

Pershore Times

A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages



Issue 85

June/July 2023

FREE



Cricket at Ebrington © Peter Hodge, Worcestershire

June has been a lovely warm sunny month; with a marvellous contrast to the long dull winter. With many summer events going on in, and around Pershore. The Coronation in May seemed to cheer everybody, with great pageantry, street parties and communities joining together, a very happy time. This seemed to set the tone for June and with the fantastic weather all seemed wonderful. The events in Parliament, Europe and around the world seemed a long way away from our idyllic setting.

Then the Tiddersley Wood development flaired up again. Scenes of protest, probably never seen before in Pershore, took place. The building of many homes and the effect on wild life, is very unpopular. People take a great interest in preserving wild life, and the

woodlands are so important to our environment. We shall have to see the outcome of the proposal but one hopes that the powers that be take note of public opinion. July is full of action, the ever popular River Festival is taking place in Pershore with many

other events, open gardens, Fetes bowls and cricket. Nationally we have the 'Ashes' Test Cricket against Australia and the Wimbledon Tennis Tournament, both very popular and exciting events. We had some challenging times in late May and early June, when three of our team members were taken ill with various serious illnesses. They are all recovering and are back with us, but only on a part time basis. We have produced each of our three newspapers for July and expect to get back to full production very soon. All is looking very positive and we thank everyone for all the kind messages we have received.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

Unfortunately, three team members were all taken seriously ill at the end of May. This resulted in us being unable to print a June edition on time.

The June edition was only available online.

Hence, the combined June/July Papers.

Thanks for your understanding and all the get well wishes sent to our team members.

Ed.

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Tiddesley Wood housing development



Pershore's District Councillors Dan Boatright, Jodi Arnold and Charles Tucker are gearing up to do battle with developers over plans to build 300 houses near Tiddesley Wood. The plan has re-emerged, despite being rejected from the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) Review last year. Agents Savills of Birmingham are holding a Consultation and Engagement Event on 14th June at the Bank House in Pershore to present their plans. Now the councillors have written to Savills to express their strong opposition to any plan for building near the wood. Councillor Dan Boatright says "Over 2000 people have signed a petition against building near Tiddesley Wood and there have been multiple protests by residents. The three Pershore district councillors have consistently supported residents in opposing the development. We have taken motions to Wychavon District Council and voted against any plan with Tiddesley Wood included. Nothing has changed. We will mount a public protest at the community engagement event on 14th June and will invite

residents to join us. Our strength of feeling on this issue has not diminished." Councillor Charles Tucker says "Building houses near to Tiddesley Wood would have a disastrous effect on its ecology - by concreting over the feeding and nesting areas of birds, insects, bats and mammals and by dramatically increasing human and pet intrusion around the wood. Noise, pollution and street lights would all play their part in disrupting wildlife as well. Local residents fought this plan tooth and nail when it was first proposed in 2019 and will do so again." The SWDP Review in 2019 proposed a 450 house "village" built close to the 6000 year old Wood, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. This produced huge local protests and great concern that the development would have a catastrophic effect on the wildlife in and around the wood. The housing plan was finally blocked by statutory objections from Natural England and the Wildlife Trust, because of Tiddesley Wood's national importance.

Carnival success!



The sun shone and crowds flocked to this year's Pershore Carnival on Spring Bank Holiday Monday. There was a range of tasty fare in the food zone and tempting treats and interesting crafts in market alley to enjoy. Local charities took the opportunity to raise awareness and funds and the Blue Cross Fun Dog Show was as popular as ever. Pershore Tennis and Rugby clubs encouraged kids to have a go and they also enjoyed the go-karts, circus skills, pony rides, face-painting, ferret racing and bouncy castle. New this year, the Punch and Judy shows had the little ones enthralled and people of all ages enjoyed the funfair. There was nostalgia with the static engines and a modern twist with a silent disco. The afternoon of live music was kicked off in style when over 130 members of i-Sing Choirs entertained with a varied repertoire and fantastic harmonies, with arrangements by their leader, Helen Jones. Lolly Parton and Memphis Mike got the audience involved and The Bones finished the

afternoon with foot-tapping tunes.

The Carnival Committee would like to thank everyone who entered the Procession, this year's theme being 'Summer Holidays'. The winner of the motorised float category was Pershore Riverside Youth Centre, Pershore Abbey won the walking float category with a very special homemade aeroplane and the Palmer Family won the fancy dress category. The Committee is also grateful to shops along the High Street that decorated their windows in keeping with the theme and to No 8 for a special showing of Cliff Richard's Summer Holiday. The Bucket collect raised £1020 this year and is being donated to Pershore Community Cupboard

Planning will start soon for Carnival 2024 and the Committee would welcome new members to help us make it just as successful next year.

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Aldi offers new lease of life for market site

Award-winning discount retailer Aldi has agreed to buy the site from the owners of Pershore Market, with a proposal for a new food store in progress. The market owners are liaising with the remaining traders and trading will continue for the rest of 2023.

Oliver Mackaness, Director at Pershore Markets commented: "We have always striven to do our best for Pershore Market, which was started by my father over 40 years ago. We have seen a number of traders depart in recent years, with the difficult economic backdrop making it challenging for both traders and the Market itself to operate a viable and sustainable business model.

"We feel it is time for the site to be given a new lease of life, and we feel that Aldi is the ideal business to deliver a store

that meets the needs of modern-day Pershore."

Simon Glover, Real Estate Director at Aldi, said: "We are aware of the significant demand for an Aldi store in Pershore and we strongly feel that this site presents a unique opportunity to create a new supermarket in a town centre location for local residents. An Aldi store in Pershore will improve choice for shoppers, with high-quality products at low prices – helping our customer's money go further which is a key consideration for so many at the moment. We are keen to develop a scheme that positively contributes to the town centre and local community. We will therefore be involving local people throughout the planning process as we believe it is vital

for the community to be given the opportunity to help shape the plans." Aldi will provide more details on their plans for Pershore as part of a public consultation launching in the coming weeks. As part of the consultation, the local community will be invited to provide feedback on the proposals, which will be used to inform the planning application.



Best Hair Salon!

ICONIC Hairdressing was announced as Best Hair Salon, Worcestershire at the England's Business Awards, West Midlands Region. Over 300 businesses were nominated throughout the region across multiple sectors, from which the top 55 businesses were chosen as finalists and invited to attend the black tie award presentation evening at the East Side Rooms in Birmingham. Gareth Martin (business owner and entrepreneur) said that ICONIC's amazing team, outstanding customer experience and long standing satisfied clients were the reasons they stood out against their competitors.

As Julie, one of their happy clients said:

"I have been coming to ICONIC for more years than I care to remember, they do the best cuts and colour and you feel like a family member when you visit. I will never change, I love them! ♥"

Gareth's commitment to the business, through constant innovation and regular salon wide training, keeps the ICONIC team at the forefront of trends, product developments and anticipating their clients' needs.

Gareth said: "We didn't do anything different in the run up to the event! We were just being ourselves and running the business the way we usually do, but a panel has voted us the best in our sector in Worcestershire. It is a massive honour and we are over the moon!!"

ICONIC Hairdressing is constantly growing, and opened up a second salon on Pershore High Street last year and it is already going from strength to strength! ICONIC will now go on to represent Worcestershire at the Annual National Grand Final of the England's Business Awards in November, in Birmingham.



left to right: Hannah Buckley (Business Operations Manager), Gareth Martin (Owner) and Liezl Croft (Marketing Manager)

Soldiering On Awards Finalists 2023

Inspiration Award – in partnership with NatWest

An award to honour a person who has overcome significant challenges, injury or disability, and whose ongoing or past outstanding achievements are an inspiration to others within the Armed Forces community. The judging panel will select a shortlist of three entries to progress to the final public vote.

Wick local and Purple Warriors Charity member, Natasza Telfer has been short listed.

Natasza Telfer

Natasza (Tash) Telfer lives with unimaginable pain after injury in Iraq but has an unwavering determination to take the label 'disabled' and turn it into 'enabled' by using her indestructible will to inspire others.

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Carol Burnett

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A few words from... Harriett Baldwin MP



£2.2 Million School Funding Boost

Schools in West Worcestershire will be getting cash boost of more than £2 million as part of national plans to help schools with rising costs. Harriett Baldwin MP welcomed the cash award which is part of a £2 billion national commitment to support high quality education across the country. Primary schools in West Worcestershire will get an average of £35,000 and secondary schools will get £200,000 to help with rising costs. Schools will receive their first payment in May and will be able to choose how best to invest the extra funding, including to pay for teacher

salary uplifts and teaching assistants. Nationally, the schools budget will be £58.8 billion in 2024 meaning the Government is putting more funding into schools than ever before. It also means school funding is set to rise faster than forecast inflation this year and next year. Harriett commented: "I regularly meet with schools to help me understand their day-to-day budgets and to help with bids for repairs to their buildings or to add new classrooms. This is an extremely welcome cash boost, and I am sure it will be welcomed by the staff who will directly benefit from this news and also parents across West Worcestershire. I have always campaigned for a fairer share of the national budget to go to our high-performing local schools as they work hard to give children a high quality education and the best possible start in life. Over the years, Worcestershire school funding has become fairer and I will keep helping schools to deliver world class education to local children."

Hop on a Bus as Fare Discount is Extended

Harriett Baldwin MP has urged local people to show their support for local bus services as the Government extends a scheme offering discounted bus fares. The £500 million Government scheme will allow millions of passengers across England to 'Get Around for £2' and help bus companies to plan for long-term stability in the sector. Single bus fares will be capped at £2 outside London until the end of October 2023 and then at £2.50 until 30 November 2024 – when the Government will review their effectiveness and future bus fares. Harriett has been working closely with Worcestershire County Council as it develops an on-demand bus scheme to operate across the county. Last year, the MP hosted a summit to discuss local bus service provision getting feedback from local councillors and travel experts. Harriett said: "I welcome the significant extra investment

made available to bus companies to subsidise fares and hope that local people will make the choice to use the bus more where they can. I am strongly supportive of the county council initiative to investigate on-demand bus service provision using mobile phone technology to increase availability. I have always said that bus services rely on the principle of 'use it or lose it' and we've seen services decline in recent years with a combination of the pandemic and reduced local route subsidies. I am asking to meet the local bus company to request they use the money to reinstate services including the route to Malvern's Upper Howsell Road area. This significant cash boost by the Government is a clear signal to the bus companies that they should do much more to promote services and encourage more local people to use their services where possible."

Rotary News



Richard Lees, President



Norfolk Rotarian Paul Weatherill and his unique ShelterBoat arrived too late to highlight in last month's PT, but arrive he did. He was welcomed by Pershore Rotary at the Angel's moorings on his way from Stratford to Tewkesbury, to complete a voyage lasting three days, covering 43 miles and negotiating 16 locks. To date, his efforts have raised over £6,000 for the ShelterBox charity which provides tents and survival equipment to families worldwide whose lives have been devastated by wars, earthquakes and flooding. Congratulations Paul on an amazing achievement. Without doubt the coronation of Charles III brought colour and vitality to the streets of Pershore. We were delighted to sponsor a shop window competition that involved many local businesses, displaying a variety of red, white and blue banners, balloons, flags, photos and much more. The judges had some very difficult decisions to make, but Lynne and her team at the Sugar Plum Tearooms in Broad Street were declared the winners. In 2nd place was the 'One and Every'

gift shop and 3rd place went to Fladbury Flowers. Highly recommended awards were given to Acorns Hospice, Browns Home Hardware, K&J Mason & Daughters, Thai Legend Restaurant, Thomson & Bancks and St Richard's Hospice shops around the town. Our thanks go to everyone who took part and to our judges for giving us their time. Pershore Rotary has supported St Richard's Hospice in many ways over the years. So, it was a pleasure to be invited to visit this month and be guided around the hospice by Jodi and Sophie. The hospice provides a wide range of facilities, including Living Well courses, and a really beautiful, relaxing open space area called the Green Room where members of the public can drop in for a coffee or lunch and support the hospice in the process. Whether you support your own community or overseas, *Pershore Rotary is here to help. If you can help us and want to know more, follow us on Facebook or check out our website at www.pershorerotary.club*



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New Wychavon Chairman



Cllr Alex Sinton hands over the Chairman's chain to Cllr Robert Raphael

A dedicated Evesham community servant has been named as Wychavon's new Chairman. Cllr Robert Raphael was handed the chain during Wychavon's Annual Council meeting on Wednesday 17th May. It is the second time Cllr Raphael has carried out the role, having previously been Chairman in 2021 towards the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. The 53-year-old is a key part of Evesham's community having served on Evesham Town Council since 1992 and been mayor of the town twice. He is also a trustee of Evesham Volunteer Centre and volunteers his time to help with various groups and events in the town. Cllr Raphael has set himself a challenge of visiting every parish in the district during his year as Chairman to celebrate Wychavon's 50th anniversary next April. Cllr Raphael said: "To serve as Chairman once is a privilege but to do it twice really is an honour. With Wychavon

turning 50 next April, I am looking forward to getting out and meeting people and celebrating the wonderful place that is our beautiful district." Cllr Raphael's mother Diana – also a long-serving member of the Evesham community known locally as 'Mrs Evesham' will accompany the new Chairman on official duties. Cllr George Duffy was elected Vice Chairman. Cllr Raphael was handed the chain by outgoing Chairman Cllr Alex Sinton. Cllr Sinton's year has been marked by royal events. He started his year as Chairman representing the district at Platinum Jubilee celebrations before leading Wychavon in mourning following the death of HM The Queen and then proclaiming a new monarch. He rounded off his official duties by representing Wychavon at the recent coronation celebrations for HM King Charles III.

Postage stamp deadline approaching!



Royal Mail customers have until 31st July 2023 to use old first and second-class stamps before they will no longer be valid for post. Now is the time to start using up your stamps if you have a stash tucked away at home. Regular stamps without a barcode will no longer be valid after July 31, 2023, with the recipient having to pay additional charges. The traditional stamps, featuring a left-facing profile face of Her Late Majesty The

Queen, on a coloured background, will not be used after July this year. Only barcoded stamps, non-barcoded Christmas stamps, or special collection stamps can be used. Initially set to expire in January this year, Royal Mail extended the deadline by six months to use or exchange their old stamps. A swap-out scheme has been introduced for anyone who wants to exchange their old stamps for new ones, which you can do online or via post.

Study of landscape archaeology

South Worcestershire Archaeological Group (SWAG) is a group formed in 1981 to study landscape archaeology and has a programme of lectures, walks and fieldwork. We meet indoors during the winter for a series of talks on a wide-ranging series of topics from Castle development to Witches Marks! Our summer programme is usually a number of walks investigating the landscape and including the development of villages and towns. Last year we visited Ludlow and Tewkesbury looking at lesser known parts of those towns. In the past we have visited many local towns and villages, some of which need a revisit as historical and archaeological discoveries occur. We have participated in many archaeological activities including field walks, finds washing, a look at deciphering ancient documents and some experimental pottery making. We try to have ideas to suit many people. This year we have had a most



interesting tour of the canal and docks at Stourport. Our next walk is a trip to investigate the remains of the Gloucester to Hereford Canal then a continuation of an exploration of Stourport docks with a possible boat trip. In August we have a social event to celebrate the Coronation at Callow End Village Hall with a prize for the best crown! We are always pleased to welcome new members either as a one off or to join us in our many activities.

For more information please contact Mike Ellison on 07738995825 or wmellison@tiscali.co.uk or: swagmembership@gmail.com



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June Events at community run The Queen Elizabeth Inn

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

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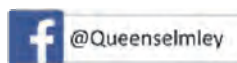
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56,600 families cut childcare costs

Tax-Free Childcare has saved 56,610 families in the West Midlands on their childcare costs during the 2022 to 2023 tax year, an increase of more than 12,000 from the previous year according to the latest statistics released by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC 24 May 2023).

With thousands more families benefitting from the government top up year on year, HMRC is reminding eligible working families of the financial support available to pay for approved childcare including holiday clubs, breakfast and after school clubs, child minders and nurseries. Last year, £533 million in government cash was shared by families across the UK who saved money on their childcare bills.

Working families, with children

up to the age of 11, or 16 if their child has a disability, can save up to £2,000 a year per child or £4,000 a year if their child is disabled.

For every £8 paid into a Tax-Free Childcare account, families automatically receive an additional government top up of £2. Families can save up to £500 every 3 months for each child or £1,000 if their child is disabled.

This is one of many ways the Government is easing cost of living for people across the country, whilst taking action to halve inflation this year which is currently adding pressure to household budgets.

The government is offering help for households. Check GOV.UK to find out what cost of living support, including help with childcare costs.

Police officer numbers hit historic high!



A record number of police officers, 2494 in total, are now serving in West Mercia, as officer numbers hit new highs. Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion has supported West Mercia Police's Chief Constable to not only meet the Government's uplift target for West Mercia, but exceed it. Your police force now has a headcount of 2494 officers, with officer numbers increasing

by 508 since the PCC was first elected in 2016. A further boost to officer numbers will happen in this financial year, with an additional forty officers recruited to create new community crime fighting teams. The PCC is committed to ensuring police officers are accessible and visible in your community, tackling the issues that matter to you.

Help to Save extended!



Help to Save – the government savings scheme for low-income earners, which offers a 50% bonus payment worth up to £1,200 over 4 years – has been extended to April 2025, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has confirmed. More than 359,200 customers have opened savings accounts since its launch in September 2018 and an additional three million individuals could still benefit from the savings scheme as a result of the extension. Help to Save is a savings scheme for low-income earners. Savers can deposit between £1 and £50 a month into their account and will receive a government bonus – even if money has been withdrawn. Savers will earn a

50 pence bonus for every £1 saved and the bonus payments are paid in the second and fourth years. This means that someone saving £2,400 - the maximum amount they could deposit over four years - would receive a £1,200 bonus from the government, paid directly into their bank account. Setting up a Help to Save account online is quick and easy to do, and takes less than five minutes to sign up. Eligible individuals can find out more and how to apply on GOV.UK or via the HMRC app.

It is quick and easy to apply online or via the HMRC app, just search 'help to save' on GOV.UK to find out more.

Amber celebrates first anniversary

Wendy took over the existing Amber salon in Church Street, Pershore. After refurbishing the salon she opened the doors in July 2022.

The first year has been a great success with lots of new clients returning on a regular basis. *Thank you for your support.*



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Cheltenham-based Audiology company Andrew Bird Hearing has been collaborating with Pershore Eyecare since their doors opened back in 2017, offering a reliable and comprehensive hearing service to the residents of Pershore. Every week, the community can access a range of essential Audiology services at Pershore Eyecare, including ear wax removal, free hearing tests, and the latest technology of hearing aids. During your visit you can expect to see the friendly faces of staff you may already be familiar with, along with Andrew Bird Hearing's Elena Feeney running the hearing clinic, who has been a professional Audiologist and Hearing Therapist for the last twenty years. With Elena's expertise and dedication, you can be confident in her ability to address any hearing-related concerns and make appointments friendly and comfortable. This long-standing partnership

between Andrew Bird and Pershore Eyecare's Andy Griffin and Harriet Smith, has proven to be a valuable asset to the local community. Andy, Andy and Harriet have been working together for over ten years, originally starting in Thornbury before bringing their services to Pershore in 2017. By combining their expertise, these two reputable establishments have successfully catered to the hearing and optical needs of countless individuals for the last six years, ensuring that both their hearing and eye health are well taken care of. If you or a loved one require Audiology or Optometry services, look no further than Andrew Bird Hearing and Pershore Eyecare. For Audiology appointments you can contact Andrew Bird Hearing directly, over the phone or on their website. For Optometry appointments contact Pershore Eyecare.

Help with home improvements!



I have over 30 years experience in building maintenance having practised as a Chartered Building Surveyor until 2017. Much of my work involved diagnosing building defects, advising on appropriate methods of repair and arranging and managing repair work. I am a hands-on practical person and have enjoyed renovating old cars, furniture and buildings from an early age. I am able to apply the skills, experience and knowledge gained to my current business. I take great pride in my work and provide a friendly but professional service. Customer satisfaction is important to me.

Much of my work is obtained through repeat customers or recommendations. Some of the work I carry out is as follows, however the list is not exhaustive!
Interior and exterior decorating including minor plaster and timber repairs. Fitting skirtings, architraves, shelves and curtain rails. Basic plumbing work. Roof repairs and maintenance. Repointing and brickwork repairs. Slab laying and repairs. Fences repaired or replaced. Garden maintenance including grass and hedge cutting, clearing/cutting back/pruning. Feel free to contact me regarding your next building or garden project.



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Pershore Embroiderers and Textile Artists - Looking for Past Members...



Pershore Embroiderers and Textile Artists will be celebrating 40 years of Embroidery and Textile creativity this August - 1983 - 2023

We are looking to get in contact with past members to help us celebrate 40 years of our society. We would like past members to share their memories of the society and bring along any embroidery or textile work they may have completed while they were a

member of this wonderful group. We hope to create a display on the day of the celebration to show our creativity over the past 40 years. We are also exploring the idea of having a display to celebrate this amazing achievement at Number 8 in Pershore.

Past and present members can join us for our celebration at Defford Village Hall, Harpley Road, Defford, WR8 9BL on the 15th August 2023 from 10am - 12pm

If you would like to join us and to share your memories and any of your embroidery or textile work please contact either Anne Newbon on 01386 561519 or Theresa Clarke on 01386 556066

We look forward to hearing from you. Transport to and from the event can be arranged via the above contacts.



A Community project completed by PETA for the Wellbeing Hub, Pershore 2022

Flower Club News

Members and visitors were well and truly entertained on the evening of Wednesday 21st June, when Andrew Lloyd paid Pershore Flower Club a return visit from Stourbridge where he runs a florist's shop and is a valued flower arranger and demonstrator. His evening was entitled "Around the world the floral way", but he amended this to around Europe.

He began with Italy and told us stories of his many visits to Rome and other parts of Italy. His first design in a large black slate bowl consisted of stems of a large variegated ivy, yellow antirrhinums, yellow achillea and then wonderful golden sunflowers. He inserted a few lemons on barbecue sticks to give a lovely sunny feel of Italy. Next to the city of romance and love, Paris, and the best time to visit – Spring. A green basket as a tray holding a bottle of Prosecco with sprigs of grisselinia, a birch twig dyed purple, with three stems of anthurium and two "magic blue" orchids. He then topped the tray with a wire green frame to form a cage and

the green parrot "Percy" placed on top. Then from behind the curtain, he produced a similar cage with similar plants for "Polly" a blue parrot.

Next a visit to Lucerne in Switzerland for a winter wedding using a tall stand on top of which he placed stems of solomon's seal to give some movement and then sprigs of eunonymus. He then inserted tall stems of white delphiniums on each side with stems of snowy white lilies and white "avalanche" roses in the centre. Then to Holland to Amsterdam and using a bulb tray with a Dutch apple box on top, to which he had added sprigs of acer, cotoneaster and rhododendron leaves. To this foliage, Andrew added seedheads of allium which he had sprayed purple and then stems of a purple aster, purple stocks and finally stems of orange Carthamus and of small orange gerberas.

So at the end of his whistle-stop tour of Europe, back home to Pershore and a really beautiful design of Englishness! He used a small collection of ferns,



rhododendron leaves, ivy leaves, stems of a lilac delphinium and sprays of Alchemilla mollis and two large heads of hydrangea, heads of a pink peony and small pink roses.

We all enjoyed Andrew's chat, his sense of humour and fun

and of course his artistic talent in creating five beautiful and varied designs. Our next Club meeting is on Wednesday 19th July to which we always offer visitors a warm welcome.

For further details, contact 01905 936477



Thoughts from the Snug...

Keep the change. Will plastic really become King?

Here in The Snug we buy rounds and often pay with our plastic cards. It's as if we have done it forever. Paying cash for anything seems to be very un-cool. However, two of our group recently returned from a three day coach excursion, where on the final day, they were involved in a couple of 'whip-rounds' of donations for their trip organiser, the guide, coach driver and hotel staff. Members of the coach party willingly dug deep into their pockets to express their appreciation for the trip. After all, they had indeed, received excellent service. As they journeyed home they reflected on the trip and realised diving into their pockets to rummage for cash had been a rare occurrence. Everything had been paid, up front, on plastic. How, in a wholly cashless society, could one fulfil the desire to tip and reward in situations like this? Would acts of appreciation shown by tipping become extinct as we drift towards a

totally cash free economy? In The Snug the feeling was unanimous; cash and tipping should not fade away. One member of our group recalled the warmth and pleasure felt when an aunt or uncle slipped them a half-crown or 'ten bob note' at Christmas and birthdays. Accepting such gifts was never seen as a bribe, rather more as an act of kindness and appreciation. Wouldn't a cashless society rob us of this charming tradition? We feared it would. Here in The Snug several are making the effort to pay cash rather than plastic. We say to the bar staff, "Keep the change." They often reply, "Thanks, but I'll put it in the Air Ambulance Box. By giving and receiving a small donation of cash we show our gratitude in a modest way. The bar staff feel appreciated and often the local charity also gets a minor financial boost. Win, win, win! Long live cash! Without it we will be much poorer.

Buddy Bach

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How can I be happy?



Have you ever typed "How Can I Be Happy" into Google? If so, then welcome to the club. Since 2004 the number of people typing this (or something similar) into Google has more than doubled, peaking (perhaps not surprisingly) in the lockdowns of 2020.

So what's the answer? Well – again, not surprisingly – there is no simple answer. The websites that get listed in response all put forward a range of ideas. Finance, health and having social contacts are clearly important to our sense of security. Doing something that interests you – such as a job or a hobby – often comes up in search answers. Some websites will tell you to go for a walk and immerse yourself in nature; others encourage you to look beyond the everyday world and find happiness in a spiritual or philosophical approach to life. And there are plenty of websites that will try to sell you something – on the grounds that happiness can be bought. To be fair, most of us have probably used the phrase "retail therapy" at one time or another – usually to help us feel less guilty about treating ourselves.

But one answer to the "How can I Be Happy" puzzle comes up again and again. And in many ways it is a surprising suggestion. One of the keys to finding happiness for yourself is... to try to make others happy. This sounds counter-intuitive. But so much research in recent decades into the psychology of happiness comes back to this point: helping others helps us forget our own problems and leads to a sense of satisfaction and pleasure that can be defined as happiness. Google the recent World Happiness Report and you will find a significant emphasis on

the benefits of showing generosity and supporting others. Volunteering can be an excellent way of putting this into practice. Does your local school need volunteer mentors? Is there a Care Home nearby which needs people to chat with residents? Could you give a morning to a local Conservation Group, picking up litter or clearing undergrowth? A few minutes doing a web-search or popping into the library or a local information centre could reveal a wealth of possibilities, some of which may be right for you. So how can helping others help us be happier ourselves? Research suggests that people who do voluntary work in their locality develop a stronger sense of community. They have opportunities to build relationships and to meet others with shared interests. This in turn has a positive impact on mental and physical wellbeing. Volunteering can reduce stress levels, boost self-confidence and provide a sense of purpose. So all those people typing "How Can I Be Happy" into Google should maybe try a different tack... and try typing "How Can I Make Others Happy". Who knows... the answer might be the answer to both of these questions.

*Paul Morris (Volunteer)
Pershore Wellbeing Hub is at
No. 4, High Street
Opening times:
Tues and Fri 10 – 12.30
Wed and Thurs 10 – 3 p.m
or visit us at
www.pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk*



Women's Hour! Body Language *Susan Catford*



It has happened! A relationship I have managed to keep at arm's length (a healthy distance!) has evolved into something rather more serious over recent months. I am, of course, referring to my new, close relationship with the NHS. Previously I have had the occasional need to call upon its services but in February all that changed. I suddenly found myself and my body requiring emergency treatment. I was impressed with the speed and efficiency that kicked in. From being an observer and patient visitor, I found myself on the receiving end, occupying a bed instead of sitting by one. Within a few hours, I had tubes attached to parts of me I scarcely knew I had and my previously fit body was suddenly severely incapacitated. Feeling like a beetle that has landed on its back and cannot regain its feet, I became dependant on the cheerful, caring staff who tended to my needs. Hospital life was a revelation! Days and nights were punctuated by blood pressure checks, drug rounds and needles being stuck in me at regular intervals. I envied my fellow patients who seemed able to fall asleep in spite of this. These fellow patients proved to be both interesting and, at times, very entertaining company. Being woken to place your order for breakfast with the dawn chorus was not so good and was the beginning of a long day. Alas breakfast was not for me yet but after several days of 'nil by mouth', the jelly and ice-cream that I was then allowed was a strange but welcome treat! The next part of the day proved to be quite entertaining. The team of 'washerwomen', as I christened them, swept into the ward with sudden energy and a banter which demonstrated their comedic skills. Beds were changed like a magic trick while patients were lying in them. Bowls of soapy water appeared and I had my first experience of a bed bath. This removed any inhibitions I may have had and left me exhausted but clean. It was a while until I regained my independence but their kindness, humour and respect made it all much easier. Visiting time proved to be fascinating, inadvertently

eavesdropping on conversations between families and patients. My own visitors were limited to family only and arrived with such concerned faces that I felt obliged to try and cheer them up! It could be a noisy time in the ward and often a great relief when the bell went to send visitors homewards. Peace then descended until the rattle of the drugs trolley heralded the arrival of more tablets and more needles!! Shifts changed and although weary, the staff continued with friendly smiles and incredible patience. Many staff had families to go home to with the prospect of little sleep after a night shift. It was easy to see how important the dedication of our nurses, doctors and supporting staff is to enable us to have our NHS. There will always be criticism for the shortcomings in the system but when it comes to the crunch, it continues to save lives and provide an incredible range of healthcare. Fortunately my sojourn in hospital was not too long and I was allowed to return to the care and support of my family who were equally brilliant. Battered but not beaten, I have made a good recovery but I will have to continue this new relationship with the NHS for some time to come. I know that I will be receiving the best care both through the hospital and within the community. Meanwhile I am writing lists of things to do when I am fully recovered and having had a reprieve from household chores, the ironing doesn't seem so bad. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible. Thank you to all those lovely people who have cared for me- I am giving you my own personal standing ovation!!

Weaving

At full steam we head for the field.
 Straining at the leash,
 She is full of excitement.
 And then,
 Released,
 Like a shuttle fired into the loom,
 She disappears into this cloth of gold.
 Tail whirling,
 She weaves in and out, in and out,
 Delighting in this medium.
 She is the weft,
 We are the warp,
 Following the straight path
 Along the tractor tracks.
 A flash as she appears ahead,
 A glimpse.
 In and out, back and forth.
 Seemingly industrious,
 purposeful

But, in reality, energised,
 Joyful in her freedom.
 Her frenzied activity
 Stirs the golden cloth,
 Sends ripples amongst the threads.
 And now, a bird is disturbed,
 Hurtles into the air
 Abandoning its leafy shelter.
 The joyous bark of a pursuit
 Soon abandoned.
 This shuttling could go on forever
 But time to go.
 Tail still whirling,
 Straining at the leash,
 Still full of excitement.
 Our weaver will return another day
 To this field of gold.

Susan Catford

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Coronations and Croome Court Tim Hickson



Coronets

As a boy I watched the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, on a small black and white TV, so I was interested to see how that of King Charles III would differ. Of course it had been modernised - as happens at all coronations - but the essentials were as they have been for over a thousand years. Among the major changes was the nature of those who had been invited to be in Westminster Abbey. There were many more people who were chosen because of what they had given to our Nation recently rather than merely being the heads of ancient landowning families. Once, all the peers of the realm (who had reached their majority, 21 years) were summoned to bear witness to the act of coronation and to pay homage to the newly anointed King or Queen. The Earls of Coventry therefore attended coronations. Earls and their countesses had special robes and coronets to wear. The Croome Heritage Trust still has these family robes and coronets. Currently visitors to Croome Court can see an exhibition

linking the Earls and Countesses of Coventry to earlier coronations. The decorations of the coronets varied according to the rank of the peer. Earls had eight strawberry leaves and countesses had eight silver balls (that is, pearls). The male robes were a (heavy) crimson velvet cloak with rows of white ermine showing the peer's rank. Earls had three rows. The female robes were a deep red shoulder-to-floor kirtle together with a train edged with ermine. The length of the train indicated the status of the wearer; countesses had one and a half yards. Since the 1902 coronation of King Edward VII, extra chairs were needed for the Abbey to accommodate the guests. Later, these could be purchased by their users as souvenirs of the occasion. Croome has three; one from each of the coronations of Edward VII, George V and George VI. In 1953, at our late Queen's Coronation, the 11th Earl of Coventry was too young to have been invited. So there is no chair for that event although they were the same design as

those for her father but with a different colour and cypher. At the recent coronation, much was made by the BBC commentary of the comfort of the coach on which the King and Queen travelled from Buckingham Palace to the Abbey compared with that of the Golden State Coach in which they travelled back. The latter was commissioned for the coronation of King George III (the king who visited Croome Court) but it was not ready in time. However, it has such a splendid appearance that it has been much used since then. It weighs four tons and requires eight horses to reach walking pace. Also, because of its suspension on leather straps, the ride was described by Queen Victoria as having "distressing oscillations" and by Queen Elizabeth as "horrible". One of those involved in its construction was Joseph Wilton who carved the sculptures that the coach carried. It was he who carved the splendid fireplace in Croome Court's Long Gallery to a design by Robert Adam. In the Crown Jewels, one of the notable pieces is the Koh-I-Noor diamond. The name, in Persian, means 'Mountain of Light' and the diamond is one

of the largest in the world. In the early 1800s it was part of the jewel collection of the Maharajah of Lahore but in 1849 the ten-year-old Maharajah, Duleep Singh was deposed by the East India Company and Queen Victoria became the new owner of the diamond. The young Maharajah was sent to England where he became an accepted member of High Society. When he married, he produced six children. His eldest son and heir, Prince Victor Albert Jay Duleep Singh went on to marry Lady Anne Blanche Alice Coventry the third daughter of the 9th Earl. For some reason Queen Victoria's permission was needed for this marriage to take place. It seems the Queen agreed but only if they undertook to have no children. Very odd. Although the Koh-i-Noor has been in Persian, Pakistan and Afghanistan hands, some in India are today demanding its return. So, to avoid controversy, the crown in which that diamond is set was not used in this coronation. *(I am indebted for much of this information to Croome's Nicola Hewitt whose research of this subject was very thorough.)*



Nesta



1937 chair



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Sailing in some style *Brian Johnson-Thomas*



Getting anywhere is becoming more of an irritation these days, what with long queues at ports and airports and more and yet more bureaucracy, so it's been good to rediscover a way to get to the heart of Europe without much fuss and bother – and in a great deal of comfort. Added to this it's arguably the best way to take your pet animal with you if you simply can't bear to be parted from them. I'm writing about the ferry service from Harwich to the Hook of Holland – a service which has existed for generations but which is currently operated by the Stena Line with two very large luxurious ferries, giving a choice of a daytime or an overnight sailing, with a range of accommodation options that includes pet-friendly cabins (shared with the family) and also two distinct ways of travel – either by taking your own car or by travelling by rail as the ferry port is unique in having a railway station alongside, so you just leave the train and go up the stairs to the ship. Indeed, the fare to Holland includes, for

foot passengers, the cost of a train ticket to Harwich International from anywhere in eastern England, so that travel from London or Cambridge by rail comes at no extra cost. I mention those two stations especially because, for us here in Worcestershire, there's a choice of routes, using Great Western via Paddington or Cross Country via Cambridge. Both ways are accessible from Worcestershire Parkway where there's plenty of car parking space. Either route offers you the chance of breaking your journey for a few hours to do some in transit sightseeing and both routes also offer modern and comfortable trains. We chose to travel overnight, meaning that check in opened at 8.30 pm with a sailing at 11pm. That's handy because it means you can access the restaurants and bars for a meal and a drink before settling into your cabin for the night – remember that you will disembark at the early-ish hour of 8 am ! Having eaten well on board I was quite happy to find my comfortable bed for the

night – we had two lower beds, an en suite bathroom, dressing table and chair, all mod cons in fact- I did, though, briefly ponder one of the sea's mysteries, for on the night of October 27th, 1908, the good ship Yarmouth left Harwich at around the same time that we were due to depart, but she passed the Gobbard Lightship at 5am and was never seen again....By contrast we arrived safely at Hook of Holland bang on time and found that disembarkation was, again, very easy – just a gentle walk down from the ship to the tram stop over the road. Now, in the old days, when I was young, the trains used to depart from the Hook itself and, as a young man, I used to speculate on the destinations served – especially the Russian train to Moscow, painted a funny shade of green and staffed by inscrutable looking ladies in severe uniforms – but in this modern age we now need to take the local tram to Rotterdam Central station. But the sense of wonder is still just the same – imagine, it's just after nine of clock in the morning, you've slept well, enjoyed a hearty breakfast and there in front of you is a departure board with long distance trains leaving for the four corners of Europe. No queues, we left on time, we arrived on time, what else can I say ?

See www.stenaline.nl for details

Back home safely we were able to catch up on the Longborough Festival Opera's production of Donizetti's L'elisir d'amore which featured a splendid set, reminiscent of Ambridge, perhaps, to nudge this nearly 200 year old favourite into the modern age. It was a mirthful

melange of melody and I was particularly impressed by the South Korean soprano Haegee Lee's take on her character of Gianetta and South African tenor Thando Mjandana playing Nemorino. This month will see the climax of the Season with performances of Monteverdi's L'Orfeo and Purcell's The Fairy Queen.

Check www.lfo.org.uk for any last minute tickets

The end of this month also sees a brand new event at the Three Counties Showground in the form of a Food and Drink Festival taking place on July, 29th and 30th. They're offering a range of family friendly activities (and some not so family friendly such as cocktail masterclasses and wine tastings!) At the Festival's heart will be over 150 local food and drink traders offering the opportunity to savour the finest offering from across the region, plus local craftspeople will showcase their wares, providing a great shopping experience. The Children's Cookery School sounds good at just £4 per child, especially since this allows them to take their creations home with them. Advance tickets start at £12 per adult and £8 per child.

For details see www.threecountiesfoodfestival.com

Finally, just a bit further away, the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway are hosting a Diesel Gala this next weekend, July 8th and 9th. This heritage railway runs from Broadway via Toddington and Winchcombe to Cheltenham Racecourse.

See www.gwsr.com for details.

Whatever you do and wherever you go – do enjoy the Summer !



Country Watch

St Swithin's Day 15th July -

St Swithin's Day, if it do rain,
For 40 days it will remain
St Swithin's Day on it be fair
For forty days twill rain nae mair.⁷
June has proved to be a good
month with plenty of sunshine
but the occasional thunderstorms
thrown in too!! As we move
into July it has cooled down a
little with the promise of some
much needed rain. The
gardeners and farmers will be
grateful for this but it is
nevertheless good to see the
later crops – maize, wheat and
barley – all seem to be doing
well. The barley always looks
lovely with its feathery seed
heads which move beautifully
in the breeze.

Lots more wildflowers to see in
the woods, fields and roadsides.
Dog roses, foxgloves, elder
blossom, bindweed and the pale
pink blackberry blossom
mingle with the hedgerows.
The Commons are covered with
tall grasses which are very
pretty but full of not so dog-

friendly seeds! They do attract
the butterflies to the flowers
amongst them. Many tortoise-
shells, meadow browns,
common blues, peacocks and
painted ladies can be spotted
but sadly are camera shy. Also
by brooks, streams and other
water sources, beautiful,
delicate dragon and damsel
flies hover in the air or cling to
the long frondy grasses. The
large, flamboyant water lilies
with their full flower heads and
flat leaves create a spectacular
display on lakes and ponds.
Fields full of vivid red poppies
lend a glorious splash of colour
to the countryside but will
always carry a sad message of
lives lost. They also represent a
defiance that lives go on and
there is much beauty in the
world around us. Delicate but
strong, they are a joy to behold.
High above us, the sky is full
of swallows in the evenings
dipping and diving. Skylarks
sing merrily and the blackbirds
still entertain with their
performances throughout the
day. I have at last heard a



couple more cuckoos but still
not as many or as frequently as
usual. The dawn chorus is
probably at its earliest and
announces the beginning of our
long summer days but we have
passed the solstice so days will
begin to get shorter.
It is good to see the bees at
work and there are lots more
insects out there including the
less friendly midges and horse-
flies which cause particularly
nasty bites. Insect repellent is
definitely to be recommended
for your exposed bits!!

We are very lucky to have such
lovely countryside around us,
including beautiful woodlands.
Tiddesley Wood is a fantastic
place for walking, seeing the
natural world, allowing children
to discover and learn about
wildlife and for providing the
peace and calm we all need in
our lives at times. These are
ancient woodlands that are part
of our heritage. We hope that
this will not be jeopardized by
those who seem to have different
values.



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Pet Health Club

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How to create a drought-tolerant gravel garden

A gravel garden is a great option if you wish to create a low maintenance or Mediterranean style garden. These types of gardens use plants that are drought tolerant, which reduces the need to water regularly although some minimal weeding may still be required.

By choosing the right hard and soft landscaping, a gravel garden can be beautiful, practical and attractive to wildlife.

When planning your garden, the soil is the first thing to consider. If you have clay soil, you will need to add plenty of grit as a lot of the plants used in a Mediterranean style of garden prefer a sunny spot with well-drained soil.

Next decision is the gravel – there is a vast array to choose from. With different sizes and



colour, there should be something suitable for everyone's taste whether that be traditional, Japanese style or an industrial look. I would suggest getting a sample of the different types you like and taking them home to try as it will look different in your own setting. When choosing the type of gravel, it's also important to consider if it will be walked upon as angular medium grade gravel is easier under foot. Plus, if you use small (10mm or below), you could find your garden is suddenly more attractive to cats!

Any surface dressing will help to shade the soil and keep it cool which prevents it from drying out quickly after rain or watering. Adding large stones/boulders and pots not only creates an interesting focal point, it can also decrease the quantity of water needed as the soil dries out slower.

After levelling and raking the surface of your garden border, lay landscape fabric over the surface and cut a cross in the fabric and place your plant through it. Once all your plants are in place you can gently add

your chosen gravel to a depth of around 5cm. It's cheaper to buy gravel loose rather than in individual bags (which also cuts down on plastic waste).

What plants are suitable for a gravel garden?

There are many plants that are well suited to dry, drought like conditions. As a general rule of thumb choose plants with the following attributes:

Small leaf – such as Verbena bonariensis, thyme

Silver leaf – Olive tree, Lavender

Thick leaf – Sedum, Sempervivums

Hairy leaf – Stachys byzantine commonly known as Lamb's Ears which are so soft and tactile.

When planting small plants they can become swamped by gravel, so raise them slightly above the level of the gravel.



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

July gardening tips Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester

Early July

When sowing seeds water the bottom of the drill, sow seeds and cover with dry soil. This maintains moisture levels around the seeds for a longer period.

Cut back straggly violas to encourage new shoots, Use trimmings for cuttings. Water and ventilate the greenhouse regularly. Take clematis cuttings. Conventionally these are taken by cutting the stems into sections between the leaf joints but I find that they also root when cuttings are taken at the leaf joints too.

Prune plums, fruiting and ornamental cherries now. Treat large cuts with wound paint but do it straightaway or it will not be effective.

Prune and shape bay trees. They will tolerate fairly severe cutting back now.

Mid July

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

them a couple of handfuls of sulphate of potash now helps as well.

Trim hedges including conifer and other evergreen hedges. Be careful with water – early morning and late evening are the best watering times.

If you have slug problems morning is better. There is no need to water the lawn.

Take particular care of planted containers. Keep them fed, watered and dead headed. I find using a more potash orientated fertiliser like Phostrogen is good.

Cut down herbaceous geraniums and poppies as they stop blooming to encourage new shoots.

Give roses a boost with a dressing of rose fertiliser. If greenfly attack water lily foliage, just sink the leaves under the water for a few hours. Keep feeding and training tomatoes and other greenhouse fruiting plants.

Try growing oriental vegetables, like Chinese cabbage, this is the best month for sowing.

Sow beetroot, Florence fennel, Swiss chard, raddichio, and turnips in the veg. garden.

Spray potato foliage with Vitax Copper Mixture or one of the plant invigorators if attacks of potato blight are likely. You could also try using soluble aspirin, 2 tablets per gallon of water sprayed over the foliage for two weeks.

Prune summer fruiting raspberries after harvest by removing old, fruited canes. Air layer straggly houseplants, usually near the top, to create a new plant.

Pinch out the tips of unwanted grape shoots after one leaf, to concentrate the plant's energy on fruiting.

Take conifer cuttings from stems that are characteristic of the variety.

Late July

Thin out oxygenating plants in pools as they can cause problems if over abundant. Pinch out the tops of outdoor tomato plants once four trusses of fruit have formed.

Sow parsley for winter use. Onions, garlic and shallots are



ready to harvest when foliage turns yellow and bends over.

Sow autumn / winter salads, e.g. claytonia, salad rocket, corn salad, land cress, and winter hardy white Lisbon onions.

Cut the old foliage off strawberry plants after harvest. New growth soon appears. Give them some sulphate of potash too.

Take fuchsia cuttings to be trained as standards. Lantana, golden privet and elaeagnus are also suitable for training in this fashion.

Take semi – ripe cuttings from most shrubs – they will root easily now.

Cooking for fun! *Ailsa Craddock*

Strawberry Fields, forever When did strawberries become synonymous with June? Was it Wimbledon with its strawberry and cream dishes – or did Wimbledon decide to start itself in June to enjoy the strawberries!? Whichever way, June heralds British strawberries – full of taste and British sunshine - unlike their foreign counterparts – big but with little flavour. I am so lucky living where I do, surrounded with farms and their shops, markets and local greengrocers. Eat locally and you will eat well and that carbon footprint of yours has merely made a few steps.

Packed with vitamins, fibre, and particularly high levels of antioxidants known as polyphenols, strawberries are a sodium-free, fat-free, cholesterol-free, low-calorie food. They are among the top 20 fruits in antioxidant capacity and are a good source of manganese and potassium. What's not to love?! And we all do – from simple strawberries and cream, ice cream, jam and strawberry teas. I thought this month you might like to try something slightly different with them.

Strawberry Gazpacho

330g vine-ripened tomatoes chopped
700g ripe strawberries, hulled and chopped
1 roasted red pepper
1 small shallot, finely chopped
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 tablespoon sherry vinegar
75ml extra-virgin olive oil, plus extra for frying and drizzling
Basil leaves to garnish

Put the tomatoes, strawberries, red pepper, shallot, garlic and vinegar in a large bowl and leave overnight. The next day, add the olive oil and whizz together until smooth adding a splash of water if too thick. Season to taste. Fry some little pieces of bread in olive oil, drain and sprinkle with sea salt and serve with the soup, torn basil leaves and a drizzle of olive oil.

Warm Strawberries with Ricotta

Serves 2
200g strawberries, hulled and quartered
Juice of half a lemon
½ rounded dessertspoon icing sugar
125g ricotta
1 dessertspoon runny honey
Leaves from a sprig of fresh thyme
1/2 teaspoon rosewater (optional)
Put the strawberries in a pan over a low heat with the lemon juice and icing sugar. As they warm up the juice will be released so that they are gently poaching in it. Once the juice is flowing, bring to a gentle simmer for 1-2 minutes, stirring, then remove from the heat. In a bowl, mix the ricotta with the honey, thyme and rosewater. Divide between 4 bowls and spoon over the warm strawberries.



Strawberry & Elderflower Sorbet

You won't find a more summery dish than this. The perfect refreshing treat to cool down on a hot day.

550g strawberries, hulled and halved
200 ml elderflower cordial
Juice of ½ lemon

Put the strawberries, cordial, 200ml cold water and the lemon juice into a blender and whizz for 2 – 3 minutes till smooth. Pour the mixture through a fine sieve into a bowl, using the back of a spoon to push through any thicker puree. Press down to extract as much as possible then discard pips and any fibres left in the sieve. Cover and chill for 2 hours. Pour into a container and freeze, taking it out every hour or so to mash with a fork to limit ice crystals for 2 – 3 times. Remove from the freezer at least 5 minutes before serving

Scottish Berry Brulee

Serves 2 -3 (Or One?)

250g strawberries
120g raspberries
60g blueberries
1 tablespoon caster sugar
½ orange juice and zest
120g Greek yogurt
85g creme fraiche
1 1/2 tablespoons soft brown sugar, Ground cinnamon to dust (optional)

Place all berries in an ovenproof dish, sprinkle over 1/2 tbsp caster sugar and the zest and juice of the orange. Mix together the yoghurt, creme fraiche and remaining caster sugar and spread over the fruit and leave in fridge for 2 hours. Sprinkle the soft brown sugar over the top and dust with the cinnamon, place under a hot grill until the sugar melts. Serve immediately.

Jazz News

John Kenneth Davern (Kenny) was the son of an unstable marriage, spending his very young years in foster homes before being taken in by his Jewish, Eastern European grandparents in Woodhaven, New York. Somewhere in his troubled young life, he heard a recording of Pee Wee Russell playing clarinet and decided that this was his life's calling and so his mother bought him an old, outdated instrument for a few dollars which he taught himself to play. He quickly became proficient and was soon playing Dixieland style with like-minded neighbourhood friends, even managing trips to the clubs of 52nd Street where they saw and heard many of the greatest names in jazz. News of this talented youngster rapidly spread and, at age of only sixteen, he was called on by trumpeter Red Allen to

Peter Farrall

join his band for a gig. Two years later Kenny joined a band led by the esteemed trombonist Jack Teagarden where he first appeared on record. In the subsequent flurry of years he played with many of the top names of the Dixieland fraternity, Billy Butterfield, Eddie Condon, the Dukes of Dixieland and many more. A dip into the avant guard, free jazz groups of Steve Lacy and Roswell Rudd took little from his passion for the Dixieland idiom and so Kenny continued to develop a recognisable style of his own but in deference to the old masters of the clarinet, especially inspired by the lyricism of the great Jimmy Noone. Of the many bands that he appeared with and led, one of the most popular in the US and Europe was "Soprano Summit" with Bob Wilbur (who, incidentally, later domiciled to



England and spent his last years in Chipping Camden) both men playing clarinet and soprano saxophone. Kenny always said that one of his favourite bands to appear in was lifelong friend and pianist Dick Wellstood's All Star Orchestra – just two members, Kenny and Dick! Kenny and Dick then teamed up with drummer Bobby

Rosengarden to form "The Blue Three", a group much admired by our own John Hallam who brings his tribute Blue Three to the club this month. And who better than these three consummate musicians to interpret the original Davern sound? John Hallam – clarinet, Dave Browning – piano, Graham Smith - drums.

Wednesday 26th July

The Blue Three

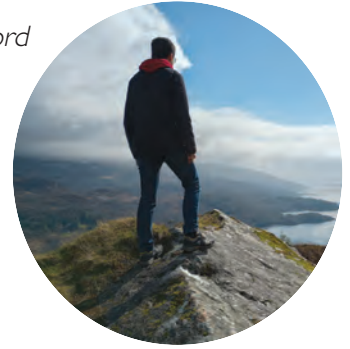
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Gregory's World!

Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford



Examination, Carnation, Saturation

I find the Summer term – of High School, Sixth Form or Uni – can be a bit of a double-edged sword, at least at first. On one hand, you have a decrease in new things to learn as your teachers/tutors wrap up the year. There's also the promise of a long warm holiday to come. On the other hand, before those holidays, comes exam season; it blocks your path like a formidably high wall or a deep trench filled with sharp things you don't want to sit on. Our only choice is to make the climb – or the jump – and see where we find ourselves. I'm mentioning this now, fellow reader, because I've just landed on the other side. A long Summer holiday stretches out before me, my first year of uni safely under my belt. My formidably high wall took the form of three, three-hour exams – during which all the knowledge I had hoovered up over the past three terms was put to the test. Trinity term (that is, term number three) finally allowed me to experience a much warmer Oxford. Most memories I have of the place used to be set against a backdrop of bleak clouds or rain – even

snow – so it was nice to see the city in full summery swing, and to explore the surrounding fields and rivers without wearing quite so many layers. Revision involved reading notes from a ring binder, so my studies became portable. I revised outside in the company of the trees, flowers and hungry horseflies. Whenever my hay fever said hello, I took refuge in one of the many libraries across town. Exam season became an event. We dressed up for it, wearing our suits and gowns, our mortarboards under one arm. This seemed like a fun idea until I remembered it was June and the experience of walking through the hot streets to the exam hall was like being slowly pushed through a brick oven. There is also a tradition of wearing carnations, coloured white, pink, then red for your first, second, then third exams. Apparently, the colours represent the blood being drained out of you as the days drag on. On the eve of my first exam, tingling with nerves, I hopped over to the florist in the Covered Market and – like a typical Oxford student – walked straight past the giant sign saying: 'Carnations sold here' and asked at the counter if they had

some in stock. The Examination Schools are a slight upgrade from the sports hall where I sat my A-Levels. It looks like a college in itself, dominating Merton Street from behind a looming iron fence. A marquee had been set up and we all piled inside to find our seat numbers; the heat became so immense under there that I felt as if I was under the cellophane lid of a ready meal, being microwaved for three and a half minutes. When we were finally called, I followed a chequered black-and-white corridor up a broad staircase until I reached the South School. It was huge, the panelled walls hung with hefty gold-framed portraits of George III and other impressive people in wigs. Able, at last, to remove a few layers after finding my seat, I escaped the hot hug of my gown and jacket. I placed the carnation on the desk so I wouldn't crush it and tried to remember all the quotes and dates I'd crammed into my head out in the parks and fields (between hay fever and horsefly attacks). On a dais at the far end of the room, the head invigilator leaned towards the microphone and began with: "I don't know how many of you still understand Latin ..."

before quoting a few phrases which sounded impressive but whizzed totally over my head. Our time was up. Our pens were down. Papers were collected and the head invigilator reminded us that we ought to be 'fully dressed' before we left the hall. (I should say, it was hot in there, but not that hot.) When I'd finished my final paper, relief washed over me. Goodbye, first year! Hello, Summer! We returned victoriously back to college, only to be greeted by the sight of our friends smiling and ... wielding buckets of water – *Whoosh!* The final tradition for those who've finished their exams was 'trashing'. More than just relief washed over me as I was engulfed, suit and all, drenched from head to toe. I had climbed the wall and the view from the other side was sunny (and soggy).

Teenage Focus

Romy Kemp (18)

I'm Back!

After an absent few months, I have returned for the summer. My exams are finally over and I am able to enjoy a long summer of rest and excitement. It is important after exams to rest as they are very taxing, and shouldn't be ignored. Personally, I felt extremely drained and anxious 24/7, and even after my exams I felt rather lacking in energy. Revision has been hard to maintain the motivation necessary to carry on, especially towards the end, however obviously it was essential to continue. Especially since my exams tended to be lumped into groups of twos and threes per week, however this did give me days or weeks at a time to revise three. I have kept most of my notes for all of my subjects for numerous reasons, and as back up plans, depending on what happens in August (when results are given out) and what I decide to do.

Despite all of this, sleep hasn't really been my priority as I have been extremely busy and hay fever has been horrendous for the past few months. I recently learnt about an injection for hay fever that's on the rise and is very promising for those with an allergy to grass. This, however, is less effective for me because I have an allergy to tree pollen. The pollen is extremely unpleasant this year, seeming worse than previous years, which is awful and uncomfortable to endure. After such a cold winter, this summer seems to be competing for the most severe temperatures! This being said, it is important to keep hydrated and protected. Sun cream will be necessary, despite its ridiculously high prices. This is clearly shown through the increasing temperatures throughout the years, especially last year during the 2022 heatwave when the temperature reached record highs of 40.3 degrees Celsius.

As a result of these high temperatures, even so far this year, many a thunderstorm has occurred. I have disliked thunderstorms for many years but have grown rather fascinated by them. This being said however, I still believe it is the lightning that I don't enjoy. The rain is quite lovely during a thunderstorm, as my friends like to point out, however I prefer a calming rainy day to a harsh storm. Despite some confusion at the end of all these A-Level exams,



as well as GCSEs, it is an amazing feeling to be done and we're able to have a summer of fun and relief. So enjoy it, as there's so much amusement to be experienced!

"Nothing is impossible.
The word itself says
"I'm possible!"

Audrey Hepburn

Everest - 70th Anniversary *Part 1*

John Walton



Seventy years ago, at 11.00am on the 29th May 1953, two men, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, stood together on the summit of Everest. It was the crowning glory, following numerous failed attempts since the early 1920s. There was a great deal of national pride involved. The British had had a long association with Everest; after all it was named after George Everest, the Surveyor General of India who pinpointed it as the highest point on earth in 1856. Unlike today, when numerous expeditions can climb the mountain during the season, in the 1950s the Nepalese Government allowed only one

expedition per season. A Swiss expedition in the autumn of 1952 came very close to reaching the summit, but failed. In the spring of 1953 it was the turn of the British who knew that if they did not succeed, the Swiss had a permit for the following autumn, where they would surely succeed having learnt so much about the mountain the previous year. In April 1953, Colonel John Hunt, the expedition leader, and his team, along with 400 porters, gathered in the gardens of the British Embassy in Kathmandu. There, the final preparations were made prior to setting off on the journey across Nepal to the foot of the mountain.

Just getting there was an epic journey in itself. Outside the Kathmandu valley there were no roads. There was a road to Bhaktapur, one of the three ancient capitals in the Kathmandu Valley, but that only took them 15km closer to Mount Everest. It took the climbers and their army of porters fifteen days to reach Thyangboche Monastery, where they established their first base camp. They were extremely fit as the 150km journey involved many steep ascents and descents, gradually gaining height and acclimatising. However, Thyangboche was only just under 4000m above sea level; they still had a lot of climbing to do. There were fourteen climbers in

total and they were divided into seven climbing pairs. From Thyangboche they fanned out in their pairs to explore and climb lesser peaks in order to acclimatise and to cement the bond between them as climbers. Preparations achieved and blessings given by the monks at Thyangboche Monastery, the team moved closer to the mountain to establish a base camp on the Khumbu Glacier at the foot of the first major obstacle, the Khumbu Icefall. The Khumbu Icefall is a 2000 foot cascade of ice-blocks constantly moving erratically so that you never know where, whether or when the next ice-block may tumble and whether you might be under it when it does. Adding to the mayhem of the fall are massive crevasses that have to be bridged in order to move forward. It is a slow process negotiating a route through this section of the mountain, a route that has to be constantly monitored, maintained and modified. Mike Westmacott, an agricultural statistician, was responsible for forging and maintaining the route through the icefall. Without his skill and expertise the expedition would never have got beyond Base Camp. And it was important to keep it well maintained in order to allow the tons of equipment to be carried higher up the mountain in support of each camp and the climbing teams. Once above the icefall and into the Western Cwm, camps were established, ensuring they were





positioned away from avalanches cascading down from the SW face of Everest and the northern face of Nuptse.

At the head of the Western Cwm was the next obstacle, the Lhotse Face, a steep wall of snow and ice leading up to the South Col. The job of cutting steps and fixing ropes fell to New Zealander and teacher, George Lowe. This took eleven days to complete and while George knew that this would inevitably mean he would have no chance of a summit bid, it was a crucial element of the climb, needed to get someone to the summit.

The South Col, at 26,000 feet is in, what they call, the 'Death Zone', where the body deteriorates and can only survive for a limited time. One more camp, Camp 7, was established on the knife-edge that led up to the summit. Having established all the camps throughout the route, they now had to wait for the right weather window for their final push for the summit. With climbers positioned in the Western Cwm camps, ready to go, John Hunt had chosen his summit teams, Charles Evans and Tom Bourdillon were to be the first with Ed Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, the second team.

The expected weather window came where the 200 mph jet stream winds rose above the summit giving relatively clear and calm conditions. Evans and Bourdillon set out on their summit bid, climbing well and reaching the South Summit, just 100m

short of the actual summit. From their high position they could see an obstacle of ice and rock between them and their goal. Unfortunately they were not able to proceed further as Evans was having problems with his oxygen supply. Their retreat paved the way for Hillary and Tenzing who quickly reached the South Summit. Forging on, they negotiated the obstacle, forever to be known as the Hillary Step, from where it was an easy walk up to the summit. History had been made! A New Zealand beekeeper and a humble Sherpa had reached the highest point on earth on a British expedition.

Knowing that the world's media were wanting to break the news, Times correspondent, James Morris, sent a coded message by runner and by cable to the British Embassy in Kathmandu. The Ambassador, Christopher Summerhayes, was the only person who had access to the code and he was able to relay the message to the young Queen Elizabeth 11 on the morning of her coronation. The whole team came down the mountain to a heroes welcome; they were feted wherever they went. Although only two people stood on the top, it was a real team effort, of collaboration and coordination, each member working towards a common goal. Their lives were never the same again. John Hunt resigned from the army and was asked by the Duke of Edinburgh to devise

a scheme whereby young people can experience the outdoors and serve the community - the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which, in the last seventy years has enhanced the lives of millions of young people throughout the world. John Hunt also wrote a book, "The Ascent of Everest", and toured the country and Commonwealth giving talks. He took not a penny for himself from the book or the talks and used the proceeds to create the Mount Everest Foundation (MEF), which supports countless climbers, explorers and scientific researchers to push the boundaries of knowledge and achievement in remote environments. Seventy years on it continues in

its supportive work. Although Ed Hillary went on to climb other mountains and to explore Antarctica, he never forgot his close ties to the Sherpas. In 1960, while visiting the Khumbu, he asked a Sherpa, "If there was anything I could do for the Sherpa people, what would that be?"

The Sherpa replied, "Our children have eyes but they are blind and cannot see. We would like you to open their eyes by building a school in our village." That conversation led to a lifetime of commitment by Ed Hillary, to building schools, hospitals, clinics, an airstrip at Lukla dubbed the most dangerous in the world, water and reforestation projects. It was the birth of the Himalayan Trust that continues to support remote mountain communities in the Himalaya, ensuring they receive a quality education, health care and economic opportunity.

In 1989 the Himalayan Trust UK was established under the chairmanship of George Lowe who forged that route up the Lhotse Face, gaining access to the higher slopes of Everest. *I became involved with the trust in 1993 when I started to take Sixth Formers from King's School, Worcester to experience the Himalaya. That involvement continues today.*

I am now Deputy Chairman of the Himalayan Trust UK and lead the education programme in 35 schools in the extremely remote NE corner of Nepal, in the shadow of the world's third highest mountain, Kangchenjunga.
Next month . . . Part two - "In the Footsteps of Everest '53"
Our pilgrimage to Everest for the 70th Anniversary celebrations



Ed Hillary's first classroom

Tax on selling your home

Carol Draper

When you sell your home you are entitled to Principle Private Residence (PPR) relief and will not pay any Capital Gains Tax (CGT) if you have just one home and have lived in the property for the whole time you have owned it, no part of the property has been let out, no part of the property has been used exclusively for business and the grounds including the buildings occupy less than 0.5 hectare (1.2 acres).

If there have been periods of time when you have not lived in or used your property as your main residence you could be liable to pay Capital Gains Tax on some of the profits when the property is sold.

Letting all or part of your property to a tenant could restrict your entitlement to PPR relief though this does not include having a lodger who shares your living space or having children or parents who live with you and pay rent or housekeeping. Whatever the situation you will always get full PPR relief for the period of time you lived in the property as your main home and for the last 9 months of ownership.

If you use part of your home as an office this will not affect your entitlement to PPR relief. However, this may not be the case if part of your home is



split and designated to be used exclusively for business purposes. If your property occupies a plot of more than 1.2 acres you could face the possibility of paying CGT when you sell your home. However, what element of land will be subject to CGT will depend on its layout and its relation to your property. If you sell just a portion of land it is likely to be subject to CGT, the argument being it was land that was in addition to requirement for the enjoyment of your home. If you think you may be affected by any of these issues or have any other queries relating to the sale of property, contact your accountant to discuss the specific details of your case.

Carol Draper FCCA
Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co Ltd

"The bad news is time flies.
The good news is
you're the pilot."

Michael Altshuler

Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co.

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Don't cry over spilt paint

Angela Johns



After a full day cleaning and painting on a project on one of those hot June days, I arrived home and opened the car door to find that half a two litre tin of emulsion had spilled onto the back seat. It had spread over two seats, oozed between them, into the seatbelt mechanism and pooled into the upholstery creases. My car is not new but I do try to keep it as clean and tidy as I can. I just had to walk away, leaving the car door wide open, and into the house where I sat at the kitchen table with my head in my hands. I felt like crying. I took a deep breath and stood to collect all the apparatus for a clean up job. In that moment I felt that I had a choice: do what might be deemed the right and grownup thing (the situation could have been worse) or acknowledge my true feelings and accept them (I felt awful). I was disappointed, tired and fed up. And I felt like crying. So I did. Full blown ugly crying with a screwed up face and just a little wailing.

At that point my son arrived home. He looked horrified. I knew I had to convey quickly that no-one had died, our world was not falling apart. As he hugged me and patted my back, all I could manage was, "...spilled paint. In the c-c-car..." There was no judgement from him, no words to dismiss my emotional outpouring. He just let me get the tears and mascara all over the shoulder of his shirt.

We talked about it a few days later and had a chuckle about it. I'm thankful he just let me be true to myself. The car back seat is never going to be the same of course but neither am I. My heart was broken, although in such a small way, but was mended oh so quickly. By allowing my emotions to unashamedly flow through me, feeling them and giving them a name, they passed and I am left only with the memory and the lesson. Practising with the small stuff can help me when the big stuff comes along. And I will never put a tin of paint on the back seat again, whatever the circumstances!

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

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal:
it is the courage to continue that counts."

Winston Churchill



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Are you well heeled?

Karen Harris

Standing bare-foot, the falling line of body weight normally forms a perpendicular 90-degree angle with the 180-degree angle of the foot's plantar surface. Body weight is distributed 50-50 between heel and fore-foot, elevate the heel and that automatically initiates an altered series of foot and body biomechanics. The higher the heel the greater the body column change. If the body was a single, unjointed column, then even a one inch heel under the foot could cause the rigid column to tilt forward or even fall. Like the Leaning Tower of Pisa, only a few inches tilt at the bottom results in a lean of several feet at the top. But the human skeleton is a series of adaptable joints and connecting sections: ankle, knee, hip, pelvis, spine, shoulders, neck and head. Unlike the rigid column of Pisa, our skeletal sections make "adjustments" to maintain an erect stance. With each sectional adjustment there is a shift in the body's centre of gravity - usually around hip height. With the shift of gravity there are corresponding shifts in body weight, resulting in shifts in weight distribution throughout the foot. Natural gait is impossible when most footwear is worn. There are three main reasons for this; 1) The shoe's elevated heel
2) The faulty design of 'the last' (the form on which a shoe is constructed);
3) Construction and design faults found in the shoe itself. Separately, or together, they influence how the foot functions inside the shoe and how you

walk. Under these conditions the foot cannot function in a natural manner, the gait - so totally dependent on the foot - also cannot be its natural self. The muscles and ligaments associated with the body's upright column and foot system must also make compensatory changes. Considering that the "simple" act of walking involves half the body's 650 muscles and 208 bones, the number of automatic "adjustments" is enormous. Inevitably, there is a price to pay, most commonly, foot, leg and back issues. A shoe, ideally, should be an anatomical and functional replica of the foot. The less a shoe does TO a foot, the better FOR the foot. I transitioned to 'barefoot' shoes many years ago; initially I found that my heel was striking the ground with such force it was painful (a lifetime of padded shoes and the leg having to work hard to feel the surface underneath it) so they have completely changed the way I walk. I feel lighter on my feet, and I know my foot structure is working to support itself, and the rest of my body, rather than being cosseted by a restrictive shoe. It's worth looking at your most worn footwear and evaluating what changes are being made to your body when you wear them compared to being bare-foot. Does the tension in your muscles change? How does the change in weight distribution feel? Are you having to compensate through the lower back or shoulders? Then you can decide if being 'well heeled' is good for you.

Expression

Emily Papirnik

How do you show up in the world?

Are you doing what you want to be doing?

Are you allowing yourself to blossom, to grow, to show up and really be the real you?

Are you feeling constricted or stifled in what you say or so?

You are here on this planet to be the best version of yourself you can.

So often we blame others or our environment for how we show up. I understand that as I did it all my life, but gradually I am understanding how important I am in how I express myself, how I show up and what I am able to do if I allow myself, if I give myself the opportunity. Fear is behind most of our inaction, our standing still or just not trying.

Start to think about what it is you would like to do, allow the dreaming, the inspiration for something new. I have been presenting lately, something I really enjoy, but I enjoy now more because I am presenting a way of being for others, without the fear and anxiety holding me back. Giving the audience time and space to think about



themselves, giving them the idea of what they really are able to do to affect their lives. Giving them an understanding of how they can move forward without the anxiety. Managing your fears and anxieties enables you to have clarity of thought, to enable inspiration and therefore action. Expression – are you showing up as the you that has so much potential, so many dreams to create and make real? Just start taking the first step, acknowledge your fears, your anxieties for what they truly are. Allow your true expression to be seen to show up in your daily living. Be you by putting you first, you are your only responsibility so stop dealing with everything else before you...give yourself some time, some space and find out who you really are. Meet the awesome you that is within you and bring them out to play.

Watch your way to feeling better

www.mehelpingme.com

YES or NO?

Do you want to take control of your aches and pains?
Do you want to stop having to take pain killers?
Do you want the knowledge to be able to help yourself?
Do you want to feel how empowering that feels?
Do you want to feel that weight lifted from your shoulders?

YES, of course!

Even just the FEELING of the weight being lifted off your shoulders from knowing there IS an alternative to pain, pills & injections is a step in the right direction!

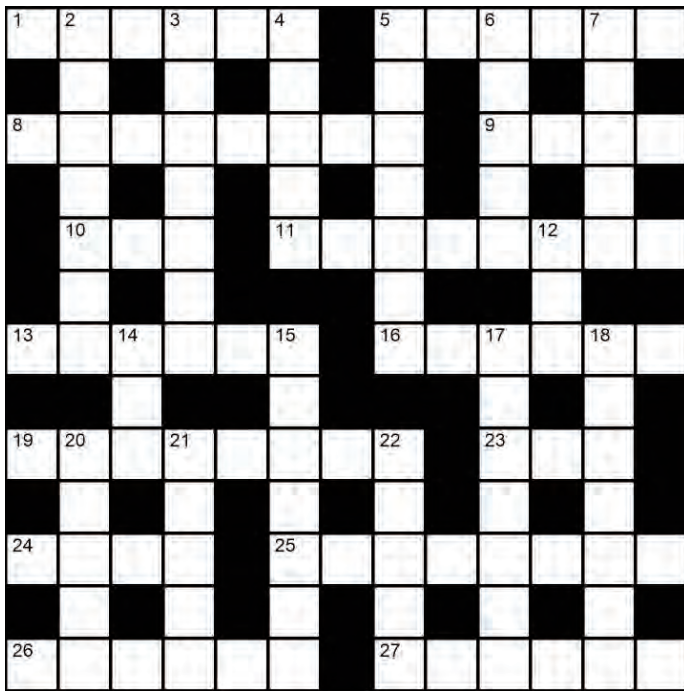
Karen Harris, Posture Alignment Specialist, Fitness Trainer
07954 544595

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Coffee Break

Crossword



Across

- 1 Slice of bacon (6)
- 5 Packet (6)
- 8 Private feud (8)
- 9 Defence organisation (1,1,1,1)
- 10 Unfavourably (3)
- 11 Malady (8)
- 13 Forgiveness (6)
- 16 Worn on a necklace (6)
- 19 Adolescent (8)
- 23 Quick-fire talk music (3)
- 24 Increase in size (4)
- 25 Gesture of approval (6,2)
- 26 Die from lack of food (6)
- 27 Make more intense (6)

Down

- 2 The New World (7)
- 3 Nestled together (7)
- 4 Charges (5)
- 5 Space surrounding an altar (7)
- 6 Argument (3-2)
- 7 Vows (5)
- 12 North American deer (3)
- 14 Cereal grass (3)
- 15 Bedtime lingerie (7)
- 17 Responsive to drugs (7)
- 18 Marry (7)
- 20 White heron (5)
- 21 More recent (5)
- 22 Circular (5)

Sudoku

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

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

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

Crosswords

Sudoku

Wordsearches

Jigsaw puzzles
also available to play
online for FREE



visit:

www.pershoreonline.co.uk/coffeebreak

General Wordsearch

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

- Bird feeder
- Bored
- Cap
- Coal
- Cold
- Cool
- Cosy
- Crust
- Dismal
- Fir
- Flake
- Fleecy
- Flu
- Fog
- Frost
- Gales
- Grey
- Hat
- Hazy
- Heat
- Ice
- Icy
- Luge
- Melt
- Mist
- Rink
- Severe
- Skid
- Sled
- Socks
- Stews
- Thaw
- Warm up
- Wet
- Zero

June Answers



Poets' Corner

A Shropshire Lad

XI

On your midnight pallet lying
 Listen, and undo the door:
 Lads that waste the light in sighing
 In the dark should sigh no more;
 Night should ease a lover's sorrow;
 Therefore, since I go to-morrow;
 Pity me before.
 In the land to which I travel,
 The far dwelling, let me say-
 Once, if here the couch is gravel,
 In a kinder bed I lay,
 And the breast the darnel smothers
 Rested once upon another's
 When it was not clay.

XII

When I watch the living meet,
 And the moving pageant file
 Warm and breathing through the street
 Where I lodge a little while,
 If the heats of hate and lust
 In the house of flesh are strong,
 Let me mind the house of dust
 Where my sojourn shall be long.
 In the nation that is not
 Nothing stands that stood before;
 There revenges are forgot,
 And the hater hates no more;
 Lovers lying two and two
 Ask not whom they sleep beside,
 And the bridegroom all night through
 Never turns him to the bride.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Spot & Shop - June Winners

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1) C & G Hughes | 2) Sheila Burley |
| 3) P.Walker | 4) Mary Riches |
| 5) Clive Spencer | 6) Linda Hart |
| 7) Honor Gell | |

Last month's answer:
 Simon Coldbreath Home Improvements

Fun Quiz!



- Who were Whams female backing singers that went on to have a solo career?
- What line follows '15 men on a dead mans chest'?
- In which film did Sylvester Stallone play Kurt Russels cop partner?
- Which song gave Allanah Myles a top 10 UK chart hit in 1990?
- Which UK act won the Eurovision Song Contest in 1981?
- Which movie saw Brooke Shields deserted on a desert island with Christopher Atkins?
- Which Wurzels hit song had the same tune as 'Una Paloma Blanca'?
- Written by Neil Diamond, which song was UB40s first No. 1 UK hit?
- Which drink translated into English means Aunt Mary?
- Which former English rugby union captain is rumoured to have had an affair with Princess Diana?
- What is the 4 letter name given to a horses ankle?
- Which novel by Laurie Lee, set in Gloucestershire, was on the approved list of books for secondary schools in England and Wales in the 1980's and 90's?
- What name was given to the Japanese suicide pilots of WWII?
- Phillips, London and Ratchet are all types of what?
- If you see FCUK on a t-shirt, what does the FC stand for?
- Which bar did Sam Malone run?
- The Nags Head was the pub in which classic British comedy series?
- What is the name of the pub in Coronation Street?
- Which cartoon has a bar called 'Moes'?
- Which chief medical officer and coronor could be found drinking in 'Dannys Bar'?

Answers: 1. PEPPI & SHIRLEY 2. Yo ho ho and a bottle of RUM 3. TANGO and Cash 4. BLACK VELVET 5. BUCKS FIZZ 6. BLUE LAGOON 7. I am a CIDER drinker 8. Red Red Wine 9. TIA MARIA 10. Will CARLING 11. HOCK 12. CIDER with Rosie 13. KAMIKAZE 14. SCREWDRIVER 15. FRENCH CONNECTION 16. Cheers 17. Only Fools and Horses 18. The Koveys Return 19. The Simpsons 20. Quincy



COMPETITION TIME!

Take a look at the anagram
The answer is the name of a business that is advertising 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: 30th July 2023

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Telephone/email: _____

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

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your team on the excellent May 2023 edition of the Pershore Times. With its regular contributors, local and historical news and events, plus its colourful presentation of our King and Queen, your paper successfully describes life as it is today as well as in and around Pershore. Well done. We are very lucky and privileged to be living in such a beautiful part of the country. Unlike so many in this turbulent world. In my year as President of Pershore Rotary, which is rapidly coming to an end, we have witnessed the horrors of war and the plight of refugees from Ukraine, the massive floods in Pakistan and the devastating earthquakes in

Turkey and Syria. With the help of many in Pershore, we have been able to donate funds to charities, such as ShelterBox, who are working on the ground in these countries to help relieve the misery of those displaced. Locally, we have been able to support the Foodbank and Community Cupboard in their efforts to feed those hit hard by the cost of living increases. More widely, we have supported St Richard's Hospice, Acorns Children's Hospice and the Alzheimer's Society. You and your team at Pershore Times have helped us get our message out every month and, on behalf of everyone at Pershore Rotary, thank you.

*Richard Lees
President, Pershore Rotary*

Reg Moule

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

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

In memoriam

Milsom. Elisabeth Tryneta (Liz)

Passed away peacefully on 9th June 2023, aged 50 years. Devoted Wife of Mark, much loved Mum to Jess. Liz will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Abbey on Monday July 3rd at 11am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for St Richard's Hospice may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors

It is with great sadness that we record this news. Liz was one of our early contributors. Writing 'Pets Corner' when we started Pershore Times, and continued for many editions. Ed

Tarran William Geoffrey (Bill)

Passed away peacefully on 9th June 2023, aged 81 years. Devoted Husband of Doreen and a much loved Dad and Grandad. Bill will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will be held at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Friday 23rd June at 2pm. Please wear casual clothing by request of Bill. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

Griffin. Marion Elizabeth (Marie)

Passed away peacefully on 24th June 2023, aged 90 years. Devoted Wife of the late Andy, a much loved Mum, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Marie will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Friday July 7th at 10am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Dementia UK (specifically vascular dementia) may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

Fawcett. Doris Amelia

Passed away peacefully at home on 24th June 2023, aged 92 years. Devoted Wife of Donald. Doris will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Cemetery Chapel on Monday 10th July at 12noon followed by burial. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for The Salvation Army may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors,

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

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

Copy Deadline

August Issue - 20th July 2023

Situations Vacant

Pershore Tennis Centre are hiring!

Would you like to be part of this award-winning team?

Pershore Tennis Centre are looking to hire:

A Centre Manager

15-20 hours per week, Monday - Friday 9:00-12:00pm.

Reception staff

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons 4:30-7:30pm.

If you're interested then please email:

reception@pershoretennis.co.uk for more information.

Do you have the right experience? Or know someone who does?

Please share the details so this local team can find their next team member.

www.pershoretennis.co.uk.

Planning Applications

Planning Application Ref W/22/00658/FUL.

Land At, Holloway, Pershore. Erection of 28 dwellings as part of an Entry-Level Exception Site, a new access, drainage, landscaping and other associated works, and the provision of an off-site area to provide replacement ecological habitat and biodiversity net gain. Ms B Crann Bromford Developments Limited

Planning Application Ref W/23/00106/HP.

74A Bridge Street, Pershore, WR10 1AX. Demolition of conservatory and erection of a single storey pitched roof extension with roof lights. Removal of internal walls and installation of internal doorway. Installation of a log burner and flue. Replacement front gate and front door. Mr Samuel Mather

What's On?

Cinema Listings

A Man Called Otto (15)

Saturday 1, Monday 3 & Tuesday 4 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 2 hrs

Big George Foreman (12A)

Friday 7 July & Saturday 8 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 2 hrs 9 mins

The Three Musketeers:

D'Artagnan (15)
Thursday 13 July - 7.30pm;
Wednesday 19 July - 2.30pm
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00
2 hrs, French with subtitles

Jesus Revolution (12A)

Friday 14 July & Saturday 15 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 2 hrs

Top Hat (U)

Monday 17 July - 11.00am & 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00
1 hr 39 mins, B&W, 1935

The Laureate (15)

Thursday 20 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 1 hr 38 mins

Chevalier (12A)

Friday 21 July - 7.30pm;
Monday 24 July - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST);
Tuesday 25 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00
1 hr 47 mins

Hairspray (PG)

Saturday 22 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 1 hr 28 mins, 1988

Mummies (U)

Tuesday 25 July - 2.00pm
Tickets: £4.00 1hr 25 mins

Under the Fig Trees (12A)

Thursday 27 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 1hr 32mins,
Arabic with subtitles

The Lego Batman Movie (U)

Friday 28 July - 11.00am
Tickets: £4.00
1 hr 24 mins, 2017

Greatest Days (12A)

Saturday 29 July - 7.30pm;
Monday 31 July - 11.00am & 7.30pm;
Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 August - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00
1hr 52mins

The Little Mermaid (PG)

Tuesday 1 August - 2.00pm;
Thursday 3 August - 11.00am (RS)
Tickets: £6.00 2hrs 15 mins

Full Time (12A)

Thursday 3 August - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00 1hr 28 mins,
French with subtitles

Indiana Jones & the Dial of Destiny (12A)

Friday 4 August - 7.30pm;
Monday 7 August - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST);
Tuesday 8 August - 7.30pm
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00
2hrs 34 mins

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse (PG)

Tuesday 8 August - 2.00pm;
Thursday 10 August - 11.00am
Tickets: £8.00 2hrs 20mins

Events Listings

Exhibition on Screen: Tokyo Stories

Tuesday 18 July - 7.00pm
Tickets: £12, Students £10
1hr 30 mins, Cert 15

Oklahoma!

Starring Hugh Jackman
Wednesday 19 July - 7.00pm;
Saturday 22 July - 3.00pm

Tickets: £15, Students £10
Brian & Roger Eno Live at the Acropolis

Friday 28 July - 7.30pm
Tickets: £14 1hr 20 mins

Sarah & Duck's Big Top Birthday

Saturday 5 August - 1.30pm & 4.30pm

Tickets: £14, 16 & under £12
1hr, Suitable for ages 3+

Pershore Jazz on a Summer's Day 2023

Saturday 12 August, 2.00pm - 5.30pm & 7.15 - 10.30pm
Tickets: £50 (day ticket for all six sessions)

André Rieu's 2023

Maastricht Concert: Love is All Around

Saturday 26 August - 7.00pm;
Sunday 27 August - 3.00pm
Tickets: £18 3hrs (inc interval)



High Street Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1BG

Box Office: 01386 555488 Email: enquiries@number8.org
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Box Office Opening Hours - Telephone Bookings:
In Person Bookings: Mon - Sat 10am - 4pm & from 6pm on performance evenings
Telephone Bookings: Mon - Sat 4pm - 6pm

WATERMUSIC

Sunday 16 July 4-7

MUSIC starts with Ukelele
Band, REFRESHMENTS,
RAFFLE in riverside garden
55 Bridge Street

TICKETS FROM BLUE
£7 (OR £9 ON THE DAY)

all money raised for charities
+MSF

u3a
Pershore & District

July Monthly Meeting

Tuesday July 18th '23, at 2pm

*A first dip into the whole fascinating
and often humorous area of folklore
and legends associated with plants,
gardens and seasons by
Adrian James, gardener and
photographer*

All monthly meetings held at
Number 8 High Street Pershore WR10 1BG
Everyone welcome, no need to book
For more details contact
Sally Whyte, Speaker Coordinator:
email: u3apershoresally@gmail.com
<https://u3asites.org.uk/pershore>

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FEATURING the NEW PIPE ORGAN

Saturday
10th June

2023
2.30pm

Pershore Abbey
WR10 1BL

Saint-Saëns - Symphony No. 3 (The Organ Symphony)

Pauline Viardot - Overture to Cendrillon
Augusta Holmès - La Nuit et l'Amour
Cécile Chaminade - Pas du Voile from Callirhoë
Louise Farrenc arr. J. Davies - Finale from Nonet



Tickets £15 (under 16s free) available from:
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The Firs Open Garden Drakes Broughton

Opening for the NGS on

Sunday 25th June and
Sunday 2nd July, 1pm-5pm

Admission £4.50 - children free

With views towards Bredon Hill our 2
acre rural garden is planted with over
200 trees including stunning white-
barked Silver Birch set in groves of wild
flowers and grasses. A large collection
of roses and hydrangeas as well as other
beautiful shrubs and flowers. Shade
loving plants grow in the stumpy and
fruit trees surround the Edwardian
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tea and take time to check out our
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All proceeds go to the National garden Scheme



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Pershore Plum Festival

This year celebrating
25 years!

August Bank Holiday
26th, 27th & 28th
August 2023

www.pershoreplumfestival.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
- 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 550177
Membership Secretary: -
Tel: 01386 556892

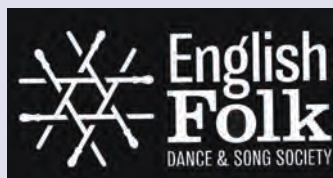
English Country Dancing

Tuesday Afternoons 2-4pm

at Stoulton Village Hall
Church Lane, Stoulton WR7 4RE

*Enjoy gentle exercise while dancing to
lovely music. It is a very social activity,
so you will soon make plenty of
new friends. No partner necessary*

Admission £3 per week
For more information contact:
Sue Jeavons 01386 750695



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

Vale Golf Club Seniors - Colin Powell wins Esmund Jago Trophy



Captain Will Reading presents the Esmund Jago Trophy to Colin Powell

Thirty-five Senior members of The Vale Golf and Country Club contested the Esmund Jago Trophy in a three club and putter format.

The Results were:
Div 1

- 1st Rob Sharp 33 points
- 2nd Mark Harris 32 points

3rd. Brian Brumhead 31 points
Div 2

- 1st Colin Powell 33 points
- 2nd Larry Taylor 30 points
- 3rd Colin Bartlett 27 points

The winner of the Esmund Jago Trophy on countback was Colin Powell

The following week a 4 BBB

match play competition attracted 45 players. Due to it being Team Matchplay each winning team received a Vale Seniors Logo golf ball.

Nearest the pin on the 5th was Alistair Rowley.

The unusual weather conditions over the last two months meant that some competitions were cancelled so it was decided that two stroke play competitions would be played together. The competitions were the John McKeon Salver and the Eclectic One attracting 70 players.

The results were:

Div 1

- 1st Mark Harris 73 net
- 2nd Rick Hawkins 74 net
- 3rd Duilio Perla 76 net

Div 2

- 1st Mark Haywood 75 net
- 2nd Chris Hague 76 net
- 3rd Tony Rose 79 net

Div 3

- 1st Colin Bartlett 78 net
- 2nd Alan Watson 79 net
- 3rd Phil Tilstone 80 net

Nearest the pin on the 5th Gerry Clayton Nearest the pin on the 11th Rick Hawkins.



THE VALE

GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Vale Golf Club Ladies' Section



Audrey Sidwell (left) a member of the Vale Golf Club being congratulated after winning the Mary Priest Trophy for Bronze Division Best Nett score in the Vets County Championship, held at the Vale on 27th May.



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Pershore Times



North Midlands Vase Final!

Pershore 26 v 11 Old Yardleians
Pershore were victorious in the final of the North Midlands Vase, on Sunday at Worcester Rugby Club, to bring home their first silverware in 40 years.

Always the Bridesmaid and never the Bride, Pershore, dominated Old Yardleians from the outset, defended stoutly when their opponents attacked and, being ruthlessly efficient, scored hard-to-come by points. Yards scored first, from a Pershore infringement, but the Piddle Park men hit back soon after, with a driving score from prop Damien May, converted by Ben Crouch, to take a lead they would not relinquish. A further penalty a piece put the score at 13-6 to Pershore going into half time.

Pershore were again on top after the interval, with Stef Ellis and Will Humphreys looking

dangerous in attack throughout, and the back row of Dan Mayfield, Greg Hitchcock and Jack Bacciocchi ferocious in defence. Another Crouch penalty extended the Pershore lead to 16-6, before a prolonged period of pressure allowed Ellis to snipe in under the posts, Crouch again converting for 23-6. Pershore unloaded the bench after the hour with the experienced Martin Hope, Brian Ranns and Jameson Lane adding to the hard work of Josh Hardiman, Ben Sidney and Loran Abbotts and the combinations of AJ Hanson, Tommy Hayes and Todd Charlton at halfback steadying the ship. Another Yards infringement allowed Crouch to cap a perfect afternoon off the tee for 26-6 and some valiant efforts in defence from youngsters Harry Dodds, Harry Westby, Stef Staveley and Reece Davis



along with Takunda Kahwa, keeping Yards at bay to the delight of the vocal Pershore support and coach Stuart Brooks. Yards managed a consolation score on the final whistle, to reward their hard work

throughout, but with the ball into the stand following the kick off, all that was left to do was skipper Luke Hardiman to lift the trophy in the glorious afternoon sunshine and start the partying late into the evening.



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