

Pershore Times



A free monthly newspaper for Pershore and surrounding villages

Issue 71

May 2022

FREE



Pershore Abbey in Springtime: © Jayne Winter FRPS, www.jaynewinterphotography.co.uk

The war in Ukraine carries on and on and gets more dangerous every day. The world is still reeling from the Covid pandemic, causing economic crisis everywhere. We, in the UK, also have the after effects from Brexit. Challenging times indeed. The government can only do so much and the Kennedy dictate, 'think not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for country', seems very appropriate.

We are welcoming Ukrainian citizens, with local families offering accommodation and help. This is very commendable and the amount of funds raised is remarkable. We are a very welcoming nation and wish all our new friends peace and happiness.

The economic situation is a major concern with no easy answers. Fuel and energy prices have increased significantly and it looks as though the situation is unlikely to improve. In our industry, paper prices have

increased by 60% in the last year! We just have to keep 'soldiering on' and do the best we can. Tough times ahead but never fear, we will get through this 'hiccup' and all will be well. We have lots of good things to look forward to. We are moving into Summer with lovely weather so far, and as mentioned in these columns previously, we are very fortunate to live in such a lovely area. Street parties are being planned for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and Village Fetes are beginning again after the Covid

lockdown. That was an awful time and I sometimes wonder, with hindsight, how we all got through it. The Pershore Carnival is taking place again on May Day Bank holiday. This is always well supported and is another event we haven't seen for two years. Well done everyone and have a super day! Pershore is a great place to be, with so many clubs and associations getting back into action. Slowly life is getting back to some form of normality and it's good to see. New businesses are opening in town and wherever I go, there is a general feeling of optimism. A feeling of 'Yes We Can'. We have hopefully shaken off Covid and the new challenges will be overcome, whatever the odds. We are preparing a Souvenir Edition to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and it will be available before the end of this month.



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Early payment discount scrapped for crimes

People fined for failing to ensure their rubbish has been properly disposed of will no longer receive a discount for early payment, as part of a toughening up of Wychavon's approach to environmental crime. Residents have a legal responsibility to make sure they carry out proper checks if they give their waste to someone else to dispose of. This includes making sure the person or company they use is a registered waste carrier and they have obtained receipts and other official paperwork.

Anyone who doesn't can be fined if their waste is later found illegally dumped under the Household Waste Duty of Care. Wychavon has also recently invested in two new Community and Environmental Protection Officers to help strengthen efforts to catch and deter offenders, as well as educate the public on their responsibilities to support people to do the right thing. The full list of offences where the early payment discount is being removed is as follows:

Abandoning a vehicle: £200 fine (early payment discount to £120 removed)

Graffiti and fly-posting: £150 fine (early payment discount to £100 removed)

Failure to produce waste documents and other Duty of Care offences £300 (early payment discount to £180 removed)

Failure to furnish authority to carry waste £300 (early payment discount to £180 removed)

Public Space Protection Order offences £100 (early payment discount to £60 removed)

Breach of Community Protection Notices £100 fine (early payment discount to £60 for individuals and £75 to organisations removed).



Oil theft warning for homeowners

Rural residents with oil storage tanks are being warned to check their security amidst increased fears that thieves could target them. William Nicholl, client director at rural insurance broker Lycetts, said people are stockpiling oil supplies before the sanctions imposed on Russia cause even greater price increases. Storage tanks can contain hundreds – and sometimes thousands – of pounds of oil, so they are an obvious target. In recent weeks there have been a number of nationwide thefts by organised gangs who have siphoned-off oil. This is no hi-tech, difficult to organise crime – a 1,000 litre tank can be drained within minutes. Farmers and those living in more isolated areas tend to store large amounts of oil on-site, making them particularly vulnerable. Siting tanks out of view from roads is a sensible precaution," said Nicholl. "However, many tanks look unattractive and for that reason owners often position them out of sight of the home. The problem with this is that

they locate them in areas of the property that make it easier for thieves to act unobserved. Lighting and CCTV cameras can be effective security measures, but it is important to maintain them and test them regularly as they may have become inoperative. The actual material tanks are made of should be considered before purchase. Steel ones are much more difficult for thieves to drill through – or carry away. Owners could also consider installing secure cages around the tanks. Daily checks of oil tank gauges should be made. Technology is also available that sends text messages to multiple mobile phones if there is an unexpected drop in oil levels. Additionally, there are alarms that continually monitor levels using ultrasonics and sound-off when they suddenly drop. Home insurance does not always cover theft or damage to oil tanks, so it is important that property owners seek advice from an insurance broker to check adequate cover is in place."

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and those that move.

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Pershore Town Council

We want your views!

Pershore Town Council has put in two bids for funds from Wychavon District Council's Community Legacy Grant scheme.

One is to enhance Broad Street and the other to install some fun exercise equipment on Abbey Park.

We would like your views on these projects. Pop into the Town Hall or the Library to pick up a consultation document to drop back to us at the Town Hall by **20TH MAY 2022**.

Alternatively email townclerk@pershore-tc.gov.uk or visit www.pershoretowncouncil.gov.uk

Litter pick on Pershore's River Avon



Bonkers Activities and Avon Navigation Trust do it again !! On Sunday 10th April, a team of twenty paddleboarders took to the River Avon in Pershore to carry out a deep clean litter pick. Kim Bonk – Bonkers Activities owner said, “This is the best time of year to do this, as we can get right into the banks before the plants start to really grow again.” Kim and her team of paddleboarders adopted the stretch of River from Pershore Town right up to Wyre weir a few years ago as part of the Wychavon Adopt a Street scheme. Wychavon arranged to take away all the rubbish they collected. Bonkers Activities also work in partnership with Avon

Navigation Trust and are looking to roll out the idea of adopting a stretch of river to other locations. Kim went onto say, “I can’t tell you the funniest thing we found, as its not PG rated !! This time we picked up some garden furniture, bottles, bread bags and loads of general litter.”

If you would like to consider adopting a stretch of the river then you can contact the Avon Navigation Trust at www.avonnavigationtrust.org If you have your own paddleboard, and a current river licence then please contact Kim to join them to help keep our beautiful River Avon clean and looking at its best. Email: bonkersactivities@hotmail.com

Energy bills rebate

Energy Bills Rebate Update: Many of you have asked us when we will start paying the £150 Energy Bills Rebate announced by the Government. To make these payments we need to update our software systems. This is something councils across the country are having to do so it is not unique to Wychavon. We expect our systems to be updated shortly. We will then be able to start making payments to all qualifying households in Council Tax Bands A to D we hold bank account details for (those who pay by Direct Debit). When we start making payments, we will contact you to let you know. If you do not pay by Direct Debit then we would encourage you to register to do so now, as you will get your £150 payment faster when we do start making payments. If you cannot or do not want to

pay by Direct Debit then there will be a process in place for you to receive your money. Again, we will make an announcement on that shortly. If you are in a low income household but live in a property not in Council Tax Bands A to D then you may be able to apply for help from the discretionary scheme. We will release details about this when we have them. You can register to pay by Direct Debit or find out more about the Energy Bills Rebate here <https://bit.ly/3JLdJEG>. Please don’t contact the Council Tax team to ask them about the Energy Bills Rebate as they don’t know any more than we have put on here or on our website. We will keep both updated or you can sign up to our Council Tax e-newsletter at <https://bit.ly/3uGyw8b> and we will send information direct to your inbox when we have it.

Wildlife harmed by fire at Avon Meadows



An appeal for information is being made after a fire at Avon Meadows. A fire broke out in the reed beds at the local nature reserve on the evening of Saturday 9th April, harming wildlife. Concerned locals alerted the fire service, who were able to put the fire out, but not before a significant amount of important wildlife habitat had been destroyed. This is the second fire in the wetlands in recent weeks, which has been disastrous for this vulnerable habitat and the nesting and breeding creatures that live there, like reed and sedge warblers, who have had their home burned down. Amphibians like frogs and toads were caught in the blaze, along with the harvest mouse, a recently discovered species for the wetlands. The intensity of the fire has melted parts of the recycled plastic boardwalk, which remains safe to use but now looks unsightly. Many of the bird species at Avon Meadows need large, undisturbed

areas of reedbed, which is why volunteers carefully manage and maintain it over the winter, and they will be badly affected. Liz Etheridge, of Wychavon said: “One fire could be seen as accidental, but two fires looks like a deliberate attack on the nature reserve. When wildlife is under threat across the world, places like Avon Meadows give us hope that communities working together can make a positive difference to our environment, in spite of the thoughtless damage caused by incidents like this. I want to thank the fire service for their prompt action in saving this precious wildlife haven, and the people of Pershore for their continuing support. Our Officers have increased their patrols around the nature reserve to reassure visitors. They ask anyone who sees anything suspicious or has any information about the fire, to report it via 101 as soon as it is safe to do so.”

15th birthday hair cut for charity

Courtney Stait, who works at the Upper Crust Bakery as a Saturday girl, had thirteen inches of her hair chopped off on Saturday 9th April for The Little Princess Trust. The Trust make wigs from hair donations for children who have lost their hair due to illness. Not only did she donate her hair, she also set up a fundraiser and raised £785 for them. It costs roughly £550 to make a wig so she was over the moon with that, and she donated some of her own money too. She decided last year that she wanted to do it, so she set a target to keep growing her hair till her birthday and have it done for her 15th birthday.



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A few words from... Harriett Baldwin MP



Harriett pledges to smash posh glass ceiling in House of Lords

Harriett Baldwin MP will introduce a Bill which will aim to deliver full equality for the members of the House of Lords. Although the first-born child of the Royal Family has been able to succeed to the crown regardless of sex since 2013, the rule of male succession of hereditary peerages still stands in the House of Lords. This means that one-eighth of the seats in the Upper House are reserved for men and the West Worcestershire MP will bring in a Bill to the House of Commons on Wednesday to end this practice.

Harriett has a track record of challenging complex constitutional questions having brought a Private Members Bill to the House of Commons to 'fix' the West Lothian Question - which led to the introduction on separate votes for laws affecting the four individual nations. The MP has regularly questioned Government Ministers on this inequality and will bring forward the Bill - which has cross-party support - to the House of Commons as part of the 10 Minute Rule Bill procedure. As City Minister in the Treasury, Harriett led an initiative to increase female representation in senior management in UK business - and especially the financial services sector. Harriett commented: "The Crown has acted to end male primogeniture, and yet the House of Lords persists in following this practice, meaning that one-eighth of the seats are reserved unfairly for just male successors. In this day and age, this cannot be right. In this glorious second Elizabethan era and in a year celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, I am bringing forward this Bill to push through much needed change in the House of Lords. This Bill has cross-party support and I know that the Members of Parliament who support me in this endeavour, wish to see equality of opportunity for all. It is time to break this posh glass ceiling."

Twining plan to help refugees

Pershire will embark on an accelerated twinning process to link up with a Polish town and help refugees fleeing from the war in Ukraine. West Worcestershire MP has agreed to host an urgent call between the mayors of Pershore and Wry, in southern Poland to start a formal twinning process and help identify potential homes for refugees. Over two million people have fled to Poland to escape the conflict, and some will be seeking to come to the United Kingdom while the war continues. Harriett recently met with the deputy Speaker of the Polish Senate, who requested help matching Polish and British towns to collaborate on helping to re-house refugees. Wry is a similar sized town as Pershore and will work together to assist refugees who want to re-locate to this country. Harriett discussed the plan with Pershore's Mayor Julian Palfrey and she is working closely with Worcestershire County Council and Wychavon District Council as the local authorities co-ordinate the support for refugees coming to the county. Harriett said: "There has been an amazing local response to this international crisis, and I have been working with over a hundred families locally who have agreed to house refugees. Poland is currently providing support for over two million people fleeing the war and the international community is



working together to put in place a framework for matching refugees with potential hosts. When I met with Polish Parliamentarians, they suggested that the twinning network can be a useful framework for providing support for Polish towns and cities who are hosting refugees and helping them to find homes. The current Homes for Ukraine system relies on finding refugees to host and this will help in doing that rather than relying on social media. Of course, many want to stay in Poland so they are able to return home once the war ends but those who wish to re-locate can be matched with local hosts. I've chatted to Pershore resident Keiran Bingle who is already doing an amazing job helping to find homes for Ukrainian refugees and also met with Ann Dobbin to talk about how the town council can help.

£6.5 million local growth fund

A major boost for Malvern residents as the Government confirmed a £6.5 million fund to help boost economic growth and prosperity.

Wychavon District Council will receive £4 million through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Malvern Hills District Council will receive £2.5 million to help communities to regenerate themselves, tackle economic decline and support economic growth.

The funds replace an annual cash award that was channelled through the Local Enterprise Partnerships from European funding and Harriett recently quizzed the Government on plans

to introduce this support.

The award is part of a £2.6 billion investment programme confirmed yesterday and replaces schemes that were delivered by the EU. The money is intended to help councils to deliver on projects that will make a difference to their communities and help them to fulfil their potential.

Harriett commented: "This is amazing news for people who live in Malvern Hills and Wychavon and I am glad that every part of the country will be able to spend money on projects which it knows will make a difference and make their community better. I asked a

series of questions in Parliament about how we can properly fund the lifelong skills agenda and I hope that funds can be used to help us to save Malvern Hills College and preserve teaching at this important site. In Pershore, I have long been a supporter of the plans to improve the train station and this is just the sort of fund which could be used to support that project.

Public transport links for young people are especially important and I plan to explore whether we can help to fund public transport for younger people through this scheme. More people would like to be able to choose active, train or bus travel to get to and from

their study or work and these funds could help with this. I see this money as a springboard to delivering on our ambition for the county and I plan to discuss this funding with the council's chief executive shortly. Levelling Up Secretary, Michael Gove added: "The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will help to unleash the creativity and talent of communities that have for too long been overlooked and undervalued. By targeting this funding at areas of the country that need it the most, we will help spread opportunity and level up in every part of the United Kingdom."

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Breakfast club gets pupils off to a great start

Two Pershore schools have praised the positive impact made by breakfast club grants during a challenging last couple of years. Abbey Park First School and Middle School have received four grants so far – each worth up to £2,000 – which have made a real difference to families in need. The latest grant has helped to provide 93 Free School Meals eligible pupils with a healthy snack and a drink to enjoy every day of term during break time. Abbey Park have also used the funding to support extra places at breakfast club and after-school club, which has proved to have additional benefits. There has been plenty of positive feedback from teachers at Abbey Park, who have seen their pupils receive a much-needed energy boost. Some have even been able to do extra reading with a teaching assistant during breakfast club. In total, Wychavon has invested more than £73,000 since November 2020 to make sure all pupils are well fed at school as part of its commitment to improving outcomes for the most disadvantaged children and their families. This funding has supported 80 breakfast clubs in

schools and other settings, as well as wraparound care. Several studies have shown that children who eat breakfast have better levels of concentration, alertness and comprehension in the classroom. They learn and remember more. Across the district, more than 2,100 children are receiving Free School Meals, a significant increase since January 2020. That figure could rise further as the full impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis becomes clear. As a result, Wychavon has committed £400,000 up until 2024 to improve social mobility, backing 24 projects with Social Mobility Grants to support disadvantaged children. The projects include working with the NHS to screen more than 900 children across 29 schools for speech and language issues, and funding 67 laptops for pupils who did not qualify for the Government scheme, so they could continue to learn during lockdown.



Summer showstopper showcase!

A non-stop feast of sensational song and dance can be enjoyed when Pershore Operatic and Dramatic Society (PODS) go “Mad about Musicals” from June 13th – 18th at Number 8. From Chicago to Les Misérables and Anything Goes to 42nd Street, “Mad about Musicals” provides a spectacular line up of hits from long-running West End and Broadway shows, alongside newer ones from shows including Six, Waitress and Dear Evan Hansen. Judy Megarry (Director) told us “With a sparkling array of

costumes and choreography on display, under the baton of Andrew Hemming, PODS will take audiences on a whistle stop tour of over thirty magical musicals.” Encouraging readers to “rediscover the joy of going out to live musical theatre at Number 8” Judy said that “PODS can’t wait to leave audiences Mad about Musicals.”

Tickets are on sale at Number 8 Box Office; call 01386 555488 or visit www.number8.org

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May Day carnival!

Pershore Carnival returns this bank holiday following a two year absence. Brought forward due to the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, a wide range of activities will be taking place throughout the town on Monday 2nd May. From live music and dog shows to ferret racing and go-karts. The Carnival committee are hoping to raise lots of money for this year’s chosen charities and are expecting a huge turnout which will be a great boost to the town. This years beneficiaries of the street collection accompanying the carnival procession will be Pershore and District Disabled Swimmers (PADDLERS) and the Pershore and Evesham Downs

Syndrome Support Group (PEDDS). Remember to bring lots of coins with you on the day! Other charitable donations will be made after the event, so not only will it be a fun-filled day for families, with a fantastic range of entertainment and activities to enjoy, but it will also support both the local economy and local charities. The centrepiece of the carnival will be the parade, which sets off at 1pm from the Market Car Park. The procession will pass through High Street, Broad Street, and Church Walk before arriving at Abbey Park. This year’s theme, ‘1952-2022: Inventions of the Past 70 Years’. Due to the Jubilee celebrations, this year’s carnival will take place earlier than usual but there is still just as much fun and excitement planned. A funfair, farmers market, craft stalls and a static engine display will be open all day in Abbey Park. The park will also host a



bandstand with live music from 10.45am-6pm with a dog show, organised by the Blue Cross, from 11.30am. If that wasn’t enough, there will also be pony rides, ferret racing, circus skills, go-karts, a climbing wall, a Kick ‘n Stick, face painting

and more. There will also be a variety of demonstrations on activities, such as rugby, tennis, Zumba and blacksmithing. There is also the new inclusion of the Window Trail, with eighteen local businesses taking part.

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We are a ladies' group that meets on the second Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in Defford Village Hall. We enjoy talks, demonstrations, crafting and all sorts of entertainment. We go out for meals, play skittles and have fun. On 13th April, we had Jo Gaffney from House of Colour coming along to show us how to wear scarves. Then on 11th May, we are going to learn all about Bonsai Chi, a low impact exercise, with Nikki Sinclair and in June we have a craft evening. Ladies of any age are welcome.



Come along and see what we get up to. Bring a friend or come on your own and make new ones! *The price for a visitor is just £3.50 and includes refreshments. If you want to know more, contact Gill on 01386 751480*

Mayor to attend fifth anniversary dinner

The incoming Mayor of Worcester, Councillor Adrian Gregson, will lead the celebrations marking the 5th Anniversary of fantastic fundraising efforts by a group of local cricket fans.

Over the last five years the group of Worcestershire supporters have raised in excess of £40,000 to support seven projects in some of the most deprived areas in South Africa that, as well as getting young people playing cricket, also address the social issues in those areas.

The Mayor will join South African cricketing legend Mike Procter, who is guest speaker, at the dinner which will be held at Worcestershire County Cricket Club on Friday 17th June. Along with Mike Procter the evening will feature a superb four course dinner, live music, an auction and competitions.

Tickets cost just £60 each and can be obtained by contacting Mark. Email: ma004g2691@gmail.com or on 07506 747619

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Holy Redeemer's science experience



British Science Week in March was a 10-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, aimed at increasing awareness and enthusiasm for science across all age groups. Sarah Lalor, Chair of Pershore's Holy Redeemer Primary School PTA, said, "We wanted to be able to demonstrate to our students how science permeates our everyday lives." The school had participated in both the Worcestershire Primary STEM Challenge and QinetiQ Robotics Challenge and were delighted with the positive experience. "We feel that there is a real demand for these experiences within the school and they are essential for inspiring future generations into STEM careers," commented Sarah. On 18th March, the Royal Institution's Nerys Shah demonstrated several science

experiments including one referred to as 'the simplicity of rocket propulsion'. This filled the hall with flames, flying plastic bottles, containers and bangs, all going off at varying intervals to everyone's delight. Headteacher, Christine Hall, said, "It was a wonderful end to our Science Week and created the excitement, enthusiasm and motivation we hoped for. Huge thanks to Pershore Rotary and our PTA for making this possible. "It was a fun presentation from the start," said PROGS Coordinator, David Store. "Audience participation throughout, hopefully widening the imagination of the pupils about everyday science." *The event was funded through the Pershore Rotary Grant Scheme, details of which can be found at www.pershorerotary.club/progs*

George's stand for Ukraine refugees

Thanks to the unbelievable generosity of so many in our community, like young George and his dad Mick, Pershore Rotary's fundraising project has now raised £5,191.52, with all the funds raised being donated to support the refugees.

When all donations had been received and counted, the total funds raised for the Ukraine Refugee Crisis amounted to £4,480. But that wasn't all, because along came George and made it known that he wanted to help too.

With Mick, his dad, George raised £712.08 for the Rotary Ukrainian appeal over a period of two weeks. Standing together in Asda's forecourt, they gave out Ukrainian blue and yellow ribbons that George had made himself along with daffodils he had grown.

George had a very special reason for wanting to do this. His



grandfather was Ukrainian and had stayed in England after the second World War. George's affiliation with Ukraine is strong and he still has relations living there. £2,000 has been donated to ShelterBox, a Rotary Project Partner, and the remaining £3,190 has gone to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). Rotary plays a unique role in disaster recovery and rebuilding efforts.

If you can help us or would like to know more, go to our website www.pershorerotary.club

Council seeks support in bus service battle

Further cuts threatened in bus services in the south of the county “after years of rundown and neglect” have come under fire from Pershore Town Council. Following the County Council’s failed bid for £84 million for its Bus Service Improvement Plan the Town Council has renewed its representations to county MPs to ensure adequate funding for the county’s ailing bus network. The Town Council has expressed serious concerns that the loss of potential funding may be due to the “lack of ambition” of the county’s plans. There are also concerns that this would appear to be leading to new service cuts by operator First Midland Red. Rural Worcestershire received nothing whilst urban areas in the Midlands received generous funding with £86.7 million for the West Midlands and £31.7 million for Stoke-on-Trent. “This calls into question the

government’s levelling up process in regard to public transport and its whole “Bus Back Better” project.” said Town Mayor Julian Palfrey. “Cuts in services and the failure to secure funding will have serious consequences for those who rely on public transport, but it also calls into question the government’s commitment to become net zero on carbon emissions by 2050. Adequate public transport is imperative in the goal to gain net zero status with 24% of Pershore’s carbon footprint coming from travel mainly through the use of private transport.” The Town Council is urging local MPs to work together with Worcestershire County Council and the Department for Transport to ensure that Worcestershire receives adequate funding to restore, maintain and improve the county’s ailing bus network.

Orchestra tunes up again for Choral concert

The sound of Pershore Choral Society singing to the accompaniment of an orchestra is returning to Pershore Abbey for the first time since before the Covid lockdown more than two years ago. Members of the nationally famous Corelli Chamber Orchestra based in Cheltenham, which specialises in playing historic in-period instruments from the same date as the music they are performing, are accompanying Pershore Choral Society on 14th May for a programme of magnificent choral works by Mozart and Haydn. “We are tremendously excited about singing with an orchestra again and I am sure it will be a great occasion,” said Paul Clarke, Chairman of Pershore Choral. This is a worthy follow up to the success of our two come-back concerts last November and December when we sang with the help of organ accompaniment ably provided by Charles Matthews.” Haydn wrote the “Nelson” Mass in August 1798 when employed by Prince Esterhazy in Eisenstadt, Austria. The Nelson connection is believed to have come about when Nelson, accompanied by his mistress Lady Hamilton and her husband,



visited Eisenstadt in 1800 on their way back to London, after his victory over the French in the Battle of the Nile. The Mass is said to have been performed for him whilst he was a guest of the Prince. Mozart’s ‘Vesperae solennes de confessore’ consists of six movements. The first five are settings of Psalms 110, 111, 112, 113 and 114 concluding with the Magnificat. The well-known fifth movement, Laudate Dominum, is often performed as a stand-alone piece.

The concert - of Haydn’s “Nelson” Mass in D Minor and Mozart’s Vesperae solennes de confessore - starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Ticket Secretary, Val Holton, on 01386 553391 or from Blue at 27, Broad Street, Pershore.

David Bellamy blooming marvellous challenges



Owners Rich and Matt Jaques from Pinvin near Pershore have joined the David Bellamy Blooming Marvellous Challenge to support both the Wonderful Wetlands and Tree-mendous initiatives. The David Bellamy Blooming Marvellous Challenges is a scheme which encourages people and businesses to give wildlife a break by ensuring they make a marvellous pledge for nature. It’s an exciting new initiative that lets holiday parks and residential home parks show the world how dedicated they are to helping Britain’s wildlife. The local brothers have pledged to improve existing habitats for wildlife, create new wildlife habitats and features, manage your greenspace in as environmentally friendly a way

as possible, involve customers and staff in wildlife conservation engage with local conservation bodies and projects, for example. In doing so, they’ve enhanced their local glamping site, based in Pinvin near Pershore, in order to help support wildlife and make it more attractive to visitors. Bowbrook Lodges is now landscaped with 2500 trees, 250 fruit trees, lakes and wetlands and a one-mile-long path for easy walks.

Details about The David Bellamy Blooming Marvellous Challenges can be found here: www.ukparks.com/bellamy-awards Go to www.bowbrooklodges.co.uk to learn more about your local sustainable holiday lodges.

Thoughts from the Snug . . .

School reports. A few of our group that meet in the Snug are retired teachers and, as all of us went to school at some time, we all have memories we felt qualified to share on school reports. Comments recalling the late Arthur Marshall’s terse geography and PE reports: “This boy does well to find his way home.” . . .and “Swimming- tends to sink.” prompted other harsh, dismissive memories. “Came seldom, did little, achieved less,” was a PE report on one who had suffered a whole term of absence due to a broken leg, followed by a bout of diphtheria. This person went on to become a PE teacher! “I would not breed from this stock,” was an assessment seen in a report from an RAF officer’s recruitment notes. “The improvements in your son’s handwriting has revealed his complete inability to spell,” was another example that produced lots of chuckles.

The editor would be delighted to hear from any other readers who also experienced high handed, dismissive reports and then went on to succeed inspite of them.

May Events at community run The Queen Elizabeth Inn



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

??? FISH & CHIP QUIZ NIGHT ???

Join our Quizmaster at 19.30 on **Tuesday 10th May**
£10 per head entry fee including Fish & Chips. Max 6 per team

GREEK FOOD NIGHT

Experience this Mediterranean cuisine on **Thursday 26th May**
One sitting at 19.30 – early booking recommended !

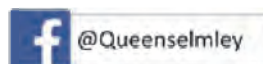
QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

4 days of entertainment from **Friday 2nd to Sunday 5th June**
Beer & Cider Festival all 4 days; Live Music from The Rubies (Fri 20.00)
Hog Roasts; 50's & 60's Disco (Sat 19.00); Classic Car Event (Fri pm)

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



We are a multiple award winning, community-run, 16th Century Inn. We aim to provide a sustainable 'heart' for Elmley Castle and the surrounding villages, and a friendly destination venue for visitors & tourists alike. Thank you for your support



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Flower Club News



Demonstration on Wednesday 20th April entitled 'Lipstick, Powder and Paint' given by Lorena Dyer of Coventry. Lorena commenced her demonstration with a hand-tied bouquet of pink Gerbera, purple Veronica, mauve Antirrhinums, pink roses and foliage which was beautifully arranged and then placed in a glass vase. The vase contained a large twisted fern which seems to interestingly 'swim around' in the water. Her second arrangement represented a lipstick brilliantly with Red Hot tropical Anthuriums, Roses, Myrtle, Helibore, Laurel and Bergenia. Next, we had a clever Powder Puff representation with tall, white Anastasia Chrysanthemums of varying height, interspersed with green cornus, pink Charmante roses and white astilbes.

Paint was stunningly represented by an Egyptian Cleopatra style arrangement of Phoenix Palms, Aucuba, manipulated Aspidistra leaves, Rosemary and finished off with very unusual Rossano Chrysanthemums and Nigella 'love-in-a-mist'.

We all keep our lipstick powder and paint in our handbags, so the fifth arrangement was just this.

A wonderful and colourful concoction of Cymbidium Orchid, Carnations, Roses, Hypericum, Hebe, Robinia and Fern. This was all arranged with precision in a handbag shaped container and was extremely colourful.

Lorena's last arrangement encapsulated her demonstration theme perfectly. Another stunning arrangement which was aptly dedicated to Marilyn Monroe. A magnificent outline of Ligularia leaves had been dried and gilded with silver and they surrounded a display of white Antirrhinums, Countdown Roses and Lisianthus. All this was complimented by foliage of Ivy, Laurel, Myrtle Ferns, and Arum leaves.

Another very different and brilliant demonstration which caught our imagination.

The next demonstration will be held on;

Wednesday 18th May at 7.30pm at Bishampton Village Hall, when Marie Mundy of Stroud will call her evening:

'TASTE OF INDIA'.

Visitors are most welcome and for more information, Call 01905 936477

The Mandala Garden for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show

It all started just after Christmas when I saw a post on social media by the RHS looking for garden designers to create a container garden for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. I can do that, I thought – sounds easy doesn't it?

I only had a few days to pull the design and information together as the deadline to submit an application was the 5th January. The space is four metres wide and three metres deep and comes with hedges either side and a wall along the back. It's up to the designer to decide what they create.

So - what's my design all about? I took my inspiration from the conditions imposed by the pandemic and the stresses of working from home. The Mandala Garden is a place in which to escape from endless zoom calls, a place to unwind with a cuppa. It offers a safe haven to spend time sitting and meditating, listening to the tranquil water, bees humming

and birds singing – a calm and restful but rejuvenating space. A mandala is a geometric configuration of symbols. In various spiritual traditions, mandalas are used for focusing attention, or as a spiritual guidance tool, for establishing a sacred space and as an aid to meditation.

How have I brought it to life? Having a small space to design has been really challenging. The tall trees either side of the water feature and mandala have large root balls, so until I found suitable containers for them to go into, I was unable to make a decision on the rest of the garden. It was a constant test of my maths, working out the size of the tree canopy to ensure it looked 'in balance' with the pots they're planted in, and then working out what space is left for the containers for the plants, along with a comfy chair to sit in. Thankfully, the Hardy Eucalyptus Nursery at Grafton came to my rescue and will be supplying the



two large trees - Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. niphophila 'Mount Bogong'.

It is a multi-stem tree with lovely bark as well as evergreen glaucous foliage. If left unpruned, it will grow to around 5-8 metres tall, which is a lot smaller than some varieties. It's great for windy sites too.

The rest of the planting will be a mixture of perennials such as penstemons and herbs to make delicious teas. The colour

scheme will be calming whites and pastels, with lots of sensory plants to relax and revive you.

For an up-to-date planting plan, please visit my website www.borderinabox.com

I would like to say special thanks to all my sponsors: Welsh Slate - part of the Breedon Group, Solus Décor, Robert Dyas, Bert & May, Elho, Taylor Made Planters Ltd and Schlüter-Systems Ltd.

Nikki Hollier

Pershore Rotary Social-Group



QUIZ NIGHT
FRIDAY 20th May 2022

Arrival 7pm - Quiz start 7:30pm
St Andrew Centre, Church Walk, Pershore WR10 1DT

"Our Community Supporting The Ukraine Community"

TICKETS £10pp
Click link or QR code below
Booking fee applies for Eventbrite or contact
socialgroup@pershorerotary.club

Quiz Night Prizes
Ploughman's Licensed Bar
Raffle: Supported by local companies

IN AID OF Ukraine Refugee Crisis, Emergency Appeal

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-night-in-support-of-ukraine-tickets-307444313217>

New to Pershore, new to Rotary Join a group of liked-minded people who wish to socialise with other community-spirited individuals, with the objective of meeting others, contributing to community projects and attending social / fundraising events. Pershore Rotary Club have been working on a idea that will give busy people a chance to support Rotary without committing to membership and having to attend lots of meetings. The idea is to simply come along to events and do what you can, when you can. This is something new and very exciting for Rotary that will offer informal social get togethers where people can meet, make new friends, get involved in community projects and fundraisers. All under the banner of a respected organisation. Our aim is to offer frequent social events, alongside business/planning meeting for

signed up members. Dates of meetings and socials will be shown in our closed Facebook page to which new members will be given a link. We have a Chairperson, an events coordinator but we will need a secretary and treasurer as membership grows. At our core is a group of paid up Rotary members with the backing of Pershore Rotary Club.. We hope those who come along to help and enjoy what we have to offer will eventually consider membership. Our next event is a Quiz with Ploughman's to be held at St Andrews Centre Pershore on Friday May 20 th 2022. Book early to avoid disappointment. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-night-in-support-of-ukraine-tickets-307444313217>

To find out more contact socialgroup@pershorerotary.club

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

Winston Churchill

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Foyer Folk at Number 8



A monthly event of folk, rock and blues performances from artists local and far afield promises a rare treat - an evening with renowned blues guitarist Kevin Brown. Kevin is one of, the most respected blues guitarist by artists on both sides of the Atlantic. He was first transported to the blues universe after watching Muddy Waters on the television in 1964. Regardless of his Lancashire roots, Kevin was going to be a bluesman. Five years of studious guitar practice later, during a chance meeting whilst busking in Portobello Road, London, Kevin met Son House, the man who inspired Muddy Waters and Robert Johnson. Son House liked Kevin's passion and took him under his wing. He taught him the emotional power of simple words, and how to make a slide

guitar howl at the moon. He gave a kid from Lancashire his blues credentials and sent him out to spread the message. This led Kevin from the crossroads down a long road of searching, pain and enlightenment, absorbing the musical emotion and technique of Leadbelly, Skip James and Robert Johnson. He moved to Austin, honed his writing skills at the feet of Butch Hancock, Townes Van Zandt and Blaze Foley and then served his apprenticeship in the roadhouses and bars of Texas. With 14 albums and 1000's of gigs under his belt. He has attracted plaudits from the great and the good...

"Kevin Brown has never ceased making joyful, soulful beautifully produced music. He's an ace, no one like him" Joe Boyd.

"Kevin is far more than just a slide player" Mark Knopfler.

"Kevin Brown is the real deal" Martin Simpson

"What singles him out is his voice" Robin Denselow - Guardian

Links:
<https://youtu.be/rEdPHDCYv9M>

Kevin Brown - Blues Guitarist
Saturday 14th May 2022 8pm
Tickets: £8.00 Box Office:
01386 555488

Beckford Open Village



The popular Beckford open village event returns this summer with an extra special weekend of open gardens, attractions and Platinum Jubilee celebrations. On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of June there will be thirteen beautiful and very different gardens to explore. Refreshments served will include afternoon teas with homemade cakes, a champagne bar and ice creams. There will be a barbecue on Saturday and on Sunday. a hog roast The historic church will be splendidly decorated with flower displays. Take a while to admire the unique Norman nave and carvings, and see the working scale model of the whole church reproduced in fine detail. Wander around the pretty Beckford Nature Reserve with its lake and bird hides where you can enjoy the tranquility and wildlife. Other

highlights include a quiz trail for children, plant sales, classic cars, vintage radio display, locally made artisan glassware, preserves stall, tombola, raffle and more! The gardens and attractions are open from 1-5pm each day. Admission is £5 (U16 free) which covers all gardens over both days. Dogs on leads are welcome and there is ample free parking at Beckford Village Hall, GL20 7AD. Proceeds are for the maintenance of the church, with donations being made to other local causes. Family Jubilee celebrations will follow each evening. On Saturday the Platinum Party at the Pub will take place at The Beckford Inn from 5pm until late, and on Sunday The Big Jubilee Hog Roast continues at The Old Post Office with live music from 5-8pm. For more information visit beckfordopenvillage.org.uk

Beckford open village

**Saturday 4th June
&
Sunday 5th June**

- Refreshments - Homemade cakes*
- Champagne bar - Ice creams.*
- Plant sales - Classic cars*
- Vintage radio display*
- Locally made artisan glassware*
- Preserves stall*
- Tombola - Raffle and more!*

www.beckfordopenvillage.org.uk

Comberton Street Market



Little Comberton village, nestled at the foot of Brendon Hill and just two miles from Pershore, is proud to announce the return of its annual Street Market on Saturday 28th May, 2.00pm to 5.00pm. The villagers have been busy making preparations and this, it's 36th annual fête, is sure to be a success with much to entice the whole family. The Street Market takes place in Manor Lane, a beautiful little street lined with black and white timber framed thatched cottages, festooned with bunting and with a background of live jazz, bell ringing and Morris Dancing, a very special yet traditional party atmosphere is created. There will be plenty on offer for everyone. The many street stalls feature local produce including strawberries and asparagus and local beer and cider are on sale in the beer tent. Refreshments include homemade cakes and strawberry cream teas, pork baps and hamburgers. The vast array of stalls sell a variety of goods including plants, books, vintage and collectibles and local arts

and crafts. If you are a local producer or crafts person interested in trading at the market, please contact: carol@rabbette.co.uk Traditional stalls such as tombola and a coconut shy will also be there and there is a dedicated games area for children. Our interactive exhibition this year, on display in the church, is entitled 'Games and Pastimes' and weather permitting, there will be a large display of classic cars. Entrance to the Street Market is £1.00 per adult and under 16s go free. Parking is also free on a first come first serve basis. This is a cash only event, so be sure to bring your purses and wallets. *Little Comberton 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 The market takes place in Manor Lane, Little Comberton, Pershore WR10 3EG



Pud Puds Desserts

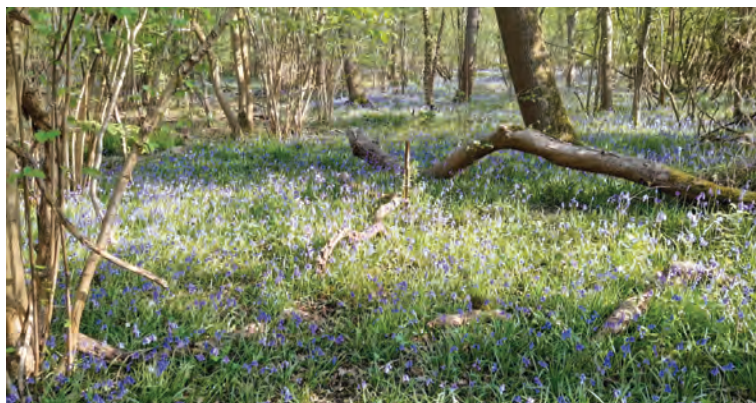
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Women's Hour!

Shades of grey.....

Susan Catford



We made it! After tearing my hair out trying to complete the forms to obtain our QR code – three hours of my life gone forever- we were collected by our taxi and headed for Birmingham airport. With plenty of time to spare, we planned to have breakfast, shop, and purchase lunch before boarding. How silly of us!! We had no problem checking in but then found ourselves in the longest ever 'snake' queue to get through Security. Hundreds of us shuffling our way. Social distancing?? No chance!! Two hours later we finally reached Departures only to find our flight had been called. No breakfast, no duty free, no time! Grabbing a lunch-to-go, we headed for the gate pausing only for an essential visit to the loo before we found ourselves last to board! Phew!!! We needed that

drink trolley even though it was still only mid-morning. Things went better from there on. Lots of sunshine, sleeping, reading, eating and drinking. The sarongs came out and the diet temporarily forgotten. We came back with a healthy colour, well rested. Mission accomplished! One of the things you notice on returning to this country, particularly at this time of year, is the beautiful range of colour. From the blue skies, golden sunshine but a lot of whiteness of foreign shores, it is a real contrast. Here the incredible shades of green (lovely pale new leaves), the delicate pinks and whites of blossom and the yellows and golds of fields and roadsides are breath-taking. Colour plays a major part in our lives and often reflects moods. When we talk about having the

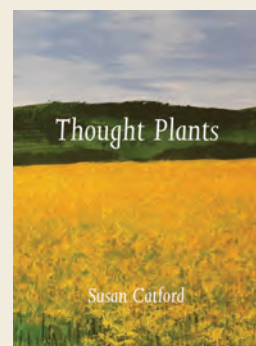
blues it is a bit unfair as it suggests a gloomy outlook when, in reality, there are so many blues that are bright and uplifting. Think of a carpet of bluebells, the blue of a cloudless sky, the shimmering blues of the sea and even the deepest blues of a night sky. Red has its own significance representing love, anger, passion, blood etc. Yellow never fails to cheer me and is my colour of choice for flowers. Daffodils, cowslips, primroses, dandelions, celandines and buttercups mean Spring is here and Summer is on its way. An optimistic colour. We talk about being 'in the pink', feeling 'green with envy', having a 'purple passion' and even have black moods. A grey day is one when our spirits are often flagging and there is a feeling of lethargy. Having said that, how come grey seems to be so very popular?? It is THE colour for kitchens, carpets, walls and even babywear. I think some one somewhere must have had a surplus of grey paint from painting battleships and thought it could be promoted as the essential colour for interior decorating. Even bath towels are grey now and have replaced the traditional white ones in many hotels. Admittedly they are more practical! Anyway today I am feeling bright!

I am in an orange, yellow and red mood, though oddly, I am still wearing neutrals and black. The sky is blue with fluffy white clouds, the fields are full of beautiful golden rapeseed, the woods are carpeted with bluey/purple bluebells and the roadsides are populated with jolly dandelions. The world is full of colour and it changes from day to day. We are lucky in this 'green and pleasant land' to have such beauty around us. It is good to go away as coming back makes you appreciate even more what we have here. Soon I hope to be getting out my summer brights and putting away my winter darks. I will be keeping my colourful towels and making do with my unfashionable non-grey kitchen. I like my colourful world best! Over the past two years colour has also represented our difficult times with the blue and white of the NHS and the rainbows of hope. Now we are seeing blue and yellow signifying our support for Ukraine. They are strong colours and they are a strong people fighting for their country. We all hope they will win their battle.



May morning

May morning and a late frost.
Chilled air.
An openness of clear, pale blue sky.
Sunlight spilling across the garden,
Not reaching pale patches
Still lurking in the shadows.
The dawn chorus is long gone.
Birds now busy themselves
Criss-crossing the sky.
There is a peace,
A quiet,
An anticipation of the coming day.
And in a corner
A poppy has burst from its cocoon.
A splash of brilliant scarlet,
Its newborn petals
Still wrinkled,
Waiting to open
And offer itself to the morning sun.



120 pages A5 full colour illustrated by Susan Catford

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

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Garden Watch



Having been away for a while I have needed to do a stock-take of the garden and see what has happened in our absence!

The pear was just coming into blossom and we feared we would miss it but it was still out. Within days it has lost its petals and they have been replaced with fresh, green leaves. The cherry has only blossomed since we returned but already most of it has gone, perhaps due to the cooler temperature and gusty winds. It will be interesting to see how the crop of fruits will be as we have had late frosts.

There is lots of new growth on the wisteria after having been pruned according to Reg's advice. We are hoping for fuller blooms as a result. The Virginia creeper is wending its way upwards and will also need to be cut back before it becomes too difficult to reach. All the trees have new foliage in varying degrees of density and colour. The fresh greens always add brightness to the garden. The camelias are going over after a fairly short appearance this year, perhaps due to the chilly mornings again. Some tulips are still adding colour in tubs and beds and there are some very pretty varieties. The

honesty is adding a lovely purple splash of colour in various places. Big fat buds are appearing on the poppies and alliums. We have a wonderful bed of mint so I need to find some recipes to make use of it. We also have rosemary, both herbs which go well with spring lamb.

After holidaying in Spain where there is little water and as a result fewer flowers, it makes our garden seem so green! It would be nice to have the spectacular bougainvillea they have though!

The grass is growing apace and bad news is the (new!!) mower has broken! It has to go back to the manufacturer so no knowing how long we will be without it. We already have the beginnings of a field out there. We are hoping some kind friend might lend us a mower meanwhile. The birds seem to have better things to do and whilst being vociferous in the morning, are less in evidence during the day. Mostly tits, sparrows, magpies and our resident robins- one has the most beautiful song- are our regular visitors.

An interesting thing is that our mole seems to have disappeared while we were away! He/ she is probably still lurking somewhere.

Country file - Gulls



Having recently returned from a seaside visit, our awareness of gulls has considerably increased. Our experience of them was not particularly pleasant – very noisy, greedy and (at times!) almost threatening. As for the mess they made on cars and buildings, it must be very annoying for residents. Here, away from the coast, we also have gulls. There are several varieties but the Black Headed Gull is the one we often see in newly ploughed fields, circling over the local tip and seeking food from litter in town centres. It is a noisy and gregarious bird, hunting for scraps in packs. It is the most common gull. It is small and quite graceful and its head actually has a chocolate brown cap which reduces to only a dark smudge in Winter. It has a white body with pale grey underparts and blood red bill and legs. The juvenile has gingery plumage which changes by its second Winter. The Herring Gull is a large gull usually seen by the sea. It breeds on cliffs, dunes and beaches. It is attracted to fish quays and enjoys the remains of fish and

chips left by holidaymakers! It is often the popular image seen in illustrations and photographs. The Common Gull is similar to the Herring Gull but smaller. There are 50,000 resident in the British Isles but this increases to over 700,000 in Winter due to migrants from mainly Scandinavia and Siberia. It can be difficult to identify the different types of gull as their plumage changes as they grow. The Kittiwake also resembles the Common Gull but is said to have a 'gentle' expression. It is the most maritime of the gulls, spending its life at sea and breeding in colonies on coastal cliffs. It is rare inland except sometimes in rough weather. There are gulls but whilst they may look similar, they do have differences in behaviour and habitat. The 'dawn chorus' at the seaside is rather cacophonous compared with our garden birds inland. They are still best avoided at close quarters if you do not want to be 'gifted' by them, even if it is meant to be lucky!

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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 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 about twenty island farmers who grow them on about 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 Vale of Evesham, one of the homes of British asparagus. There is nothing like the 'real thing'. 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
2 tbsp coconut oil, melted
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 200C/fan 180C/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.



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 sourdough bread, if you like.

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 1lime
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!

Jazz News Peter Farrall

The latest ticket sale figures have stimulated a feeling of excited anticipation about "Persore Jazz on a Summer's Day", an event on 13th August to replace the three day Festival on Persore College Campus which, alas, is no more. Box Office staff at Number 8 have expressed surprise that so many people are travelling great distances to attend a one day event in little old Persore and even the Persore Jazz committee were not quite expecting visitors from as far away as Land's End or Arbroath. It is an indication of the popularity of the twenty one musicians involved and the rapport which has grown between them and the audience over the years of Persore Jazz Festival. There will be many

fond memories and a touch of sadness at the passing of those happy times.

One of the participating musicians will have a special memory of the day on the College Campus when she made her first public appearance at the age of fifteen, sitting in with the Exhall - Roberts Quintet. Alex Clarke's career has soared ahead since that day and she is now a bandleader in her own right, plus appearances with many of the celebrated names in British jazz, and it's an indication of her talent that she won the Rising Star category of the British Jazz Awards in 2019, was a finalist in the BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year in 2020 and a nominee in the Parliamentary Jazz Awards 2021.

We are very pleased that she will

be featured with the fabulous, T J Johnson Band at the May session of Persore Jazz Club. TJ is widely considered to be one of the best jazz, blues and soul vocalists in the country and his charismatic, intimate style blends perfectly with Alex's fresh, youthful approach to jazz saxophone. We will probably be given a sampling from their album "Songs from the Jazz Country"

*T J Johnson Band
featuring Alex Clarke
Wednesday, 25th May
in the Function Room,
Persore Football Club
Doors open at 7pm, music at 8
Admission £10 to include a raffle ticket. Book in advance and pay on arrival
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Planting a successional flowering border

Nikki Hollier - Border in a Box

When I discuss planting plans with clients, the subject of colour always comes up as it's such an important aspect of any garden. However, on a regular basis, the colour yellow is always met with "not in my garden, thank you!". I can understand that, as I would feel the same if I was dressed from head to toe in any one colour. It's how you use it within the planting scheme and where the accent colours are. Like any outfit, you co-ordinate with your accessories to make the clothes look amazing. It's the same when planting a garden.



Take this *Euonymus fortunei* 'Emerald Gold'. On its own, it's a bit loud, but in the right setting it brings so much cheer. There are many *Euonymus* to choose from, but this one is really versatile as it can be planted in any soil and position. Its clump

forming and grows to around 1m tall, so it won't take over your garden either. Use it at the back of a border and plant flowers that bloom in succession throughout the year, in front of it. Purple and yellow look fantastic together. So, my choice for suitable blooms are:



In Springtime plant *Erysimum* 'Bowles's Mauve' which is a variety of wallflower. It's a perennial and is semi-evergreen so it can lose some of its leaves in winter. It flowers from February to July and has bright mauve flowers with bluey-green foliage. The flower spikes can grow to around 60cm tall and it prefers a sunny spot. Once the *Erysimum* has stopped flowering, plant *Echinacea purpurea* 'Magnus'. These cornflowers will bloom from July to September and are loved by butterflies and bees. You can



grow them from seed, but for instant impact buy a pot from your local garden centre. They look fabulous planted in swathes and another option is to use grasses such as *Stipa tenuissima*, commonly known as ponytail grass. When Autumn approaches, *Nerine 'bowdenii'* are stunning dark pink flowers. They are bulbs and should be planted in springtime so they're ready to bloom in the autumn. If you missed them this year, buy them 'in the green' in pots late summer. Grow a few clumps to create impact.



Nikki Hollier
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 www.borderinabox.com
 Royal Horticultural Society
 Silver Medal Winner &
 Peoples Choice Award Winner

For winter colour, it has to be Hellebores! Try a dark purple variety called *Helleborus x glandorffensis* 'Barolo' which has beautiful yellow stamens that will look stunning with the yellow *Euonymus*. Although Hellebores prefer a shadier spot compared to the other plants listed.

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. 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 wallshrubs 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 cinnerarias. 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.

Joy and pain!

Karen Harris

There is so much joy in what I do, but I hear and see so much pain and anguish; I totally despair for people that have had so much pain for years with no resolution, no understanding of why it's happening, just an endless supply of destructive pain-killers. This isn't living, it's surviving! I recently had a client send me a picture with a big thank you. Clearly with joy across his face after playing a game of rugby, something he hasn't been able to do for over ten years because of injuries and back problems. Another gentleman of a certain age, after an appointment saying, 'I always feel so much better after seeing you,' and springing out like a teenager! This week, a mother coming in with the aftermath of two heavy pregnancies in quick succession; a sigh of relief, a big smile, energy regained and a feeling that all will be well again. Fabulous!

Also this week, a chat with a lady who has been in pain for over five years, pushed from pillar to post with no idea why it is still happening, why she is still on strong 'temporary' pain-killers after two years, with little or no support, with a family to look after and a job in the care sector; she is at the end of her tether! Another lady with back issues and four (grown-up)

children, all with some kind of musculoskeletal issue. A tragic death of a very dear family member a while back cannot be ignored in this instance, and that brings me to the main point of this piece. There is more to pain than the physical feeling. I have witnessed clients come in for an appointment maintaining their knee pain is due to a lack of cartilage, or their neck pain and headaches are due to supposed snapped tendons in the shoulder; however, we are able to relieve the pain within the session. Did these structural abnormalities heal within the hour? Probably not. What is more likely is that muscular tension patterns were released, the body was brought back into balance and the pain was resolved. Tension patterns can often be resolved in this way, but in cases where we are not able to reduce the pain through physical means, we must also look at how emotions effect muscular tension and influence the nervous system.

So from the joy of once again being able to play your favourite sport, to the despondency of constant pain and feeling that you are broken and can't be fixed, we will explore this more next month when I tell you that pain is an opinion, not a fact!

"The body achieves what the mind believes"

Napoleon Hill



Ditch those pain killers for good!

Karen Harris.
Posture Alignment Specialist & Fitness Trainer.

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Sleeeeep....

Angela Johns

What a delicious feeling to wake up refreshed and ready for the day. I don't know anybody that doesn't love a good sleep. But so many of us struggle with getting this very thing. I've heard various stories of sleep problems from clients over the years and the solution to teach the mind to let go of the day is often many fold, with no single thing that works. There can be so many constant demands on our attention that I'm not surprised that our minds are confused when we tell it all of a sudden that it's time to sleep. I've never seen a bedtime routine advising to include binge watching a cliff-hanger series and catching up on the news. And no, a make-up cleansing routine and brushing my teeth with minty toothpaste doesn't work to make me sleepy either! I've learnt to do that much earlier in the evening. Even if we fall to sleep straight away exhausted, many of us wake in the night unable to go back to sleep which can be equally distressing. Also, our sleep patterns vary over our life time and for several reasons. Before children I couldn't bear getting out of bed before 7:30am, if I could help it but rarely called it a day before midnight. Now some evenings I peek at the clock at 8:59pm and wonder, "Is it too early though?". If we are having a tough time it is understandable to be mulling over our situation at a time without other distractions - at night. I do think it a good idea in this case to get your thoughts or questions out of your head onto paper. If I am having a particularly busy time I have a notepad and pencil by my bed for when I think of something I mustn't forget to do. My mind is then more confident to let go of the day. I also think it wise to get out of bed when



we can't sleep. We are creatures of habit, so it is far better to teach our minds to associate bed with rest rather than worry. As a famous actress once said, "Bed is for sleep and making love. If you are doing neither, you should get up." I recently listened to a podcast on sleep by Dr Rangan Chatterjee who interviewed Professor, Matthew Walker. Their top 4 tips were no surprise: 1) Regularity, go to bed and get up at the same times, 2) Temperature, have a cooler bedroom, 3) Darkness, 4) Walk it out, get up if you can't sleep. But their discussion of quality of sleep was interesting, confirming that not only does it improve the quality of our lives but is fundamental to the healing process too. Most people report a good sleep after having some kind of complementary therapy and I believe that speaks not only for the effects of the therapy itself but the permission the client gives themselves to be just in that moment. What better lesson for our mind? *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. www.angelajohns.co.uk*

Reg Moule

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

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

What is your health costing you?

Pam Clark

Last week a client thanked Pam for “saving her life”. It might seem a bit of a dramatic statement but for this client her gut symptoms had become so debilitating that it was impacting on every aspect of her life. Her energy was poor, at work and with her young family. Her mood, her emotional resilience and her motivations were all depleted – it was all she could do just to get through the day. By the end of her ten week programme her husband commented that it was like living with his wife from many years ago; more vibrant and energised. In fact she is now in trained for a 10km run when previously her joint pain was so debilitating walking up the stairs was an issue.

This case really made Keeley and Pam wonder about how much of our health we “tolerate” and accept as the norm. It is actually not normal to have to immediately find where the loo is on entering a new environment. It is not normal to excuse ourselves from a social gathering for fear we may not have the energy to see it out.

It is not normal to feel grumpy, overwhelmed and exhausted all of the time – and yet many of these behaviours are accepted as the norm in our current society. We assume we will creak, and groan as we age. We assume our mental clarity will decline. We assume Menopause is a Marathon to be endured with it’s unexpected heat, poor sleep and weight gain. The truth is there is much we can do to manage or reduce these experiences. When we change the way we eat, move, sleep and think we see enormous shifts in how we experience the world. These symptoms are the



whispers of your body letting you know it is out of alignment. The body is very clever, it strives for balance, for equilibrium but eventually the imbalances show up – and like leaked water in a house, it isn’t always at source. When we take time to pause, to consider how we truly want to feel, we can have an opportunity to make change. At The Emporium of Health we work with our clients where they are, we experiment and journey together to find solutions to improving sleep, movement, stress, physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. There is no need to tolerate ill-health, instead let’s work towards vibrant health and well-being.



A walk in the past!

Emily Papirnik

Yesterday I met up with Roger who is one of Pershire Times’ readers. Roger grew up on a tenanted farm near Tewkesbury and having read my article about walking, thought I might like to see part of the farm with a footpath running through it. What a glorious walk near the meadows along the river, in the distance to one direction was the Cotswold Hills and the other a dip to the valley and River Severn. He showed me where badgers had been digging to find food or to get into a rabbit hole to devour what lay inside.

We listened to the birds and he was able to tell me all of the ones we could hear, before we then saw them. A beautiful green woodpecker was high up in the tree and now I know the laughing sound they make rather than just the noise of the pecking on the trees. The Chiffchaff was shouting and I heard that it was a migratory bird and the huge Buzzard was flying overhead. Remnants of a blue egg, which Roger thought was from a Hedge Sparrow, lay at our feet.

We stood in awe at the beautiful oak trees that had been there for hundreds of years watching the unfolding of the land and all the people that have walk there. In the fields of rapeseed and beans



that were growing, Roger showed areas where animals had grazed in the past and how much more growth there was in those specific areas, highlighting the richer soil. He was able to talk about the bulbs he had planted in the wooded areas for passers-by. The gate posts were still standing that he had erected but the gates were open for us to pass through. He could tell me where he had irrigation pipes and which farmers were to the right and left. I felt very fortunate to hear the stories of past farming and see how it has evolved. The morning ended at the village of Deerhurst. I would definitely recommend this beautiful walk, which started near the Cheltenham College Boathouse.




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Newsworthy news

Ruby Edwards

News is topical and timely. It's not always picked up and published by editors - regardless of this - although it's worth trying to write your press release with this in mind, to give yourself the best chance of success. At the very least, your news is content for your blog/news section of your website and across social media but the true value of editorial is when it's published in the press, or the publication you've targeted. Your story will be seen by your target audience/s - both online and in print perhaps - making it valuable media.

Is your news newsworthy?

In the first instance, we ask: does anyone care?

Is your story interesting to you but no-one else? Are journalists going to find it interesting? Is the target audience and demographic going to engage? If so, then ask: is it timely? Your news is only news if it's timely. And topical. And received within deadline.

Deadline

Are you aware of the weekly deadline for print? Is there a hard date to hit for your story to be included? Make sure you meet it. Is it embargoed until a certain date? Make sure this is added in CAPITALS to the release AND the subject.

Pitching your story

Collate a wish list of publications you'd like to publish your piece: be it local press, regional media or a global campaign in a certain sector. Then tailor your pitch (via email? Or can you deliver something fancier to make a PR impression?) to that medium. If you're writing and issuing a forward feature, ensure that you create a bespoke piece and share only with that publication.

NB Don't add large files to an email. Send as text. Attach a document too, if you wish, but make sure you're not adding in barriers for the editor/journalist to get to it. Do you chase the story? Ring the journalist to make sure they have received it? Up to you.

Prepare for coverage

Add in some hooks to your pitch so you give yourself the chance to know if it will be published or not. Often, you have no idea if it's going to be published until it is. Add a Google alert with key words to give you a chance of finding out.

Pershore Times' Editor, Alan Hughes, suggests:

"The subject must be interesting. It's got to be well written. Of course, the article can be edited, but it's best if it comes across 100% correct. If not, the editor must be interested enough to put time into amending the piece. If it's newsworthy, we will rewrite it but it must be interesting and there must have a desire to read it!"

All of the contributors at the Pershore Times are absolute professionals and I never have to change a single word." Remember though, your story might be well-written, expertly pitched and within deadline but maybe overshadowed or unpublished due to a larger, arguably more interesting, timely piece of news.

Writing a press release

A few tips for a standard press release, and the whole article, can be found: www.youdobetter.co.uk/2022/04/20/news-and-newsworthy-news



Guide to payslips

Carol Draper

As an accountant it is easy to assume the documents we send out and the language we use make perfect sense to others and it's easy to forget what we view as straightforward, to others is totally confusing. This was emphasised to me when my daughter's boyfriend (professional musician, sound engineer and general techy whizz kid) was panicking over a payslip that to him made no sense. As such I thought a general guide to payslips would be useful.



Payslips detail the wages or salary paid to an employee for a pay period and should be given to employees either in paper or by email on or before each payday. The time periods when you are paid should be agreed with your employer though generally this tends to be either weekly or monthly.

As a minimum your payslip should detail your pay for the period before anything has been taken off (gross pay); the deductions that have been made such as income tax, national insurance, pension contributions; pay after deductions (net pay or take-home pay), and if you are paid by the hour then the number of hours worked. Other deductions may include repayments of a loan or advance of wages, student loans and union subscriptions.

Ideally your payslip should show your and your employer's name, your National Insurance number and tax code and the total pay and deductions made so far in the tax year. The tax year runs from 6 April to 5 April in the following year.

It is not up to the employer to decide what tax and National Insurance to deduct in any pay period.

The amount deducted depends on your tax code, the amount earned in the pay period and your total earnings to date. Fixed deductions such as for a season ticket should be explained. If you are unsure what has been included in your payslip or how the deductions have been calculated, ask for an explanation. Being confused over payslips is not a sign of stupidity. Mistakes do happen and for your own peace of mind it is worth seeking clarification.

To find out more visit www.acas.org.uk/payslips

Carol Draper FCCA

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"There's a part of you that always remains a child, no matter how mature you get, how sophisticated or weary."

Barbra Streisand

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Newsworthy News



Wooden wigwams in Wild West Worcestershire....

Brian Johnson-Thomas

Or it could be the extreme east of Herefordshire, boundaries are a little confusing in the area I'm writing about – roughly the triangle formed by Bromyard, Great Witley and Tenbury Wells – and just about thirty miles away from us, but a whole world of difference.

We've been glamping (the in-word for 'glamorous camping') at Wolferow Wigwams, situated in the hamlet of that name some seven miles from Bromyard and eight miles from Tenbury Wells. The wigwams are, in fact, sturdy wooden huts, insulated with heating and bed shelves that will fit up to five adults (at a pinch !) supplemented by an adequate toilet and shower block, plus a well equipped communal kitchen and dining room. Each wigwam also has an adjacent toilet so there's no need to tramp across the field in the wee small hours of the night. Indeed, we actually enjoyed the de luxe version(called the Running Water De Luxe Wigwam) which has it's own en suite shower and toilet plus a small kitchen – but then they all enjoy an integral fridge, kettle, toaster and microwave cooker anyway. Outside each wigwam there's a wooden picnic bench, a firepit and a barbecue for those who fancy the open air life – or just like sitting by the fire and staring into the embers or up into the skies, which seem to have a lot more stars visible than in our light polluted towns.

Mind you, we chose to spoil ourselves and dined at the Lion in nearby Clifton upon Teme – just over £40 for a two course pub dinner for two, drinks

included. The drive back to Wolferlow in the effulgence of the Spring sunset through a warren of mazy lanes was an unforgettable experience.

Both Bromyard and Tenbury are quirky destinations in their own rights, with a plethora of interesting local shops of the type that are fast disappearing from our increasingly homogenised High Streets – just like Pershore and Upton, come to think of it ! There's a whole network of public footpaths nearby to explore and a few minutes' drive away the whole of the National Trusts' Brockhampton Estate is just begging to be explored.

But really it's a place to be enjoyed for its own sake. On a clear day you can see from the Cotswolds in the east to the Black Mountains in Wales, from the Malvern Hills to the Clee Hills and up through the beautiful Teme valley to Ludlow and beyond to the Long Mynd and the Shropshire Hills.

It's a place that will appeal to all ages, from 'wrinklies' like us to small children, who can have ample space to play and explore while their parents perhaps toast marshmallows over the open fire or enjoy a contemplative glass of red.

Prices seem quite reasonable – the basic wigwam costs just £55 for two persons sharing per night, plus £16 for each additional adult and £8 per child under 16 whereas the deluxe one we used costs £70 for two persons sharing per night, other add-ons are the same.

For full details see www.wolferlowwigwams.co.uk



Meanwhile, on a different track....

The Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway have just announced their Cotswold Festival of Steam, to run between the 3rd and the 5th of June. They expect to have no less than nine locomotives in stream, working an intensive timetable over the fourteen mile line that will include double heading, non stop runs, demonstration freight trains and shunting at Winchcombe station.

A range of other attractions will include a model railway, a beer tent, the Toddington Narrow Gauge Railway, behind the scenes visits to the Toddington locomotive works and Winchcombe Carriage and Wagon works as well as opportunities for (pre booked) footplate rides and freight train brake van rides.

See www.gwsr.com for full details.



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Swing Time

Written by Dr. Rand Jerris and Peter Lewis
A Celebration of Golf and Music 1870-1939
Grant Books recently published for the United States Golf Association Foundation Swing Time: A Celebration of Golf and Music 1870-1939. The authors are two well-known and highly-respected golf historians, Dr. Rand Jerris and Peter Lewis, who also are excellent collaborators. This unique and important new entry in the Library of Golf is 324 pages, which includes a comprehensive Bibliography and Index, together with profuse colour illustrations. The book is printed on acid-free paper with an illustrated dust jacket in a limited edition of 1500 copies. Produced by Hughes & Company Tel: 01386 803803



£40.00

Heritage & History Society

Roy Albutt



Image of Madeline Chaytor.

St Edmund's Church, Stoulton – the Face in the Window

The stained glass window at the east end of St Edmund's Church in Stoulton has an interesting history. It was restored and relocated to its present position in 1953 by stained glass maker A J Davies whose studios were at the Bromsgrove Guild. The window was made and erected at St Helen's Church in Worcester by the William Pearce studios of Birmingham in 1908.

This window is in memory of Madeline Hamilton Chaytor who died in January 1906 aged 41 years. Her husband, The Reverend Charles Chaytor, was rector of St Helen's Church in Worcester. He, together with family and friends, commissioned the window for St Helen's in 1908.

The two light stained glass window now in St Edmund's Church depicts the 'virtuous woman' who 'looketh well to the ways of her household' mentioned in Proverbs XXXI. The left light depicts a woman at a spinning wheel, while the right light shows Christ blessing children. The 'virtuous woman' depicted working in the home serving her husband was a frequent theme in stained glass in the nineteenth and twentieth-centuries, although it might be considered less politically correct in the twenty-first century.

In relocating the window it was necessary for A J Davies to adapt it to fit the window opening at St Edmund's Church. St Helen's church ceased to be used for worship in 1938. It has had a number of uses including housing the Worcestershire County Records Office, and being used as a Youth Club (YMCA). It was The Reverend Charles and

Mrs Madeline Chaytor's son, Charles John Chaytor, who had the window moved to St Edmund's, Stoulton. The original brass plaque remains beneath the window in St Helen's Church. Why was the window relocated in this particular church?

The plaque has the answer: 'the window was moved in 1953 to the east end of this church, of which her father the Rev. Hamilton Kingsford MA was the Vicar from 1867 for 45 Years'. Madeline's window is now in Stoulton church where her father, Revd Kingsford, was vicar for so many years, and a building which she knew as a child. Madeline Hamilton Chaytor and her husband were buried in the churchyard at St Edmund's Church. Their names are to be found on the plinth of a stone cross which marks their graves. The names of their sons are also recorded at the grave. They are Charles John Chaytor who died in 1964, (he had his mother's memorial window relocated to Stoulton) and his brother Alban Kingsford Chaytor who died in 1915 while serving with the 3rd Worcester Regiment and was buried in La Clytte Military Cemetery in Belgium. The names of other family members are also inscribed on the plinth of the cross.

'The face of the figure in this light is a portrait'. A compelling reason why Charles John Chaytor wanted his mother's memorial window, containing her likeness, relocated to St Edmund's Church. There it remains to this day some 114 years after it was created.

Willie's War (1914 – 1919)

Robert Maude

This book provides a valuable insight into the life of a soldier who fought on the front line in France and who amazingly survived the First World War.

He was William (Willie) Henry Barry and his story is told by his nephew Robert Maude. This account is written using Willie's own words taken from letters and postcards sent home to his mother

Sarah Barry in Dublin, Ireland between 1914 and 1919. Many of the images from the postcards have been added to the text to support and illustrate his story.

Published by Hughes & Company Tel: 01386 803803



£11.95

The Cotswolds & Beyond

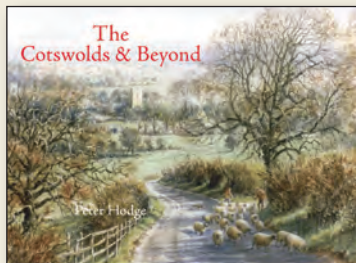
Peter Hodge

This book contains not only a fine collection of Cotswold landscape paintings by Peter Hodge, for which he is best known, but also images and insights from his many and diverse forays into graphics, surrealism, ceramic and textile design.

Told with down to earth honesty and humour, he comments on paradoxical quirkiness of creating art; balancing integrity and enthusiasm with the demands of making a living in the precarious world of artistic endeavour.

A trip to my local printer Hughes & Co., and a meeting with proprietor Alan Hughes, who had been printing some of my prints and cards, led to an unexpected revelation; they had also printed several art books. I mentioned my shelved book project and Alan expressed interest, culminating in me looking out my images and words and Alan concluding that "something could be done" with them. In fact he was quite enthusiastic and that in turn re-ignited my own enthusiasm. One of the main blocks to the original publisher was that the painting images were mostly in the old, but in my opinion, superior 5" x 4" transparency format, when all things modern demanded digital images. This did not deter Alan and his team who painstakingly transferred all my images to digital format, thus belatedly resolving the issue and finally releasing the little tome you now hold.

Produced by Hughes & Company
8 Church Street, Pershore WR10 1DT
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£19.95

The Joys of Volunteering

Rob Amatt



A well-earned and comfortable retirement is most people's pipe dream. What, perhaps, could be explained to them is that, for many, it soon pales into a predictable but boring routine. What is missing is variety, a chance to use some of those well-learned skills, gathered and honed over a lifetime of work, to communicate, to tell stories. Volunteering can provide just the challenge to get life refocussed. Daytime TV can be the slippery slope, the thought of comfortable slippers, cardigans and the

mandatory afternoon nap can be ageing. Many opportunities to get back into the hustle and bustle of the working environment, without the slippery corporate ladder, are available if you look carefully. I found Volunteering on a visit to The National Trust at Croome Park some years ago. The RAF Museum was looking for volunteers but I knew nothing about the RAF. However, I was assured that this simply does not matter as they were looking for storytellers. This gave me the opportunity to learn a new story

to tell, to impart new facts, to enhance the experience of visitors to an historical site. From a personal perspective, this gave me a good reason to polish the shoes, straighten the tie, and face new challenges. I use my work experience to present the history behind a simple set of buildings at The National Trust site at Croome.

The RAF Museum there is fascinating. In World War 2, RAF Defford was probably the most secret airfield in the country. At first built to help 23 Operational Training Unit, at RAF Pershore, where young aircrews were taught to fly bombers, then, in early 1942, Defford became the testing area for secret RADAR inventions. The Telecommunications Research Establishment had moved to Malvern College from the South Coast. They needed an airfield nearby where their devices could be tested. These developments were of such importance that the 2500 people employed there were sworn to total secrecy. It was one of the most guarded locations in the country. The stories from those

far off times are truly fascinating and have an air of mystery and intrigue.

The museum is run by a partnership of the Defford Airfield Heritage Group and The National Trust.

The role of the volunteers is to tell the stories and to bring to life the very important part that this quiet corner of Worcestershire played in winning the War.

The volunteer group is about fifty strong, they have an excellent social side, monthly walks and gatherings; they have their very own newsletter which is published twice a month. The comradeship is excellent, with great humour and I have to say that another benefit is that I have acquired fifty like-minded and valued friends.

We currently have several vacancies, so if you want a new challenge, if you like talking to people, relating stories and have a good sense of humour, then do contact me. Email: amatt.rob43@gmail.com

I look forward to meeting you.

Rob Amatt



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Free literacy course for journalists - *University of Sheffield*

The Department of Journalism Studies at the University of Sheffield is developing a free online course in data literacy for journalists. Available from May 2022, the short course will help journalists and those who work in the news industry at all levels to collect and interpret data, identify and understand the stories behind the data, and accurately share the information with readers and audiences. The six-week course will require around two to three hours of study per week. We're still developing the content, so if you feel this is something that would be of value to you, you can tell us what you would like the course to cover.

We've created a very short online

form to complete, which you can use to register your interest and training needs here. If you'd rather not receive any more emails about this, just hit 'reply' and send a blank email and we'll remove your details from our files.

If you have any queries or would like any further information please feel free to contact us at:
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 Department of Journalism Studies
 University of Sheffield
 9 Mappin Street, Sheffield S1 4DT
 0114 222 2000

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Gregory's world!

In Theory

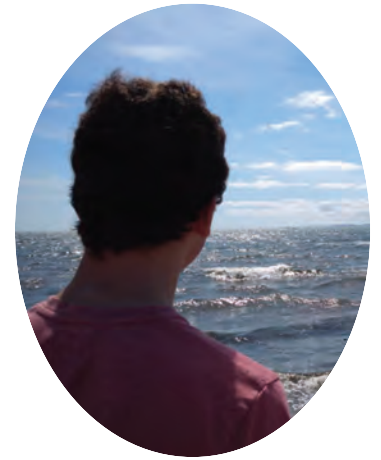
Gregory Sidaway (18)



My heart pounded as I found my way up flights of narrow stairs. Every time I reached a new floor, I searched the walls for signs, directions of where to go next. I did the kind of walk people do when they're unsure where they're supposed to be going, and so move very slowly to avoid the embarrassment of having to double back on themselves if they get it wrong. The paper notices sellotaped to each wall said the same thing: THEORY TEST ON THIRD FLOOR. This was it, my driving theory test. After procrastinating and putting it off for far too long, at last here I was, with a provisional licence in my pocket, a booking reference in my hand, and jumble

of road signs, safety procedures and stopping distances crammed in my head. The building with the seemingly endless flights of stairs was Haswell House in Worcester, which saw a steady ebb and flow of people entering anxiously and leaving clutching a sheet of folded cream paper, their fate enclosed. In an hour's time, I would have a sheet of my own. It all got very serious when I reached the third floor when another notice on the door forbade friends and family from passing beyond this point. Clearing my throat, I strode inside. Everything was okay, really, in fact it was quite interesting to see how a process

like this was regulated. I had to hand over my ID at a reception desk, put any items in a locker and read a double paged list of rules just in case any of us thought it a clever idea to be aggressive to staff or impersonate a friend and do their test for them. At another desk, I was asked to turn out my pockets, front and back – I was even asked to show the inside of my glasses in case I'd somehow rigged some James Bond gadgetry behind the lenses. By the end, if they'd have asked me to produce a passport, check in my luggage, and step through a metal detector, I would've probably gone along with it. When I was finally allowed to start the test, I half expected four fake walls to drop down and for someone in a dark suit and sunglasses to inform me I'd been inducted into MI5. The theory test itself was pretty nice, about fifty multiple choice questions followed by fourteen hazard perception videos. For those unaware, hazard perception is where you watch a simulation of what is effectively an apocalyptic scenario, a driver's worst nightmare where digital children run into the road, four-by-fours



swing out in front of you, and simulated cows decide it's smart to have a rest half way through crossing. With each developing hazard, you have to click the mouse and – depending on how fast your reaction time was – you are awarded a certain number of points. Anyway, I must have been okay at it because when I was handed a slip of folded cream paper, it congratulated me on having passed. Two marks dropped in the multiple choice. Not too shabby! It was only during the drive home that I realised my finger was still twitching for a mouse whenever cars pulled out of lanes or pedestrians crossed at traffic lights. Always good to be wary, fellow reader. I hope you're happy and – like me – adhering loosely to Easter egg portion size recommendations.

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Coffee Break

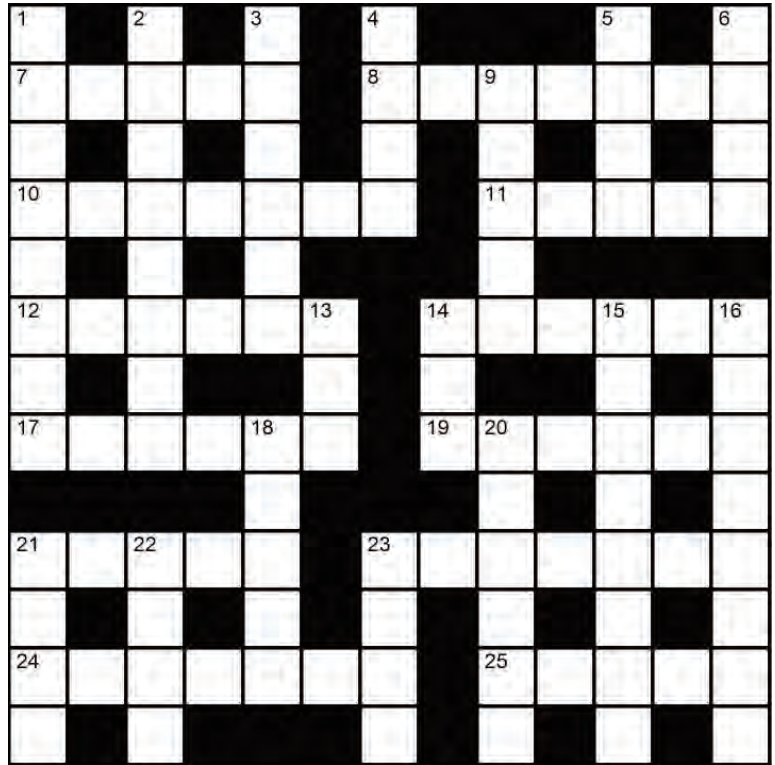
Pershore Times today! Do you enjoy Jigsaw puzzles? Play online for FREE, visit: www.pershoreline.co.uk/coffeebreak

Across

- 7 Perch (5)
- 8 Hug (7)
- 10 Poorly matched (7)
- 11 Infectious agent (5)
- 12 Shout of discovery (6)
- 14 Mistake (4-2)
- 17 Showy and cheap (6)
- 19 Hue (6)
- 21 Mistaken (5)
- 23 Small bag (7)
- 24 Cap attachment (7)
- 25 Fertile area in a desert (5)

Down

- 1 Altercation (8)
- 2 D-i-y beer (4-4)
- 3 Hit (6)
- 4 Exchange for money (4)
- 5 Two identical things (4)
- 6 Military dining room (4)
- 9 Chamfer (5)
- 13 Some (3)
- 14 Not sweet (3)
- 15 Foretell (8)
- 16 Render immobile (8)
- 18 Majestic (5)
- 20 Choice (6)
- 21 Small songbird (4)
- 22 Rowing levers (4)
- 23 Drinks slowly (4)



Sudoku

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

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

April Answers

1	O	2	O	3	B	4	P	5	D	6	B			
7	P	E	R	H	A	P	S	8	N	I	E	C	E	
	E		E		L		Y		I		S		A	
9	N	A	S	A	L	10	C	O	N	T	E	N	T	
	E				A		H		E		R		U	
11	R	A	12	I	N	D	R	O	P	13	S	T	O	P
			N		S		L		14	S	I		E	
15	L	O	S	S	16	S	O	R	C	E	R	E	17	R
	I		O		18	B		G		E				O
19	Z	A	M	B	E	Z	I	20	B	21	L	E	S	T
	A		N		A		C		E		B		A	
22	R	E	I	G	N	23	A	C	R	O	B	A	T	
	D		A				L		G		S			E

Jobs Wordsearch

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------|
| Bar staff | Farmer | Surgeon |
| Buyer | Nanny | Trainer |
| Clerk | Nurse | Tutor |
| Consultant | Pilot | Waiter |
| Cook | Researcher | Welder |
| Courier | Scientist | |
| Driver | Stockbroker | |

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

Poets' Corner

Leisure

What is this life if, full of care,
 We have no time to stand and stare? —
 No time to stand beneath the boughs,
 And stare as long as sheep and cows:
 No time to see, when woods we pass,
 Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass:
 No time to see, in broad daylight,
 Streams full of stars, like skies at night:
 No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
 And watch her feet, how they can dance:
 No time to wait till her mouth can
 Enrich that smile her eyes began?
 A poor life this if, full of care,
 We have no time to stand and stare.

W. H. Davies
 1871 - 1940

The Easter season is all about hope and faith being fulfilled. The impossible becoming possible. Love overcoming death. At a time when the world once again faces war, hatred and poverty it is a good time to remember the Easter message. To know that God promises a better life and all we have to do is to embrace peace and love. How can something so clearly true and apparently simple be so difficult for we humans? So, let's join together at this special time and pray for just that, especially for Ukraine, but also for the whole world.

Peter Stansbie, Pershore Abbey

Fun Quiz!



- When you take credit for someone else's work you are said to steal their what?
- Which American comedy show shares its name with an idea of how the universe began proposed by Georges Lemaitre
- At 1748 sq miles, which is the largest of Britain's National Parks?
- The TV series Downton Abbey is set in which county?
- What is the English equivalent to the term 'janitor' in america?
- The Road to Wigan.....what, is a book by George Orwell?
- Situated on the South Bank between Hungerford and Westminster bridges, what has a diameter of 135 metres?
- Which British physician and scientist developed a vaccination for smallpox in 1796?
- The battle of Balaclava took place during which war?
- In October 1969 the Archies had a UK No1 with which sweetly titled song?
- A 17ft tall marble statue of David is found in the Italian city Florence. Which renaissance sculptor created the work?
- What time is two and a half hours after 2.30pm?
- Digbeth and Edgbaston are suburbs of which British city?
- Englishman Nick Matthew is considered one of the greatest players of which racquet sport?
- Which English actress, known for Educating Rita, was made a Dame in 2017?
- Which South American country gained independence from Spain in 1821?
- In the English language, which 'C' is a 'tunnel carrying a stream or open drain under a road or railway'?
- The Portuguese dish Caldo Verde is predominantly which colour?
- The Rolex Zenith Daytona is what type of accessory worn on the human body?
- True or false; the chemical element Einsteinium is named after Albert Einstein?

Answers: 1. Thunder 2. Big Bang Theory 3. Cairnholm 4. Yorkshire 5. Caretaker 6. Pier 7. London Eye 8. Edward Jenner 9. Crimean war 10. Sugar Sugar 11. Michelangelo 12. 5pm 13. Birmingham 14. Squash 15. Julie Walters 16. Peru 17. Culvert 18. Green 19. Watch 20. True



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COMPETITION TIME!

Take a look at the anagram

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



April Winners

- Mr A Clarke
- Simon Dudfield
- Claire Brant
- Mollie Smith
- Vincent Bush
- Pauline Higton

Last month's answer: A Y Services



This month's prizes!

- 1st - £25 2nd - Sunday Lunch for two at The Royal Oak, Kinnersley
 3rd - £20 Food Voucher at The Queen Elizabeth, Elmley
 4th - Revills £10 Voucher 5th Masons Arms £10 Guest Voucher
 6th - Blue Voucher 7th - Reg Moule's Gardening Diary
 8th - Pat's Pantry jar of home-made marmalade

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In memoriam

Price, Terence "Terry"

Formerly of Allen Gears. Passed away on April 15th 2022, aged 85 years. Devoted husband to Sheila, much loved dad to Terence, Debbie and the late Melvyn, a loving grandad and great grandad. Terry will be greatly missed by family and friends. Funeral service at Pershore Abbey on Thursday 5th May at 12 noon followed by interment. Family flowers only. Donations, for RNLI and Midlands Air Ambulance Charity may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors. "Please wear a splash of blue in Terry's memory"

Haynes, Grace Irene

Formerly Summers, Nee Neale of Pershore. Passed away peacefully at home on April 6th 2022, aged 91 years. Devoted wife to the late Dennis, a much loved mother to Gary, Glen, Jan, Graham and their families. Grace will be deeply missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service took place on Tuesday 26th April. Family flowers only. Donations, for Acorns Children's Hospice may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

Matthews, William (Billy)

Formerly of Pershore. Passed away on 3rd April 2022 aged 80. Devoted husband to Jennifer, much loved father to Julie and Linda, father in law, Grandfather, brother, and friend to many. Funeral took place on Friday 29th April at 2pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, for British Heart Foundation may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

Annis, Geraldine

On 30th March 2022, passed away at home, surrounded by her family, aged 75 years. Much loved wife of the late Michael, dear mum to Nicola, Julian and Stephen, beloved sister to Vivien, Anita and the late Pam. Funeral Service took place on Thursday 14th April at 10am. Flowers or donations for The Royal British Legion, may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

Mendez Alacid, Juan (Mr M)

Formerly of the Angel Inn, Pershore and the Swan Hotel, Stourport. On 25th March 2022, peacefully, aged 78 years. Much loved husband of the late Andrea, wonderful dad to Juan Carlos and Sophie, father in law to Lindsey, devoted grandad to Juan Louca and Martha. Sadly missed by all his family and friends. Cremation private. Funeral service took place at Pershore Abbey, on Wednesday 13th April. Family flowers only, donations for Cancer Research UK, may be sent to E Hill & Son Funeral Directors.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
The tyranny of council mowing contractors never ceases to amaze. Despite a climate emergency and the need for biodiversity, swarms of petrol-driven machines, from strimmers and leaf-blowers to sit-astride mowing machines, descend on Pershore's green spaces to destroy new growth, disturb the habitat and, in some cases, kill young hedgehogs. Regardless of

representations made to Town and District Council to restrain such eco-vandalism, the destruction of the fragile wildlife reserves we should leave alone goes unabated year on year. It makes you wonder which planet they are on - last time I looked, there was only one!

Yours

Michael Chapman Pincher



Dear Editor,
Over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend, Network Rail replaced a two mile stretch of railway line between Fladbury and Charlton. Network Rail, the government owned company responsible for maintaining the nation's railway infrastructure, began working on Friday 15th April and worked continuously day and night until Monday 18th April. All services were suspended whilst the section of railway line between Moreton-in-Marsh and Worcester was closed. Rail replacement buses were operated for the affected trains. The four day closure began with removing the old rails (which

weigh 1 tonne per 60 foot stretch) before swapping them with the new sections. Only the rails themselves were replaced, meaning the sleepers and ballast were untouched. After the new sections of track were installed, the old line was cut up into hundreds of segments ready to be scrapped. Network Rail finished the works on time and the line was successfully reopened on Tuesday morning. I am a keen photographer and took photographs of the works.

Kind Regards

Chandler Tilling



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What's On?



May Cinema Listings

The Phantom of the Opera (12A)

Fri 22 & Sat 23 Apr - 7.30pm;
Mon 25 Apr - 11am & 7.30pm (ST); Tue 26 Apr - 7.30pm
Directed by Craig Roberts
1hr 42 mins Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

The Batman (15)

Fri 29 & Sat 30 Apr - 7.30pm
Directed by Matt Reeves
2hrs 56 mins Tickets: £8.50

Dog (12A)

Tue 3 May - 7.30pm
Directed by Reid Carolin and Channing Tatum, 1hr 41mins
Tickets: £8.50

Master Cheng (PG)

Thu 5 May - 7.30pm
Directed by Mika Kaurismäki, Finnish with subtitles
1hr 54 mins Tickets: £8.50

Belfast (12A)

Mon 9 May - 11.00am & 7.30pm
Directed by Kenneth Branagh, 1hr 37 mins, B&W
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

The Nan Movie (15)

Tue 10 May - 7.30pm
Directed by Josie Rourke
1hr 35 mins, Tickets: £8.50

The Outfit (15)

Fri 13 & Sat 14 May - 7.30pm;
Thu 19 May - 2.30pm
Directed by Graham Moore, 1hr 46 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

The Lost City (12A)

Mon 16 May - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST); Tue 17 May - 7.30pm
Directed by Adam Nee and Aaron Nee, 1hr 32 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

West Side Story (12A)

Mon 23 May - 11.00am & 7.30pm
Directed by Steven Spielberg, 2hr 36 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Operation Mincemeat (12A)

Fri 27 May - 7.30pm;
Mon 30 May - 11.00am & 7.30pm
Directed by John Madden
2hrs 8 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

The Bad Guys (U)

Sat 28 May - 2.00pm;
Wed 1 Jun - 11.00am (RS)
Directed by Pierre Perifel
1hr 40 mins Tickets just £6.00!

The Beatles: Get Back - The Rooftop Concert (12A)

Sat 28 May - 7.30pm
Directed by Peter Jackson
1hr 5 mins
Tickets: £8.50 (£8.00)

Fantastic Beasts: (12A)

The Secrets of Dumbledore
Tue 31 May - 2.30pm & 7.30pm;
Thu 2 Jun 3.00pm
Directed by David Yates
2hrs 15 mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Downton Abbey:

A New Era (PG)
Fri 3 Jun - 4.00pm & 7.30pm;
Mon 6 Jun - 11.00am & 7.30pm (ST); Tue 7 Jun - 7.30pm;
Thu 9 Jun - 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Directed by Simon Curtis
2hrs 5mins
Tickets: £8.50, Daytime £7.00

Event Listings

Kick in the Head presents:

Choice Grenfell
Thursday 12 May - 7.30pm
Tickets: £12, Friends £10
1hr 55mins (inc interval)

Royal Ballet: Swan Lake
Thursday 19 May - 7.15pm & Sunday 22 May - 2.00pm
Tickets: £16, 16 & under £10
3hrs 20 mins (inc intervals)

Exhibition on Screen:

Pissarro
Tuesday 24 May - 7.00pm
Tickets: £12, students £10
1hr 30mins

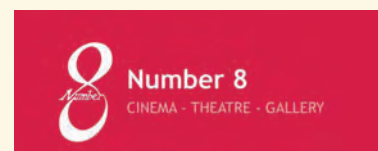
National Theatre Live:

Straight Line Crazy
Thursday 26 May - 7.00pm
Tickets: £15, Students £10

Trooping the Colour - The Queen's Birthday Parade
Thursday 2 June - 10.00am
Admission free

Platinum Party at the Palace

Saturday 4 June - evening
(time tbc) Admission free



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

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, soft drinks, tea and coffee. Come and join us and you will be made very welcome

In conjunction with Bowls England and Birmingham 2022, we are participating in Bowls' BIG Weekend 2022.

Come along to our club on Sunday 29th May, 10am – 2pm. 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 contact:
Keith Llewellyn 07900 688742
or
Alison Cartwright (Secretary)
email:
pershorebowlingclub@outlook.com



We believe everybody should be able to enjoy the benefits of playing sport, and have fun doing it – and bowls is perfect for all ages to do that!

TOP 5 REASONS TO GIVE BOWLS A GO!

- 1 Playing bowls is very doable.**
Whatever your physique, bowls is a sport for everybody and it will help improve your fitness levels and mental wellbeing.
- 2 Bowls is not expensive.**
To get going you don't need lots of new kit and clubs put on taster sessions for free. Even when you get the bug, a set of bowls and joining a club can cost as little as £90.
- 3 After football and cricket, bowls has the third highest number of clubs in the country.**
With so many places to play, it'll take no time at all to get to a bowls club close to your home.
- 4 Age and gender differences don't really affect a game of bowls,** so it's a perfect sport to spend time and enjoy a bit of healthy competition with your family.
- 5 Bowls clubs are sociable places full of people looking to have fun,** so bowls is a great way to relax, make new friends and feel part of your local community.

Visit bowlsbigweekend.com to find an open day near you!

FOLLOW ALL THE ACTION

@bowlsengland    #BowlsBigWeekend




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Resolve Law Group is a team of experienced legal advisers who combine flexibility and dedication to provide a value for money approach to helping our clients with both personal and business matters. As an unregulated law firm we've shed all the unnecessary costs that make helping people so expensive.

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Commercial litigation - we understand the damage that disputes can do to your business. They cause stress and prevent you doing what you need to be doing to grow your business. Resolve Law Group is here to help take away the worry and help you get back to business as usual. We cover a range of commercial litigation from disputes to contracts to debt recovery.

• Lasting powers of attorney

Sorting out your lasting power of attorney gives you complete peace of mind that should you become unable to look after your own affairs, someone you trust can. Without a lasting power of attorney in place even your spouse, partner or children will find it difficult and expensive to be granted permission to handle your affairs.

We can make sure that the person taking charge over decisions regarding your health, welfare, property, and finances is the person you want and trust.

• Deputyships & Wills

Should the worst happen you want to make sure that the people you care about are taken care of. Even if you already have a will it's advisable to review it regularly as your circumstances change over time. At Resolve Law Group we can handle everything to ensure that your assets will go to your loved ones, guardians for your children are in place, and directions regarding your funeral arrangements.

• 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.

• Contracts & agreements

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

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

Let us handle things...

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Call: 01905 391939 / 07785 500432

Email: Peter.Jewell@ResolveLawGroup.co.uk

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Inclusive walking sports sessions



Freedom Activities CIC is a new local Pershore based community interest company (not-for-profit organisation) providing inclusive fun non-competitive sports for all and is currently running walking sports sessions suitable for adults of any ability at Pershore Leisure Centre every Tuesday from 12-1pm. Sessions include: Walking Football, Walking Rounders, Walking Netball and Walking Rugby (run by coaches from Worcester Warriors Community Foundation). Each week a different sport is played together with Boccia and New Age Curling (a form of bowling) to allow an engaging and fun session aimed at

improving both physical and mental wellbeing whilst helping to reduced social isolation. The first session is free for all and includes refreshments. The cost thereafter is only £3 per person. Whether you were a keen sports enthusiast previously or have always wanted to give sports and new activities a try, the walking sports offer an opportunity for all to take part. Sessions are run by qualified and experienced coaches who believe in making sport inclusive for any age or ability. Freedom Activities believe that sport should be accessible for all within a safe and encouraging environment to enable both an uplifting and empowering session.

If you would like to attend, you can simply turn up on the day or should you require any further information contact
Lorna Brooks at freedomactivities123@gmail.com

All attendees will experience an inclusive uplifting and empowering sports and exercise session within a safe environment, free from prejudice and high expectations linked to competitive sports.

Adult sessions include Young at Heart fitness class and walking sports and games sessions.

Taking part in non-competitive sports and games can improve both physical and mental well being as well as being fun!

Children's activities include a menu of fun, inclusive, adapted, sports sessions enabling individuals of all ages to build friendships, break down barriers to physical activity and create confidence for every-day life.

Freedom Activities
Walking sports sessions at Pershore Leisure Centre Every Tuesday from 12- 1pm

Lorna 07904 352642
www.freedomactivities.com

Vale Golf Club seniors section results



Captain Brian Bunn presents the Bill Kelly cup to Geoff Wilson

The Bill Kelly Cup was the first contested. A Stableford competition off 95% handicap attracting sixty-five players. The results as follows:

- Div 1.**
1st. Brian Brumhead 39 points
2nd. John Eastoe 38 points
3rd. Mike Heard. 37 points
- Div 2.**
1st. Ian Cutler 41 points
2nd. Steve Marsh. 36 points
3rd. Kevin Clifton. 35 points
- Div 3.**
1st. Geoff Wilson. 42 points
2nd. Colin Edey. 41 points
3rd. Rob Taylor 38 points

The winner being Geoff Wilson Nearest the pin was Kevin Clifton The second cup contested was The Kirkpatrick Cup. Again it was a Stableford competition played off 95% handicap with sixty-four players. The Winnie Cup was also contested for the lowest gross score. Results as follows:

- Div 1.**
1st. Mike Roberts 44 points
2nd. Steve Hampton 44 points
3rd. Alistair Rowley. 39 points
- Div 2.**
1st Ian Phillips 44 points
2nd. Martin Holland 42 points
3rd. Ian Cutler 40 points

- Div 3.**
1st. Les Cosnett 42 points
2nd. Peter Richards 40 points
3rd. John Whale 40 points.
The winner of the Kirkpatrick Cup on countback was Ian Phillips. The winner of the Winnie Cup was Mike Roberts with a score of 79. Nearest the pin was Rob Sharp. The week between these two cups there was an individual Stableford competition played off 95% attracting fifty-seven players. Results as follows:

- Div 1.**
1st Rob Sharp 40 points
2nd Steve Hampton 40 points
3rd Mark Harris 39 points

- Div 2.**
1st John Whale 44 points
2nd Ian Cutler 40 points
3rd Peter Richards 40 points
- Div 3.**
1st Les Cosnett 41 points
2nd Colin Bartlett 40 points
3rd Colin Edey 34 points
- Nearest the pin was John Nutman The first of the inter-club matches was played away at Evesham Golf Club with the result being a very commendable win three and half to two and half.



Captain Brian Bunn congratulates Winnie cup winner Mike Roberts (left) and Kirkpatrick cup winner Ian Phillips.j

Hughes & Company

Printers - Publishers

Bookbinders - Stationers

8 Church Street, Pershore WR10 1DT

Tel: 01386 803803

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Book Review *Richard Catford*

'This is what I would do' - Handbook 2

Reg's latest handbook is an excellent accompaniment to his first publication 'A Gardener's Diary' produced last year and proving very popular. The second handbook is another pocket sized volume that can easily be slipped into a coat pocket and taken to the garden centre for quick reference. It is packed with sound advice and useful information. I am sure it will save the amateur gardener time and money, as well as relieving them of the frustration of poor results, or even losing newly acquired plants, through simply not knowing Reg's basic facts and following his advice.

The first handbook was a monthly guide to a full year's gardening. This second handbook tells you how to plan; what to buy for specific locations and how (and when) to plant, divide, prune and care for plants and shrubs.

Reg writes in a very fluent, chatty style that avoids the intimidating, technical language so many other authors use. It is a handbook in plain language, delivered in an un-patronising style. Very readable. The second handbook has five main sections:

The first section gives 'Reg's Top Tips' and simple practical guides. For example, buying the right kind of compost, how to extend the flowering of perennials, how to achieve success with peonies, camellias, palms ferns and much, much more.

The second section gives advice on bulbs and tubers. I really did not know there were so many. This is a most comprehensive guide. Planting depth, spacing, lifting and feeding is covered fully.

The third section is about wall shrubs and climbing plants; what likes shade and what does not,

By Reg Moule

plus lots of other advice on many different species.

The fourth section covers pruning. I discover I have been butchering my shrubs. Reg's advice is clear and concise for nearly every shrub or tree I have in the garden.

I thought pruning occurred mainly at one time of year. I was wrong; Reg has put me right!

The final section gives advice on plants to attract bees and also what to plant to deal with rabbits, deer, slug and drought problems. When will I use Reg's handbooks? *Handbook 1 - 'The garden diary'* is used regularly throughout the year. It tells me when to do things in the right way at the right time. It is a diary that prompts me on jobs to do each month.

Handbook 2 -

'This is what I would do'

I will probably use a little less often, but certainly before I go to



the garden centre to buy compost and new plants, or before I plan to reorganise a flower bed or corner of my garden. I will certainly look up how to prune my wisteria and other shrubs each year. *Handbook 3 - on fruit and vegetables* is on its way. I am sure this will prove as useful, especially as so many people are looking to grow their own food in these economically challenging times.

Reg Moule's Handbooks are published by Hughes & Company, 8 Church Street, Pershore WR10 1DT Price £12 per copy

Treat Dad this Father's Day!

Sunday 19th June 2022

Reg Moule

Gardening Handbook 2

'This is what I would do'

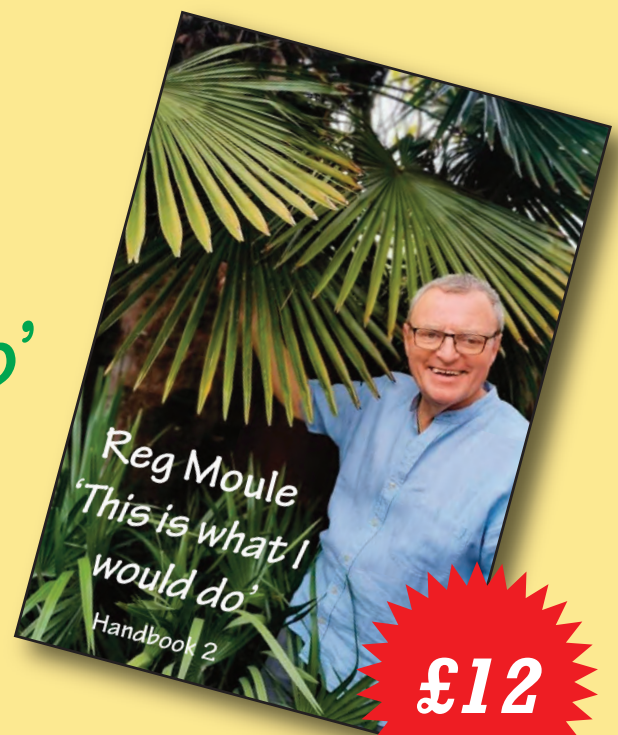
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