlife. The top eighteen applications will be invited to take part in workshops that will teach them how to professionally pitch their project idea and the finalist will go on to present their environmental innovations to a panel of celebrity judges and experts.



Applications are now open and will close on 7th February 2023 at 4pm. For more information on how

to apply, please visit www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or email youth@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

Search for the UK's most marvellous moggy

Cat lovers across the UK are being invited to nominate their furry friends for the biggest event in the feline year – the National Cat Awards. Run by the charity Cats Protection, the annual event celebrates the nation's most marvellous moggies, with heart-warming tales of devotion, courage and companionship. Entries open on Tuesday 10th January and owners have until noon on Friday 24th February to nominate their cat in one of four categories:

Cat Colleagues – Celebrating cats who bring joy to the workplace or make working from home a pleasure.
Family Fur-ever –

Recognising cats that make a family complete, whether they're a child's best friend or a comforting sofa buddy.
Moggy Marvels –

Jaw-dropping stories of survival, heroism and companionship in the cat world.
Social Star –

Paying tribute to those fame-hungry felines who spread joy on social media. The National Cat Awards are all about celebrating everything we love about cats – from their entertaining antics to their comforting presence. In recognition of just how much enjoyment cats bring to the world, we've introduced a new Social Star category, where the



public can nominate their favourite famous felines. Winners will be selected in a public vote and by a panel of judges before being announced during a ceremony at London's Wilton's Music Hall on 17th July 2023. The winner of the National Cat of the Year trophy will inherit the title from Jasper and Willow, who were named joint National Cat of the Year 2022 in recognition of the role they

play at St Peter & St James Hospice in Haywards Heath, Sussex. To nominate your cat, or for further information about the National Cat Awards, visit www.cats.org.uk/national-cat-awards from Tuesday 10th January.

To find out more about adopting a cat from Cats Protection, visit www.cats.org.uk/adopt-a-cat

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Women's Hour!

Susan Catford

These are a few of my favourite things!



Christmas has gone and the decorations consigned to the loft apart from a few stray strands of tinsel. We even took down the star that has been hanging in the study for two years, sadly neglected since then! We have turned the page to the new year and 2023 didn't start so well with a very wet weekend which dampened the spirits. However, we wished each other a Happy New Year and in spite of the strikes, cost of living increase and a whole range of lurgies raging, we try to be optimistic and count our blessings. Winter can be a dismal time but there are some bonuses. Dark mornings and long nights do have some compensations. Seeing

dawn break after we are out of bed, with the sun poking its head over the horizon and chasing away the darkness, signifies the start of another day full of possibilities. Dusk brings the chance of beautiful sunsets with fantastic cloud formations. Time then to light the fire and settle down to a toasty, firelit evening. Having had a near oil crisis just before Christmas (why does the tank suddenly run on empty then?), we were delighted to have an oil delivery in the nick of time. At least we have passed the shortest day and from now on the days will gradually lengthen. We have also been more careful about energy usage, so those thermal

vests have come in useful!

Sharing time with friends and family is something we have learned to value even more post Covid.

Evenings at the local, family get-togethers and social events are lovely times. Having our new grandson over the past year has been a delight. Watching this tiny baby become a small person is quite amazing. The back and knees have suffered but now he is walking, it is more about needing eyes in the back of your head! Who would know that fire irons could be so fascinating or the brush and dustpan irresistible to this inquisitive child. He had no idea about Christmas yet (only 14 months) but he loved the lights, decorations and, of course, the wrapping paper! We now have a house which resembles a kindergarten with the biggest playpen – large enough for a few rounds of boxing – a highchair, cot, toy box, and all the other necessities such as bibs, wet-wipes, baby cups etc. But do we mind? Of course not! He has brought constant smiles to our faces and lovely cuddles.

So the Christmas lights may have gone but Spring isn't so very far away. The tinsel has been replaced with beautiful spring flowers from friends and family for my recent birthday. Birthdays in January

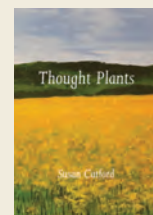
were not much fun as a child; no picnics, barbecues or outdoor parties, but as a grown-up they seem to have got better. Unfortunately, one son is also a January baby and as I write, it is his birthday today and he has the 'flu! We Capricornians are tough though, mountain goats, so we know that we may have hills to climb but the view from the top is often splendid! And we will celebrate as soon as he is well. The year stretches ahead and though it has started with poor weather and strikes by various professions, there will still be much to enjoy. Longer days, outings, holidays, celebrations and (hopefully) some time to read, paint and relax, will provide more of my favourite things. Also, with a bit of luck, our incapacitated car will be repaired and, who knows, we may even win the lottery!! Lots to look forward to, so wishing you all a happy, healthy new year too. P.S. I'm sorry there are no 'girls in white dresses' or 'whiskers on kittens' to be seen here - not my favourite things!!

Night Watch

Night falls as the sun sinks.
One minute shafts of golden
light,
Illuminating, enhancing colour.
Then no more.
A blanket descends.
A dark shroud, envelops all.
Shapes without edges
Inhabit the darkness.
But then a new light.
A moon slides into view,
Peeks out from behind clouds,
Peers coyly through bare
branches
Spilling a delicate silvery glow.
Dark shadows cling to
silhouettes.
And above, the night sky
Bearing precious jewels.

Scattered stars, the courtiers of
the moon,
Twinkle and nod to each other.
Orion stretches out his arms
towards the planets.
An infinite congregation
populates the velvet canopy,
Accompanying the majestic
progress of the moon.
Slowly it pursues its night-time
journey,
The guardian of darkness,
Silently and steadily
Making its way
Until the sun rises from its bed
To take over the daytime
watch.

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.

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Garden Watch



The kindest thing that can be said about the garden at the moment is that the grass is green!! It still looks untidy with the remains of fallen leaves and wilted plants that probably should have been removed. The recent rainfall has littered the lawn with worm casts suggesting that we have a considerable worm population down there! The puddly patches from a few days ago have turned into crunchy ground with the recent frosts but it only lasts until the sun appears.

A few days ago there were a dozen or so birds in the garden; a mixture of jackdaws and magpies that seemed to be behaving in a bizarre way. They were picking up dead leaves and tossing them into the air like some strange dance or ritual. The mystery was solved a few days later when I discovered that large, fat grubs had taken shelter on the underside of the leaves. This had obviously provided a juicy breakfast for the birds! This seems to have been a one-off and has not been repeated since.

Presumably they ate all the grubs! The berries have been providing sustenance to the birds as a supplement to their bird feed. The pyracantha has been virtually stripped. The bigger birds cannot easily access the bird feeders but they can be seen balancing precariously nearby or flapping their wings to try and hover while feeding. A little Jenny wren hops about busily on the patio apparently looking for insects between the slabs and in the pots. They are pretty birds and very swift in their movements when disturbed. The magnolia finally shed its last leaves and has produced buds again. They are still quite small though which may suggest more cold weather is to come. The bulbs are beginning to send up shoots in the beds, pots and the lawn. It is a welcome sight that Spring is on its way but we will not be fooled into thinking that it is the end to the wintry weather yet. At least the dawn is gradually breaking earlier and sunset a little later. Longer days to look forward to!

Pershore Times
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Country file - Fish

Worcestershire has its fair share of waterways and sometimes too much water! We may not often get to see the wildlife hidden beneath the surface but there is plenty about. We may have heard the names of many fish but perhaps are not able to recognise them.

The chub is a thick-set fish (up to 60cm in length) which will eat anything from plant debris and invertebrates to fish and frogs. They can be recognised by their large mouth. They prefer rivers and streams as they need flowing water to breed.

Pike have a reputation for being fierce creatures. They have a long body (up to 150cm) which can be propelled at speed by their fins which are set back on their body. They have sharp teeth which they use on other fish, frogs, small mammals and even birds. They are known for lurking amongst underwater plants awaiting their prey.

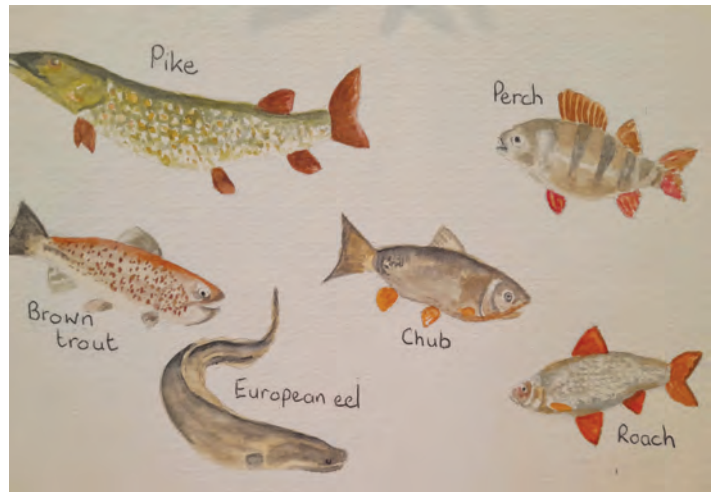
Trout is another well-known fish (particularly on a plate!).

The brown trout is a freshwater fish but sea trout spawn in freshwater then migrate to the sea where they grow. Their diet includes insects, crustaceans and small fish.

Perch also have a voracious appetite. They feed on other fish as well as invertebrates and are often found in schools close to the bank. They are one of our most widespread fish and can be found in almost any freshwater habitat.

The roach is another common fish. Its silvery shape can be seen in large shoals often close to the surface. It is similar in appearance to rudd but can be distinguished by the dorsal fin which is level with the pelvic fin.

Eels breed in the sea and their larvae drift for two or three years towards European or North African shores. Some migrate to freshwater where they mature and stay until spawning urges cause them to migrate back to the sea. They are an endangered species but can be found in almost any watery place.



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Cooking for fun! *Ailsa Craddock*

Harissa Hake 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
2 – 4 pieces of hake, depending on size
1 tbsp 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 vegetables among the plates and top with the harissa sea bass.

Oriental style citrus Mackerel

1 orange, juice only
4 teaspoons soy sauce
Pinch dried chilli flakes
2 teaspoon sesame seeds
2 – 4 mackerel fillets, cut in half
1 lime, juice only
2 tablespoons fresh coriander leaves

handful fresh rocket
1 orange, cut into wedges, to serve

Place the orange juice, soy sauce, chilli flakes and sesame seeds into a frying pan and simmer for 3 – 4 minutes. Add the mackerel and cook for two minutes on each side. Remove from the heat, squeeze in the lime juice and scatter with coriander. Place the rocket leaves into a bowl, pour over the juices from the mackerel pan and stir. To serve, pile the rocket salad onto a serving plate, top with the fish and garnish with orange wedges.

How lovely it is to open a parcel to find out what is within! Did you know you can cook fish in parcels - and how lovely it is to open, smell the aromas and taste the gently cooked food, full of flavour. This is one of the best ways to cook fish, savouring all their flavours.

For the parcel, you will need some baking parchment - or if you haven't got this some greaseproof paper and kitchen foil, folded together, foil outside. The size will be determined by the size of fish but I would say about a 30cm square or A4 piece of paper



should definitely do it. This recipe is for one parcel – obviously double/quadruple for more!

Lemon and Herb Plaice in a Bag (if you want to be posh that's en papillote in French!)

1 tablespoon chopped parsley (you could use a little dill too)
1 clove of minced garlic
Lemon slices and 1/2 tablespoon lemon juice
1 spring onion
A fillet of plaice
Cherry tomatoes
1 tablespoon butter

Heat the oven to 200°C. Mix the parsley, garlic and lemon slices together and put to the

side. Cut the spring onion into small pieces and slice lengthwise. Season the fish with salt and pepper and the lemon juice and spread the top with butter. Put the spring onion and tomatoes in the middle of your parcel and top with the fish. Put some of the herb mix on top of the fish. Fold the packages up - each long side to the middle then sides brought inwards to seal. Place on a baking sheet and bake for about 8 minutes. Put the parcel on your dinner plate with whatever vegetables you like best and open - be careful all those lovely juices will seep out and you don't want to waste them!

Jazz News

Peter Farrall

British musicians have made a significant contribution to the world of jazz piano over many years at home and internationally. Most jazz piano innovation came from across the Atlantic, but British performers quickly assimilated the latest trends and added their own UK flavoured interpretation which, in some cases, travelled back again to inspire the US scene.

A classic example of such a career is that of Marion McPartland O.B.E (and many other awards), nee Turner 1920 in Slough who, whilst studying classical piano, became hooked on jazz and mastered virtually all jazz styles from boogie to bebop. Just after WW2 she was entertaining troops in Europe when she met and married American cornetist Jimmy McPartland with whom she domiciled in the USA. She overcame quite a strong prejudice against a non-American female in the jazz

world of the day and became well established, performing alongside the best musicians of the time. She began a secondary career as an educator, teaching jazz to young people and mentoring up and coming talent.

Marion died aged 95 after a lifetime of service to jazz performance and education. Another British export was Sir George Shearing O.B.E, surely one of Britain's greatest jazz musicians. Born to humble Battersea parents and blind from birth he studied music in a college for blind pupils, eventually joining a band for all blind musicians before branching out to play with some of the foremost jazz musicians of the time. Probably one of his strongest influences was American jazz giant Art Tatum and George's residency with Harry Parry's popular Radio Rhythm Sextet proved fertile ground for the burgeoning "Shearing Sound"

In 1947 Shearing took residence in the US and formed a quintet, whose release of "September in the Rain" proved to be hugely popular - the Shearing Sound had come of age. His career continued with countless collaborations with many of the big names in music, Peggy Lee, Ella Fitzgerald and Nat King Cole to name but a few but maybe his most famous offering was "Lullaby of Birdland" which has been performed in hundreds of settings since he wrote and recorded it around 1952. George died in New York in 2011 at the age of 91 Artists like Marion and George are still an inspiration and ambition to young musicians like our talented group for February, the Rich Hughes Trio, definitely a group with a bright future. Who knows what could be ahead.....



The Rich Hughes Trio

Wednesday 22nd February in the Function Room, Pershore Football Club
Doors open at 7pm, music at 8
Admission £10 to include a raffle ticket.
Book in advance and pay on arrival
club@pershorejazz.org.uk
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Love your borders *Nikki Hollier - Border In A Box*

Roses are the flowers we all associate with love and friendship and are frequently given on Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. But how about offering a different token of love this year and create a beautiful border filled with lovely pink flowers and shrubs that not only look pretty but are loved by our pollinators too! *Daphne 'Perfume Princess'* – these are one of my favourite winter shrubs as they're evergreen, happy in dappled shade and the scent is gorgeous. Plus, they only grow to around 1.5m x 1m tall and flowers from January to March. The flowers form in clusters along the stem which makes them ideal to cut and place in a vase indoors to fill the room

with their perfume. One tip – plant them in their 'forever home' as they do get grumpy if they are moved. They may take a while to establish, but it's definitely worth the wait.

Wallflower 'Sugar Rush Purple Bicolour' F1

I love to include these in my pots and borders. I feel you get a lot of flowers for your money as they can bloom twice a year – once in March-to May and a second show from September to October.

Although I have grown them in pots with tulips, I've found they are more vigorous in a border. They're loved by bees and are happy growing in full sun or partial shade, to around 30cm tall.

Tulipa 'Angelique' –

if you plant one tulip, this variety is the one to go for as they are often mistaken for peonies in my garden with their bowl-shaped soft pink flowers that open fully in the sun. Plant them in swathes to create even more impact. They grow to around 45cm tall, and you can buy them in pots (in the green) from the garden centre ready to plant in your borders.

Salix gracilistyla 'Mount Aso' – who doesn't love a fluffy catkin in spring? These are a gorgeous shade of pink, and once established they also make lovely additions to flower arrangements. Although willow trees are renowned to grow rather large, this particular variety will only grow to

around 1.5m x 1.5m.

Pollinators, especially moths love a willow tree and prefers a sunny spot in the garden.

Hellebore 'Walberton's Rosemary' – Another beautiful pink flowering variety. They prefer partial shade, so plant them in the shadow of the Daphne and Salix. They flower from February to April, are also loved by bees and again plant them in swathes for more impact. They grow to around 50cm tall, and the leaves are semi-evergreen, dark green and leathery. They will also expand in clumps over time too.

Nikki Hollier

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February gardening tips *Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester*

Early February

Continue planting trees, shrubs and perennial plants if conditions are suitable. Plant Jerusalem artichoke tubers.

Plant shallot sets (in colder areas start them off in pots of compost in a cold frame)

If you do not have a cold frame just buy a large clear plastic storage box, drill some holes in the bottom put in a layer of grit, pop on the lid and there is a cold frame. Look after garden birds by providing food and water- try to tailor the food to the birds you have around.

In heated greenhouses sow Antirrhinums, Begonia semperflorens, Verbenas and Pansies for summer bedding. Otherwise buy seedlings or baby bedding plants later to grow on. Sow sweet pea seeds, growing them on in a cold greenhouse or frame.

Buy seed potatoes and stand them on end in trays or egg boxes to chit (begin to shoot) Potatoes are easy to grow in pots above 30cm (12in) diameter. To this end store some first early

seed potatoes in the fridge bringing some out to chit every 10 days. The previously chitted ones are then planted in pots and kept in a frost free place to grow. You will then have a succession of new potatoes to harvest every 14 days or so.

Mid February

Complete the pruning of apples, pears and soft fruits. Prune Clematis that have their main flowering period from July onwards back hard to about 30cm (1ft) above the soil.

Cut back herbaceous perennials dead stems to ground level. Stock up on pots, labels, twine and other quickly consumed sundries before the season gets into full swing. Prune back old, woody Mahonia stems to keep the plants bushy.

Buy Begonia and Dahlia tubers as well as other summer flowering bulbs such as Gladioli.

Cover strawberry rows with cloches for an earlier crop. Prune Buddlejias and the Spiraeas with colourful foliage, like Spiraea Goldflame, back hard.

Late February

Dig up and divide herbaceous perennials. Check wall trained plants to see if they require watering as it can get very dry at the base of a wall.

In heated greenhouses sow Dianthus, Lobelia, Ageratum, and multi-bloom Geraniums for summer bedding.

Dig up, divide and re-plant overcrowded clumps of snowdrops.



Prune winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) by trimming back by two thirds shoots that have flowered. Sow summer cauliflower in trays under glass.

Reg Moule Gardening Handbook No. 2

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Wellbeing hub



What we do!

People often say, "What do you actually do at the Hub?"

So, let me tell you a story. Anna came to see us in a distressed and agitated state because she felt bullied at work. We chatted, over a cup of tea, and by telling her story, sharing her experiences and frustrations she felt calmer. The next time we saw Anna (not her real name) she had just left her job. She couldn't take it anymore. Again, we chatted and agreed that her priorities must be the basics, of food and shelter, and we were able to help with access to the Foodbank, Community Cupboard, and signposted her to apply for benefits to make sure that she didn't need to panic about rent. We suggested looking at the wellbeing section of our website for self-help tips.

She came back two weeks later feeling so much more positive about the future and wanted help looking for a new job. We

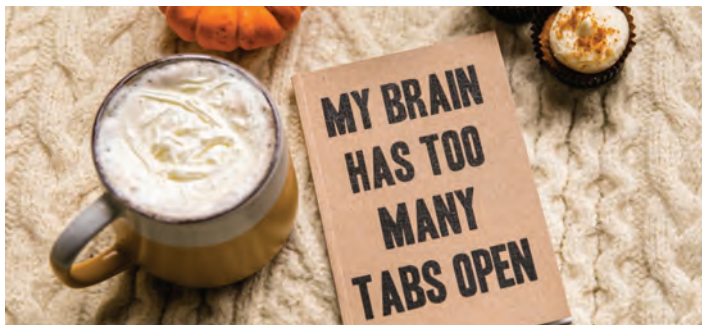
were able to help her decide what she wanted to do and how to write an application letter. Another fortnight went by and Anna was back. She had an interview and wanted to practice some questions and answers.

When we next saw Anna she had a new job, was loving it, and felt on top of the world. We still see her from time to time, out and about, or when she pops back to the Hub for a chat and catch up. She is so happy with her new job and has grown in self-confidence. It makes us feel great!

If you'd like to join our friendly team, helping to make our community a happier place then all you need to do is ask.

Drop in and see us or apply online at www.pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk
We look forward to welcoming you.

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Invincible

Angela Johns

There's nothing that feels quite as invincible as wearing wellies. I can stride out with confidence through mud sloshy or sticky, through puddles flat or deep. It won't matter, I won't get wet. Teamed with a quality pair of socks there's not much to hold me back. I can get stuck in down the allotment in my ripped jeans, I can visit the compost bin early in the morning in my dressing gown, I can take out the recycling in my glad rags before I'm due to go out. I can even borrow my partner's pair and get to the woodshed and back and still my feet will be dry. I can slip my wellies on and off in seconds when my hands are full. Their fixed moulded shape means I get to stomp about without minding my step. I've had green ones, flowery ones, ankle skimmers and calf slappers. What else in life is quite on your side like wellies? (Apart from rubber gloves, I mean...)

We would all like to be invincible but we're not, so we put things in place to make us feel it. The trouble is some of those things don't serve us well. We put up walls so we don't get hurt but then we miss the joy of tender feelings. We accuse and blame but that blinds us from seeing our own power to make things better. We are self-righteous but that removes the freedom of indecision when our minds can



expand and grow as we contemplate all the possibilities. Winning all the arguments does not make us right, it makes us good at winning arguments. It takes courage to take off the wellies. But when the time is right there is calmness and connection to walk barefoot in the cool dewy grass. There is a thrill to sink your toes in the sand as the winter waves rush over your feet at the beach. It's fun when you are not invincible all the time. I love my wellies but I don't wear them around the house!

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

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Exercise, the miracle cure?

Karen Harris

Having thoughts of the 'new you'? Sometimes the new year can be more of a curse than a blessing where these new year's resolutions are concerned, because there shouldn't be a 'new' you, there should be an 'improving' you. 'New' is only three letters but is a big word. You can't get a new body or brain, new thoughts and intentions are transitory; actions that are measured and progressive aren't transitory they are.....measured and progressive.....which means they stay around longer. Is exercise a 'miracle cure'? I'd be committing commercial suicide if I said no, but after thirty years of teaching people I have seen how it really has transformed lives. Whether that's Posture Alignment exercises or fitness classes/exercises, there is a physical activity that suits everyone, and that's a key component. If it's not fun, don't do it, because you won't if it isn't! The psychology of change (in behaviour patterns) tells us that people can't be guilt-tripped into exercise and nothing will 'stick' if the brain - that's the important bit, not the body - isn't on board. I've got a notice in my studio that reads 'it isn't your body that determines how you feel, but your mind that determines what state your body is in.' If, for example, you are doing some kind of activity that's hard and you are thinking I can't do anymore, I can't go on, etc you won't; you/your brain will talk you out of it, so consequently if those thoughts were, I can push through this, I am capable

of more, I CAN go further etc, you WILL push through and you WILL go further! And don't be thinking I'm too old for all that! That is also a state of mind not a reality. When we move our bodies and brains both work better. We think faster, process information more accurately and remember more. It improves sleep, lowers the risk of all-cause cardiovascular and cancer specific mortality, reduces the risk of developing Alzheimer's, improves mental health and is a natural antidepressant, and of course it strengthens muscles and bones and increases cartilage density. Sounding pretty miraculous so far? Can I hear.... 'I've got bits that hurt though Karen!' I get that because I see it in clients that hurt and really do desperately want to keep on living a good, active life. I've kept a newspaper article with the headline 'knee ops are no better than exercise', citing studies that proved so. Even the NHS on 'shoulder issues' say improving your posture will reduce your symptoms (they know it but don't say it out loud). It does! Improving your body alignment improves masses of symptoms and aches and pains, and as all of your body's systems are linked to your musculoskeletal system, improvements are seen elsewhere as a consequence. It is also a way of giving you confidence, because these new movements unlock something in your brain that holds you back and THAT is the state of mind we all need to push through at times. Miraculous? No question!

Imagine

Emily Papirnik

To All Teachers, Parents, Children and Friends



Imagine . . . being able to do a short practice to calm and balance before an exam so that you can find what you already know inside you mind

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Imagine . . . being able to understand a conflict in a different way to enable a moving forward

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Terminus Road, Pinvin

Terminus Road as it was over a century ago. Today these houses, along the road which is a continuation of Station Road from Pershore to Pinvin leading to Pinvin crossroads, look very similar but around the time when these photographs were taken there were slight differences. There was an advertising board over No.4 where lived Edmund Westcott (the local coal agent) along with his wife and ten children and a little further on a shop where lived Robert George with his wife, two adult daughters and a son. As the 1901 Census describes him as ironworker and grocer I suspect the business was actually run by the ladies in his life! The pavements either side of the road have very low kerbs and, with the aid of a magnifying glass, a few people can be seen in their front gardens. Although these front gardens are quite small each of the homes has a long rear garden where most grew fruit and vegetables for their own use.

Some of the children's faces are a little blurred: probably due to the longer exposure needed for photographs at that time. My grandmother is amongst them as are probably several of her younger brothers and sisters who were growing up in Railway Terrace. Now, the BIG difference between now and then is the great lack of traffic- the only vehicle appears to be a hay cart on the road in the far distance over the railway bridge and, of course, it would be a very foolish person who would risk arranging children in THAT road these days!

Cynthia Johnson



Terrace Road, Pinvin



Terrace Road, Pinvin - Outside Railway Terrace



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VETERINARY ADVICE ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!



Neutering Your Pet

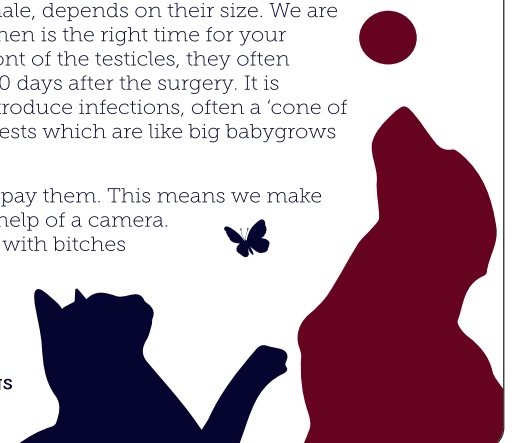
There are many advantages to neutering pets including avoiding unwanted litters, messy seasons and reducing the risk of many health problems such as mammary cancers in females and prostate disease in males. Whilst most owners agree this is the right course of action, we appreciate this can be a worrying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



Defford's Golf Balls *Tim Hickson*

Once upon a time I used to teach Physics. In the Spring of 1982 I took a group of Sixth Form students to the old airfield to learn about some applications of what they had been studying. Several of the student's parents worked for the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment (RSRE) based in Malvern. It was an interesting and useful visit. At that time, in the South Atlantic, the Falklands War was taking place. We were shown a bit of kit that had been developed in the laboratory and had been tested at Defford; it was being used by the SAS. In those days, before the mobile phones we use today, hand-held calculators were the latest gadget at school. One was a Texas calculator, a chunky black box with a lot of buttons and a small display of letters and numbers made by little red Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs). The scientists had modified the

innards and given the box a socket so it could be connected to an aerial. The aerial was like a small folding umbrella but instead of waterproof fabric there was a thin metal mesh. When unfolded it looked like one of today's satellite dishes and worked in the same way. When an SAS soldier wanted to communicate, either to Headquarters in Hereford or to another SAS member - even on the other side of a mountain - the procedure was simple. The message was typed into the 'Texas calculator' which was then connected to the unfolded aerial and the SEND button was pressed. Instead of the transmission taking as long as the message took to type, it happened in a fraction of a second and so was impossible for the enemy to detect. The signal went up to a satellite orbiting the Earth where it was reflected back down. Research on Satellite Communication came to the old airfield at Defford in 1980 when staff from what had been the Signals Research and Development Establishment at Christchurch came to set up a satellite communications facility. The dish aerials they used were protected from the weather by the white geodetic golf ball shaped covers which became so familiar to locals and to those travelling past by road or rail. These used American-launched satellites whose speed, as they circled the planet, matched that of the Earth below, so they were geostationary. One, called Skynet was used by the British military.

For research purposes, a set of



Defford "golf balls"

dishes was erected on the lip of Bredon Hill which reflected signals just as did a geostationary satellite. In 2001, after yet more expensive reorganisation of the research

establishments working for our military, what happened at Defford was unable to carry on and the 'golf balls' gradually disappeared. An era had come to an end.



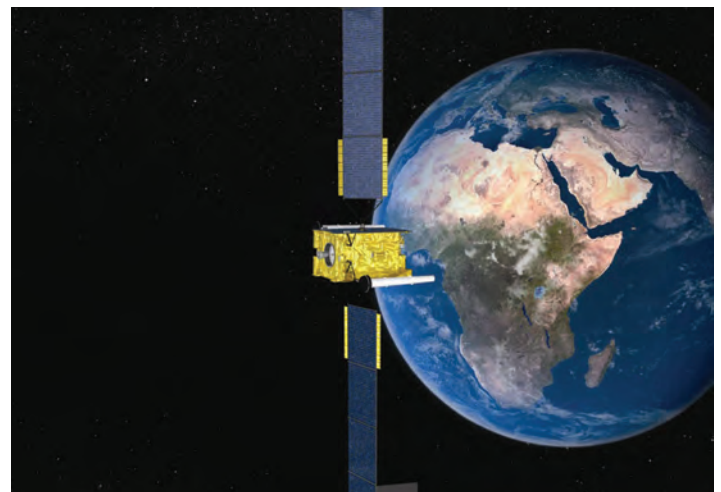
Texas calculator



Bredon Hill



This shows a larger version



skynet military satellite

Two's company *Brian Johnson-Thomas*



The area of land roughly situated between Bromyard and Tenbury Wells has long fascinated me with its maze of little lanes and sunken roads leading to tiny hamlets and the odd hidden public house. Indeed, you might recall that I first wrote about this area last year when describing the wooden wigwams of Wolferlow. They were principally for family holidays whereas this time the emphasis is firmly upon couples sharing together time. Situated in the hamlet of Tedstone Delamere are just three log cabins – Chestnut, Rowan and Willow – each with a private hot tub and each furnished to a very high standard.

One enters into an open plan lounge and diner with an attached kitchen with dining table. The fully equipped kitchen has an electric oven and

induction hobs, microwave, fridge with freezer, dishwasher and a Nescafe Coffee machine. The lounge area has a comfortable settee and a Smart TV (although there's also full internet access). There's also full central heating for those chilly evenings. The bedroom opens off from the living space and the first thing that I noticed was the exquisitely carved door handle, made from the branch of a tree, shaped and polished to perfection. That little detail is typical of the high quality of the finish throughout. The bedroom itself has an inviting king size bed and there's a well equipped wet room adjacent. Stepping outside onto the terrace there's more seating and a table with a fire pit nearby, which can also be used as a BBQ or just to sit by and watch the starry sky – far from any light pollution. The hot tub, for your exclusive use, is wood fired – so you need to light the boiler in good time before your soak.

If you should decide to eat out then the nearest pub is just over three miles away whilst there's a shop at just under three miles. Bromyard itself, with a whole range of facilities, is just over



four miles away. The National Trust estate at Brockhampton, with the lovely medieval manor house, orchards and woodland walks, is five miles away and the city of Hereford is 18 miles. For further details look up *Tedstone Log Cabins* on www.eatsleepliveherefordshire.co.uk. Continuing with an outdoorsy theme, this month sees the Caravan, Camping and Motorhome Show at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre from the 21st to 26th February 2023. www.ccmshow.co.uk for details.

Tickets in advance are £12 for adults, or £15 on the door. *We have five pairs (ten tickets) to give away. Just enter your name and contact details on the form below and return it to: Hughes & Company.*

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Teenage Focus

Romy Kemp (18)

New Year!

What a confusing year we've had! School is off for the holidays and life has been feeling extremely festive. The end of the year has felt hopeful, and with this always comes 'New Year Resolutions'.

However, these resolutions tend to be unrealistic or forgotten, so why not think of something different this year - set goals along the way, monthly instead of annually, rather than one big resolution which is extremely difficult.

My New Year Resolution (if you can even call it that) is to be myself more, be kinder, and not to overthink as much as it is not worth it. I panic too much as an individual and it's not healthy or fun, so my goal is to just have fun and live in the moment. My plan is to focus on myself, especially since I'll be taking my A-Levels in 2023.

After this, I'll have to concentrate on what I wish to do in the future. I don't have a clear plan yet but that is completely normal. I'm only 18 and I'm meant to know what I want to do for the rest of my life - I don't and that is fine. Due to the cost of living crisis, inflation is running at a double-digit pace which is the highest



it has been in 40 years. Food prices are up at almost 20%, as well as the cost of heating for a typical home jumping to more than 150%. On account of this, the Sixth Form Charity Committee at Hanley Castle High School, collected over 300kg of food which was taken to the Upton food bank. I was extremely proud of how much food we were able to collect. The amount of money we've raised as a committee, for a wide range of charities, across the period of a year is amazing. I believe we raised over £1000 for charities overall in just over a year.

Thoughts from the Snug . . .

The Egotist

The core who regularly meet in the Snug have a balanced, social harmony that is sometimes turned on its head by the temporary inclusion of a visitor. A few months ago a character joined us who frankly, dominated the clan with his ego-centric presence. We were largely dumbstruck as he told us stories about his success and provided us with his own views about any topic raised or hinted at. Months later we still recall, with mirth and incredulity, how this black hole of egotism fed his obsession in our company. We wondered if his obsession was just conceit, or was it simply his fondness for the good things in life-and he happened to be one of them. Same thing really!

On departing he announced he'd enjoyed the evening very much and that it had been the highlight of his day. This, he added, was unusual because although he was always pleased to see his friends, happy to be with his wife and family, the actual high spot of almost every day was when he caught sight of himself each morning in his shaving mirror!

Priceless. We all roared with laughter. He was delighted and left.

We were left with two certainties: to love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance. Secondly, although he was hard work, life would be dull if we were all the same.

Buddy Bach

Gregory's world!

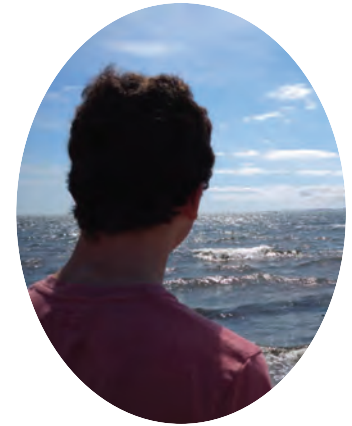
Gregory Sidaway (19)

Back for More

Wednesday evening. Night has fallen. Bells toll across Oxford, reverberating through the crisp air. I can hear the excited hubbub of Broad Street through my window – which still remains a popular rendezvous point for pigeons and their dissatisfied croaks and grumbings. I condensed my life down into a pair of bulging suitcases and heaved them, with several recuperation stops and the lending of many helpful hands, up four flights of stairs to get here. Those suitcases have been emptied and stored away; their contents now colour the room and I'm surrounded by books, bobble-heads and bow ties. I'm back. After processing all of this, I only then remember – like Nick Carraway in *The Great Gatsby* – it's still my birthday. I was at home only this morning, unwrapping presents in one world, then packing for the other.

It seems like ages since we last saw each other, fellow reader, and yet strangely not so long at all. When we last spoke, I was typing away right here in the roof of Exeter College. The first day of Hilary Term felt like stepping back into an old dream, everything clicked into place again as if nothing had changed; it had actually gone further and improved, we're no longer the guinea pigs having to learn everything from scratch; we now only have to learn most things. I've begun to really get a feel for Oxford – its dreaming spires and winding ways and sandy-coloured stone. There's something about being in a certain place for a length of time, you discard a touristic perspective and come to see buildings and routes as old friends; they will show you new things, yield new secrets. New College Lane – where, if it wasn't for the double yellow lines (and the occasional Deliveroo driver howling around the corner) you could be looking at a painting; at night, a place of charming mystery where the characters of Dickens or Victor Hugo could go about their business.

On Saturday, we continued our group's tradition of going wild swimming. Last term, I got used to the temperature decreasing degree by degree; I didn't keep it up over the holidays because



I interpret ice as nature's way of saying: "Don't get in." My rekindled appreciation of warmth and being able to feel my toes that Christmas gave me meant, to say the least, it was pretty cold. The journey to the lake isn't nerve-racking, stepping through the iron-braced gate of the college and into Turl Street doesn't trigger a twinge of apprehension. (What is a 'turl', you might wonder? The name comes from a so-called twirling gate in a city wall that has been gone since 1722.) It's when we're assembled on the bank of the lake, our bags beached around the base of a tree, the corner of our towels poking out for easy access. Some of us exchange glances, others stride on to meet our watery foe. Steps are cut into the bank and we form a line of shivers and goosebumps, a conveyor belt of doom. Soon, my heart is hammering. I'm treading water, my breaths are deep. I'm not brilliant at holding composure, so my face is moulded into an unflattering mask of shock. Thankfully, to get the full health benefits from the swimming, we only need to be submerged for a minute and a half. When I emerge, I'm strawberry-pink; wild swimming is supposed to decrease stress, calm any inflammation and allow you to become more meditative. I'm not sure I feel 'meditative' as such, just numb as I mummify myself in a towel and try to thrust my feet into my socks. After incubating for a few moments though, it all kicks in: I'm back with my mates, the water has truly woken me up, and I'm about to head home for brunch. Here's to a New Year and a new term!



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According to the Alzheimer's Society more than one million people in the UK will have dementia by 2025 the statistics for women is significantly higher amongst women than men

If one joint account holder loses mental capacity, banks or building Societies can decide whether they will restrict the use of the account for essential transactions.

Should that happen, then the

family have to deal with the Court of Protection and they are a nightmare. They do not understand the word Urgency let alone spell it. The writer has terrible first hand experience with a family member. The Pershore Times have made a special arrangement with Resolve Law Group on behalf of their readers using the Newspaper Code PT75. The arrangement is that the fee for each LPA is £175.00 plus the fee to the Office of the Public Guardian of £82.00. Any person should have this in place whether you are 30 or 70 years old.

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• Aviation law

Aviation law can be turbulent but we are here as your co-pilots to navigate a way through it. From insurance to regulation we have the expertise and experience to help individuals and businesses with all things aviation.

• Sports law

Whether you're an athlete, team, or club, Resolve Law Group can help anyone involved with the sports sector on legal issues. We help individuals and their representatives negotiate terms and terminations, and help them understand laws and regulations. We also help teams and clubs with negotiations, regulations, insurance, and compensation.

• Contracts & agreements

We can provide businesses and sole traders expert advice with their contracts and agreements as well as helping with drafts and negotiations. It's not just about getting the job done, it's also about helping you understand and use your documentation.

• Debt collection & enforcement

Unpaid debts cost your business; they can prevent you paying staff and suppliers, harming your reputation and creating uncertainty that threatens your future. That's where we come in. Resolve Law Group offers simple, fast, and efficient debt recovery advice and support.

Let us handle things...

Resolve Law group

Call: 01905 391939 / 07785 500432

Email: Peter.Jewell@ResolveLawGroup.co.uk

Group Head Office

Resolve Law Group Tudor Court Droitwich WR9 7JY

The Bookbinding Place . . .

One of our trade secrets we are willing to share... The BBC Repair Shop programme has prompted many to consider the repair and renovation of a cherished item that has seen better days. Items hidden away on a bookshelf or in a cupboard can often be restored to former glory and this is especially true for rare or valued books damaged by neglect, or simply the passage of time. Here at Hughes & Co. we out-source our book binding to a trade binding company, The Binding Place and we are happy to pass on our long experience with this company as a recommendation to our readers. Richard Siddell is book restorer who took charge of The Binding Place, based in Gloucestershire, last year. Hughes & Co. have been associated with this company for over 30 years and have continued to rely on the high quality service. We print and publish specialist books that require top quality presentation. Covers of leather or cloth (or a combination of both) often require gilt, tooled lettering, embossed decoration, marbled

end pages and protective slip covers on many of their publications. Examples of these high value, quality books are often displayed in the window of Hughes & Co's office in Church Street, prompting customer's enquiries on repair or restoration of their own texts. Clients arrive with books displaying signs of general wear and tear or accidental damage. Broken spines, loose pages, broken stitching, ripped, faded and tatty covers can all be repaired. The response when customers receive their restored item is wholly positive. They are delighted with the renovation and appreciate the skill of the repair. Richard, a member of the Society of Bookbinders, has restored ancient leather bound texts as well as more modern publications needing fabric cover. These include family bibles, diaries, photo albums, recipe books and cherished story books that owners wish to preserve for sentimental reasons. The Binding Place also offers a bespoke service for those who want to give personalised



presentation notebooks as gifts. These come as lined or unlined, with a choice of colour for the pages. They make ideal journals, diaries, visitors or address books. These are popular for almost any occasion; Christmas, birthday, graduations, retirements or anniversaries. If you are looking at an item to restore or repair the service of a specialist is very wise. Amateur attempts involving glue and sticky-tape can result in disaster. An unsightly finish

and a loss in value, possibly both, is all too easy to achieve. Don't be too swift in the rejection of an old, neglected or damaged book. Before you consign it to the charity shop, check on what edition it is and find out its approximate value on the internet. It may be worth professional repair.

If you have a cherished book that is in need of restoration or repair contact Hughes and Company 01386 803803

Deliberate or Careless?

Recently the news has been full of comment about Nadhim Zahawi's payment to HMRC of £4.8m following an enquiry into his tax affairs. Part of the settlement included penalties so it seems an opportune time to summarise how the HMRC penalty regime works. Specific penalties are charged for late submission of tax returns, but the penalties charged for incorrect tax returns depend on a number of factors. Penalties are paid in addition to any tax liability and are calculated as a percentage of the underpaid tax due ranging from 0% to 100% of the underpaid tax due depending on the reason for the inaccuracy. Inaccuracies are classed as either careless, deliberate, deliberate and concealed or attributable to another person. Everyone is expected to take reasonable care but just what is classed as reasonable depends on an individual's ability and experience. A higher degree of care is expected to be taken over large and complex matters

than simple straightforward ones. A lack of knowledge is not an excuse for making mistakes. Where an individual does not have an appropriate level of understanding, they are expected to seek appropriate advice from a person or organisation who does. That said, even where advice is taken, responsibility and accountability for what is reported to HMRC will always rest with the individual taxpayer. Deliberate errors are where a taxpayer knowingly omits or declares incorrect information whereas deliberate and concealed is where the taxpayer actively tries to cover up or disguise inaccuracies in a tax return. The maximum penalty for careless errors is 30% of the tax due, for deliberate errors it is 70% and for deliberate and concealed or attributable to another person it is 100%. HMRC can apply discounts to those percentages if taxpayers volunteer information about mistakes rather than being

Carol Draper

prompted to do so, for the level of compliance and assistance shown during an enquiry and for the quality of disclosure made. Tax enquiries can be stressful and complex and given the penalty regime that exists potentially very expensive. If you have any concerns about your tax affairs speak to your tax adviser.

Carol Draper FCCA



Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co.

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AND BUSINESS ADVISORS**

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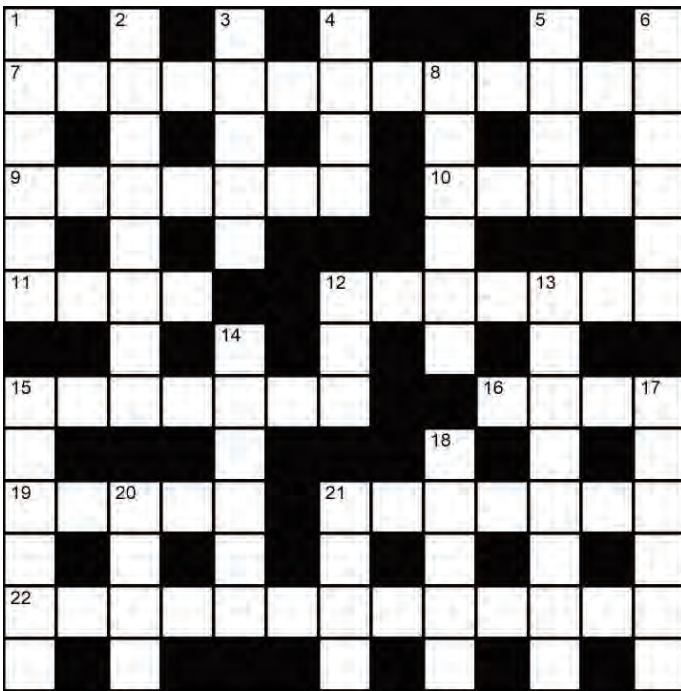
Tel: 01386 561100 Fax: 01386 561040

Email: mail@clifton-crick.co.uk

www.accountantsworcestershire.co.uk

Coffee Break

Crossword



Across

- 7 "The Great Gatsby" star (6,7)
- 9 Lower bound (7)
- 10 What a coincidence! (2,3)
- 11 Blasting charge (4)
- 12 CERN guy dispersed pressure (7)
- 15 Alleged UFO discovery site (7)
- 16 Take a DNA sample (4)
- 19 Inexpensive (5)
- 21 Sacrificed saints (7)
- 22 Weapons-testing area (7,6)

Down

- 1 Toaster debris (6)
- 2 Dumps (8)
- 3 It doesn't pay, they say (5)
- 4 Unsteerable bus? (4)
- 5 Heave-ho (4)
- 6 Total stupidity (6)
- 8 Injury (6)
- 12 Address bar reading (1,1,1)
- 13 Kevin Costner film disturbed Aunty Woo (2,3,3)
- 14 Oracle's location (6)
- 15 Cookbook offering (6)
- 17 Other than (6)
- 18 Cornish cathedral city (5)
- 20 Conscious minds (4)
- 21 Three Wise Men (4)

Sudoku

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

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

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

Crosswords

Sudoku

Wordsearches Jigsaw puzzles

also available to play
online for FREE



visit:

[www.pershoreonline.co.uk/
coffeebreak](http://www.pershoreonline.co.uk/coffeebreak)

General Wordsearch

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

- ABET
- ADS
- AT HAND
- BAR
- BOP
- BUNS
- COP
- DAHL
- DEMI
- DUB
- EARS
- FANCY
- GLITZ
- GOON
- HAT
- HOUR
- KEN
- KEN
- LAOS
- LOW TECH
- MOOT
- MPG
- OCCUR
- PAYER
- PEEL
- PINS
- PLAYS OUT
- SAX
- SEAN
- SRI
- STOP TALKING
- TAPES
- TRAUMA
- TUB
- USHER
- YORK

December Answers



Poets' Corner

A Shropshire Lad

Reveille VII

When smoke stood up from Ludlow,
And mist blew off from Teme,
And blithe afield to ploughing
Against the morning beam
I strode beside my team,

The blackbird in the coppice
Looked out to see me stride,
And hearkened as I whistled
The tramping team beside,
And fluted and replied:

"Lie down, lie down, young yeoman;
What use to rise and rise?
Rise man a thousand mornings
Yet down at last he lies,
And then the man is wise."

I heard the tune he sang me,
And spied his yellow bill;
I picked a stone and aimed it
And threw it with a will:
Then the bird was still.

Then my soul within me
Took up the blackbird's strain,
And still beside the horses
Along the dewy lane
It sang the song again:

"Lie down, lie down, young yeoman;
The sun moves always west;
The road one treads to labour
Will lead one home to rest,
And that will be the best."

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Spot & Shop - December Winners

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1) Karen Addis | 2) Jill Aston |
| 3) Lindsey Barnett | 4) Ann Potter |
| 5) Ronald Gardiner | 6) Tina Haines |
| 7) Annette Smythers | |

Last month's answer:
Pershore Juneberries

Fun Quiz!



1. What is the world's largest land mammal?
2. Rio de Janeiro is a city in which South American country?
3. Which Middle Eastern city is also the name of a type of artichoke?
4. With which sport is Silverstone most associated?
5. Nostradamus was famous for making what?
6. In mythology, Romulus and Remus were brought up by which animal?
7. What is the main source of vitamin C?
8. Insulin is commonly used to treat which condition?
9. The first atom bomb was dropped on which Japanese city?
10. What is dermatophobia the fear of?
11. The Velocipede was a nineteenth-century prototype of what?
12. Which is Britain's oldest Sunday newspaper, published for the first time in 1791?
13. What was the middle name of Wolfgang Mozart?
14. What is the art of stuffing animals for preservation?
15. The term bhp is used when describing the power of a motor vehicle; for what does it stand?
16. What is Prince William's second name?
17. Who invented the Flying Shuttle in 1733?
18. What does a Geiger Counter measure?
19. If you were an LLD, what profession would you be involved in?
20. How many of Henry VIII's wives were called Anne?

Answers: 1. Elephant 2. Brazil 3. Jerusalem 4. Motor Racing 5. Predictions 6. Wolf 7. Fruits 8. Diabetes 9. Hiroshima 10. The fear of skin disease 11. A bicycle 12. Observer 13. Amadeus 14. Taxidermy 15. Brake horse power 16. Arthur 17. John Kay 18. Radiation 19. The legal profession (Doctor of Law) 20. Two - Anne Boleyn and Anne of Cleves



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 Benvenuti Belle House, Pershore
 - 3rd - £20 Food Voucher at The Queen Elizabeth, Elmley
 - 4th - Revills £10 Voucher
 - 5th Masons Arms £10 Guest Voucher
 - 6th - Reg Moule's Gardening Diary
 - 7th - Pat's Pantry - Jar of home-made marmalade

Complete and return this form or email:
news@hughes.company for your chance to win!
Pershore Times closing date: 26th February 2023

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Telephone/email: _____

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

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,
The girl marked with a cross on the left I am told is my Grandmother Mary Gould 1893-1972 (her mom was Emma, born Ferris) and the man driving the horse/carriage is my greatgrandfather George Gould 1853-1927 (His father also George Gould lived in Pensham.)

According to one census the family lived in Ganderton Row Any information welcome about the photograph or the family.

Pauline Dent
mrs.p.dent@hotmail.com
01723 351821
07747454626

Thanks

Pauline

Dear Editor,
Whenever, I get a Pershore Times I always look for the anagram which I normally work out whilst reading through the rest of the paper. I usually manage to solve it but have not submitted it before.
This month the anagram (BEEP JOSHER REINSURER) is Pershore Juneberries.
The reason that promoted me to respond this month was the Quiz, which I also always attempt and get most of the answers.
In this month's Christmas Quiz, question 15 is, "How many countries make up Great Britain?"

The correct answer is Two, but you have given the answer of Three.

The countries that make up Great Britain are England and Scotland.

I assume that your answer of 'Three' includes Wales.

Wales is not a separate country but a principality in the west of England and has been since the 14th century.

Wales was fully integrated into England by act of parliament during the reign of Henry VIII. I look forward to reading your publication in 2023.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Richard

Dear Editor,
More than 6,800 people in the UK are spending the festive season/start of 2023 waiting for an organ transplant – and over 220 of these patients are children*.
These mums, dads, wives, husbands, partners, daughters, sons can only be saved by someone giving them the greatest gift, the gift of life.
At a time of giving/resolutions to do good, let people know you want to save lives.
Signing up to be an organ

donor is quick and easy and makes it easier for families if they know what you want. Give hope to the thousands of people and hundreds of children on the transplant waiting list. Join the NHS Organ Donor Register at www.organdonation.nhs.uk. Please tell your family about your decision so that they know what you want.

Anthony Clarkson
Director of Organ and Tissue
Donation and Transplantation
NHS Blood and Transplant

Pershore Times

Telephone 01386 803803

Proprietor/editor Alan Hughes

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Circulation 5000 printed copies,
email edition for PC, iPad and smartphones
and the online daily today! (10,500 followers)

Opinions expressed in letters and articles published are not necessarily those held by the Editor or the Publishers of the Pershore Times.

The Publishers of the Pershore Times hold no responsibility for the accuracy of any details contained within the advertisements.

Copy Deadline

March Issue - 20th February 2023

Dear Editor,
After struggling with the installation of a new piece of hardware on my PC for nearly two hours, my wife reminded me of an article in the October edition of Pershore Times, describing the service of Tech Teacher. What a useful article it proved to be! I telephoned them, described the problem and Antonio, the proprietor and Tech Teacher, agreed to come to my home to sort out the faults on his way home from his current client. Antonio arrived at 5.30, by 5.45 he had solved the issue on which I had wasted most of my morning. A modest fee was all he required. I made a permanent note in my address / telephone directory of his contact details.
I am about to upgrade my mobile phone and when I do I

will certainly call Antonio to come and set it up so it will be compatible with my home network. The Tech Teacher is a most reassuring service to have locally. I thoroughly recommend it to all who, like me, are at a loss and somewhat frustrated when faced with modern technology.
Yours faithfully,

Richard C,
Wadborough

Glad the article was useful.
We use Antonio to help us with all our IT matters.
His contact details are
Mobile: 07889743854
Landline: 01386 860470
Email: techtteacher.pershore@gmail.com
www.antonioardini.com

Editor



Cook Required

The Royal Oak
Kinnersley WR8 9JR
01905 371482

theroyaloakkinnersley@gmail.com

In memoriam

Bradstock. Pauline Dorothy née Rogers

Passed away peacefully on 22nd January 2023, aged 76 years. Beloved Wife of the late Norman, much loved mum of Sharon, Lynne and Geoff, a loving Sister and Auntie. Pauline will be very sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Abbey on Wednesday February 15th at 2pm followed by interment. Flowers or donations for Macmillan Cancer Support may be sent to E Hill & Son

Champken. Linda Gertrude

On 5th January 2023, peacefully in hospital, after a short illness, aged 84 years. Dearly loved wife of Dave and a devoted mum to Tina. Funeral service at Pershore Abbey on Monday 30th January 2023 at 1pm. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Number 8 Community Arts Centre and Pershore Wellbeing Hub may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Larcombe. Peter Sidney

Passed away peacefully at home on 5th January 2023, aged 89 years. Much loved Husband of Hazel, devoted Dad to Julie and Suzie and a loving Grandad and Great Grandad. Peter will be very sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 6th February at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity and the British Heart Foundation may be sent to E Hill & Son. Please wear a splash of colour.

Milward. Phyllis May

Passed away at home on 1st January 2023, aged 94 years. Beloved Wife of the late Cyril, much loved Mum to Sandra, Carol and Philip, a devoted Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Phyllis will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Abbey on Thursday 26th January at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for the British Heart Foundation may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Shellam. William Henry (Bill)

Peacefully in Hospital on 16th December 2022, aged 84 years. Much loved husband of Sylvia, dear Dad to Martin. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service took place at Pershore Cemetery Chapel on Thursday January 12th 2023. Donations, if desired, for the British Heart Foundation and the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Grant. Patricia (Pat)

Passed away peacefully on 5th December 2022, aged 73 years. Much loved Mum to Jason, Debbie and Leighann, Nanny Pat to Heather, Jake, Summer, Doug, Kieran, Charlie and Grant, Great Nan to Josh and Jack. Funeral service took place at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Friday 30th December. Donations, if desired, for the Salvation Army may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Thomas. Colin Glyndwr

On 1st December 2022, sadly passed away in hospital, aged 82 years. Devoted Husband of 60 years to Thelma, dearly loved Dad to Howard and the late Anne, loving Father in Law to Julie, adored Amps to Bethan and Elliot. Colin will be sadly missed by his brother, sisters and family. Funeral service took place at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 19th December. Donations, if desired, for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Gregson. Albert William

Passed away peacefully on 30th November 2022, aged 86 years. Much loved Husband of Phyllis, dear Dad, Grandad and great Grandad. He will be very sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service took place at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Tuesday 3rd January 2023. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research UK may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Hill. Anthony Aubrey (Nibs)

Passed away peacefully on 28th November 2022, aged 62 years. Much loved Husband, Dad, Brother and Friend to many. A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration took place at Pershore Abbey on Friday 16th December at 3pm. Donations, if desired, for St Richard's Hospice may be sent to E Hill & Son.

Donations may be sent to:

E Hill & Son Funeral Directors, Pershore WR10 1HZ
Tel: 01386 552141

What's On?



Cinema Listings

I Wanna Dance with

Somebody (cert tbc)

Screenings subject to confirmation:
Saturday 4 February - 7.30pm;
Monday 6 February 11.00am &
7.30pm

Dir. Kasi Lemmons

Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Fisherman's Friends: One & All (12A)

Tuesday 7 February - 7.30pm

Dir. Meg Leonard & Nick

Moorcroft. Tickets: £8.50

Corsage (cert tbc)

Thursday 9 February - 7.30pm

Dir. Marie Kreutzer

Tickets: £8.50

A Man Called Otto (cert tbc)

Screenings subject to confirmation:

Monday 13 February - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST);

Tuesday 14 February - 7.30pm

Dir. Marc Foster

Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

All Quiet on the Western Front (15)

Thursday 16 February -

7.30pm Dir. Edward Berger

Tickets: £8.50

TÁR (cert tbc)

Friday 17 &

Saturday 18 February - 7.30pm

Dir. Todd Field

Tickets: £8.50

Till (12A)

Monday 20 &

Tuesday 21 February - 7.30pm

Dir. Chononye Chukwu.

Tickets: £8.50

Puss in Boots - The Last Wish (cert tbc)

Tuesday 21 &

Wednesday 22 February -

11.00am Dir. Joel Crawford &

Januel Mercado

Tickets just £6.00

Empire of Light (cert tbc)

Screenings subject to confirmation:

Monday 27 February - 11.00am &

7.30pm; Tuesday 28 February

- 7.30pm Dir. by Sam Mendes

Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Events Listings

Select Society Theatre

Company presents

Divorced, Beheaded, Died:

An Audience with King

Henry VIII

Friday 2 February - 7.30pm

Tickets: £12.00

2hrs 30 mins (inc interval)

Orchestra of the

Swan:Earthcycle

Friday 10 February - 7.30pm

Tickets: £16, 16 & under £10

The Ronnie Scott's All

Stars present

The Ronnie Scott's Story

Saturday 11 February - 7.30pm

Tickets: £26

2hrs (inc interval)

The Royal Opera: The

Barber of Seville

Wednesday 15 February -

7.00pm; Encore: Sunday 19

February - 2.00pm

Tickets: £17, Seniors £16

3hrs 45mins (inc interval)

Sea Legs Puppet Theatre

presents

Edward Lear's Dream

Monday 20 February - 2.00pm

Tickets: £8, 16 & under £6

45 mins + meet the puppets

National Theatre Live:

Othello

Thursday 2 March 7.00pm

Tickets: £16, Seniors £15,

Students £10, 16 & under £10

Exhibition on Screen:

Mary Cassatt

Wednesday 8 March - 7.00pm

Tickets: £12, Students £10

1hr 33 mins

The Royal Opera: Turandot

Wednesday 22 March - 7.15pm

Tickets: £17, Seniors £16

3hrs 20 mins (inc intervals)

Hello Again ...

A Tribute to Neil Diamond

Saturday 25 March - 7.30pm

Tickets: £27 - 2 hrs (inc interval)



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

Quiz Night

Carnival Committee are running a fundraising on

**Saturday 11th February 2023
starting at 7.30pm**

**at the Sports and Social Club
Defford Road, Pershore**

*Teams of up to six can take part with many prizes to be won!
Come as a team or on your own to join up with others.*

£2.50 per person or
£10 per team



www.pershorecarnival.co.uk

Tarantara

*Sings for The Vale Golf Club
Captains' Charity 2023 -
Alzheimer's Society*

**Saturday 11th February 2023
at 7.30pm**

*A superb blend of talented voices offering
audiences a variety of entertainment
not to be missed*

**The Vale Golf and Country Club
Hill Furze Road, Bishampton WR10 2LZ**

*Kindly Sponsored by:
Rosemary Shufflebotham & Avondale Self
Storage Broadway Worcs.*

Tickets £12.50

*Available from Pearl Winchester
01386 750260 / 07879 623807*



Saturday 11th March 8pm

Brimstone Folk

*Play a mixture of gentle airs, fiery jigs and
reels. A combination of fiddle, whistle,
bodhran with guitar and Brimstone's
special energy, connection and sense of
fun is experienced through their music.*

Jon Bird

*A talented singer-songwriter performing a
mixture of blues & folk-rock songs from
his latest album*

'JB's Blackwater Road Band.'
Number 8, High St, Pershore

Worcestershire WR10 1BG

**Tickets: £8 available from
Box Office 01386 555488
number8.org**



ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

PLANT SHOW & SALE

Saturday 25th February 2023

Pershore High School

Station Road, Pershore, WR10 2BX



Charity No. 207175

Open between 11.00 am to 3.30 pm
Admission: £3.00 AGS Members: Free

- Rare and unusual plants for sale from specialist nurseries
- A fabulous display of hundreds of specimen plants grown by our members
- Huge range of discounted gardening books for sale
- Refreshments available
- Ample car parking

01386 554790

www.alpinegardensociety.net

Can you play Bridge?

If so, come and join us

**Wednesday or Friday
evening for a couple of
hours.**

*We play friendly games online and by
using your computer or tablet you can
chat and see everyone at the table.*

*Players of all abilities are
most welcome.*

*If you would like to know more, or
simply look in at one of our games
then contact us via the website at*

www.bridgewebs.com/pershore

Threads

*Worcester Stitch & Textile Art Group
The Red Dress, an award-winning global
textile project to Worcester on*

28th & 29th March 2023

*To view the Red Dress and from 2pm,
hear Kirstie tell the story of its
evolution and global travels.*

*Non-member tickets are £10 and
include light refreshments.*

*Kirstie will also lead a workshop from 10
-3.30 on 29th March 2023, where each
participant has the opportunity to create a
unique hand-embroidered piece. No
previous experience required.*

Minimum age 18.

Tickets cost £35 for non-members,

Get your tickets from

*www.ticketsource.co.uk/threads-worcester-stitch-and-textile-art-group
www.threadsworcester.org.uk*

Ladies Guild

Sociable, informative afternoons

**First Tuesday of each Month
2.00pm - 4.00pm**

Meet at Wychavon Civic Centre
Queen Elizabeth Drive, WR10 1PT

We have:

- *Speakers talking about a wide range of topics*
- *An outing to a local place of interest*
- *Quizzes and Beetle Drives*
- *A themed raffle each month*
- *Skittles once a month*
- *Tea and Coffee at £1 each meeting*

For more information contact:

Chair: - Tel: 01386 561838

Secretary: - Tel: 01386 550177

Women's Institute

Make new friends!

**Second Thursday of
each Month at 7.30pm**

Meet at Wulstan Hall
Priest Lane, WR10 1EB

Do come!

We are waiting to say "Hello"
*have you just moved into the area or
would you like to make new friends?
Come and join us at Pershore WI.
We are not all "Jam and Jerusalem" -
we enjoy crafts, lunches, skittles and
speakers and above all try to have fun.*

For more information contact:

Audrey Whitehouse - Tel: 01386 554856

Maureen Speight - Tel: 01386 556772

The Vale Walkers

Walking our way to health!

**Every Friday
at 10.30am**

Meet outside Pershore Leisure Centre
King Georges's way, WR10 1QU
for a short accompanied and sociable
walk around Pershore's green spaces.

Just turn up!

For more information contact:

Val Woods

Tel: 01386 554235

Pink ladies raise £727 for charity!



Pershire Tennis Centre hosted their annual tournament on Wednesday 23rd November and raised a smashing £727 for the Worcester Haven Breast Unit charity.

Jane Warner, event organiser, says: "Following our very successful annual event, we raised the fabulous amount of £727 for the Worcester Haven Breast Unit charity. We had a great day with 40 ladies playing - who came from all around the county, plus some from Warwickshire." The ladies undertake the fundraising every year, to

support the members and the charity alike.

Jane continues: "I wanted to thank those members who helped on the day making tea and coffee for players and doing the washing up after lunch, and those who donated for the event, with puddings, raffle prizes, and the hot food we served at lunchtime. You were very generous. It was a great day, great atmosphere, and we also welcomed the lady from the AskSal clothing range who donated a percentage of sales to the charity."

Sprint sponsor Drakes Broughton Rangers U10's



Sprint Group sponsor Drakes Broughton Rangers Football Club U10's team

Drakes Broughton Rangers is open to boys and girls from Mini Kickers to U18's and Sprint's HR Manager Jazmin Yardley's son, Ashton, plays for the U10's. The local club have a real passion for grassroots football. They are a FA Chartered Standard Club and believe in the culture of playing football for enjoyment and self-development in a positive environment. Sprint Group, who specialise in

commercial catering equipment, were delighted to help with the sponsorship of the team. Jazmin says: "I'm so happy that Ross, Luke and the senior management team at Sprint have supported the local team. It means the world to me, my son and the club too. Thank you."

More about Drakes Broughton Rangers FC can be found at www.drakesbroughtonrangersfc.co.uk

Seniors' Captain presented with some 'Dutch Courage' at his drive in



Due to snow and torrential rain during December and January there was very little golf played but The Vale Country Club and Seniors Section were still able to hold their AGM at the beginning of December where 2022 Captain Brian Bunn confirmed that the 2023 Captain was Will Reading. After he was presented with his Captain's Blazer he named Chris Filus as his Vice Captain. Later in December at the Club's

AGM a cheque of £1425 was presented to Diana Harris charity organiser Worcestershire for Myeloma UK. She thanked everyone involved for their hard work and generosity in raising such a fabulous amount. Towards the end of the month 2023 Captain Will Reading held his Drive In which officially confirmed his captaincy. It was a very successful day followed by

Christmas Lunch and presentation of trophies to the 2022 winners.

On the 4th January the weather relented to allow 40 players to contest a yellow ball Stableford Competition. The results being 1st with 79 points the team of Duilio Perla, Brian Bunn, Steve Addison and John Bragg. 2nd with 77 points was the team of Larry Taylor, John Eastoe, Peter Caser and Alan Watson. Nearest the pin on the 5th was John Eastoe.

On the 9th January 56 players contested an individual Stableford. Unfortunately due to persistent overnight rain it was played over 9 holes. Results being:

Div 1
 1st. Ian Phillips 21 points
 2nd. Mark Harris 21 points
 3rd. Steve Addison 19 points
Div 2
 1st. Steve Peacock 20 points
 2nd. John Milward 19 points
 3rd. Peter Richards 16 points.
 Nearest the pin on the 5th was Ed Mountney

The Senior Section are holding four opens this year which are listed below:

Team AM/AM
 Wednesday 26th April

Individual
 Wednesday 31st May

Pairs
 Wednesday 12th July

Team AM/AM
 Wednesday 13th September

They can be entered at opens@bishamptonseiors.com or the club web site.



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Pershore Times



Making a splash!

The Pershore Phoenix Dragon Boat Team enjoyed a training weekend at Lake Bala, Wales. Weekly training is at Arden Sailing Club, Defford.

Pershore Phoenix are a mixed age leisure and racing Dragon Boat Club who are based at the beautiful spot on the Avon near Defford. We have mens, ladies and mixed teams.

Dragon Boat Racing is one of the most exciting and inclusive water sports and is fast growing. Paddlers choose one side from which to paddle and develop techniques, stamina and fitness and have fun being part of a vibrant team! The Club trains on Sunday mornings and is open to all with a wide range of age and abilities. Enthusiasm is more important than experience. Just this last year, Phoenix recruited several new members,

and alongside the experienced team, with coach Linda and captain Dan we went from strength to strength.

To sum up 2022, we trained and had fun locally and had two fantastic 'away' training weekends at Olton Mere and the stunning Lake Bala. We competed at several country wide Dragon Boat events including Stockton on Tees, Manvers Lake, London, Nottingham and Henley on Thames. We are a 'phoenix rising' team, coming home with 2nd in the Open 200 metres and a 3rd for the men in the 200 metres against larger teams! This year we are off to Barcelona to compete and have fun.

We are members of the British Dragon Boat Association and are also developing teams and links with Purple Dragons, a veterans charity, Britannia



ladies and Pink ladies- breast cancer survivors.

Are you starting this new year seeking fitness and fun on the water?

Pershore Phoenix are seeking to grow our club –

Could this be for you?!

Take a look at our website www.pershorephoenix.com

We train at Defford every Sunday morning, and in the summer months on Wednesday early evenings.

If you fancy having a go, the first four sessions are free – email us as hello@pershorephoenix.com

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