

# Pershore Times



A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages

Issue 93

May 2024

**FREE**



Two baby lambs

**O** the month of May, the merry month of May,  
So frolic, so gay, so green, so green.'  
These are the first few lines by the famous poet Thomas Dekker, written in 1599, and sum up our hope for May. It certainly is green and is forecast to brighten up even more as Summer comes. We hope that this will be the case and May will be a merry month! We seem to have had a long, wet Winter. The rain and cold wind of late have been very unpleasant. Maybe we are being impatient and Summer is on its way, a wonderful season. We shall have to wait and see!

The countryside looks lovely with so much blossom and hedgerows turning green. We are very fortunate to live in Worcestershire. We have lots

to look forward to with many events taking place in and around the towns and villages. There is plenty for gardeners to do and summer sports to be

enjoyed by participants or spectators. The amount of organised summer events is back to pre-Covid days. That awful time seems long ago and although many things have changed since, there is a feeling of optimism. This is hard at times though, when so many dreadful things are happening in the world too. Let's hope we will have good weather so that we can enjoy all the events and the beautiful countryside surrounding us. Then, indeed, May will be a very merry month!

**pershore  
carnival**



**Bank Holiday  
Monday 27th May**

*Procession starts at 12 noon*

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# Pershore Town Council News



**Hello from Pershore Town Council!**  
The Town Council are pleased with the feedback received regarding communicating with the community of Pershore in this format, so intend to continue working with the Pershore Times for the foreseeable. Well, how are we in May already? Although seeing some snippets of sunshine certainly brightens the mood after what feels like a non-stop 6 months of rain. We can look forward to a summer of community events in our wonderful town. In January, we reported on the

intention to upgrade the Maurice Banbury memorial garden at Pershore Library. Maurice Banbury opened the first dentist in Pershore, and his blue plaque sits proudly on the wall of the library today. I am pleased to say this project is now complete and open to the public, thanks to Community Infrastructure Funding from Wychavon and donations from County Council, Placeboard and the Civic Society. The Town Crier, Robert Speight, aided Mr Banbury's children, members of the Council and Civic Society and public in unveiling the garden on 8th April. We are so pleased to have been able to work with the temporary banking hub to enable their services to come to Pershore library whilst a permanent solution for a banking hub is



confirmed. Residents will be able to undertake their usual counter services at the counter, while representatives from major banks are available on the following days:

- Monday – NatWest
- Tuesday – Lloyds
- Wednesday – HSBC
- Thursday – Barclays
- Friday – Santander

Residents may be aware that the Town Council has changed contractors for the floral displays this year. The arrangement is totally new, and feedback will be welcomed. The flower beds will be planted by Councillors by 26th May. The hanging baskets will be installed on 28th May, and residents will be responsible for watering their own baskets.

Pershore bloom again this year! Lastly, a grant from the Placeboard has enabled the Tourist Information Centre to reopen on Saturdays now it is situated at the Town Hall. The feedback received so far has been very positive and the staff have been run off their feet with enquiries! Not only to the Tourist Information staff deal with visitors to the town, but they hold information on public transport routes, local events and attractions and can signpost to clubs and societies etc, so please do give them a visit! See [www.visitpershore.co.uk](http://www.visitpershore.co.uk) As ever, if the Town Council can help with anything, please do pop in and ask.

*Mrs Charlie MacIntyre  
Town Clerk*



## Neighbourhood Watch supports Neighbourhood Matters!



Neighbourhood Watch West Mercia are working in collaboration with West Mercia Police to generate widespread awareness of Neighbourhood Matters with the aim of getting members of the public to sign up to this service via [www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk) Neighbourhood Matters is a

community messaging service that enables members of the public to be kept in touch and have a line of communication with their local policing teams (Safer Neighbourhood Teams) i.e. your local neighbourhood Police Constable and PCSO. Ian Baldry from Neighbourhood Watch West

Mercia said: "We are supporting West Mercia Police by initially focusing on Wychavon as this is the largest District in Worcestershire and one of the largest Districts in West Mercia with a population of 117,000 people incorporating Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Pershore with 100 villages and hamlets. I am very confident that the rest of West Mercia will come on board very quickly following media publicity.

Nigel Huddleston MP said: "As a registered member of Neighbourhood Matters I am delighted to be associated with this initiative. Neighbourhood Matters has fantastic potential in bringing our local businesses and communities closer to their local police officers in helping to combat crime. The more people who are registered then the more effective this messaging service becomes. I

would encourage all law abiding citizens to get on board and register with Neighbourhood Matters". Sgt Cath Atkinson of West Mercia Police said: "Our Safer Neighbourhood Teams in Wychavon are dedicated to making Neighbourhood Matters a success. The feedback from registered members has been very positive. Anyone can register, and you don't have to be part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme". The Chairman of Wychavon District Council Councillor Robert Raphael said: "I am confident that all of my fellow District Councillors will actively support the promotion of Neighbourhood Matters when liaising with their respective town and parish councils. We definitely want this to be a success".

# Back British Asparagus!



The Chairman of Wychavon has urged residents to back the Vale's growers as British asparagus season gets underway. Cllr Robert Raphael visited Revills Farm Shop in Defford where he tried his hand at harvesting some asparagus from a nearby field. Afterwards the Chairman's Consort Diana Raphael demonstrated the traditional method of tying asparagus.

The Revill family have been farming at Birlingham for almost 100 years and George Revill helped found Red Star Growers in 1988, which is now a leading supplier of vegetables. They grow 100 acres of asparagus, which is all hand-cut. It is then supplied to pubs, farm shops and supermarkets, across the UK. The farm shop started off in 2003 when Isabel Revill would sell asparagus, grown in a field next to an old stable the family used to use as a game room, from just a trestle table. Today the shop is run by Isabel's son-in-law Darren Hedges who swapped a career in fine art photographic printing in London for the role of asparagus promoter and food retailer. The shop stocks seasonal vegetables grown by the Revill family as well as other quality

produce from local companies across the country. British Asparagus season started on St George's Day 23rd April and runs until 21st June. Cllr Robert Raphael, Chairman of Wychavon District Council, said: "It was fantastic to meet the Revills team and have a go at harvesting some asparagus – although I don't think I will be offered a job any time soon! Our growers are an important part of our district, and our country's economy, so please support them by buying British asparagus, preferably from local suppliers, as often as you can during the season. If you find a supermarket that isn't selling British asparagus during British asparagus growing season then please ask them why." Darren Hedges, Manager of Revills Farm Shop, said: "I was impressed with the Chairman's asparagus cutting skills and grateful it remained dry for a change! The weather has been challenging this year but hopefully it will settle soon and we will get better growing conditions. However, you can still find plenty of great British asparagus out there, including the finest spears grown here in the Vale."

## Town Choir - Bank Holiday events

Pershire Town Choir has two Bank Holiday events this month. Firstly, the choir will be singing at the Crophorne Walkabout, 5th - 6th May 2024 from 3 – 3.30pm. This popular event always (?) attracts good weather so we are hoping for a good audience too! Secondly, the choir will be singing in the Baptist Church, Broad Street on Carnival Day 27th May, from 11 – 11.45am. This has become a tradition for

the choir and aims to entertain the crowds before the Carnival Procession arrives in Broad Street en route for the Abbey Park. *If you'd like to join in these events, why not join us at our weekly rehearsals, held every Wednesday in Holy Redeemer School, Priest Lane, starting at 7.30pm.* Musical Director, David Barclay says: "You would be very welcome."

# £3m to reduce leisure centres' carbon emissions

More than £3.3 million is being invested by Wychavon to slash carbon emissions at two of the district's leisure centres. Wychavon has been awarded more than £2.9 million from the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to help deliver low carbon heat and power systems at Evesham and Pershore Leisure Centres. The scheme is run by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and delivered by Salix. Councillors have agreed to support the project with £400,000 of Wychavon's own money. The project will see the current gas heating systems at both centres, as well as the combined heat and power unit at Evesham

Leisure Centre, replaced with air source heat pumps. The existing pool and hall air handling units will be replaced with an in-built air source heat pump, destratification fans will also be installed and solar panels will be put on the roofs of both centres. The measures will cut Pershore Leisure Centre's emissions by between 80% and 90% and Evesham Leisure Centre's by between 60% and 70%. In total about 700 tonnes of carbon emissions a year will be saved, helping Wychavon to meet its Intelligently Green Plan target to reduce the council's carbon emissions by at least 75% by 2030.



## Heavenly Music

On Saturday April 13th, Pershore Abbey hosted an evening of wonderful music showcasing the talent of local musicians and singers. The concert, entitled *In Paradisum*, included performances by three talented musicians and a requiem written by Andrew Hemming. Andrew is a young, talented musician, well known in Pershore for his work with PODS. The evening began with a rousing Toccato and Fugue played on the Abbey's new organ by John Wilderspin, a talented Midlands based organist. The magnificent sound reverberated round the Abbey demonstrating the quality of the organ and the skills of the organist. This was followed by a beautiful vocal performance sung by Briony Stevens (known for her singing in PODS performances) accompanied by pianist Jenny Newbury. The purity of Briony's voice rising to the rafters was enchanting. Next, we enjoyed an extremely skilful performance of *The Köln Concert* played by Marcel Zidani, a distinguished concert pianist and composer. This was a complex piece of music allowing Marcel to demonstrate his mastery and sensitive interpretation of this lengthy work. The second half of the concert was dedicated to 'In Paradisum', a composition written and

conducted by Andrew Hemming. This consisted of a series of beautiful movements performed by the orchestra and choir. As a requiem it was totally inspiring and uplifting, most definitely heavenly music! The response from the audience was multiple standing ovations, most justly deserved. Andrew first wrote and performed his Requiem in 2015. At this time his grandfather Harold was alive and attended the concert. Sadly he has since died and it was three years to the day, so this was dedicated to him as a memorial. His grandfather had lost a son who was killed in a road accident when he was a teenager. Harold had always supported the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity and the amazing work they do, thinking that if they had been around then, they may have been able to save his son's life. This concert was in aid of his favourite charity. This was a stunning evening most definitely appreciated by everyone there. Andrew is a very talented musician whose skills deserve to be recognised more widely. Meanwhile, he will be using these skills in his role as musical director for PODS performance of Priscilla in June. Over £3000 was raised for Midlands Air Ambulance  
*Susan Catford*

# Does anyone still Spring-clean?



The art of de-cluttering your life. We were making lists, a week or two back, of things that were once commonplace but, we now no longer do: taking a roll of film to be developed at Boots; using a phone box; consulting a book of maps in the car before driving anywhere. (I still do this one, but kept quiet.) Then someone asked: does anyone still do spring-cleaning? As a child in the 70s, I remember being hustled out of the house at this time of year, whilst my mother wrapped her hair in a headscarf, thwacked on a pair of marigolds, ordered my father to move the furniture, and set

about hoovering, dusting and polishing the house from top to bottom: the annual spring-clean. At 5 pm, we would claw at the windows, peering through the dust clouds, begging to be let back in as Scooby Doo was about to start. Is the annual spring-clean still a thing? Or has it been replaced with the concept of “de-cluttering”. Again, we asked, has anyone actually tried “de-cluttering” for themselves? Or are we content to watch it being done to other people on TV? Most of us have guiltily enjoyed those programmes where a hapless member of the public has all their belongings

laid out in a warehouse and is forced by a ferocious presenter to jettison things they have hoarded for years as it’s “in their own good”. And many of us have felt, could I do that? To be fair, the annual spring-clean or de-cluttering can make us feel better. Things seem more ordered and our lives seem more manageable. The positive psychological effects are not to be denied. Though I often think the well-being industry itself could do with some de-cluttering. It can be confusing to be faced with a plethora of options, all aiming to improve our well-being: Counselling? Therapy? Yoga? Reiki? Candles? Clean Eating? Exercise? Nature Walks? All of these (and more) can be helpful to us. All may bring important benefits. The problem is trying to narrow things down: what are the essential tools for well-being?

The American psychologist Martin Seligman (adviser to Presidents and Prime Ministers) has famously distilled the paths to well-being into 5 pillars. He calls it the PERMA model:

## **Positive Emotions:**

Select a positive emotion (for example, “awe” or “gratitude”) and find moments in the day to experience this.

## **Engagement:**

Find an activity you love doing and can “get into the zone” and lose yourself in.

## **Relationships:**

Foster those people in your life who celebrate who you are rather than belittle you.

## **Meaning:**

Connect with something bigger than yourself, maybe through volunteering in the community or performing acts of kindness.

## **Achievement:**

Challenge yourself to do something difficult that will test your determination and bring satisfaction when achieved.

*Pershore Wellbeing Hub's website (below) has links and suggestions to support you in these aims – or pop in to see us for a chat and a cup of tea. No need to bring a duster – everyone is always welcome!*

*Paul Morris*

*Pershore Wellbeing Hub  
4, High Street, Pershore*

*[www.pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk](http://www.pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk)*

# What's buzzing in the garden today?



*Tawny burrowing bee and leaf of Forget-me-not*

Despite the fact that I have kept bees for nearly 50 years, I still look forward to the spells of warm weather between showers in March and April to see what the bees are doing. I find myself meandering between my hives in the garden observing the hive entrances from a respectful distance to see how much activity there is. This year the hives seem to have been quite busy and it will not

be long before I can open them to see exactly how they are progressing. Worker bees are bringing in bright orange pollen loads on their back legs, which will be from dandelions, and together with pollen from blossom and a little nectar it will be fed to the bee grubs to produce the young bees which will replace those old ones which kept the colony going over the winter.

Most beekeepers nowadays have hives with a wire mesh floor instead of solid wood. This gives us another insight into the colony without having to open the hive and disturb it. We can place a tray under the mesh and after a few days we can see piles of debris indicating the amount of activity.

Unlike hive bees, the bumble bees do not persist as a colony and only mated queens survive the winter. These will also be seen in warm spells, visiting flowers but also seeking suitable sites to establish their nest for the coming year. They are huge and they work longer days than hive bees, continuing towards evening. Most bumble bee species restart their life cycle in April or May but our other bees, the solitary bees, emerge at intervals throughout the year according to species. One of the first to be seen is the tawny burrowing bee, *Andrena fulva*, (pictured). This lives in a little vertical burrow in lawns and on grassy paths. We get many concerned enquiries about them in the spring as



people start to use their lawns for picnics etc. Fortunately these bees are completely harmless. They will dig their little tubes, collect a few blobs of pollen and lay an egg on each one before disappearing in a month or so. The next generation will hatch and emerge next year. No action needs to be taken, they will not be unduly bothered by mowing, and they are a delight to watch, coming and going on a sunny afternoon.

*Martyn Cracknell*

*Worcestershire  
Beekeepers' Association*

# A few words from... Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

## Spring into Summer visitor boost

Dame Harriett Baldwin MP has praised the efforts of local tourism teams to promote attractions across the county bringing valuable income into the area and boosting jobs. The MP visited the popular English Heritage property Witley Court to help to promote English Tourism Week which aims to promote local attractions through the summer. Dame Harriett toured the historic site which was one of England's greatest country homes until a fire wrecked the building in 1937. The gutted building, which still shows signs of the fire within the ruins, is now a popular tourist attraction with extensive gardens to walk in and an ornate, working fountain. Dame Harriett said: "Witley Court is one of the jewels in our local tourist offering and it is always good to visit and catch up with the team promoting the attraction to visitors from near and far. With the Winter hopefully behind us, it is good to get out and get some fresh air and exercise, and it is clear from their briefing to me that destinations like Witley Court are getting

back to pre-pandemic visitor numbers. We are blessed to have such beautiful attractions on our doorstep, whether it is formal gardens like Witley Court or the wild terrains of the Malvern and Bredon Hills and I am delighted to help do my bit to promote local tourism. English Heritage Head of Historic Properties for the West Midlands, Matt Bulford said: "We were delighted to welcome Dame Harriett back to Witley Court and to update her on all that we've been doing to both care for the remains of one of England's greatest country houses with its beautiful gardens and wild woodlands and enhance the experience for visitors from near and far. Our charity is working hard to provide more opportunities for local people to connect with the unique heritage at the heart of their community here at Witley Court, including through volunteering opportunities and by supporting free school visits – with over 9,000 school visitors welcomed at the site since English Heritage became a charity in 2015."



Front of Witley Court's East parterre Matt Bulford, Dame Harriett Baldwin MP, Mike Pardey and Edoardo Bedin

# The River of Dreams



Do these photos make you dream of a lazy afternoon in a slow boat on the River Avon? They do for us! Thanks again to Mark Everett for these gorgeous pictures. River of Dreams is the theme for this year's Pershore River Festival, to be held on Saturday July 20th 2024. It's inspired by Billy Joel's 1990s hit song of that name. So we'd love to know what makes the Avon your River of Dreams! There may be a prize for the best idea! The Festival is now only three months away and the Committee is starting this year's events with a River Quiz at 7pm on May 17th. See our Facebook page Pershore River

Festival for more details. Entry £3 per person, teams of 4 or more £2.50. Other events will follow leading up to the festival in July. Everything depends of course on the river – which changes from day to day. As I write this the river level is steady, but it can go up quickly when we get rain. Pershore is often said to turn its back on the river, so we plan to keep showing just what people are missing! Mark Everett is taking photos of river life every month, and we'll post them on our Facebook page and the Festival website and in the Pershore Times.



## Freedom Activities CIC

Freedom Activities CIC are a not-for-profit local community interest company offering inclusive fun sports and physical activity sessions within and around Pershore. Our aim is to provide a safe and fun environment for all participants to enjoy our sessions whilst improving fitness levels, mental and emotional wellbeing and having the opportunity to meet new people. All sessions we run are very sociable offering refreshments and the chance to enjoy the social aspect of the group.

### Young at Heart



Young at Heart is a gentle yet effective exercise class, run to music, inclusive for seniors of all abilities and ages. The class also includes a game of Boccia (indoor bowling). Classes are held in Pershore every Monday 1.15 - 2.15pm at Pershore Leisure Centre and every Friday 10-11am at Eckington Village Hall. Each class is £4 and includes refreshments.

[www.freedomactivities.com/young-at-heart.html](http://www.freedomactivities.com/young-at-heart.html)

Pershore Plummiess Walking Netball is a fun social inclusive version of netball. It is suitable for all genders and may appeal to those who are new to netball and prefer a slower pace of the game. We meet every Tuesday 12-1pm at Pershore Leisure Centre. Sessions cost £4.50 and

for those who become regular players a free club t-shirt is available.

### Pershore Plum Stars FC Walking Football

Pershore Plum Stars FC Walking Football is a fun sociable version of football inclusive to all and open to players of all genders. No previous football experience is required. We meet every Thursday 11am-12pm at Pershore and District Sports Club. Sessions cost £4.50 with tea and coffee included.

[www.freedomactivities.com/pershore-plum-stars-fc.html](http://www.freedomactivities.com/pershore-plum-stars-fc.html)

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If you would be interested in finding out more about our fun, sociable activities.

Please get in touch with Lorna on: 07904 354642 or email: [freedomactivities123@gmail.com](mailto:freedomactivities123@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/freedomactivities123](http://www.facebook.com/freedomactivities123)



## Little Comberton Street Market - Saturday 25th May 2024



Nestling at the foot of Brendon Hill, Little Comberton is excited to be hosting its 38th annual Street Market on Saturday 25th May 2024, between 2pm and 5pm.

Come rain or shine, the event is guaranteed to provide a fun filled afternoon for the whole family. Last year we welcomed over 1000 visitors who came to enjoy this traditional English fête with a host of colourful stalls set amongst thatched cottages, orchards and hay bales. With background tunes of live jazz, bell ringing and Morris dancing, this vibrant and unique atmosphere is sure to enthrall the whole family.

The street stalls feature local produce including asparagus and strawberries, while local beer and cider are for sale in the beer tent. Other refreshments include - pork baps, homemade cakes and cream teas. The market boasts plenty of stalls selling books, plants, vintage and collectibles, plus local arts and crafts. If you are a local food producer or craftsperson interested in

trading at the market please contact:

[carole.marshall59@yahoo.com](mailto:carole.marshall59@yahoo.com)

There's lots for children to do in our dedicated games area as well. Our church exhibition this year is entitled 'Bizarre Bazaar' where you will find bags, tins and scarves on display and for sale. And finally the large display of classic cars and steam engines will not disappoint. So bring the whole family and enjoy an exciting afternoon in our beautiful and welcoming village?

Entrance to the Street Market is £2 per adult and free for under 12s. Free parking is available on a first come, first served basis. Little Comberton Street Market is a non-profit making event that supports St.Peter's Church and Little Comberton Village Hall.

For further information please take a look at our Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/LittleCombertonStreetMarket1](http://www.Facebook.com/LittleCombertonStreetMarket1)

The Market takes place in Manor Lane, Little Comberton, Pershore, WR10 3ER

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# Edward Elgar saw the great Severn floods



The middle years of the nineteenth century were notable for Severn floods: 1845, 1847, 1852, 1862 and 1868. The young Edward Elgar, growing up in Worcester, experienced the last two, but his mother, Ann, witnessed them all. Ann and her husband, William, had a lively interest in local affairs and compiled a journal, 'Worcester Papers' to send to William's family in Kent. One edition deals with the great Severn flooding: 'The Deluge

of 1852': - We have lately been visited by one of the most awful tempests that has ever occurred in the county of Worcestershire, within the recollection of the oldest inhabitant. The havoc created has been of the most harrowing description imaginable and everywhere ... is one saddening and lamentable wreck of property. To mark this flood an antique print was made of men in a boat rescuing sheep at Powick

Ham, and this was reproduced in The Illustrated London News. The greatest flood is thought to have occurred in May 1886, when the Severn almost submerged the arches of Worcester Bridge, and a man caught a pike in the sitting room of the nearby Old Rectifying House!

Ann put a newspaper cutting in her scrapbook of the Severn freezing over in 1883 (as it did in 1855 and 1879) and being used for skating. During the thaw the river rose by 6 ft in 12 hours, and huge blocks of ice rushed downstream, sweeping away boats and blocking Worcester Bridge. Edward would observe the 1862, 1868 and 1883 floods, and, on his way to school, would pass through the fourteenth-century Watergate by Worcester Cathedral, where the flood levels are indelibly recorded in stone. \*



Michael Trott  
The Elgar Society.

\* From 'Ann Greening: Mother of Edward Elgar' by Hilary Elgar, Brenda Watson & Michael Trott (Brewin Books, 2024, £14.95, enquiries to: [mwtrott@hotmail.com](mailto:mwtrott@hotmail.com) or 01684 294859) The Elgar Society began its life in Worcester and Malvern in 1951, and the West Midlands Branch continues to flourish. For details of meetings (held at Holy Trinity Church Hall, 1 North Malvern Road, Malvern WR14 4LR), see [www.elgarsociety.org/branches/west-midlands](http://www.elgarsociety.org/branches/west-midlands)

## Historic Beethoven work in Pershore Abbey



An evening of Beethoven's choral music, including a work in which the composer himself played the piano for the last time at a public concert, is being performed in May by the members of Pershore Choral. "We have planned an exciting programme of Beethoven's

choral work which will remind everybody that Beethoven was not just a symphonic genius but also a master of song," said Paul Clarke, Chairman of Pershore Choral. "The highlight of the event is probably his celebrated Mass in C, but we shall also be singing his Choral

Fantasia and the final movement of his Mount of Olives which was the only oratorio he ever wrote." The Choral Fantasia was composed in 1808 when Beethoven was 38 and it was premiered at a theatre in Vienna three days before Christmas. It was the ground breaking finale of a concert of his work lasting four hours on a bitterly cold night and it had been completed only a few days before. Beethoven himself played the piano part, which he actually improvised on the night, but his hearing was already beginning to fail despite his comparatively young age and it is believed that he never again played on the public stage. "It is sadly ironic that the choral

score of this piece magnificently celebrates the gift of music just at a time when the composer's ability to hear his own music was gradually being taken from him," Paul added. Beethoven died at the age of 56 following a prolonged illness. He produced some of his greatest work during the last ten years of his life when he was almost totally deaf and unable to hear an orchestra playing what he had written. The concert takes place at Pershore Abbey on: Saturday 11th May 2024, 7.30pm Tickets are available from Anne Howells on: 01905 770557 or email: [anne.horsellhowells@gmail.com](mailto:anne.horsellhowells@gmail.com) or from Blue in Broad Street.

## Cadets lay Poppy crosses

The 24th March saw the Sea Cadets, RAF Air Cadets, St John's Ambulance Cadets and representatives from Pershore Youth Council lay Poppy crosses, on the graves, of all those who died in service of their country, and who are laid to rest in Pershore Cemetery. They were a credit to their organisations and approached their task with great ability and respect. Joining them were members of the Royal British Legion, Town Council, families and members of the public.

### Upcoming Events

- 4th May 2024** - Breakfast Club at the White Horse 9am
- 6th June 2024** - Pershore Town Crier, D-Day Commemoration, Outside Pershore Town Hall 11am
- 7th June 2024** - D-Day Commemorative Concert Alcester Victoria Silver Band at Baptist Church Hall, Broad Street, Pershore - 7-7:30pm prompt Limited Tickets available soon £15, includes complimentary intermission drink



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# Tewkesbury & Bredon Hill Probus Club

*The Club for retired and semi-retired Professionals and Businessmen*



Regular readers of this column will know that as well as meeting every Tuesday morning at Bredon Village Hall, Probus Club members occasionally go out on external visits to places of interest. Our latest venture was a trip to the British Motor Heritage factory at Witney, where new bodyshells are manufactured for classic sports cars and the original mini which are now decades out of mainstream production when they were

assembled by companies like MG, Jaguar and British Leyland. The company was set up with the business objective of keeping classic cars such as the MGB and Jaguar E-type as well as the original mini on the road. These cars all had very poor rust prevention when they were assembled in the 1960's and thousands of them have been scrapped because the bodywork just rusted away as time went on, so the company was set up to make replacement

new bodyshells with modern rust prevention so that these classics could theoretically go on for ever.

After an introductory talk about the company, we were taken around the workshop where the bodyshells are made. For someone like me (and several of my fellow Probus members) who started our working lives as apprentice mechanical engineers, this was a nostalgic trip back to our roots. The assembly shop is just as we remember them from the 1960's with skilled engineers creating body panels with files, hammers and welding torches and using genuine spot-welding machines from the 1960's with not a robot in sight. The workers in the factory clearly love their work and it was a joy to talk to them enjoying their part in keeping classic sports cars going as long as possible. Back to our usual Tuesday morning venue and we were entertained by a different set of instruments when David Wornham gave us his presentation called "Tuneful Tubes" whereby he

demonstrated a huge selection of brass and woodwind instruments from the four corners of the world. These ranged from very small to extremely big and we were all amazed when he revealed his 25 feet long Alpine horn from which he produced a deep sonorous musical bellow!

*Chris Brown*

### **Forthcoming Events in May:**

- Tuesday 7th May** - No meeting (Bank Holiday)
- Tuesday 14th May** - The abolition of the Slave Trade (with Martin Collisson)
- Tuesday 21st May** - The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (with William Cooper)
- Tuesday 28th May** - No meeting (Bank

[www.probusclub.net/tewkesbredon](http://www.probusclub.net/tewkesbredon)

## *E Hill & Son - Your local Funeral Directors*

E Hill & Son your local Funeral Directors established in 1960 and owned and run by the Hill family for over 60 years has undergone some changes in the last few years. Now privately owned by Beverley Funerals Ltd following the retirement of Richard and Paula but still run by a team of local people with Mrs Jo Tolley as Manager. Our funeral home is a 'family home' where we look after your loved ones in peaceful, dignified surroundings and where you are given our personal, professional attention at all times. We offer a twenty four hour service, seven days a week, three hundred and sixty five days of the year where you are able to talk to a member of our dedicated staff at any time. We are here to guide and support you from the first point of contact, giving advice on every aspect, from registration through to the day of the service and beyond.



As members of the National Association of Funeral Directors we follow a code of practice that helps us to deliver a high standard of care to the families that we are privileged to help. We offer Golden Charter Funeral Plans, one of the biggest funeral plan providers on the market. Funeral Plans can offer peace of mind for people knowing that their personal wishes have been arranged and paid for in advance, easing the burden for those left behind.

*If you would like to speak to us please telephone 01386 552141*



PhysioNet is a UK based charity dedicated to supplying children and adults with disability equipment considered surplus or redundant in the UK. Along with its network of enthusiastic volunteers, PhysioNet collects, repairs and packs medical equipment in the UK, to help those in need around the world. The PhysioNet charity says, "Despite being the world's largest minority, people with disabilities are often forgotten." Households with a disabled member often experience hunger, poor housing, poor sanitation and inadequate access to clean water and health care. On top of all that, they will often have to pay for mobility equipment - items that we often discard or leave at the back of the garage. So that's where we come in. Pershore Rotary will collect any disability equipment you may have and would like to donate. We then arrange

delivery to the centre near Bristol where the equipment is checked, repaired if necessary and sent to communities around the world where urgently needed. If anyone has equipment they would like to donate please let us know by emailing [Rotaryphysionet@gmail.com](mailto:Rotaryphysionet@gmail.com). As reported last month, Pershore Rotary hosted a Rock Choir concert in Pershore Abbey on Saturday, 16th March in aid of the Brain Tumour Research charity. The funds raised enabled us to donate £2,000 to the work of the charity. Donations were also made to the Rock Choir and to Pershore's 1st Responders. *So, whether you support our community or those in need 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](http://www.pershorerotary.club)*

# May Events at community run The Queen Elizabeth Inn

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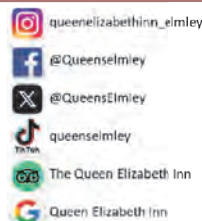


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# Pershore Flower Club



## Japan comes to Pershore Flower Club

Noella Plasman-Jones entertained us all by bringing The Art Of Ikebana to our Flower Club in April. The Art of Japanese design is very different and methods are the opposite of what flower arrangers normally do. It involves the use of symmetry and space, understanding and restraint. Usually one large branch of natural and seasonal woody plant forms the basis of design around which a small number of flowers are arranged and all arrangements are in a pinholder, not floral foam. The first and second arrangements were in flat oblong dishes, the first one using a contorted willow branch around which five blue irises (which we were told are a very 'male' flower) were strategically placed. The second one was an inclining design set to one side of the dish, a hazel twig and then three bronze Tulips were placed, with Arum leaves used to disguise the pinholder. Then there was a radial design with a honeysuckle branch and eucalyptus. This was complimented by three vivid red Gerberas - 'with flowers looking upwards' - as tradition dictates. This time, Hosta leaves covered the pinholder. Ikebana requires that each piece of flower material is individually looked at which means that each arrangement takes a long time, even though not many items are used - resulting in elegant presentation. It was interesting to note that a very long time was taken to position each flower. We were then shown a Moribana arrangement, which uses full bloomed flowers and again this was in a low flat dish. Five pieces of material in

three lines, using two pale mauve Chrysanthemums (which are a noble flower in Japan, although they originate in China), Hypericum and Sorbaria and the customary twig. The final arrangement in round bowl seemed to break with tradition, as a tall Prunus twig was placed in the centre with another twig at an angle. Two dual toned Chrysanthemums - in green and pink - were carefully placed in an upright position with two shorter stems of the same flower at the base. Sprays of Limonium were also placed at varying heights. It was a very different evening. We learnt much about Ikebana and its origins; how flower arranging used to be done by aristocratic men and then after a very violent time with Warlords and Shoguns, tea houses were opened and eventually women were allowed to arrange.

*Our next Club meeting is Wednesday 15th May at 7.30pm where we will revert to Traditional Flower Arranging. Guests are always welcome. For more information, please telephone 07974 973861*



# Abbey Women's Fellowship



The Pershore Abbey Women's Fellowship are coming to the end of another interesting, and very good year 2023/2024, celebrating our 60th year. The members were treated to an Afternoon Tea at St Peters Garden Centre in July. September was our 60th Anniversary Abbey Service Celebration with a specially made cake by Sue Hall, one of our members. The service and Celebration was enjoyed by all at St Andrews Hall. Continuing through the months with a varied programme:  
- The Shoe box appeal. A slide show and information on the country and ages of the children.  
Plus: What to include in the charity Shoe Box. Therefore all our ladies donated items over the following days, weeks and months.  
- Inviting Chris Ludlow to return. Where he gave us a guide on all the old public houses that were established in Pershore many years ago.

- Beth Milsom's talk and demonstration on 100 years of Fashion, with some very delicate and petite items of clothing.  
- Ending the year with Christmas cake and mince pies at our December meeting with entertainment from Griff.  
- Bringing in another new year with a delicious meal at The White Horse Hotel.  
- A varied programme continued with a talk on Search and Rescue, A Glass Garden. Then Spring Hanging Baskets. The Month of May brings us to another AGM. We are looking forward to another interesting and fun filled year with good friends.

*If anyone would like to join and make new friends, you will receive a warm welcome. We meet at St Andrews Church Hall every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm. Or contact our Chairman on 01386 553127*



*Past and present Chairman from years gone by*

# Health Hub – May



## May is National Walking Month.

Walking is simple, free and one of the easiest ways to get more active, lose weight and become healthier.

Sometimes overlooked as a form of exercise, walking briskly can help you build stamina, burn excess calories and make your heart healthier. You don't even have to walk for hours – a brisk 10-minute daily walk has lots of health benefits.

Any shoes or trainers that are

comfortable, provide adequate support and do not cause blisters will do. If you're walking to work, you could wear your usual work clothes with a comfy pair of shoes and change shoes when you get into work. For long walks, you may want to take some water, healthy snacks, a spare top, sun screen and a sun hat in a small backpack.

If you start going for longer walks regularly, you may want to invest in a waterproof jacket and some specialist walking



shoes for more challenging routes.

Walking also helps us stay connected to our community, helping us feel less lonely and isolated. It's also free, flexible and fun with proven benefits for our health and well-being. *Take a look at some of these tips and see how many you can tick off in May:*

1. Invite friends and family for a walk
  2. Let nature guide you
  3. Walk to and from work
  4. Get snappy and take a picture on your walk
  5. Walk to the shops
  6. Have a scavenger hunt
  7. Let the kids lead the way
  8. Have an evening stroll
  9. Have a mindful meander
  10. Powerwalk to the finish!
- Reach out to someone and

invite them to join you – you might find a new walking buddy...

U3A and Age UK have a number of local walking groups available, or perhaps join The Ramblers; check out their websites for more information. We hope that, if possible, you will follow Pershore Medical Practice and Abbottswood Surgery on Facebook and Instagram for more frequent messaging

*Sign up to our regular Newsletters which you will find on our websites.*

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### • Family matters & divorce

Whether it's divorce, separation, financial arguments, cohabitee agreements, child custody, or domestic violence, you can be confident that we'll handle your family matters with discretion, empathy, sympathy and professionalism in order to find a positive solution.

### • Employment & HR

When you're running a business you can't afford for employment and HR matters to slow you down. Thanks to our personal approach we can work closely with you to give you bespoke advice and help you stay ahead of legislation that is constantly changing. We'll give you peace of mind and help you understand exactly what you need to do to avoid disruption to your business.

### • Aviation law

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

### • Sports law

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

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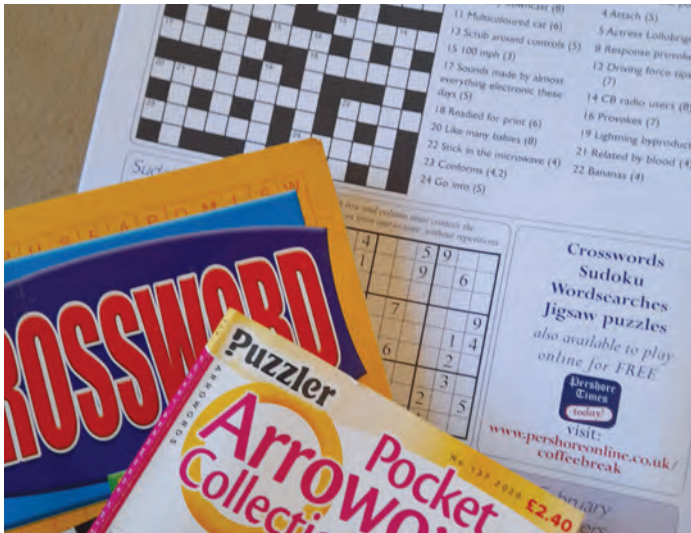
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# Women's Hour! \_t's \_ p\_zzl\_! Susan Catford



Life is full of challenges of all kinds and from a very early age we try to make sense of things. Through touch, sounds, taste and sight, babies learn about the world about them; they are naturally inquisitive. To try and encourage the skill of understanding and learning, we offer them shape sorting, jigsaws, colour matching, counting games etc. Watching our two and a half (the half is important at this age!) year old Grandson, patiently trying to fit shapes into appropriate holes whilst reinforcing their names for language development, is fascinating. Concentration and perseverance are rewarded with success but there is obviously enjoyment in the task too. Similarly with jigsaw puzzles, seeing how he rotates shapes until they magically fit shows that he is already trying to solve problems. In this way, he

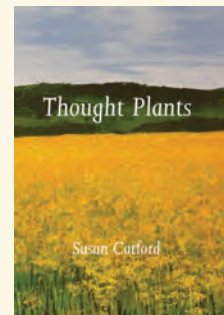
meets what is a puzzle with the desire to solve it. This is a very early learning skill which we employ throughout our lives. Puzzles also provide enjoyment for many adults. There are many puzzle books available with a whole range of different kinds of puzzles. I prefer crossword puzzles as long as they are not cryptic ones which still leave me baffled! Online games such as Wordle, Scrabble, Solitaire and even board games like chess and backgammon are great for filling time and exercising the brain. We have friends who start every day with a shared crossword and another friend who plays backgammon online as a mental warm-up to the day. In our household, there is a competitive element to solving the daily Wordle puzzle but it is also fun! I've always enjoyed the mental

challenges of solving problems, though the mathematical kind at school were not my cup of tea- best left to those with mathematical brains! Language and word puzzles interest me and we are told learning a new language is a good way to stave off senile dementia. Anything which engages the brain, using Poirot's 'little grey cells', will help to keep us mentally fit. My brain seems to be at its most effective first thing in the morning. I have often gone to bed with an apparently insoluble problem only to wake up with a solution. My sleeping brain seems able to work without me! TV channels cater for this thirst for problem solving with a whole range of game programmes. Some provide incentives through cash and attractive prizes. It is a satisfying experience watching others undergo these challenges from the comfort of our armchairs. It is also possible to offer our own solutions knowing that if we get it wrong, no-one will know! There are definitely games such as 'University Challenge' or 'Only Connect' which appeal to the more intellectual viewers. It is amazing to see the breadth of knowledge these students have quite apart from their own particular subject area. Truly awesome! There are, of course, easier games like 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire' and 'Pointless' which offer multiple choice answers. The competitors are not required to

be experts so we can more easily identify with them. These are fun programmes which make us think and can be a light relief from the more serious documentaries, dramas and murder mysteries. Our own papers (now Pershore, Upton, Powick and Kempsey Times) all carry puzzle pages. The anagram puzzle is always very popular and attracts many entries. More puzzles can be accessed through TODAY online which offers a mix of current articles and news, plus updates throughout the month. (It is currently being revamped so watch this space.) We are doing our best to keep those grey cells active! Life is a puzzle. There are problems and challenges every day but there are also solutions to many, though not all, things. Whether it is seeking cures for life threatening diseases or attempting to solve world problems, it is fortunate that we are encouraged from those early days to keep trying and not give up. That is also where hope comes in as well, to help us try to overcome even the worst difficulties life can present. Life may be a puzzle at times but puzzles can be fun!

## Questions?

- What is the time?
- Which is the day?
- When will it happen?
- Where will we stay?
- How can we get there?
- Train, plane or car?
- What do we need?
- Is it too far?
- Shall we bring anything?
- Some food or drink?
- These are my questions.
- What do you think?



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## Country Watch



### *'Change not a clout Till May be out.'*

It seems that Spring has arrived at last! The trees are now leaf clad, though some more advanced than others. Lots of shades of green and more colours of wild flowers and blossom. Some of the fields are glowing with the golden yellow rapeseed – liquid sunshine! Others are showing evidence of crops growing but often patchy where seed has been washed away. The farmers are not happy but can begin to work their fields now it is a little drier. Tractors whiz up and down the lanes making up for lost time. The grass verges which have had an abundance of celandines this year now have buttercups too. In the woodlands carpets of scented bluebells seem to have sprung up quite suddenly. The orchards are full of apple blossom, very bridal with the pale pink and white flowers. The crab apples also display a range of blossoms from pink to dark crimson. Pear trees

never seem to keep their blossom for long as the winds disperse it like confetti soon after it appears. The bird song is increasing whether in town or countryside. The thrushes and blackbirds are the first to start the dawn chorus with their distinctive songs. They are being joined by other birds that have migrated from Africa bringing their own individual cries. A beautiful natural symphony to greet the day. Sunday 5th May is International Dawn Chorus Day. The Wildlife Trust holds special events on this day which can be found on local websites. Bird song does have a purpose though, either to attract mates or ward off competitors! The sun is getting warmer now and we have had a brief respite from the winds and rain. Perhaps May will be a better month weatherwise but it will definitely be more colourful and there will be lots to see in nature. Keep those coats and wellies handy though!

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# Creating a border in the shade with clay soil Nikki Hollier

It's highly likely there is some level of shade in every garden – whether that's caused by a fence, a neighbour's garage or trees. Thankfully, there is a plant for every space, so here's information and ideas on how to create a beautiful garden in a perceived tricky spot! According to the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) there are six types of light/shade:

1. Full sun: More than six hours of direct sun per day at midsummer.
2. Light shade: A site that is open to the sky, but screened from direct sunlight by an obstacle, such as a high wall.
3. Partial or semi-shade: Three to six hours per day of direct sun at midsummer.
4. Dappled shade: Mainly reflected or diffused light, for example through open tree canopies all day.
5. Moderate shade: equates to two or three hours of direct sunlight each day at midsummer.
6. Deep or heavy shade: Receives less than two hours of direct sun per day. The easiest way to work out where the shady spots are, is to simply look and watch the garden at certain points of the

day and make a note of where the sun hits the ground. You can then plant the right plant in the right spot!

So what plants are best for shade and grow in clay soil? Here are some of my favourite plants that look great together – a tall shrub, medium and short perennials to create a tiered effect which is easy on the eye.

**Shrub -**



*Viburnum x carlcephalum* – commonly known as a snowball tree. It's a shrub that will grow in all soil types and in sun, part sun and shade. They grow to around 3m tall, so are ideal for small gardens that need a tree to add height. They have scented flowers each May with heart-shaped, dark green leaves, turning red in autumn.

**Perennial –**



*Tiarella 'Spring Symphony'* – commonly known as Foam Flower due to the small spires of blush white flowers from May to July. Ideal for the front of a border as they grow to around 25cm tall. The leaves are pretty too, which are green lobed with a dark centre.



*Hosta 'Francee'* Beautiful heart-shaped, olive green, puckered leaves with white margins. which blends with the flowers of the Tiarella. Grows to around 55cm tall.



**Nikki Hollier**  
nikki@borderinabox.com  
@borderinabox  
www.borderinabox.com

They are renowned for attracting slugs and snails, so adding copper rings around the base of the plant and checking the leaves regularly for signs of them will help to keep the plant healthy.

**Evergreen -**

*Sarcococca hookeriana* var. *digyna* 'Purple Stem' flowers from December to March. It's an evergreen shrub with scented, pink-tinged flowers, which are followed by rounded blue-black fruit.

Remember, when planting in clay soil, consider adding organic matter like composted bark or well-rotted manure to improve its texture and drainage.

# May gardening tips Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester

**Early May**

Keep all newly planted items well watered. This includes ones planted last autumn. Sow seeds of herbaceous plants. Sow or turf new lawns and keep mowing established ones – but not too low. Treat difficult lawn weeds e.g. clovers, black medic with Weedol Lawn Weedkiller, it has the right ingredients for these weeds. Hang up a codling moth trap in your apple tree, or a plum moth one in your plum tree, to reduce the number of maggoty fruit. There is also now a trap readily available for catching box tree moths which are now quite widespread in our area. Plant out cabbage, cauliflower and other brassicas but take precautions against root fly. Keep on top of pest and disease outbreaks, as well as controlling weeds. Don't forget your houseplants feed and water them regularly. Control algae and blanketweed in ponds.

**Mid May**

Sow suitable varieties of pansies to flower from autumn throughout the winter. Sow biennials for flowering next spring onwards e.g. wallflowers, myosotis, sweet williams, foxgloves and honesty. Plant out chrysanthemums for flowering in borders or for cutting. Plant out summer bedding plants when frost risk is minimal. Tie in wall shrubs and climbers to their supports try to train them at 45 degrees or horizontally to encourage flowering. Trim over aubretia and arabis after flowering to keep them neat. Prune wall trained pyracantha and chaenomeles after flowering. Keep strawberry fruits off the soil using straw or mats. Cut down spring flowering perennials – e.g. pulmonarias and doricums after flowering to produce a neat mound of new foliage. Untrimmed plants

often become mildewed. Sow swedes, beetroot, carrots, parsnips, French and runner beans outdoors. Plant out sweet corn in blocks, rather than a long row, as they are wind pollinated. Take cuttings from dahlias and chrysanthemums for flowering later in summer. Plant tomatoes, peppers, aubergines, cucumbers etc. in a cold greenhouse or outdoors if in sheltered site. Make up summer flowering hanging baskets and containers.

**Late May**

Brighten up your patio with some spectacular frost tender container plants, like brugmansia. Prune clematis montana straight after flowering, if they are getting out of bounds. Plant out leeks, marrows, courgettes and melon plants. Enjoy more herbs by sowing Basil, Coriander and Parsley every fortnight. Spinach often runs to seed if



sown after mid May – so sow leaf beet instead. Sow some half-hardy annuals for use as winter pot plants e.g. calceolarias, schizanthus and cinerarias. Sow ornamental cabbage and kale for winter colour in tubs and borders. Beware of houseplants getting scorched on sunny windowsills. Listen to the weather forecast in case of any nasty late frosts.

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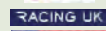
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Now Showing





# Farming *Mike Page*



*A photo of a newly planted field here. As you can see the soil has dried out, and the job itself (cultivating and seeding) has gone well. This field should be green all over with emerging barley fairly soon, and now it has been planted before the end of April has a chance of producing a decent yield at harvest.*

At the time I was writing the last report, we were approaching the end of March, with soil conditions still being much too wet for cultivation and the establishment of many spring crops for harvest 2024. With large areas of land still unplanted as a result of unusually wet conditions in the late autumn of 2023, and many areas of crop that were planted having been destroyed by continuing exceptional rainfall and winter

flooding, it was beginning to look as though any chances of crops being established (either autumn or spring planted) to give good yields in the harvest of 2024 were rapidly fading. The fact that Government support policies for farming were being increasingly directed towards environmental objectives rather than producing food even became a matter of concern to the general public, with widespread coverage of possible supply difficulties

in basic foodstuffs later this year featuring in the media. Within the UK that shortage is more likely to be expressed as rapidly inflating home-produced food prices rather than actual food shortage, but it does raise the question, 'should effort and money be spent on keeping ourselves fed or improving the wider environment?' With a rapidly expanding understanding of how looking after the environment does have a direct effect on so many matters that we have in the past treated as 'of little consequence' we are finding ourselves pushed into the situation where we are 'damned if we do and damned if we don't.' Whatever the hue of the next Government resulting from the forthcoming election, it will not have an easy path to follow.

The weather and soil conditions have improved now that we are some weeks into April, and spring crops are being established, though at a fairly slow pace. The arable land here has been planted with spring barley. As said before, the UK is not, except in a particularly good cropping

season, able to grow all of its grain needs for both food and feed and a season like this, where harvest predictions for the summer of 2024 from reliable sources are suggesting overall production being down around 20%, is a matter for the Government to look at with some urgency. Two of the world's larger grain producers (Russia & Ukraine) are at war with one another, and war between Israel and the Palestinians is having a direct effect on the free movement of raw foodstuffs through the middle East, some of it on its way to us. Environmental and matters that affect food supply. The Government coming forward with agricultural policies that support both environmental objectives and attempt to maximise food production at the same time will continue to be problematic. And never more so than in a season like this when weather is a very dominating factor. Perhaps this is very much a one-off? I would like to think so, and there speaks the optimist again!



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## Cooking for fun! *Ailsa Craddock*

The arrival of swallows and so many good things grown or reared locally, I love May with all its promise of Summer to come and everything fresh and newly green! It's also the time for British asparagus and Jersey Royal potatoes. The potatoes have been grown on the island for 140 years and today there are approximately 20 island farmers who grow them (and often no other crops) on approximately 7,300 acres and can only be grown on Jersey to have the name. As for the asparagus, we are very lucky to live in the Valley of Evesham, one of the homes of British asparagus. I know you can buy this most of the year from abroad - but there is nothing like the Real Thing from just around the corner! This first recipe is using these two British stalwarts - but with a twist!

### Coconut potato bowl with lime and ginger

*(I'm not giving you exact amounts here - just use how ever much you need to feed how many people!)*

*Jersey Royal potatoes, roughly chopped*

*Cauliflower florets*

*Coconut oil, melted, enough to coat*

*Sea salt and pepper*

*Asparagus*

*Olive oil*

*Cherry tomatoes, halved*

*Spring onion, sliced*

*Baby broad beans*

*Sliced cooked beetroot*

*Coconut flakes, toasted, to garnish*

*Dressing; 2 tbsp olive oil*

*Finely grated zest and juice of a lime*

*Grated ginger*

Preheat the oven to 200°C/fan 180°C/gas mark 6. Place the potatoes and cauliflower florets in a roasting tray, drizzle over the coconut oil and toss to coat. Sprinkle with sea salt and pepper and roast for 30 minutes until tender and beginning to brown. In the meantime, prepare everything else; brush the asparagus with some olive oil, heat a griddle pan until hot and cook the stems until charred and tender. Set aside. For the

dressing, whisk together the olive oil and lime juice, then stir in the zest and ginger and season with some salt and pepper. To assemble, arrange the potatoes and cauliflower to one side and place the other ingredients round the bowl (or how you prefer), drizzle with the dressing and scatter over the coconut flakes, or serve on the side.

### CRAB AND ASPARAGUS WITH THAI MAYONNAISE – again, the amount of asparagus and crab is up to you.

*Asparagus spears*

*Crab meat*

*Sliced sourdough bread*

*Olive oil*

*Handful of rocket leaves or spinach*

*2 - 4 tablespoons of good mayonnaise*



*1 garlic clove, peeled and crushed*  
*1/2 - 1 red chilli*

*Freshly grated zest of 1 lime*

*1 tablespoon fish sauce (if this is the first time you have used it please don't be put off by the smell - it tastes much better!)*

*Chopped coriander*

Cook the asparagus in boiling water for 2 - 4 minutes, drain and refresh under cold running water. Stir the garlic, chilli, zest, fish sauce and coriander into the mayonnaise. Season, if necessary, fold in the crab meat and set aside. Toast the bread, drizzle with olive oil and scatter over rocket or spinach leaves. Pile the crab mixture on top. Toss the cold asparagus spears in a little olive oil and arrange over the crab meat. Alternatively, you could cook LOTS of asparagus and

serve, on the side, hot with lashings of butter - using any leftover toast to soak up the juices!

### Asparagus Soup

*25g butter*

*A little vegetable oil*

*350g asparagus spears, stalks chopped, woody ends discarded, tips reserved*

*3 shallots, finely sliced*

*2 garlic cloves, crushed*

*2 large handfuls spinach*

*700ml vegetable stock (fresh if possible)*

*Olive oil, for drizzling (optional)*

*Rustic bread (preferably sourdough), to serve (optional)*

Heat the butter and oil in a large saucepan until foaming. Fry the asparagus tips for a few mins to soften. Remove and set aside. Add the shallots, asparagus stalks and garlic, and cook for 5-10 mins until softened but still bright. Stir through the spinach, pour over the stock, bring to the boil, then blitz with a hand blender. Season generously and add hot water to loosen if needed. Ladle into bowls and scatter the asparagus tips over each. Drizzle with olive oil and serve with some nice crusty bread.

## Thoughts from the Snug . . . The mysteries of cricket.

Now well into Spring, the topic of cricket regularly features in the Snug, but trying to explain the game to foreigners is fraught with difficulties.

Both teams often present themselves to play in near identical white/cream coloured outfits. When your side is in you are Batting, but only two of the team appear on the pitch at the same time. Batting starts with an over. When the batsman is bowled or caught out he returns to the pavilion to be replaced by someone else who has an innings. This rotation of players is marked by gentle applause from the opposition and spectators. Changing ends at the completion of an over (every six bowls) resembles a medieval dance. Both sides relax for a very brief period and then prepare themselves for the next exchange between batsman and bowler. An over is over in about six minutes. Simple!

When the whole team is out (or they retire) they come out of

the pavilion and stand in the field. This is called fielding. The opposition is said to be Batting, but nine of the eleven remain either in the pavilion or drink tea on the boundary. Fielding requires the fielders to adopt strange crouching positions, before the bowler bowls the ball. Bowling involves a thunderous run up to crease to hurl the ball directly at the batsman. This delivery would easily kill him if he did not valiantly strike the missile with his bat. If such an incident like this occurred in the street, both would be arrested for violent affray, if not murder or manslaughter.

The rituals of the game are also shrouded in technical language – Owz dat! (How's that?) 'being stumped', LBW, 'Out for a duck' and being 'caught in the slips' is a foreign language to many. Positions on the field like 'Silly Mid On/Off', 'Square Leg', 'Long On/ Off' and 'Cow Corner' bring no light to the uninitiated.

It is said when Groucho Marx was taken to watch a match at Lords and, after half an hour's play asked, was he enjoying himself? he replied, "Fine! When does it start?" Then pointing at the two white coated umpires asked, "What role do the two butchers play?" Indeed, baffling.

*Buddy Bach*

# National Service

Tim Hickson



*Tim Hickson, author is second row from top, second in from left*

Leaving school in 1957, I was required to give two years of service in the Armed Services. I had an interest in aircraft and so I chose the Royal Air force. After the initial Medical, above W H Smiths in Gloucester, I joined many other recruits at RAF Cardington in Bedford where the huge old airship hangers dominated the scene. There, RAF tailors fitted us out with uniforms and we were given the other things we would need which included a knife, fork and spoon, a large china mug, a slotted brass sheet, that would protect our uniforms when we polished the brass buttons, and also a 'housewife'. The latter was a cloth containing needles, thread and wool to mend our clothing if socks developed holes or buttons came off. Some days later we were put on a train and sent off to a Basic Training camp; in my case it was RAF Bridgenorth. There we learnt to march smartly and to do drill with rifles. Inevitably, discipline was imposed by the instructors with humour; "Ere laddie, am I standing on your hair? Report to the barbers!" I had my hair cut twice one day. However, we became proud of doing things well. We learnt to fire rifles and Bren Guns and I gained my marksman badge; more pride. Also we encountered young men from other walks of life. We learnt habits that became useful all our lives. After that, Trade Training.

Having opted to work with radar, I was sent to the No.1 Radar School, 1 at RAF Locking, on the edge of Weston super Mare. Here we were instructed in the operation and repair of all the bits of equipment we were likely to encounter on operational stations. This was fun. Also, at the end of the lessons on a particular bit of apparatus, there would be an exam which included fault-finding on the equipment. As I like puzzles, this, in three dimensions, was most enjoyable. However, it was serious stuff and we all had to sign The Official Secrets Act document. Thus it was amusing when we learnt that two instructors, in a bus queue in Weston, were discussing a problem with a piece of equipment so secret that even they were not allowed to have its circuit diagram, when a man behind (later found to be a Canadian Air Force officer seconded to RAF Locking) offered to help. Secrecy was more lax in Canada and he had picked up the diagram needed in a car-boot sale in Toronto! When the ten month training was over and we had passed all the exams, the final stage was to be useful. I was sent to RAF Wartling in Sussex. This was the domestic camp for a radar station on the hillside above Pevensy. Soon after arriving, the end of National Service was announced. However, we were still deep in the Cold War with

Russia and it was the RAF which had the task of using Vulcan bombers to deliver nuclear weapons in the event of the war becoming 'hot'. The RAF realised it would be harder work recruiting the people they needed, so at RAF Wartling the result was that the catering budget was increased and, to everyone's delight, the food in the Mess became restaurant quality. The radar station was a short bus-ride away. A few of us worked on the dishes and transmitters, like smaller versions of the radio telescope near Croome, but most went underground where there was a huge amount of electronics. This was in the days of valves. (The electronics in our mobile phones today would then have taken up several rooms!) Valves needed cooling so our large, subterranean rooms had the

constant sound of fans and the place was warm. Transistors were just about to arrive but they were still experimental. (We know that the girls operating the Colossus computer at Bletchley Park used to dry their laundry using the heat from the valves.) All too soon, for me, it was over; I had completed my two years. Again I had to sign The Official Secrets Act. For the next four years, if needed, I could be brought back so I kept my uniform. (Unfortunately, my brother, working on a farm, kept "borrowing" my greatcoat so it soon was decorated with cow dung.) Then I went off to university to study Physics for which my radar experience was of use, but oh dear, had I got out of the habit of studying. I enjoyed my National Service but if it happens again I fear it will be far more serious.



# Holiday lets

Carol Draper

We are reliably informed that Summer is coming which, for those who own and rent out holiday lets, should mean that business will start to get busier. However, following the announcement in the March Budget that the preferential tax treatment of Furnished Holiday Letting (FHL) business will be abolished from April 2025 you may be concerned as to how you will be affected.

Few specific details have been released but the following is an indication of what may be expected.

For a property to qualify as a FHL in each tax year certain criteria must be met. The property must be available for let for 210 days per year, be let for 105 days, and longer lets of more than 31 days must not total more than 155 days. The totals do not include any days when you use the property privately.

The tax rules currently permit certain expenses to be allowed against tax. Most notably if you have taken a loan to purchase your holiday let, then loan interest can be claimed as a tax allowable expense. From April 2025 this will no longer be the case and it is likely the system will mirror that used for residential lettings where up to 20% of interest paid is allowed as a "tax reducer". For basic rate taxpayers this will make little difference, but it will have an impact on higher rate taxpayers.



Subject to meeting the required conditions business asset disposal relief is available on the sale of a property. This means capital gains tax is calculated at 10% as opposed to potentially 24% for higher rate taxpayers. There is also the option for rollover relief and gift hold-over relief. If the FHL regime is abolished none of this will be available. Capital allowances can currently be claimed on plant and machinery for use in the property. This will cease with only an allowance for renewals of certain qualifying assets being available. No details have been provided about any transitional arrangements.

*For more information on the potential impact of the changes on your tax position, speak to your accountant.*

*Carol Draper FCCA  
Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co*

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*Mahatma Gandhi*

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# Transitions

Angela Johns



One of my offspring went abroad without me for the first time. I was behind it all the way as every experience outside of what you have already done is valuable, even precious, with any number of lessons to be learned, from the simple to the shape shifting.

From booking (I definitely want you to get me all the way up to Security) to six months later (if you have to drop me and go, I'll be OK) was a journey in itself for us both. Six months is a long time in Teenager-Time. As it happened, I parked up Heathrow way for a small fortune and saw him to Security with no hesitation on his part. As he disappeared out of sight, I rode the wave of love and pride and letting go. From a distance he could only see the vicarious joy in the smile on my face, not the simultaneous tear-filled eyes at the pang of the cutting of an apron string.

He returned older, wiser, taller. And me, just older and wiser but with the fresh taste of my own freedom in my mouth. No dropping off here and picking up there, just video calls and messages at times of mutual convenience. Strangely, I didn't notice much difference in the size of the washing pile but maybe I was too busy doing my own grown up fun stuff to notice.

We have both transitioned in small and subtle ways. We both have some skills in recognising our own feelings and in communicating our feelings to each other, so it has made these changes manageable even enjoyable.

Not all changes are like this. And not even the skill set you have can be enough to negotiate yourself through to the other side without pain. Some changes are just too big, too sudden, too overwhelming.

And maybe your support system (friends, family, experience) for whatever reason can't handle it either. This is when having someone impartial can help; who listens without judgement, with complete confidentiality. Our earlier experiences in life shape our behaviours and form our core beliefs about ourselves and the world. We create coping mechanisms in the only way we know how, using them again and again no matter whether they make us feel whole or understood. By identifying and working through the feelings you can come to a fundamental understanding of how you came to be, and how you can move forward with new skills to negotiate your life ahead.

*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](http://angelajohns.co.uk)*

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SJP Approved 18/08/2023

# Squats for life!

Karen Harris

Squatting is an important and fundamental movement for the body. As with all movements that become restricted, once the tightness and adaptability of not doing something kicks in, it will be forgotten. But, your body (actually your brain) is a clever old thing, and just like riding a bike, those memorised muscle contractions and nerve impulses will once again fire up. It just needs stimulus!

So if you get up from your chair using your arms, the aforementioned nerve impulses don't get to contract the right muscles. The last thing you want are weak hips and legs (for many reasons) so if you could stop doing that, and do your whole body a favour, you WILL benefit!

'I can't squat, it hurts my knees.' 'I've got a prolapse and have been told the strain from squatting will make it worse'. Both valid reasons, but not if you get the technique right.

The correct technique for a squat position is with the knees bent, they should be over your ankles with your bottom behind you. That takes the pressure off the knees and makes your bum muscles work. Bending forward over the foot will create added pressure and your thigh muscles will be doing the stabilising. Without the bum muscle reaction there will be more downward force and strain on the prolapsed organs. Try both ways and see what feels better.

The correct version builds a chain reaction from feet to shoulders. Because of the many health benefits (increased ankle, knee, hip, lower back mobility, better blood flow and oxygen to the joints, increased stability and

strength for walking and balance) it's worth going through a build-up routine and making sure your form is correct to get maximum benefit and reward.

1, Test yourself in front of a mirror, without thinking about it set your stance, turn sideways on as well. Are your knees in line with your ankles, or forward? Are feet and knees pointing forward or in different directions? Was there discomfort anywhere?

2, \*Now get a firm cushion, put it between your knees to give a 4-6" gap, point your feet forward and slowly take your bottom back and down, like you were going to sit down, hold your arms out in front of you for balance. Slowly lift back up. The cushion has kept your feet, knees and hips in alignment, it might feel a bit weird but it will get the right muscles doing the right job.

3, There are two exercises you can do to if you are struggling... 1, lying on a firm bed (or the floor) bring both knees towards your chest and using your hands pull the knees gently in towards your chest and release, do this 10+ times. 2, on your hands and knees (on the bed or floor) slowly lower your bottom towards your heels. Don't worry if you don't get there initially, do what you can up and down slowly 10+ times. Repeat that sequence 2-3 times.

4, A useful tip in the \*standing position, is to hold onto a strap around something solid, or pillar or post, or rest your hands on the back of a chair to give you stability as you lift and lower. It really is worth your time and effort to improve your body's physiology with squats!

# Be Gentle with yourself

Emily Papirnik

Being gentle with yourself means recognising that you are doing the best you can with the resources and circumstances you have at this moment. It is all about embracing self-compassion and understanding that it is okay to not always have everything figured out or to make mistakes along the way.

In a world that often values productivity over well-being, practising self-compassion can feel revolutionary. It is a radical act of self-care that allows you to prioritise your mental and emotional health above all else.

When you are gentle with yourself, you give permission to take breaks when needed, to ask for help when necessary and to set realistic expectations of yourself. It is about treating yourself with the same kindness and understanding that you would offer to a dear friend who is struggling.

Being gentle with yourself doesn't mean giving up or being complacent. It means



approaching challenges with a sense of kindness and understanding, rather than self-criticism and judgement. By cultivating a mindset of gentleness toward yourself, you can navigate life's ups and downs with greater resilience and grace.

So the next time you find yourself feeling overwhelmed or self-critical, remember to be gentle with yourself. Take a moment to pause, breathe and offer yourself the same compassion and understanding that you would offer to someone you love. You deserve it.

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## Romy's Uni Life *Romy Kemp*

Liverpool University

Submission Dates Due

April and May are extremely stressful months when assignments are due in and the university year is coming to a close. Exams are being prepared, and lectures are close to finishing. All of my lectures and seminars have been so captivating, and I cannot wait for next year to see what that has to offer.

The weather has been improving since returning to university after the Easter holidays, which is a lovely surprise - especially for those at university who aren't from the North. However, it is still extremely windy all of the time. The number of rainbows that I have seen since being at university is astonishing. I cannot wait for the sun to be out for longer each day, and everyone seems to enjoy it: from the people, to the animals and plants. I have to wear my sunglasses at around 7-8 in the morning when the sun rises as it faces my window.

I have begun the process of trying to organise my life recently through meal preparation, I am learning to cook new recipes (most of them vegetarian) and have gained knowledge on how to use ingredients in so many different ways, and I'm loving every second of it.



Liverpool One

My friends and I decided to take a trip into the city of Liverpool for a day out. A new Korean market had opened and we were curious as well as eager to try some new foods. I bought some mochi - mango and strawberry flavoured which were filled with a type of custard. They were delicious! I shall have to try something savoury next time, as there was a wide range of foods and flavours.

We also went to Wagamama's for lunch, where I had ramen and a cherry blossom lemonade. I haven't been there many times, but it was very busy. It was rather salty but the ramen and vegetables were lovely. It was rather expensive too but the weather was fabulous and the company was even better. It was a very wonderful day out!

"Man is still the most extraordinary computer of all"

*John F. Kennedy*

## Evie's Teenage Focus

Evie Aubin



With every day that passes my exams grow closer; I feel at this point I'll just be repeating myself saying that I'm stressed out about it. And if that didn't give it away, I think the fact that it's been the only thing I've written about for the past... four months maybe? Would have also been a giveaway to that. And so I won't bore you with more tales of my revision escapades, and instead fill you in of a few things I missed telling you these past few months. The first big thing that happened was, I passed my driving test! This did happen a little while ago, near the end of November, however I think it's still important to mention. For me, like most people, getting my driver's license was a very empowering moment. I was finally able - to my mum's joy - drive myself to and from work, which luckily for her meant fewer late-night drives. The journey to pass my driving test was a little lumpy if I'm being honest. However, thanks to my dad's help, who got up early every weekend to drive with me, I did manage to pass with only three minors, which is less than my brother got, and let's be honest, that is all that matters! Another wonderful thing that happened was my 18th birthday. Whilst it was lovely, if anything, it was a little strange for me. I've never had a birthday in school, however for this one I was. Whilst I was a bit upset over this to begin with I did have a lovely time. My friends decorated our common room with balloons and bunting. I even ended up

with three different cakes, I then got to go home to see my family (have some more cake) and then went out for a meal at the Ivy in Cheltenham, where I had one of the best curries ever. Finally, what I would argue to be the most important thing that's happened since I last wrote, is that Taylor Swift, after a long three month wait, released a new album. If there is one thing I know about myself, it's that I will forever and always be a massive Taylor Swift fan, I've been listening to her since I was 7 when she released her fourth album Red. Whilst I've faded in and out of listening to her music, I am and have been, back in my Taylor Swift era for the past two years and I don't see myself leaving anytime soon. Her new album is called The Tortured Poets' Department, and I must say I think it's very quickly becoming one of my favourites. To me the album is mostly reminiscent of Sylvia Plath, which just made me fall in love with it even more. Anyway, I believe it's time for me to go back to some revision now, toodles

## Young people urged to wear seat belts



A new campaign to remind young men to CLICK their seat belt in a bid to shift attitudes and save lives on roads across England and Wales has launched. Every week, four young people aged 17 to 29-years-old are either killed or seriously injured on our roads when not wearing a seat belt, with young men more likely to not wear one, especially on short or well-known journeys. In 2022, 30% of fatalities among 17 to 29-year-olds were unbelted. To help combat this, alongside

targeted advertising on roadside posters, radio and social media, CLICK will collaborate with several partners, including various County Football Associations and local clubs to promote 'belting up' when travelling to match days to keep themselves and their teammates safe.

Taxi and private hire vehicle companies, including Uber, are also supporting the campaign, and looking to introduce direct reminders to passengers to wear their seat belt when making journeys in cabs.

# Gregory's World! *Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford*



## Ich bin ein Berliner

Hallo, meine Mitleser! Book your tickets, pack your bags and dispose of any large liquids because Gregory's World is moving east. Not to the Far East, nor even the Middle East, more to the Closer East ... Germany or, more specifically, its capital: Berlin.

The idea of Germany appealed to me ever since High School, when I first had the opportunity to study a language that wasn't French. It was becoming obvious to my Year Eight self that French wasn't my forte. It sounded very pleasing when I heard other people speak it, but the language flowed and flourished and flew straight over my head. German offered a fresh start, something totally new, interests I could cultivate, enthusiasm I could build from the ground up. Sure enough, as I set to work (asking 'What is an umlaut?' and slowly figuring out that 'Frau' wasn't the teacher's first name) I started to become more and more attached to the idea of another culture waiting out there,

beckoning. In 2018, I was lucky enough to go on a week-long exchange (and a twenty-hour-long bus journey) to Pershore's twin-town, Bad Neustadt, in Bavaria. I'd never done anything like that before, but my host family made sure I had everything I needed and I absolutely loved it. For many years though, it marked the only time I'd been to Germany. Until now.

What had been a twenty-hour bus journey to Germany six years ago, was now a one and a half hour flight. We touched down at Berlin Brandenburg Airport bright and early on a Montag morning – the sun was beating down on Berlin! History leapt out and said 'Hallo' wherever we went. Think of a subject, any subject, and the chances are there's a museum for it somewhere in Berlin. From Modern Art to Magic, Currywurst to Checkpoint Charlie – they've got it all. One of my favourite things to do was just to walk west from our hotel in Alexanderplatz and see pieces of the past rise up and reveal

themselves. Alexanderplatz was a major centre of former East Berlin, bustling with shoppers and slithering with trams in the shadow of the Fernsehturm (the TV tower I am pondering very seriously in the photo). The city's main river, the Spree, forks around the banks of Museum Island – where, at some point in the 19th Century, former German emperors must've got fed up with travelling around the city and decided they wanted all of their antiquities in one basket. Go further west – dodging that bike – passing a whole shop devoted to Nivea – and you'll reach the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag and suddenly, perhaps without even noticing it, you've crossed a seemingly ordinary strip of cobbled path which, for twenty-eight years, was home to wire, watchtowers and one formidable wall. A line of stones – marking the 'Berlin Mauer' – still runs distinctly along the ground, but the best thing about seeing it for myself was being able to see how new buildings overlapped it, how people could shop at 'Fancy



Donuts' in the Mall of Berlin and head over to the nearby park to eat their purchase without anything to stop them. All places have history, I know, but it felt powerfully present here.

For me, Berlin has to be up there alongside Dublin – they have a shop called 'Coffee and Wine', what's not to like? And I don't think I can wait another six years before going back to Germany. I genuinely hope I do visit again very soon to immerse myself in history, culture and pretzels, all the while trying to remember the notes from my classes at school which I should've definitely kept hold of.

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**Asking Price: £250,000**



# The blind Horn's hate

Brian Johnson-Thomas



A big blue book sits in a far corner of my bookshelves, but it hides numerous tales of high adventure. Called, prosaically, "Ocean Passages for the World" it sets out in great but practical detail how to take a ship from anywhere on the Globe to anywhere else. But I have a very special copy of this Admiralty publication, the 1950 Edition. Special because that was the last time it included directions especially for sailing ships, giving "the average number of days that would be taken by a well found ship of about 2,000 tons burthen" on various voyages. The fastest route around the world by sailing ship is to be found via the great Southern Ocean- which is also one of the wildest and most difficult passages, which Kipling memorably encapsulated as "the blind Horn's hate". I have always admired the men who captained, and crewed, those ships and we can see their lineal successors even today when the Tall Ships, all unquestionably

"well found ships" visit Gloucester Docks this coming Spring Bank Holiday. As well as the ships themselves, there's an eclectic range of live music on offer, plus craft workshops, interactive installations and a host of classic funfair attractions. Tickets for all three days of the Festival are available via [www.gloucestertallships.co.uk](http://www.gloucestertallships.co.uk) Another event worth considering, and again not too far away, is an offshoot of the world renowned Longborough Festival Opera, which this year is the only English opera house to be staging Wagner's Ring Cycle in full. But they also operate a very successful Playground Opera season, which brings the sensation of live opera to schools all over the Cotswolds. This year's production is entitled "The Implausible Potions of Dr. Dulcarama" and is billed as a family friendly version of Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love". This year, for the first time it's also being performed at Chipping

Campden's Cider Mill Theatre on Friday 14th June at 6.30pm and tickets start at just £2.50. They can be booked via [www.lfo.org.uk/event/playground-opera-2024](http://www.lfo.org.uk/event/playground-opera-2024) Don't forget also that the RHS Malvern Spring Festival is on this month starting on Thursday the 9th and running until Sunday 12th. There's a whole lot of new experiences alongside the old favourites and I'm rather looking forward to experiencing 'The Secret Escape' billed as a 'feature garden complete with disco polytunnel, live music and horsebox bar'! They also have lots of entertaining guest speakers including the likes of Alan Titchmarsh MBE and Kate Humble, the usual quota of heavenly houseplants and fabulous floral displays backed up by delectable food and drink including some of the country's best street food, courtesy of the Digbeth Dining Club and, finally of course, lots of super shopping experiences. This year there's also a special Taster Ticket on offer for Saturday 11th May only, offering admission after 2pm for only £15. It's by advance purchase only, either

via the Three Counties website or by phone on 0344 338 5400. Incidentally, you might have noticed that I don't often mention purely local events and that's because if you live in Pershore, for example, you know when the Carnival is and, if in Upton, you know only too well when the Folk and Jazz Festivals are in town. However there are always exceptions to every rule and it's well worth mentioning an event on Kempsey Common June 6th. That will be exactly the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the moment when the Allied Armies landed in Normandy at the start of a victorious campaign that would take them across the Rhine and into the heart of Germany to join with the Russians coming from the East to finally defeat Hitler. On Kempsey Common there will be a beacon lighting ceremony preceded by an evening of entertainment, food, drinks and remembrance, all in honour of the veterans of D-Day. For more information, see the event's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/kempseyDDay80](http://www.facebook.com/kempseyDDay80) Maybe I'll see you there ?



## Introducing a new Conductor for the WPO



The WPO are delighted to announce they have been able to engage the services of Dan Watson as their Principal

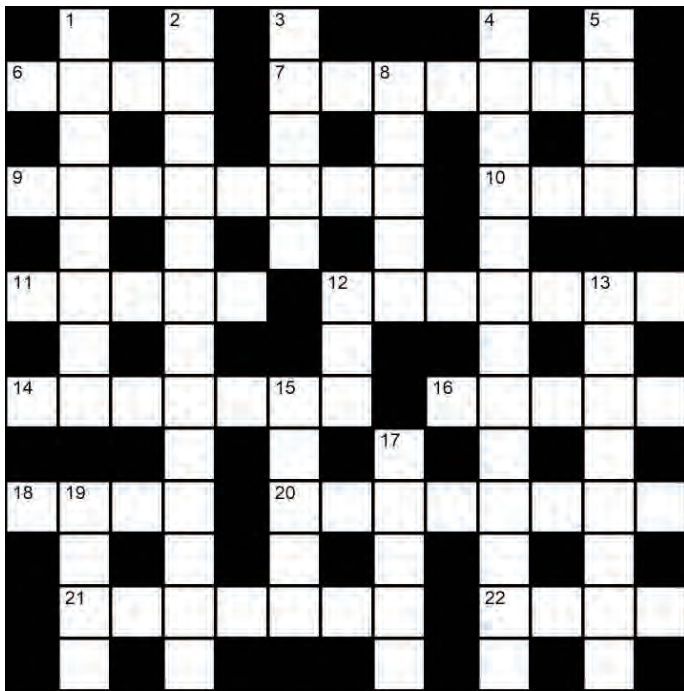
Conductor and Musical Director. In the final round of the selection process, three finalists were invited to rehearse the orchestra, and every member present was given a vote. Dan was the clear winner, and we are very much looking forward to working with him. Dan's debut with the WPO will be on Saturday 15th June at 2.30pm in Pershore Abbey. Further details at [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) Dan completed a Masters in orchestral conducting at Birmingham Conservatoire, where he was awarded the Conducting Prize. He also won an Emerging Excellence Award from the Musicians Benevolent

Fund. Currently, Dan holds principal and guest conductorships with a number of orchestras in the Midlands, and has also worked with youth orchestras, aiming to enthuse young musicians to pursue a lifelong passion in creating and performing. As principal conductor of The People's Orchestra, he featured in the BBC series All Together Now: The Great Orchestra Challenge. The programme was designed to inspire and promote amateur music making, reflecting many of Dan's continuing aims as a conductor; to bring together professionals and community musicians alike, culminating in high standard performances and

rewarding life experiences. Dan has a particular interest in contemporary music. He was Conductor and Artistic Director of Thumb Contemporary Music Ensemble and has directed numerous premières of new works. Throughout his career, Dan has enjoyed working with soloists in the early stages of their careers. Dan is proud to have a close association with the celebrated Kanneh-Mason family and recently worked with Mariatu in her debut concerto appearance, performing the Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1. Dan lives in Leicestershire with wife Sally, cat Morris, a small flock of chickens, two pigs, and Bethan, his six-year-old daughter.

# Coffee Break

## Crossword



## Across

- 6 Legal instrument (4)
- 7 Get Lara out on the town (2,5)
- 9 Ratification (8)
- 10 Discover (4)
- 11 Arctic dweller (5)
- 12 Health check (7)
- 14 They need change on the street (7)
- 16 Soft fabric (5)
- 18 Horse's gait (4)
- 20 Legitimate target (4,4)
- 21 Bat oil (7)
- 22 Like some stories (4)

## Down

- 1 Faith (8)
- 2 Help crossing a stream (8,5)
- 3 Insuper (5)
- 4 Collapsing cliff straight over the road (7,6)
- 5 Playwright --- Racine (4)
- 8 Sudden forward thrust (5)
- 12 His other half (3)
- 13 Form a crowd (8)
- 15 Ransack (5)
- 17 Irish-born poet playwright. (5)
- 19 Trundle (4)

## Sudoku

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

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

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

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## Sudoku

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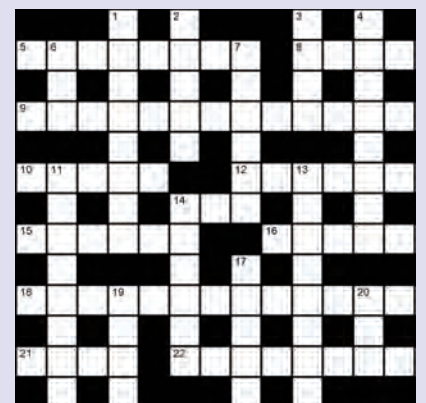
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## Papers Wordsearch

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

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- JOURNAL    TELEGRAPH
- LLANELLI STAR    TIMES
- LONDON LITE    TODAY

## April Answers



# Poets' Corner

## A Shropshire Lad

XXVII

"Is my team ploughing,  
That I was used to drive  
And hear the harness jingle  
When I was man alive?"

Ay, the horses trample,  
The harness jingles now;  
No change though you lie under  
The land you used to plough.

"Is football playing  
Along the river shore,  
With lads to chase the leather,  
Now I stand up no more?"

Ay, the ball is flying,  
The lads play heart and soul;  
The goal stands up, the keeper  
Stands up to keep the goal.

"Is my girl happy,  
That I thought hard to leave,  
And has she tired of weeping  
As she lies down at eve?"

Ay, she lies down lightly,  
She lies not down to weep:  
Your girl is well contented.  
Be still, my lad, and sleep.

"Is my friend hearty,  
Now I am thin and pine,  
And has he found to sleep in  
A better bed than mine?"

Yes, lad, I lie easy,  
I lie as lads would choose;  
I cheer a dead man's sweetheart,  
Never ask me whose.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

## Spot & Shop - April Winners

- 1) Dorothy McKnight
- 2) Michael Pugh
- 3) Mrs M Archer
- 4) Sam Grabham
- 5) Pat Haines
- 6) Mrs Rose Andrews

**Last month's answer:**  
**Travel Counsellors**

# Fun Quiz!

1. Where would you be if you were standing on the Spanish Steps?
2. Who was the Ancient Greek God of the Sun?
3. What was the name of the crime boss who was head of the feared Chicago Outfit?
4. What year was the United Nations established?
5. Who has won the most total Academy Awards?
6. How many minutes are in a full week?
7. What car manufacturer had the highest revenue in 2020?
8. How many elements are in the periodic table?
9. What company was originally called "Cadabra"?
10. How many faces does a Dodecahedron have?
11. Queen guitarist Brian May is also an expert in what scientific field?
12. Aureolin is a shade of what colour?
13. What Renaissance artist is buried in Rome's Pantheon?
14. Who was the last Tsar of Russia?
15. What character have both Robert Downey Jr. and Benedict Cumberbatch played?
16. What country drinks the most coffee per capita?
17. Which planet in the Milky Way is the hottest?
18. What is the 4th letter of the Greek alphabet?
19. What sports car company manufactures the 911?
20. What city is known as "The Eternal City"?
21. Roald Amundsen was the first man to reach the South Pole, but where was he from?
22. In what country would you find Mount Kilimanjaro?

Answers: 1. Rome 2. Apollo 3. Al Capone 4. 1945 5. Walt Disney 6. 10,080 7. Volkswagen 8. 118 9. Amazon 10. 12 11. Astrophysics 12. Yellow 13. Raphael 14. Nicholas II 15. Sherlock Holmes 16. Finland 17. Venus 18. Delta 19. Porsche 20. Rome 21. Norway 22. Tanzania

**SPOT  
&  
SHOP!**

## 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

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*at CraftyPyro, Bakers Arcade, Pershore*

**5th Reg Moule Gardening Book**

**6th Pat's Pantry -**  
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This month's anagram

FORTY  
PC RAY

## Jazz News

Peter Farrall



Many musicians have made the trip to the USA to experience the sights and sounds of the music which has found a place in their hearts and to see, or even play alongside, some of the legendary figures hitherto only heard on record or at a distance on a concert stage. Some musicians went with the intention of staying to make a life in the ambiance where jazz was born and thrived, others to gain firsthand experience to bring back home. One of the first musicians to migrate to the US was blind from birth pianist George Shearing who was already well recognised



on the British jazz scene in the 1930s but frustration with the British Musicians Union embargo on US musicians was one of the reasons for him settling in America for good in 1949. Thereafter ensued a fabulous journey through American jazz history and, as his recognition and popularity grew, he was constantly on call for appearances and recording sessions with most of the great names in the business. Although becoming an American citizen in 1956, Shearing remained an Englishman at heart and was knighted by the Queen in 2007. Another instance of local boy

makes good was the story of bassist Dave Holland, born in Wolverhampton and who was making quite an impression on the UK jazz scene when Miles Davis spotted him in Ronnie Scott's club; just over two weeks later he was a member of Davis's band where he played a major role in the band's transition to more electronic music. After two years with Miles, he launched out into a melee of avant guard and free jazz with most of the great names in the genre and is now regarded as one of the greatest performers, educators and ambassadors of jazz. Nearer home, we can follow the career of reeds player James Evans, well known to devotees of classic jazz, with regular appearances in clubs and festivals (including Pershore) throughout the British Isles and the Continent. James visited New Orleans many

times and developed such a love for the place that he moved there permanently in 2013 and is now a well-established member of the city's vibrant jazz community. Things haven't always turned out for the best, as illustrated by the story of trumpeter Ken Colyer who made his way to New Orleans via the Merchant Navy but was jailed and deported after overstaying his visa! This month's club session features Sarah Spenser who was domiciled in the USA for many years and toured with her New Orleans style Transatlantic Band all over the States and UK. She will be meeting up with Pershore favourite Jeff Barnhart touring here from his home in Connecticut. It's a long time since they performed together so this will be an emotional reunion with jazz to match.

### The International Night Owls

Wednesday 29th May

Function Room, Pershore Football Club

Doors open at 7pm, music at 8

Admission £12.50 to include a raffle ticket.

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## Christadelphians

### We Believe the Holy Spirit is God's Power

The original word the Bible translates as "spirit" means "breath" or "energy". Job said, "The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life." (Job 33:4). The two clauses mirror one another, effectively saying the same thing twice. It echoes Genesis 2:7: "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." God's spirit ("breath") is the power that gives life. "Holy" means "set apart", usually for a particular purpose. Putting the two words together shows that the term "Holy

Spirit" (not capitalised in the original text) conveys the idea of power used for a special reason.

The Old Testament only has three references to "Holy Spirit", but God's power is shown there by the miraculous purposes it achieved. It was occasionally given to people at particular times for special reasons.

The New Testament teaches the same thing. An angel told Mary how she would conceive Jesus: "...The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you..." (Luke 1:35). Again, the message is expressed twice in different ways, and the angel's statement shows that the Holy Spirit is "the power of the Highest".

The most significant reason for granting the gift of God's holy spirit to the apostles was so they could record the

Scriptures: "All Scripture is God-breathed..." (2 Tim 3:16 – NIV).

### Interested in learning more about the Bible?

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and why

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## Copy Deadline

June Issue - 20th May 2024

## Day's out



Day out from Pershore to Stratford-upon-Avon  
A super day out can be had in Stratford-upon-Avon at minimal cost with the added bonus of an optional return steam trip to Birmingham. On Sundays, Stagecoach operate their route 28 bus from Broad Street in Pershore departing at 9:55am all the way to Stratford-upon-Avon via Evesham arriving at 10:50am. The times can be confirmed on Stagecoach's website. The cost is currently just £2 each way or free with a Concessionary travel card. The return bus leaves at 5:30pm arriving back at Pershore, just under an hour

later. Incidentally the rail fare without a railcard is over £60! The optional steam trip to Birmingham is operated by Shakespeare Express: Stratford - Birmingham | Vintage Trains Or The Shakespeare Express Train Tours | Vintage Trains to whom enquiry should be made as regards availability and the ticket price of £15. Departure from Stratford-upon-Avon is scheduled for 12:52pm with an arrival back at 3:10pm.

For further information visit:  
[www.vintagetrains.co.uk](http://www.vintagetrains.co.uk)

Neil H. Berry

## What's On?

### Events Listings

#### The Royal Opera: Carmen

Tuesday 7 May - 6.45pm  
Tickets: £17, Seniors £16  
3hrs 45mins (inc. interval)

#### Julie July Band

##### Album Launch

Saturday 11 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £18.50 2hrs (inc. interval)

#### Elizabeth Sharkey:

##### Why Britain Rocked

Friday 17 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £10

#### Foyer Folk: Steve Ashley

Saturday 18 May - 8.00pm  
Tickets: £12.00

#### Rhubarb Theatre:

##### Finding Chester

Wednesday 29 May - 2.00pm  
Tickets: £12, 16 & under £8  
1hr + meet the puppets,  
suitable for ages 5+

#### Sadler's Wells & Universal

##### Music UK:

##### Message in a Bottle

Thursday 30 May - 7.20pm  
Tickets: £17, Seniors £16  
1hr 30mins

#### Pershore Operatic & Dramatic Society presents

##### Priscilla:

##### Queen of the Desert

Monday 3 - Saturday 8 June,  
7.30pm  
Tickets: Mon £12, Tue - Thu  
£14, Fri & Sat £16

#### The Royal Opera: Andrea Chénier

Tuesday 11 June - 7.15pm  
Tickets: £17, Seniors £16  
3hrs 15 mins (inc. interval)

#### Exhibition on Screen: My National Gallery

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

#### Titanic The Musical

Recorded at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking  
Wednesday 26 June - 7.00pm  
Tickets: £16, 16 & under £10  
2hrs 40mins (inc. interval)  
Cert 12A

#### 42nd Street The Musical

Friday 2 August - 7.00pm;  
Saturday 17 August - 2.00pm  
Tickets: £16, 16 & under £10  
2hrs 24mins (inc. interval)  
Cert PG

#### Pershore Jazz on a Summer's Day

Saturday 10 August, 2.00 - 5.00pm & 7.30 - 10.30pm  
Tickets: £52 (day ticket for all six sessions)

#### Kinky Boots - The Musical

Friday 6 September - 7.00pm  
Tickets: £16, 16 & under £10  
2hrs 12mins (inc. interval)  
Cert 12A

#### ABBA Sensation

Saturday 21 September - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £19

### Cinema Listings

#### Lo Capitano (cert tbc)

Thursday 9 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £9.00 2hrs, Wolof & French with subtitles

#### The Persian Version (15)

Friday 10 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £9.00 1hr 47 mins

#### One Life (12A)

Monday 13 May - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST); Tuesday 14 May - 7.30pm. Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00 1hr 49 mins,

#### Kidnapped (12A)

Thursday 16 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £9.00 2hr 14 mins,  
Italian with subtitles

#### Days of Heaven (12A)

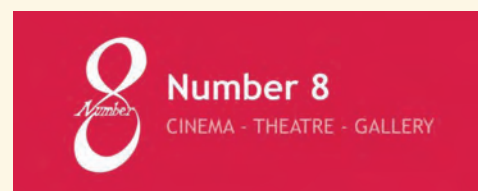
Monday 20 May - 11.00am;  
Tuesday 21 May - 7.30pm  
Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00  
1hr 34mins, 1978

#### The Great Escaper (12A)

Friday 24 May - 7.30pm;  
Saturday 25 May - 2.00pm & 7.30pm. Tickets: £9.00, Daytime £8.00 1hr 36 mins

#### Kung Fu Panda 4 (cert tbc)

Tuesday 28 May - 11.00am;  
Thursday 30 May - 2.00pm (RS)  
Tickets: £8.00 running time tbc



#### Box Office Opening Hours

In Person Bookings:

Mon - Sat 10am - 4pm & from 6pm on performance evenings

Telephone Bookings: Mon - Sat 4pm - 6pm

Box Office: 01386 555488 Email: [enquiries@number8.org](mailto:enquiries@number8.org)

High Street Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1BG

[www.number8.org](http://www.number8.org)

## In memoriam

### Heritage. Roy

Passed away peacefully in hospital on 17th April 2024, aged 84 years. Beloved husband to Ann, much loved dad to Jonathan, Claire and the late Nicholas, Grandad to Olivia and Thomas, father in law to Jacqui and Leon. Roy will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Tuesday 14th May at 12noon. Family flowers only, Donations, if desired for the British Heart Foundation or Acorns Children's Hospice may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

### Huntley. Seba John Mansfield (John)

Passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Wednesday 17th April 2024, aged 83 years. Beloved husband of the late Roslyn, much loved dad to Stuart, Jane and Sally, a devoted father in law, grandad, great grandad, brother and uncle. John will be dearly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 13th May at 10am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, in John's memory to Age UK Herefordshire & Worcestershire for their invaluable Dementia support and care may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

### Scarrott. Melanie Joy (Mel)

Passed away peacefully on 6th April 2024, aged 60 years. Much loved wife of the late John, devoted partner to Rob, loving mum to Tracie, Shaun and Megan, mother in law to Mike and a cherished nana to Kenzié, Kyla and Tulah. Mel will be very sadly missed by all her family and friends. A service will take place at Pershore Abbey on Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 2pm. Flowers from family and close friends only please. Donations, if desired, for Chordoma UK may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

### Day. Raymond Charles (Ray)

Passed away peacefully at Worcester Royal Hospital on 31st March 2024, aged 91 years. A much loved husband, loving Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Ray will be sadly missed by all his family and many friends. A Memorial service will be held at the Church of St Mary, Wick on Thursday 9th May at 2pm. Donations, if desired, for St Richard's Hospice 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

## Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre

Have you heard of Pershore Plus,  
A volunteer centre with a community bus.  
Our transport offers a lifeline to some,  
A friendly driver to your door will come.  
From A-B, we will do our best,  
To find a driver so your worries are less.  
We also offer so much more,  
Lunch clubs, craft club, and trips galore.  
Our services are run by volunteers,  
Some have been with us for many years.  
They give their time so our centre can run,  
Enabling a service for everyone.  
Volunteer options there's such a lot,  
If you have the time, we'll find you a slot.  
A role for everyone, come in and see,  
Give your time to make others happy.  
We need your help so pick up the phone,  
Help those who are isolated and feeling alone.  
Keeping our community connected and strong,  
This is our mission please help us along.

Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre

Tel: 01386 554299

Email: [admin@pershorevolunteers.org.uk](mailto:admin@pershorevolunteers.org.uk)

1 Billing House, Cherry Orchard, Pershore WR10 1EY



[www.pershorevolunteers.org.uk](http://www.pershorevolunteers.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1166141

**BECKFORD**  
*Open Village*  
SATURDAY 1ST & SUNDAY 2ND JUNE 2024  
1PM - 6PM



OPEN GARDENS - TEAS - CHAMPAGNE BAR  
BARBECUE - VINTAGE VEHICLES - STALLS  
CHURCH FLOWER DISPLAYS - PLANT SALES

£6 ENTRY (U16 FREE)  
FREE PARKING ON SITE

BECKFORDPENVILLAGE.ORG.UK

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>  
June 2024  
10am till 5pm  
Defford Open Gardens

£6 PER PERSON  
Valid for 2 days



Free Parking, wristband purchase  
refreshments at the Village Hall  
Children free: under adult  
supervision  
We are always looking to expand the  
number of open gardens.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT HELEN 07528386467

Join us for Fantastic Fun,  
Food and Frivolity

**Bish Bosh Bosh**  
Summer Fete  
2024

Silver Band, Live Music, Dog Show,  
Games, BBQ, Bar, Raffle & Much More

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1pm - 4pm  
Villages Hall, Broad Lane, Bishampton, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 2LY

With special thanks to our sponsors  
Organised by Bishampton and Throckmorton Parochial  
Church Council and supported by village organisations and  
volunteers

# Beckford Open Village 2024



**Saturday 1st June & Sunday 2nd June  
from 1pm to 6pm**

A warm welcome awaits you in this charming rural village which sits at the base of Bredon Hill in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Be inspired by the beautiful open gardens, each with their own character and different points of interest. Discover the history of the village and explore the tranquil nature reserve with its lake and bird hides. Marvel at the ancient carvings inside the church, enjoy the flower displays and maybe join a tour of the bell tower.

For refreshment you can choose between teas with delicious homemade cakes and snacks, a Champagne bar and barbecue, ice creams in the garden of the appropriately named Vanilla House, or local cider served amongst ancient apple trees.

There will also be a quiz trail for children, vintage vehicles and radios, plant sales, preserves stall, tombola and more! On Sunday be entertained by the Winchcombe Community Choir and (weather permitting) a flypast by an historic Hurricane aircraft!

A photography competition will run throughout the weekend, with a prize for the winning photograph and the chance to have your work featured in publicity for the next event.

Adults £6 (U16 free), dogs on leads welcome.

Beckford is just off the A46 between Evesham and Tewkesbury, GL20 7AD.

Find out more at [www.beckfordopenvillage.org.uk](http://www.beckfordopenvillage.org.uk)

## u3a



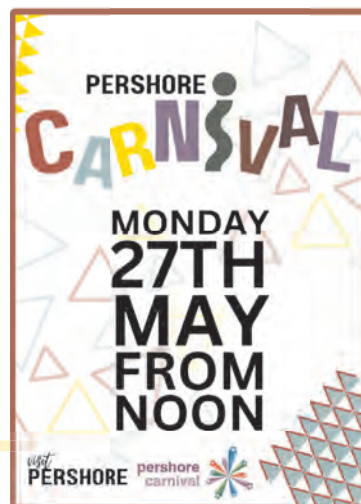
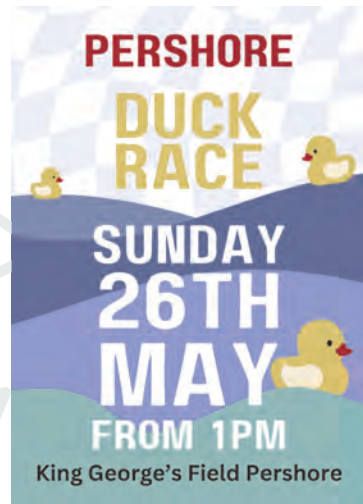
**May 2024 Meeting**

**Tuesday 21st May at 2pm**  
**“More bees if you please!”**

With local beekeeper and gardener Fiona Gibson, including advice on bee friendly plants

**All welcome , no need to book**  
**All monthly meetings held at Number 8, High Street, Pershore.**

For more details, contact Sally Whyte,  
Speaker Coordinator on  
[u3apershoresally@gmail.com](mailto:u3apershoresally@gmail.com)  
[www.u3asites.org.uk/pershore/home](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/pershore/home)



**Tourist Information Centre Now Open Saturdays Town Hall 10am - 2pm**

**New Opening hours: Monday-Thursday 10am - 4pm, Friday 10am - 3pm, Saturday 10am - 2pm**

- From 2nd until 22nd May Art Exhibition, One World Imagined: Wild Impressions At Number 8**
- Thursday 2nd Pershore History & Heritage Society: The Battle of Tewkesbury Pershore Library £3 7pm**
- Sunday 5th Monday 6th Cropthorne Walkabout. Music, crafts, plants, food & drinks 11am-5pm**
- Sunday 5th Charity Quiz night at Claude Choules Pershore £10 per team 7pm**
- Thursday 9th Sip & Sketch at Number 8 1pm-4pm**
- Saturday 11th Julie July Band Album Launch Number 8 7:30pm**
- Saturday 11th Pershore Choral: An Evening with Beethoven Pershore Abbey (£10-£15) 7:30pm**
- Sunday 12th Peopleton Pony & Dog Show, Lower Norchard Farm 10am - 5:30pm**
- Tuesday 14th Flowering Shrubs Talk at Pershore College 7pm**
- Thursday 16th until Saturday 18th Huge Plant Sale Pershore College 10am - 4pm**
- Friday 17th Elizabeth Sharkey: Why Britain Rocked Number 8 7:30pm**
- Saturday 18th Tea and Harmony Concert, Pershore Community Choir St Andrews Centre 3pm**
- Sunday 19th Table Top Sale Pinvin Village Hall 10am**
- Sunday 19th Bingo Night Claudes Choules 7pm**
- Tuesday 21st u3a monthly talk: More Bees if you Please Number 8 2pm**
- Friday 24th A Portrait of Redditch in 1957, a Special Film Screening Pershore Library 2pm**
- Saturday 25th The Village Street Market Little Comberton Village from 2pm**
- Sunday 26th Pershore DUCK RACE King Georges Field, activities from 1pm**
- Monday 27th Pershore Carnival Abbey Park and Town, activities from 10am, procession at 12noon**
- Wednesday 29th Pershore Jazz Pershore Town Football Club (£12.50) from 7pm**

**MAY**

visit  
**PERSHORE**

For more information come in and see us at the Visitor Information Centre 34 High Street or visit online at [www.visitpershore.co.uk](http://www.visitpershore.co.uk)

## Pershore Times

**Collection Points:**

- Hughes & Co - CO-OP store
- Tesco Express - Acorns
- Fruit Salad - Upper Crust Bakery
- Pershore Library - Riverside Fish Bar
- St Richards Hospice Shop
- Drakes Broughton Village Shop
- Eckington Village Shop
- Elmley Castle, The Queen Elizabeth
- Peopleton Village Shop
- Upton Snodsbury Post Office & Shop
- Wick Club



**ARROW VALLEY  
BRASS BAND**

**Saturday 8th June 2.30pm**  
**Upton Parish Church**  
Tickets £10 on the door



Their 10th concert in Upton to celebrate the life of David Stanley, who died in 2023 after conducting the band for nearly 40 years.

# Hughes & Company

Printers - Publishers

Bookbinders - Stationers

8 Church Street, Pershore WR10 1DT

Tel: 01386 803803

Email: [print@hughes.company](mailto:print@hughes.company)

[www.hughesprinters.co.uk](http://www.hughesprinters.co.uk)

Four generations of printers

# Pershore Times



## Try your hand at Lawn Bowls!!

Pershore Bowling Club was founded in 1928 and has had a long and distinguished history. We welcome members with all abilities and of all ages. For those just starting out we provide a full introduction to the sport of bowls through our qualified coaches. We have strong ladies' and men's sections, with a full calendar of club afternoons and evenings, internal competitions, midweek and weekend league matches against other local clubs and 'friendlies' at home and away. Many of our games are 'Mixed' Ladies and Men.

As one of the largest bowls clubs in Worcestershire, many of our members have gained county honours and have qualified for National competitions. Our green is recognised as one of the best playing surfaces in the county and we regularly host inter-county matches and matches against touring teams from other

parts of the UK. The club is fully licensed for the sale of alcoholic drinks with a range of bottled and canned beers, wine and soft drinks as well as tea and coffee. Come and join us and you will be made very welcome.

In conjunction with Bowls England, we are participating in Bowls' BIG Weekend 2024. Come along to our club on Monday 27th May 10.00am – 1.00pm. Chat to new and experienced club members and coaches. Try your hand on the green with fun activities Open to ALL ages – young and old!! All sizes of woods can be provided on the day. Please bring flat soled shoes if you have them.

For more information and to register your interest contact: Keith Llewellyn 07900 688742 or Graham Giles (Secretary) email: [pershorebowlingclub@outlook.com](mailto:pershorebowlingclub@outlook.com)

## Defford win County Championship

Playing in the Gloucestershire League, local short mat bowling club Defford has had their most successful Winter Season, winning Division 1 (for the first time) with their second team finishing in the top four of Division 2. They were also winners of the County Knock Out Cup. In addition, one of our members won the World Pairs Championships competing against several other countries and four of our members were runners up in the Open Fours National Championship. We also had success in several Gloucestershire County competitions winning the open singles, open pairs and open fours. Always offering a warm welcome to new members, Defford Short Mat Bowls Club provides indoor bowling all year round at Defford Village Hall every Tuesday/ Wednesday 2pm to 4pm and Thursday/Friday 7pm to 9pm.



All levels of ability, from novice to experienced bowlers welcome, (coaching and bowls provided). Short Mat Bowls provides the opportunity to play a gentle exertion sport, within a very friendly playing environment. We are a very successful very friendly local club playing in modern premises with ample parking. Social and competitive bowler's welcome

For further details please email our Club Captain at [david.yendole@gmail.com](mailto:david.yendole@gmail.com)

Heathlands Residential Care Home in Pershore are delighted to launch

## the Allard Respite Suite



Our newly refurbished, eight bed suite provides dedicated pre-bookable respite breaks.

This unique offer ensures peace of mind for those looking to pre-book a short term care break.

Call our dedicated Enquiry Support Team on free-phone 01386 571 067 [sanctuary-care.co.uk](http://sanctuary-care.co.uk)

Station Road | Pershore | Worcestershire | WR10 1NG

“Dad is very well cared for 24 hours a day, his room is lovely, food is lovely too and staff are super caring, professional and friendly. Thank you.”

Daughter of resident  
- February 2023



9.7

[carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk) Review Score for Heathlands Residential Care Home 46 reviews

Based on independent review scores in the last 24 months at the time of going to print.

