

# Powick Times

A free monthly newspaper for Powick, Callow End and surrounding villages



Issue 11

March 2024

**FREE**



Powick Bridge and River Temse

**T**he North wind doth blow and we shall have snow, and what, will the poor Robin do then?? Let's hope we miss all that! We are often fortunate in the Severn Valley and a mild March would be very welcome. We have a busy month ahead with Mothering Sunday and the Easter weekend. We also put the clocks forward on the 31st of the month. That is a signal that Spring is here! Summer is fast approaching and gardeners will have to get going this month with all sorts of jobs to do!

We are going through some very disturbing times with the Middle East war and the incredible loss of life. The Ukraine situation also doesn't seem to be getting anywhere near the possibility of a cease fire. We also have forthcoming elections here and in America. However, most of this all a long way from where

we are and so let's enjoy the beauty of Spring in this lovely part of England. The countryside, the wild life, so many historic and interesting gardens and buildings to visit. We are very fortunate and also have lots of events to look forward to. The cricket season will soon begin and that always brings great

pleasure to me. The Ashes series brings particular excitement and happy memories. All these things put everything into perspective.

Wishing all our readers advertisers and contributors a very happy Easter and thank you so much for your support.

**Mothering Sunday**



**10th March**

**Clocks will "spring forward" on**

**Sunday 31st March**



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# RBL in 1939 at the start of the Second World War and for the next 21 years until 1961



In 1939 at the start of the Second World War and for the next 21 years until 1960, the young menfolk of this country of ours were conscripted to serve in the nation's armed forces in the hope of protecting this land from any further assault by a foreign power. Young men were 'called up' at the age of 17 but if they were undergoing professional training for a career, National Service could be deferred until they had gained their qualifications.

When I was called up I was 21, having professionally qualified, and was also engaged to be married; so the next two years would mark a major disruption to my lifestyle whether I liked it or not. I chose to serve in the RAF following a family

tradition and my love of aviation, and I was very fortunate to be trained on RADAR the trade for which I had asked. My technical training was near Swanage before being sent to serve abroad in NATO at a secret radar station in North Holland. I can honestly say that this intervention in my life made a man of me, and looking back now at the age of 90, those two years of national service were some of the most memorable in my life, even though our nation had managed to procure for itself a private war in Egypt in the Canal Zone with Colonel Nasser at the time. Setting up our mobile transmitter against the fence of the Iron Curtain in Germany, was never going to be popular with the Russians,

who at that time were threatening us with rockets (after the USA had declined to support our joint enterprise with France).

Notwithstanding the tension we endured during this time, the comradeship built up with your fellow pals all looking out for, and supporting each other, it was a unique period and although not appreciated at the time, has become very obvious in later life. When my two years were over and I returned to England, I could not wait to be home and get married and re-start my professional career. It was many years later when life had moved on and the family had all grown up and gone their own ways in life, that I came to realise just how much I miss the fun-times and fellowship of those years when serving my country with my colleagues who were 'all in the same boat'.

If you served your country in the armed forces and that most definitely includes 'National Servicemen' and perhaps have a secret yearning to re-live some of that close bond and comradeship you once had and now miss, why not come and meet up with like-minded folk male or female, who have served at some time in 'The Mob' We (many of us ex-servicemen and women), meet regularly



once a month at a local venue for a get together with a chat and hot drink. We also get out and about with our smart gazebo at as many public functions as we can manage. Come and meet us we would love to hear your stories and if you have any 'gongs' pin them on and that includes your National Service Medal if you have it. Tell us the stories about your memorable times in the service as we would love to hear of them and have a laugh along with you. John Mason: Powick and Callow End-Malvern (branch president).

**Royal British Legion:  
Powick and Callow End –  
Malvern Branch**

Meet: Second Tuesday of each month at 8pm.  
(Except August and December)  
at Madresfield Working Men's Club.

The first date with our gazebo this year is Priory Park - Malvern on Sunday 30th June

## Where can I obtain a Powick Times magazine?

*The free Powick Times magazine is available at these venues:*

**In Callow End the Bluebell and the Old Bush pubs, the Premier village shop, plus 'The shop at the Top' café and Farm shop have all agreed to stock Powick Times. Stanbrook Abbey also has copies available for residents, customers and staff. The Crown in the Centre of Powick, The Swan at Newlands, the Bear and Rugged Staff at Bransford also make them available to customers along with the Bank House and the Fold Cafe.**

**The busy petrol/filling station in Powick village (near the A449 and B4424 junction and one way system) also has free copies for customers.**



# An Easter Celebrity!

As we journey through March, there is so much going on. After a dark, dismal, and wet winter, the mornings and evenings are getting lighter, and the spring flowers are blooming! Yes, that ring of Daffs and crocuses are on the vicarage lawn all too soon. Our Lenten journey is underway - thank you to those that are journeying through Lent with me and especially those exploring faith through the Lenten study. Sadly, there will not be a Daffodil Sunday on Mothering Sunday because of the weather, but there will be Palm Sunday to look forward to - with our Benefice procession in Madresfield, and this year, two Priests will work together to herald the start of Passiontide. Very soon, we will have Easter upon us. If I asked, during a sermon slot, who is the most famous person "out there" at the moment, who would you say? Go on, check through your newspapers, flick through the daytime TV or radio stations, look online. Who is: out there" right now? Who was out there last year, but hasn't been seen since? We increasingly live in a 'celebrity culture'. Everyone wants their fifteen minutes of fame; notability or even notoriety will do. Social media, magazines, newspapers, and television game shows all have their tame or not so tame celebrity to call upon. A celebrity culture is very enticing and the public acclamation we afford to others is very revealing. It says something about what we value - image, money, recognition, youth, power. More than that, it says something about human identity, about who we think

we are, and who we would like to be. The word 'celebrity' comes from the Latin root, 'celebren' which has connotations with both 'fame' and 'being thronged'. And if you read the gospel accounts of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on the day we have come to know as Palm Sunday, you might easily imagine that Jesus was a sort of first century celebrity: "The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna!' 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' 'Blessed is the King of Israel!'. The 'Feast' was the Passover when over two million people gathered in Jerusalem and this great crowd, fuelled by reports of the raising of Lazarus, heard Jesus was coming and so they acclaimed Him as their King, the one who would lead the rebellion against the Roman occupation of their land. Consequently, the crowd were full of nationalistic and messianic fervour. However, He came not on a warhorse but on a donkey; to defeat not the Romans but the power of sin and death. This was to fulfil what had been foretold hundreds of years earlier by a prophet; "called Zechariah: "Do not be afraid, O daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming seated on a donkey's colt."; a King who would proclaim peace to the nations and whose rule will extend to the ends of the earth. Thus, Jesus' triumphal entry showed that His Kingship was non-military. He would be crowned upon a cross of sacrifice

through which He will achieve freedom for His worldwide subjects who put their faith in Him. He is the King of peace through whom we can have peace with God, but to achieve this He needed to ride on in lowly pomp to die. I sometimes wonder how many of those who cried 'Hosanna' on Palm Sunday cried, 'Crucify' on Good Friday? You see, Jesus knew He was about to die, despite the acclamation He received. He knew that the crowd would soon be shouting 'crucify him!.' However, Jesus' death was not to be a tragedy, but rather a triumph. For by going the way of the cross, by His supreme act of obedience unto death, He first had to endure the suffering before the glory, the cross before the crown, and all that that entailed - the pain, the humiliation, the false accusation, the agony, and the burden of bearing the sins of the whole world. He endured all of this for you and for me - He perished so that we don't have to - hence, the day we remember His death is GOOD FRIDAY and why Jesus is GOOD NEWS for sharing. A new life for all of us. Life from Death, light overcoming the darkness. Scratch the surface beneath the other modern-day icons of Easter - no, not the celebrities this time - I mean the chocolate eggs and bunnies, Easter wreaths and gardens, and you still unearth something quite profound about the need we have for new life. Eggs and bunnies both represent new life which is exactly what Easter signifies for all Christians. Recently online I saw a post featuring a sign from a forest in

## Rev Gary Crellin



Central America that said, "Here in this rainforest there is no death, only life in transition." This notice was speaking of the endless cycle of death and rebirth in the natural world. That same line might have been written by a theologian because what the resurrection of Jesus tells us is exactly the same message for human beings. It is a universally applied quality owned by us all simply by being part of the same created order as that rainforest. "In him was life and that life was the light of all men" as it says in John's Gospel Turn on a light in the middle of the night, or light a candle in a darkened church to see what I mean - light is greater than darkness - good is greater than evil - and life is stronger than death. Easter is the greatest ever story of hope! Despite what is going on in the world, and perhaps in our own lives right now, the message of triumph of life over death, light over darkness, love over hatred, peace over anxiety, and joy over grief remains unchanged. So let us celebrate His victorious resurrection and all that it means to be ransomed, healed, restored, and forgiven! With every blessing for a great Easter Feast.

Rev Gary

### 'And another Thing' Handbook Volume 3

By Reg Moule

This new Handbook gives more detail and explanation on many of the topics mentioned in Reg's previous publications, but without fear of repetition. Although it is not intended to be an instruction book on growing all crops it does cover a very wide range of fruit and veg.



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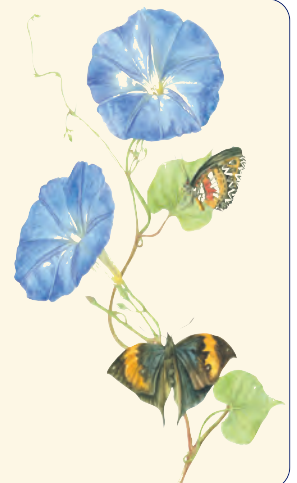
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# Cheque Presentation to - St. Richards' Hospice & Acorns Children's Hospice



John Tinnion (Chairman Powick Community Choir)  
Sophia Gunster (St Richards Hospice)  
Tony Lawrence (Acorns Children's Hospice)  
Tom Wells (Musical Director of Powick Community Choir)

Cheques for £1270.43 each were handed over last night to St Richard's Hospice and Acorns Children's Hospice by the Powick Community Choir at the Powick Community Village Hall. The cheques were received by representatives of both charities, Sophia Gunster on behalf of the St Richard's Hospice, who said, "The hospice cares for adults with serious progressive illnesses, improving their quality of life from diagnosis, during treatment and to their last days. We are so grateful to groups like the Powick Community Choir for helping us to raise funds."

Tony Lawrence who represented The Acorns Children's Hospice said, "A parent never imagines their child will be diagnosed with a life limiting or life threatening condition. But when the unimaginable

happens, Acorns Children's Hospice steps in by providing Palliative care for babies, children and young people, as well as helping families cope at every stage of their child's life and beyond, wherever and whenever they need it." John Tinnion, the Chairman of the Choir said, "Choirs sing for many reasons, one it's a fantastic creative outlet and a great social activity, too, the positive effect of choir singing on wellbeing is backed up by a number of scientific studies, revealing plenty of health benefits which have a terrific, positive effect on the body, mind and soul. But here tonight is the third; it is a joy, honour and privilege to be able to hand over these cheques, money collected from concerts by people who feel the same way as we do, to two such worthy causes."



## Church Services and Online Worshipping Opportunities for Your Church in the Old Hills Malvern Churches

### MARCH 2024

#### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

*The Third Sunday of Lent*

9.30am Lent Communion at GUARLFORD  
11.00am Lent Communion at POWICK

#### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent/Mothering Sunday*

9.30am Mothering Sunday Service at CALLOW END  
11.00am Mothering Sunday Service at MADRESFIELD

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March

*The Fifth Sunday of Lent/Passiontide begins*

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at POWICK  
9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD  
11.00am Morning Praise at POWICK  
5.30pm BCP Evening Prayer via ZOOM

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

*Palm Sunday*

10.45am Benefice Palm Sunday Procession and Service at MADRESFIELD  
(Meet at Madresfield Early Years Centre at 10.30am)

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

*Easter Day*

9.30am Easter Communion at CALLOW END  
9.30am Easter Communion at GUARLFORD  
11.00am Easter Communion at POWICK  
11.00am Easter Communion at MADRESFIELD

Midweek Communion at The Orchard Room in Colletts Green  
Fortnightly on Thursdays from 10.30-11.30am

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## Church Services and Online Worshipping Opportunities for Your Church in the Old Hills Malvern Churches

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

*Palm Sunday*

10.45am Palm Sunday Procession and Service at MADRESFIELD  
(Meet at Madresfield Early Years Centre at 10.30am)

#### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March

7.00pm Compline for Holy Week at CALLOW END

#### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March

7.00pm Compline for Holy Week at MADRESFIELD

#### Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March

7.00pm Compline for Holy Week at POWICK

#### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

*Maundy Thursday*

7.00pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy at GUARLFORD

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

*Good Friday*

12noon An Hour by the Cross at POWICK

There will be An Hour by the Cross at

GUARLFORD, CALLOW END and MADRESFIELD

between 12noon and 3pm. Please see local notices for details.

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

*Easter Sunday*

9.30am Easter Communion at CALLOW END  
9.30am Easter Communion at GUARLFORD  
11.00am Easter Communion at POWICK  
11.00am Easter Communion at MADRESFIELD

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## Powick Times

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The Bank House Hotel - The Bear and Ragged Staff, Bransford  
The Blue Bell, Callow End - The Fold Cafe, Bransford  
Stanbrook Abbey Hotel - The Crown Inn, Powick  
The Old Bush, Callow End - The Swan Inn, Newland

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



### Worcestershire Parkway growth plans

Harriett Baldwin MP has welcomed emerging plans which will see extra train services stopping at the popular Worcestershire Parkway train station.

Harriett has been campaigning for additional services stopping at the new station since it was opened in 2019 and the new facility is operating well ahead of projections.

Worcestershire County Council is already planning to expand the station's car park capacity and has purchased land for that purpose. Harriett has lobbied Cross Country trains to allow services between Bristol and Manchester to stop at Worcestershire Parkway. In recent months, the MP has written to the rail operator as

well as meeting with representatives from Network Rail and the Office of Rail and Road to press for additional services.

Cross Country has confirmed that discussions are ongoing with the county council and Harriett is planning to meet with the relevant stakeholders to offer her assistance to make the changes happen. Harriett said: "I had strong indications last summer that Cross Country was looking to stop more services at Worcestershire Parkway and that has been welcomed by the county council, rail user groups and businesses based in my constituency. Over recent months I have attempted to accelerate this work and I've had recent communications from the rail operator offering a meeting to discuss this plan. It is clear to me that this is in the company's long-term plan and would be a popular addition to the rail network for people using Worcestershire Parkway as well as bringing more tourists to the region. I'm grateful that this proposal is slowly taking shape and will continue to lobby at a national level to make this ambition a reality."

## MP takes aim at constitutional sexism

Harriett Baldwin MP plans to bring House of Lords reform back to Parliament this week as she challenges the last bastion of constitutional sexism. Harriett hopes to resume her campaign to allow the oldest child regardless of sex to inherit hereditary peerages in the House of Lords, by introducing a Private Member's Bill.

She won a slot in the ballot to bring legislation forward and pledged to bring back the Hereditary Titles (Female Succession) Bill which ran out of debate time in the last Parliament.

The Bill removes the principle of male-only primogeniture meaning that the 92 hereditary peers occupying one-eighth of the seats in the House of Lords are reserved exclusively for men. The principle underpinning the bill has been debated in the

House of Commons on numerous occasions, including two debates led by Harriett, but the Government still seems wary of supporting the change despite the Crown adopting the same principle by changing the law in 2013.

Harriett commented: "As a female Member of Parliament, I can't tolerate this constitutional sexism. I'm hoping that business in the House of Commons moves smoothly on Friday which will allow me to speak, again, about this important constitutional reform and hopefully allow time for a Minister to respond and support my approach, which I have made narrower in response to some of the objections raised. I remain optimistic that this Bill has cross-party support and will spark renewed efforts to end constitutional sexism in the House of Lords."

## Regulator to investigate poor train performance



Left Harriett Baldwin MP with ORR chair Declan Collier.

The Rail Regulator has pledged to investigate continued poor performance of the Midlands train operator after a series of strike and sickness related delays. West Worcestershire MP Harriett Baldwin met with Office of Rail and Road chair Declan Collier to talk about issues with the transport network and she flagged concerns regarding the continuing issues with West Midlands Trains. The rail operator has blamed higher-than-average sickness rates and strikes for increased train service delays and cancellations before Christmas and the Department for Transport committed to monitor the franchise holder's performance. In previous briefings, the operator has promised to recruit enough train drivers to prevent cancellations but the issue is still not fixed two years after making the first commitment to Harriett and rail users. Harriett also urged the regulator to help with speeding up the work to build a new car park at

Pershore station and to add Cross Country services at Worcestershire parkway as well as supporting the plans to double further sections of track along the Cotswold Line between Worcester and Oxford. Harriett said: "Worcester Parkway is performing better than ever and clearly some rail services are doing very well, so I am keen for us to exploit the extra demand for rail journeys. I welcome the regulator's pledge to look at the performance of West Midlands Trains and hope that the management will continue to press on with driver recruitment to fix their issues. And I've asked the regulator to look at how Network Rail manages smaller projects, such as the Pershore station expansion – because they seem to be slipping off the radar and getting forgotten about. Public transport will be vital if we are to deliver on our net zero ambitions and I welcome the input of the regulator to help us all choose the train more often."

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## Inspectors update on SWDP Review process

Inspectors scrutinising the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review have provided an update to the three South Worcestershire Councils on their progress. The Plan was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for independent scrutiny towards the end of last year, a process known as examination.

Dates for public hearings to provide inspectors with the opportunity to ask questions on parts of the plan and the evidence supporting it were expected to be announced this month. But while inspectors say they have made good progress on preparing for the hearings, they have asked for some evidence documents to be updated first. This will avoid delays further in the process and ensure people making representations at the hearings have the latest information available to them.

In a letter to Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon District Councils, inspectors raised concerns that some of the evidence was 'at risk of being overtaken by events' since work on the plan

started and recent changes to planning rules and regulations needed to be included.

Inspectors are also requesting more information about the impact of increased traffic generated by the plan on the surrounding road network. They also want to review the analysis of the Worcestershire Strategic Transport Model. Worcester City, Malvern Hills District and Wychavon District Councils are now working on a timetable for providing the new and updated evidence.

Cllr Pat Agar, Chair of the Joint Advisory Panel for the SWDP Review, said: "This Plan will shape how our communities develop right up until 2041 so it's important to us it is based on the most robust evidence possible and properly scrutinised and tested during examination so people can have confidence in it.

"We will now work on producing the new and updated evidence requested as soon as possible so we can proceed to the next stage of the examination process at the earliest possible opportunity."

## New package to help families save energy bills

Flexible, so families pay less if using electricity when prices are lower. A new package of measures to help families save on energy costs and access cheaper deals is being launched by the government, as figures published today show prices set to fall to their lowest level since Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Ofgem confirmed the price cap – the maximum amount a typical household pays for gas and electricity – will fall by £238 from April. Energy Security Secretary Claire Coutinho has welcomed the decrease as a milestone in the government's work to reduce costs for families – proof the plan to reduce bills for hardworking Brits is working. Long-term measures announced today include examining how standard energy deals should work to pass on the cheapest electricity costs, plus £10 million in funding for companies to test new technologies and tariffs with their customers, to make the

most of cheap, low-carbon power. Over half of British homes already use a smart meter, meaning they can access cheaper, off-peak energy tariffs. These deals can save households around £900 a year by charging an electric car, for example, at off-peak times such as during the night – with 63 per cent of people saying they would be likely to switch to a flexible tariff to help them save money.

The government is also putting out a call for evidence on standard energy tariffs, which customers are rolled onto at the end of fixed-term contracts, resulting in the vast majority paying a flat rate throughout the day and a potentially higher price than they need to. The government is seeking views on making these tariffs more flexible, so families pay less if using electricity at a time of day when prices are lower while protecting those who aren't suited to a flexible tariff.



## Moving to Universal Credit

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) is in the process of moving claimants still on Legacy benefits to Universal Credit. The Legacy benefits are: means tested Jobseekers Allowance; means tested Employment Support Allowance; Housing benefit; Income Support and Child and Working Tax Credits. You can't usually make a new claim for these "old" benefits. This process is called Managed Migration and has been taking place over a number of years and if you are contacted what you will need to do depends on what's in the letter.

If the letter gives a deadline for you to claim Universal Credit, it's a "migration notice". The deadline should be at least three months after the date the notice was sent. You should claim Universal Credit by the deadline in the letter otherwise your benefits will stop.

If your letter doesn't have a deadline, you don't have to claim Universal Credit unless you want to – even if the letter says you'll have to claim Universal Credit in future. It's important to remember that you won't be able to go back to your old

benefits after you claim. Your old benefits will stop after the deadline. If you claim Universal Credit before the deadline, DWP might pay you extra to stop you being worse off. This is called "transitional protection".

This means that if you'd get less on Universal Credit than your old benefits, you'll get an extra amount to make up the difference. The DWP will reduce the extra amount over time – so you'll eventually just get what you normally would on Universal Credit.

If you don't claim before the final deadline (and sometimes this can be extended) you may lose any transition protection granted so it is important to respond

If you need help moving on to Universal Credit, you can talk to an adviser.

*For further information and advice, please contact your local Citizens Advice South Worcestershire office on 01684 563611 or visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)*

## Clarity on support for flooded businesses

Harriett Baldwin MP has offered her support to businesses who have been affected by flooding again with heavy rain sweeping across the county. Homes and businesses have been affected by three major storms this Winter and heavy rain on already-saturated ground has led to flooding of both the rivers Severn and Avon. Harriett visited the Camp House Inn at Grimley as the waters again lapped at the doors of the family-owned pub which has been underwater five times in recent months. The MP chatted to Jo Wainwright-Scarrot about the challenges the business has faced accessing support which has been offered by the Government during times of bad weather. Harriett said: "I recently met with the Floods Minister to share local concerns about the operation of the formal flood compensation scheme and having chatted to

Jo, I've also fed back some important updates from people who need the scheme the most. The Camp House Inn is a lovely pub set on the banks of the river Severn, but it is having to deal with increasing amounts of flooding and I feel for Jo and her family who are, again, faced with business interruption and the costs of cleaning out a flooded business. The payments of up to £2,500 as well as rates relief are important measures but for me, it is essential that claimants don't get put off by red tape and rules. Businesses like these have proved over the year that they are resilient, but their spirit mustn't be broken by central administration. I've offered my support to Jo and any other business in my constituency who is experiencing problems claiming financial support and we're all praying for a period of extended dry weather."

# Emergency Services take a break!



L-R PC Becky, Sarah Cadwallader, General Manager, PC Dave, PC Kevin

Elgar Court Care Home in Malvern, is proud to announce they will provide a much-needed refreshment pit stop for all local emergency services with their "Take A Break" campaign. At any time of the day, hard-working emergency workers can call into the care home to get a hot or cold drink and a tasty bite to eat either to have at the Care home or to take away with them if time is tight. Everyone at Elgar Court Care Home is delighted to be able to offer this service to our wonderful emergency crews to thank them

for all that they do. To launch this campaign, we had the pleasure of entertaining our Malvern Community Policing team, Becky, Dave and Kevin. Residents enjoyed hearing how Malvern is a lovely safe place with them in charge, and seeing demonstrations of their policing toolkit – handcuffs, body cameras, smart water tagging sprays, Tasers and batons! And of course, reassured that these are not needed with the good folk of Malvern!

**CALLING ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL!**

**COME AND TAKE A BREAK WITH US!**

All members of the police, ambulance, nursing and fire services are welcome to drop into Elgar Court Care Home at any time on your duty breaks.

We offer a warm welcome and a free hot drink any time you need one. There might be a cake or two available!

# Powick Players sell out Pantomime!



Powick Players celebrated a fabulous, sell out week with their pantomime, Aladdin. A great success performed for the first time at Nunnery Wood

school. They raised £2352.75 for St Richard's Hospice. A worthy cause that they have supported for many years. Well done everyone.

# Council's Five Year Plan to focus on wellbeing

Malvern Hills District Council has once again committed to enhancing and improving the district after their Five Year Plan was approved. A revised version of the council's Five Year Plan was approved at a Council meeting on 30th January and includes new actions and amendments where circumstances have changed or targets have been updated. The plan, which is reviewed annually, sets out 31 actions to be completed by 2025 under its three priority areas - Our Health and Wellbeing, Our Economy and Our Environment. One of the biggest changes is the greater emphasis placed on Health and Wellbeing. This is to better represent the wide range of the actions in that priority area. Its aim is to achieve the council's vision of enhancing the Malvern Hills District as a destination to



explore and an outstanding place to live and work. As well as this, other new additions include:

- Increase investment in welfare support in 2024/25, to directly support those most in need of help with household basics
- Achieve 100% Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) usage in all household waste collection freighters by 2025.
- Return footfall in towns to at least pre-Covid levels by 2026 and grow it by a further 10% by 2030.

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## Food now being served!



Thursday & Friday –  
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## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN YOUR COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Powick Parish Neighbourhood Plan will serve our community by influencing development and delivering your priorities. To make sure the Plan sets out what you want, it is important that as many individual residents as possible tell us what they think about the future of the area.

Complete it online at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/PowickNDP](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PowickNDP)



For further information on the Neighbourhood Plan and Community Survey, plus where to get a hard copy, please refer to the latest Powick Parish Newsletter.

**CLOSING DATE FOR RESPONSES: 29TH FEBRUARY 2024**



Are you on the Organ Donation Register?  
Do your Family and Friends know your wishes?  
For further information telephone **0300 123 23 23**

For enrolment information go to [www.organdonation.nhs.uk](http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk)  
or email: [michaelamies36@gmail.com](mailto:michaelamies36@gmail.com) 07807 070249

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## CAR CLUB CURIOUS?

Car clubs are a great way for a community to pool resources to reduce vehicle numbers<sup>1</sup> and boost active travel<sup>2</sup>

For car club members, they offer a great way to lower household expenditure<sup>3</sup> by reducing vehicles sat on the drive.



If you think a car club could be for you, get in touch!  
[carclub@powickclimateaction.org](http://carclub@powickclimateaction.org)

1 Car club vehicles are shown to each replace ~20 privately owned vehicles  
2 Car club users are more likely to walk and cycle for short journeys  
3 UK privately owned vehicles have an average running cost of over £3000pa



## Springtime Gifts

Celebrate Mother's Day,  
Easter, anniversaries  
& birthdays with a  
unique gardening gift  
which can be  
personalised.

Lots of gifts to choose from at:



[borderinabox.com](http://borderinabox.com)

The home of unique gardening gifts



# Powick Action Climate Emergency (PACE) group



## Your Favourite Trees

As part of our action to enhance biodiversity in the Parish we wish to recognise our old and notable trees. The Woodland Trust has developed a database that will allow us to use criteria to assist in judging the age of trees. Any information submitted to the Woodland Trust's database will then be validated by their trained volunteers. We have surprisingly few trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) in the Parish and trees within the curtilage of listed buildings don't have automatic protection. The Woodland Trust's database aims to highlight how many ancient and notable trees are at risk of being lost through development and neglect. This information may support requests for government to increase protection of these valuable assets. Do you know of any large trees in the Parish? Trees that have historical significance in the community? Trees that have prominent position in the landscape? Would you like to help in checking reported trees?

Please contact:

Cllr. Felicity Williams

Tel: 01905 830425

Email:

[fwilliams@powick-pc.org.uk](mailto:fwilliams@powick-pc.org.uk)

## Transport

Private vehicle ownership has doubled since the 1980s and the size and weight of the vehicles has also greatly increased. This causes impacts such as noise and air pollution, CO2 emissions, congestion and problem parking. Living rurally, and with a diminished bus service, alternatives to private vehicle ownership can seem limited. In this special, we explore some options.

### Car Club

Car Clubs can offer a great alternative to owning your own vehicle. They require community engagement to be successful but most, they provide an opportunity to give up at least one vehicle. There

are many benefits, such as:

- Car club vehicles are shown to each replace -20 privately owned vehicles
- Car club users are more likely to walk and cycle for short journeys
- UK privately owned vehicles have an average running cost of over £3000 pa

We are currently exploring ways of setting up a Powick Parish Car Club. If you think a car club could be for you, get in touch!

[carclub@](mailto:carclub@)

[powickclimateaction.org](http://powickclimateaction.org)



### Peer-to-Peer Hire

Peer-to-peer vehicle hire services are a relatively recent development. They offer a way of accessing privately owned vehicles for hire, without having to worry about things like insurance because the system takes care of all that.

Living rurally, it can be hard finding a vehicle available near to you. On HiyaCar there are vehicles listed in Worcester but none in Powick at this time. Maybe you would like to offer a vehicle for others to hire and add to your income?

Check out: [www.hiyacar.co.uk](http://www.hiyacar.co.uk)

### ON DEMAND BUS SERVICE WORCESTERSHIRE

Parts of our parish are covered by a new demand-responsive bus service. It operates from 1am until 7pm, Monday through to Saturday, accommodating areas including Upton-upon-Severn, Callow End, Kempsey, Hanley Swan, Hanley Castle, Langdon, Bushley and Welland. Journeys cost £2.50, with additional passengers paying £1.50 and concessionary cards are valid.

There is a great Worcestershire On Demand phone app or journeys can be booked by calling 01905 846180 or email: [WOD@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:WOD@worcestershire.gov.uk)

"It's on a 12 month trial. In my opinion it is a wonderful service and it would be a real shame to lose it. Please everyone let's start making the most of it!"

Gillian Missaoui  
Upton-Upon-Severn  
Worcestershire On Demand user

### ACTIVE TRAVEL

Active Travel means getting about in a way that makes you physically active, like walking or cycling. It's cheap and great for you. Let's look at some of the ways in which you can build it into your routine.

### Walking infrastructure

You might want to invest in a stout pair of boots for some of them, but we are lucky to have some fantastic footpaths on our patch. It's also great to see work being carried out to upgrade the pavement between Callow End and Powick. These are the sorts of improvements that make walking for short trips viable!



### Bike Bus

One of our members is a regular volunteer rider on the Bike Busses serving Worcester schools. They are a fantastic way for children and parents to ride safely together to school. Get in touch to explore this for your school.



### Bikeability / Cycle clubs / Group rides

Check out Bikeability courses ([bikeability.org.uk](http://bikeability.org.uk)) or local clubs and group rides to build up skills and confidence on a bike. The amazing Cycle Sistas are based locally and organise regular group rides for ladies. Insta: @the\_cycle\_sistas

### Electric bikes

E-bikes are a great way to enable and encourage cycling. We would encourage anyone to give them a go.

Why not try one out with our E-Bike Loan Scheme?



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## TRY OUT AN E-BIKE

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a quality electric bike  
for residents of  
Powick Parish!

Email for details:  
[ebike@powickclimateaction.org](mailto:ebike@powickclimateaction.org)

## Women's Hour! Picture This

Susan Catford



For better or worse, we live in an age when photographs are an everyday part of our lives. The changes over the years that have enabled us to capture and record events now on our mobile phones are quite remarkable.

As a child, my parents had a box camera. It only came out for holidays and special occasions and required a degree of skill in producing a successful photograph. My father was not too good at this and photographs were either out of focus or people were headless! They were, of course, black and white (often very grey!) and the process of placing a film in the camera and removing it was a risky operation. Exposing the film to light destroyed the photographs so it had to be done very carefully. Neither was it cheap to have films developed, usually at a chemist taking days before they were ready. Things did move on with the introduction of instamatic cameras. These were much easier to operate with lenses that took pictures easily and

with much better results. We still seemed to have a lot of headless ones though, particularly when my mother was the photographer! For my 21st birthday I requested a camera (rather like getting a mobile phone these days) as it was something I wanted to own for myself. As was the case at that time, it took slides which were lovely photographs but had to be viewed through a special gadget with a magnifying lens or using a projector. The latter led to the delight of evenings spent viewing the (many!!) photos of friends and family projected onto a screen or the sitting room wall. TV channels were limited in those days!! I never liked having my photo taken and can't understand those who seem to need to have their image recorded at every opportunity. At school, we had the school photographer visit annually. I remember one year my mother told me to tell them that I didn't want it done. This was because there were six of us children and having to pay for all of them was not part of

the family budget. Needless to say my photo was taken and when I took it home my mother bought it. Those stiff, posed photos of a very serious me are still around somewhere and perhaps account for me not wanting to have my picture taken!

Over the years I have remained camera shy. I never like photos of myself. When it came to getting married there was no option. Wedding photos are compulsory!! At least then they kept to a formula – bride and groom, bride and groom with bridesmaids, parents, relatives, friends etc. It didn't take too long and there was a limited quantity produced. Now it is a lengthy, costly procedure with the photographers- usually more than one!- dictating the timing on the wedding day. There have been times when, as guests, we have had to wait an hour or more for the reception to begin. This inevitably means drinking while you wait and being slightly intoxicated before you eat. The average wedding seems to generate photographs by the hundreds at great cost. It is then a mammoth task selecting the best ones to keep. Sadly most of them remain in 'albums' on smart phones; the paper versions are relatively few. A wedding is a very special event though which should be recorded and the quality of photos today are generally superb. For once, I didn't mind having my photo taken for our sons' weddings. They show a very happy, proud Mum!!! This brings me to the subject of 'selfies'. There is obviously a skill in taking a photo of

yourself which makes you look youthful, attractive and permanently smiling. My efforts fail miserably and require the delete button. If you go to London people spend more time (it seems) taking selfies with backdrops of tourist attractions rather than looking at said attractions. You practically fall over these people holding phones at arm's length with posed faces. What's more, if you don't like your image you can change it using filters and other devices. Perhaps I ought to give it a try!!! My phone is full of pictures I have taken and many that have been sent to me. Unfortunately that's where they stay. I have boxes of photos that I have promised myself, one day, to sort into albums for future generations. It will happen I hope! Meanwhile, my husband has placed random photos in drawers around the house and every so often one pops up and instantly brings back memories. It seems a pity that most will remain in that mysterious place 'the cloud' and will probably just disappear at some point. Photos do give us great pleasure and sharing videos can be a way of keeping in touch with those who are distant but there are also drawbacks which we are all aware of. A final thought. Why is it that the passport photo you took ten years ago and thought was awful somehow doesn't look nearly so bad ten years on?!! I'm off now with my phone to have a go at a selfie - you never know, you may see a new youthful, attractive, smiling me at the top of the page!

## Mothering Sunday

This month, on March 10th, we will be celebrating Mothering Sunday (or Mother's Day) again. This is a time when families get together and pay tribute to their mothers everywhere. This special day originated in the 16th century and had nothing to do with mothers! It was the 4th Sunday in Lent when people would return to their mother church. Servants and apprentices were given this day off to attend church but later, it came to be a day when they returned home to see their mothers. This day was also known as Refreshment

Sunday because fasting rules were relaxed on that day. Nowadays, it is more commonly referred to as Mother's Day and is celebrated in more than 40 countries but not on the same day. In many countries such as Canada, Australia and the U.S.A., it is celebrated on the second Sunday in May. In the USA, Mother's Day started as an anti-war movement to celebrate peace. In 1868, Ann Jarvis wanted to create a 'Mother's Friendship Day' aimed at reuniting families divided during the civil

war. She died in 1905 before the annual celebration was established but her daughter continued to promote the idea of Mother's Day as a US national holiday. President Woodrow Wilson supported the campaign and in May 1914, Congress passed a law designating the 2nd Sunday in May as Mother's Day. Whilst this day is not necessarily associated with the Christian Mothering Sunday as in the U.K., it has the same purpose to show love and appreciation for mothers. In most countries, gifts, cards

**Mothering Sunday**

**10th March**



and flowers are given on this special day. The flowers most often given are roses or carnations which are associated with love. It is also a time when families get together and, possibly, enjoy a meal which is not cooked by their mother! So to mothers everywhere, happy Mothering Sunday and enjoy your day. You are very special to your families!

# Farming *Mike Page*



*Picture from the farmhouse here (looking out directly West), but showing surface flooding from natural saturation of the soil profile following continuously heavy rainfall in October-November-December and now into January-February. That is the reason the field is still stubble from the 2023 harvested crop, and has not, even yet, been planted with a crop for 2024 harvest.*

I had hoped by now that the wet weather of recent months might have eased off a bit and we could be thinking in terms of the 2024 growing season and harvest. But as this month's picture (very similar to last month's) shows, the land (ie the soil profile) is still saturated, with water lying on the surface and there is no way of

cultivating or establishing a crop for 2024 harvest just yet. Every year the agricultural world extract billions of tonnes of Carbon Dioxide from the atmosphere, but all of that is released back when the produce is consumed; Agriculture, as was pointed out at last year's COP28 in Dubai, is responsible

for some 30% of global emissions. Everyone is familiar with baked beans and here in the UK they are consumed in the many millions of cans per year. All coming in from abroad (mostly from the American Prairies) so they start their journey from farm to fork with 1000 miles by train, followed by 2000 miles by ship; even if the Carbon cost of growing them is fairly low, the Carbon cost of transporting them here is high. The UK is right on the climatic extreme for growing the Haricot Beans that become 'baked beans' and plant breeders have been looking into breeding varieties that can be grown in the UK. A single commercial crop was grown successfully in Lincolnshire and processed into canned beans for the first time in 2023. One problem still to overcome is that one of the more suitable varieties that might be grown here at scale is black-skinned and it is doubtful if consumers would accept readily a can of beans if when opened the contents were black rather than the pale

colour they expect. More work to do yet for the plant breeders. The vast majority of farm grazing animals are ruminants, their complex digestive process designed to extract the maximum amount of nutrition from consumption of large quantities of low-nutritional-value foodstuffs such as grasses. One result of that complex digestive process is they produce a lot of Methane, which is belched out. Methane has a far higher climate warming impact than Carbon Dioxide and it seems that, as some types of cattle/sheep produce far less Methane than others, animal breeders in the UK are looking into ways in which this feature of digestion can be bred into commercial breeds. At least if this happens it will not be immediately obvious on the dinner plate in a way that will put anyone off the meal, but again more work yet to do for the geneticists. Decarbonising agriculture is rather more than just designing tractors, having engines that use less Diesel or run on Hydrogen!

## Country Watch

February has proved to be another very wet month with fields and rivers flooding as well as flash floods on the roads. Difficult times for drivers as well as farmers needing to sow their crops. Lots of standing water and saturated ground is not good for livestock either. Rural footpaths and woodlands make for very muddy walks; not good for those needing some outdoor exercise or for dog-walkers. Floodwaters do attract different waterfowl though which is good for bird-watchers. It is quite fun to see swans apparently enjoying riding the strong currents going downstream then battling their way back upstream. This is also the time of year when frogs and toads are on the move, migrating back to their breeding grounds. During the winter months they may stay in fields, woodlands or even gardens seeking warmth and shelter. However, their journeys often take them into and across roads which is very hazardous. They begin to do this as the weather warms up.

They usually move at night, often in large numbers. It is difficult for drivers to see them before it is too late so there are often many casualties. This happened recently in a nearby village lane but concerned locals used WhatsApp to warn us. Some roads where this occurs annually have signs warning motorists. It will be interesting to see if we have better weather in March but at the moment, the first week looks set to be cold and damp. At least we have daffodils out now and over the month we will see primroses, wild garlic, various blossoms and, hopefully later, bluebells. Spring will be here and colour will return to our countryside.



## Flowers in Croome Court

Some years ago there was a man whose wife loved going to Croome. So when she died he decided to donate a large sum of money to Croome each year so that flowers could be put in the Court each week in her memory. That generosity enabled a team of volunteer flower arrangers to be set up who, each Wednesday, make and place their work all over the building - just as he wanted. That source of funding

eventually stopped. Now another benefactor has come forward, just because he has been so impressed by the displays he had seen. He, too, will give a donation each year to help the flower ladies, sufficient to keep the work going.

*The pictures show recent displays.*



# How to choose the right greenhouse

Nikki Hollier



If you've been contemplating buying a greenhouse, but unsure where to start, here's my top five tips to consider.

Firstly, do you need a greenhouse at all? The main purpose of a greenhouse is to extend the growing season, by protecting seedlings and plants from the weather (and pesky rabbits!). So, if you plan on 'growing your own' this year, a greenhouse is a valuable addition to your garden. Choosing the right greenhouse for your growing needs, and available space can be tricky with so much to choose from. So, I've had a chat with local experts Keder Greenhouses in Evesham for some advice.

**Size –**

This really depends on the space available and what you're planning to grow but bear in

mind the height ideally needs to be 1.8m tall so you can...

- work comfortably inside,
- there's space for staging (growing your plants) and
- it allows easy access to the door to enable you to use a wheelbarrow to help with heavy loads such as bags of compost

**Insulation –**

Good insulation is key to reducing the need for heating whilst still protecting your tender crops. All Keder greenhouses are covered with Polydress LP-Keder Air Bubble Film which provides an insulating effect that retains up to 95% of heat radiation. When compared to glass this offers over twice the insulation properties.

**Ventilation –**

As we head through Spring you will need to ensure that your

greenhouse is properly ventilated to keep humidity levels down and prevent disease. It is essential that any greenhouse is supplied with at least one roof or side vent, and a rear window opposite the main entrance is ideal.

**Orientation –**

When deciding where to put your greenhouse, you may be looking for the best orientation to make the most of any available light. Unlike traditional glass greenhouses, a Keder can be placed facing whichever direction best suits your plot, due to the bubbles taking in the light and distributing that light evenly throughout the structure. Because the unique design of the greenhouse cover, perfectly diffuses the light, you will not have shady spots or sun scorching, therefore achieving a higher yield of upright crops.

**Storm proof –**

Another thing sent to test the average gardener is the



**Nikki Hollier**

nikki@borderinbox.com

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increasing frequency and severity of storms in the UK. A storm proof greenhouse is invaluable - the Keder bubble film has been designed to withstand high winds and snow so are suitable for our UK weather all year round.

For more information, please contact Keder Greenhouse direct on 01386 49094 or email sales@kedergreenhouse.co.uk.



## February gardening tips Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester

### Early March

Lift and divide herbaceous plants. Plant alpine and herbaceous plants.

Lightly mow over the lawn. Prepare sites for new lawns. Prune rose bushes soon if not already done.

Plant onion, garlic and shallot sets.

Start Begonia and Gloxinia tubers into growth indoors. Buy seedlings or baby bedding plants to grow on at home.

### Mid Month

Support all tall growing herbaceous plants from early in the season. Try growing some ornamental vegetables in the flower garden, e.g. red leafed lettuce and runner beans. Prune Blueberries.

Sow hardy annual flowers like Eschscholzia, Godetia, Clary, Mignonette etc. direct in the garden borders.

Treat moss, scarify and aerate lawns as well as feeding the grass, you can now get moss killers that digest dead moss,

so no raking or use traditional Lawn Sand.

Prune late summer flowering shrubs, like Buddleia and Caryopteris, as well as Hydrangea paniculate varieties and Hydrangea arborescens Annabelle.

Prune down hard shrubs with coloured stems like Cornus, as well as hardy Fuchsias.

Trim over winter flowering heathers cutting to the base of the flower clusters.

Buy and plant pots of herbs.

Sow seeds of hardy herbs in the garden, like parsley. Plant seed potatoes – but beware of frost once the shoots emerge from the soil.

Vegetable seeds to sow now include: broad beans, lettuce, leeks, parsnips, peas, radish, salad onions, spinach, Swiss chard and spinach beet.

Sow summer bedding under glass: dahlias, impatiens, petunias, phlox drummondii, salvias, asters, tagetes, mesembryanthemums, alyssum,

nicotiana, marigolds and zinnias. Plant lilies outdoors in borders and tubs.

Lay out growing bags in the greenhouse to warm up the compost before planting.

Sow fruit and vegetable plants for growing on in a heated greenhouse, e.g. tomatoes, aubergines, peppers, cucumbers, etc. or you could decide to buy plants later.

### Late March

Plant less robust hardy evergreen shrubs e.g. Hebe and Ceanothus.

Lay turf or sow lawn seed.

Start feeding pond fish more frequently as the water temperature rises.

Vegetables to sow now include: Brussels sprouts, red cabbage, summer cabbage and summer cauliflower.

Dwarf French beans can be sown under cloches.

Watch out for the build up of pests and diseases.

Treat pots against vine weevil attacks using Bug Clear Vine



Weevil Killer. It protects your plants for three months. An organic answer is a half inch deep layer of horticultural grit over the compost surface to deter egg laying. Marginal plants in ponds can be divided if overcrowded, but watch out for frog spawn.

### Remember!

You can't race the seasons and seeds do not have to be sown exactly when the packet tells you. My advice with outdoor sowings is watch the weather not the calendar, as seed sown later when conditions are right usually catches up and surpasses crops put in earlier that had to suffer during bad weather.

## Cooking for fun! *Ailsa Craddock*

The rhubarb in my garden is growing really well so I thought this month we would look at that. It's such a relatively short season that we really ought to make the most of it! Botanically, rhubarb is a vegetable (it's related to sorrel and dock) but its thick, fleshy stalks are treated as a fruit, despite their tart flavour. It grows in two crops. The first, which arrives early in the year, is forced and grown under pots. Its stalks are watermelon pink, with pale lime green leaves, and it is the more tender and delicately flavoured of the two. The second, called maincrop rhubarb, is grown outdoors, and arrives in spring. Its stalks are a deeper red, tinged with green, and its leaves a brighter green. It has a more intense flavour and a more robust texture than forced.

I love mine lightly poached with my porridge in the morning or with custard or in a crumble. It also marries beautifully with ginger and strawberries (obviously not altogether). And did you know, it goes really well with savoury dishes, particularly strong fish like mackerel?

### Mackerel with rhubarb chutney

75g / 3oz castor sugar

25g/1oz sultanas

Few sprigs fresh rosemary

2cm/¾in piece root ginger peeled and finely chopped

1 shallot, peeled and finely chopped

3 sticks rhubarb

5 tbsp cider vinegar

1 orange, juice only

Salt and black pepper

1 mackerel - 2 fillets – use more as you need

#### For the chutney

In a heavy-based pan melt the sugar until a golden-brown caramel forms. Remove from the heat and stir in the sultanas, rosemary sprigs, ginger, shallot and rhubarb. Stir in the cider vinegar and orange juice. Bring back to the boil and cook gently



for 8-10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper and set aside to cool.

#### For the mackerel

Place the mackerel fillet skin-side up on an oven tray. Brush with rapeseed oil and place the fillets under a hot grill. Season with salt and pepper. Serve a spoonful of chutney with the cooked mackerel fillets, new potatoes and a crisp salad.



completely mushy (technical term!). Put a piece of muslin over a large bowl (I secure mine with an elastic band) and pour the liquid and fruit into it. Leave it to drip through overnight. Bottle and keep in the fridge (I have no idea how long it will last as it seems to go as fast as I can make it, but I would think about one week to ten days). Serve with hot or cold, still or sparkling water – even with your Easter prosecco!

### Rhubarb Cordial

450g rhubarb, chopped

225g sugar (I know it seems a lot, but remember you are going to dilute it and don't need a lot)

300ml water

1 orange, zest and juice

1 lemon, zest and juice

Put the sugar and water into a large saucepan. Add the rhubarb, zests and juices and bring to the boil. Cook until the rhubarb is

PS.

If you want to make more, I work on a ration of half sugar to weight of rhubarb and up the water slightly.

## Thoughts from the Snug . . .

### A cricket story

Whilst watching a test match two cricket fans were sharing their enthusiasm and love of the game and one said to the other, "I wonder if they play cricket in heaven? It surely can't be as good as this."

"I don't know. It's possible," replied the other, "but I guess we won't know until we get there."

"Absolutely!" confirmed the other, "but if I get there before you I'll let you know."

Sadly a few weeks later this whimsical remark turned into a self-fulfilled prophecy; suffering a sudden heart attack he died whilst watching another thrilling match.

At his funeral his friend thoughtfully reflected upon the possibility of a celestial cricket pitch. Unsurprisingly, later that night, his old friend reappeared in a ghostly dream.

"Any cricket pitches in heaven?" he enquired of his dear friend.

"Oh, yes!" came the reply. "I've got good news and bad news about cricket here in heaven. What do you want first?"

"The good news, obviously," he replied rather impatiently.

"Well . . . there is a splendid pitch up here, a superb wicket and the standard of play is excellent. The bad news is that you are opening the bowling this Wednesday!"

Buddy Bach

## Do you have a cherished book that is in need of restoration or repair?



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Four generations of printers

## A Guide to accountant speak for P&L Statements *Carol Draper*

All industries have their own jargon and accountancy is no exception. It is easy to forget that not everyone is familiar with standard words and phrases so hopefully this article will shed some light on some commonly used words and expressions.

Profit and Loss statement or Income Statement. This is a financial report that shows how much your business has spent and earned over a specified period, usually a year. It aims to show whether your business is making or losing money. Turnover - this is sales made or fees charged for goods and services your business supplies before any other costs or expenses have been deducted. It is Turnover that is used to work out if your business should register for VAT. Cost of Sales or Direct Costs – these are costs that relate directly to the sales you make. For example, if you run a shop, it would be the cost of the stock that you sell and the wages you pay to staff who work in the shop. Gross profit = turnover less direct costs. Gross profit is often expressed as a percentage of turnover to calculate if sales prices are being set at the right level and to enable direct comparisons to be made with other periods. Expenses or overheads – the



other costs of running your business. Amongst others these can include rent, motor expenses, light and heat, advertising, telephone, and accountancy fees. Net profit/net loss – this is the amount that remains once all the business costs are deducted from the business income. If the number is positive this is a profit. If the number is negative this is a loss. Taxable profit – this is profit on which you have to pay tax. Taxable profit may be different to net profit as there are expenses such as entertainment and depreciation that are not allowable by HM Revenue & Customs but there are some additional allowances that can be included. Next month I will look at the Balance Sheet but as always if you have any queries speak to your accountant for an explanation.

*Carol Draper FCCA  
Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co Ltd*

"There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so"

*Hamlet quote (Act II, Sc. II).*

# Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co

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## Discoveries

*Angela Johns*

We were due to go down to Devon for a long weekend, my partner and I, for wintery walks on the beach and brisk bike rides between the villages around Westward Ho!. While I dodged flu followed by a chest infection, he did not, so I ventured to one of my favourite counties alone. It was too short notice for any of my favourites to join me but still, I was excited to go. This is because Me Time is important. This is when I can balance the giving I do and the responsibilities I have with the receiving I need and the freedom I want. It means I can give without resentment and hold responsibility with more ease. But Me Alone Time\* is essential. This is when I can discover if I'm getting the balance right. In Me Alone Time I have an opportunity to make my own decisions from the simple to the complex. It's a chance to self-discover what I really want and what changes are required to get there, if any (there usually is!). I had a great Me Time/Me Alone Time on the Devonshire coast blowing the cobwebs away and getting some Vitamin Sea. And I also made some discoveries: Firstly, that after several miles along my walk kicking through the surf, I have a small hole in my left welly. Secondly, that after cycling nine freezing miles to a recommended café, I'd forgotten my bike lock and had to sit outside in the cold to enjoy their amazing coffee and cake. I thought I might cry on the return journey into the head wind as I could no longer feel my fingers. That night I thought I deserved to take myself out to a favourite restaurant and enjoy a cocktail after all that exercise, but my third discovery was that it was closed for January. I did however buy a bottle of bubbly from Tesco Express and got the best fish and chips from the



chippy next door. I only discovered the curry sauce I thought they had forgotten to give me the next morning hiding under a tea towel. For a couple of hours on day 3 I discovered that for the first time in a long time I felt lonely. I am so incredibly blessed that I rarely feel lonely (in writing this I have discovered a newfound sense of gratitude for this). I discovered that I had had enough of Me Alone Time but still had 24 hours left. There was no way I was going home early as I still wanted a bit more Me Time! So I stayed, the feeling passed as feelings are apt to do, and the sun came out. I rediscovered a little spark inside of me and that's all it needed. Sometimes when we are circling around in our lives and it feels like we are not going anywhere, it's the rediscoveries that hold the power. \*Me Time is nothing new, but coining the phrase Me Alone Time, in her book *A Practical Guide to Realising Your True Worth*, Lynda Field hits the nail on the head.

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

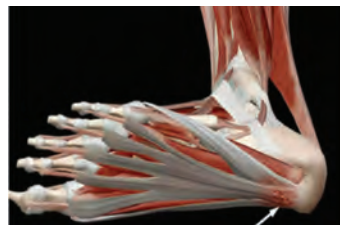
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# Store it, double it, release it.

Karen Harris

I'm talking about energy of course. The title refers to what should happen as our bodies propel us forward in locomotion. If you regularly read my column you will know I often mention feet, there is good reason for that, they are blummin' important! The energetics of movement begins with the perception of the ground, proper foot posture and intrinsic foot strength. Ground reaction forces are perceived as energy; we should release as much energy as we bring in, but it should be 2-2.5x more. Just in our 'simple' (not that 'simple' at all!) gait process, our body enables us to store energy, quickly double it, and then release it. It's pretty amazing really. We just need to optimise the biomechanical and structural foundation to do it. The picture gives vivid detail of the spring mechanisms on the bottom of the foot; the roll through the arches in the feet plus the lever from the toes, all transfer into the achilles tendon for the energy to be released into the muscles of the calf up the leg into the 'glutes' (bum muscles). The forefoot should widen - which brings stability and balance - and the system is repeated on push-off. Orthotics stops/blocks the mechanism that makes this energy transfer work. If we talk about posture as body alignment, that must also apply to the feet; yes feet have posture! Weakness or/and atrophy of the foot intrinsics alters your weight distribution (corns and callouses appear) toes start to curl in (hammertoes) your balance is impaired, the arches will be lost, forefoot

pressure will be increased (pain and neuroma) and there will be a loss of power on push-off. Your gait pattern will shorten, the ankle loses its flexing ability which stops the foot moving effectively, this tightens the muscles on the back of the leg, the leg gets restricted in the hip, the hips stiffen which affects the way that the pelvis moves, which affects the lumber spine; you get back ache wondering why pain killers don't help, all the time not even considering that your poor old feet are part of the problem! So I'll ask a few questions..... Do your shoes allow your forefoot to spread? Are your feet out of shoes for a good proportion of the day? Do your 'glute' muscles activate when you squeeze and release them? Can you do a single heel raise, (barefoot) with the other foot off the floor, and it feels stable? Do you have one or both arches still in place? We want a 'yes' to each of those questions, if not I can guarantee you there will be problems elsewhere. Foot health is crucial to your stability and longevity, whatever age you are please think about using them fully and how your footwear affects them, you REALLY will benefit in the long term.



# Embracing Inspiration:

Emily Papirnik

## The Fuel for Creativity and Growth

What inspires you? Take a moment to ponder this question. The answer may not always be readily apparent, but within it lies the key to unlocking your potential and fuelling your creativity. Inspiration has a remarkable power to propel us forward, to ignite our passions and guide us on paths we never imagined possible. Picture that moment when inspiration strikes. It's a sensation unlike any other – a sudden surge of energy, a flash of insight, a feeling of clarity that washes over you. Whether it's sparked by a person, a piece of art, a poem or simply a walk in nature, inspiration has the amazing ability to stir something deep within us. At its core, inspiration is about more than just fleeting moments of motivation. It's about tapping into something fundamental – something that connects us to our deepest desires, our most profound truths, and our highest aspirations. It's about finding meaning and purpose in the world around us and allowing that sense of wonder and possibility to guide our actions. When we are inspired, we are moved to action. We feel compelled to create, to explore, to innovate. It's as if a door has been opened, revealing a world of endless possibilities. Suddenly, the barriers that once seemed insurmountable fade away and we are filled with a sense of limitless potential. Inspiration is not just about grand gestures or ground-breaking discoveries. It's about



finding beauty and significance in the ordinary moments of life. It's about noticing the small miracles that surround us each day – the laughter of a loved one, the colours of a sunset, the gentle rustle of leaves in the wind. In a world that often seems chaotic and uncertain, inspiration serves as a guiding light and reminds us of the beauty and wonder that still exists. It encourages us to embrace change, to welcome new ideas that we ourselves are creating. So, take a moment to reflect on what inspires you. Is it the beauty of nature, the wisdom of a mentor or the resilience of the human spirit? Whatever it may be, cherish it, cultivate it and allow it to fuel your creativity, your passion and your growth. For in the end, inspiration is not just a fleeting feeling – it is a transformative force that has the power to shape our lives and our world in ways we never thought possible. So, embrace it, celebrate it, and let it guide you to your journey of self-discovery and fulfilment.

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## Romy's Uni Life *Romy Kemp*

Liverpool University

### Halfway:

The first year of university is halfway up! Semester 2 has begun at an alarming rate, with assignments flying around to be completed. The workload has increased, as expected, and yet it is still extremely interesting to read. However, the seminars are progressively becoming more deeply analysed and the necessity for louder judgements has arisen. I can honestly say that it's all really enjoyable material!

The past few months have been tough. The weather has been abysmal - the flooding, the dull sky, the miserable days. Motivation has been hard to maintain and energy has been running low. The longing for summer has begun engraining into my brain too early this year! The need for a holiday has emerged, as well as the vibes of summer: games, beach days, sun. The wind and rain of Liverpool has been horrendous throughout the past few months - every single day. My only inclination that winter is nearly at an end is through nature. Snowdrops - purple and white - are blooming, and the birds are louder than ever. Squirrels are hopping about and the wind is becoming less bitter.

#### Manchester:

After getting the bus, from my accommodation, I made my way to the train station. On the walk up to the station, I bumped into one of my friends (on my course) who was also getting the train to Manchester - how amusing. The first hour on the train flew by, as we were just chatting about home life and



the course. After a short wait for my second train, I was in Glossop - being met by my mum, which was an unexpected surprise. A weekend with family and friends was a lovely getaway from the students routine of university life. Shopping, a meal, and a pub crawl - all one could ask for on a weekend! Glossop was such a wonderful place for me to return to - having gone back after a good few years. The memories of it not wavering even once I arrived. It was a charming weekend to spend with my mum, aunty and family friends - seeing how everyone has grown since the previous interaction! On arrival back from Manchester, the sun was shining in Liverpool (which makes a change) and the wind was breezy. This makes me hopeful for a pleasant summer in the city. I was greeted back by my flatmate who I spent the rest of the Sunday with, before focusing back on university work on the Monday.

## International Happiness Day 2024



It seems as if every day is the International Day of Something or Other. In the next few weeks, we have World Bicycle Day, International Tea Day (that's every day in my house) and World Asteroid Day to look forward to. (Remind me to stay indoors and wear a crash helmet for that last one.) Wednesday 20th March has been designated by the United Nations as this year's International Happiness Day. Given that this annual event was inaugurated back in 2013 and the subsequent course of world history, we might be forgiven for rolling our eyes and mumbling, "Well, that's gone well, hasn't it!" To be fair, however, the aims of the day are clearly worth striving for: the UN sees the promotion of happiness and wellbeing as a fundamental human right, and the path to this includes ending poverty, reducing inequality and protecting the planet. We are all invited to join in with our own ways of marking the day. So what will YOU do? How could you make the lives of your family, friends and colleagues happier that day? Is there something you could do for your community? Or the environment? It's well known that doing things for others and with others can make us happier. If you are stuck for ideas, have a look at the Pershore Wellbeing Hub website (below) which lists all sorts of community groups and projects you could get involved in - or pop in and chat with us. Living in the Pershore area, we may (statistically, at least) have a head start when it comes to wellbeing. In a recent survey, one third of the top twenty happiest places in the UK were

small market towns - due, it was claimed, to a greater chance of friendly locals and a sense of community. The same survey also said being near the coast made for happier places - which doesn't help us much. Although the past few weeks of flooded fields and closed bridges might suggest that becoming a coastal town is nearer than we think.

But what about improving our own personal happiness? One idea is to create good habits - things proven to make you happier that you know you will do regularly. What about these?

#### Smile:

the physical act of smiling creates dopamine in the brain - and that stimulates feelings of happiness. Give it a go... it may work!

#### Exercise:

do whatever is manageable for you (however small) every day.

#### Improve a skill:

choose something you love doing (singing, a sport, knitting) and set aside time every week to getting better at it. You will love yourself better for it.

By the way, March 20th also happens to be International French Language Day. So... Bonne Journée Internationale du Bonheur... et soyez heureux!

*Paul Morris*

*Pershore Wellbeing Hub*

*No. 4, High Street*

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



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# Gregory's World!

Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford

## The Next Stage

There's something about a theatre when the crew scurry into the wings, give you the thumbs up – 'Okay, guys, we're ready.' – before helming the tech desk at the back of the room, and sliding the first switch on the control panel to begin our journey. The audience hubbub lulls. People finish shimmying out of their coats and remember at the last minute to put their phones on silent. Sound speakers buzz faintly with the promise of much to say. Dawn breaks in a warm wash over the stage. Meanwhile, I'm waiting in the wings, waiting for my cue, waiting ... My stomach has worked itself into a Constrictor knot. Our group of actors jitters with anxiety, excitement and Red Bull. The grace period for tricky tongue twisters and uneasily reciting our lines to the opposite wall is over. Here we go again! Back in December, fresh out of the oven from performing in an adaptation of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, I remember declaring I was 'officially baptised into the world of Oxford drama' and I wouldn't be leaving anytime soon. Performing onstage is a jump start for confidence, you give something back to the uni, and it allows you to break out of

your college bubble by meeting a small group of new people and working with them on a shared project over a length of time. It flavours everyday studies to remember that – as you take notes in lectures – later on, you'll be messing around with silly voices and sillier walks to the (we can only hope!) laughter and applause of an audience. So, of course, I would have another go – and fortune twinkled on me after I successfully auditioned for a role in *Vanitas*, written by the hugely-talented James Whitney and Danny Doyle-Vidaurre. *Vanitas* was an original comedy about a cult initiation gone wrong, filled with seances, subterfuge and spooky face paint. My character was Shirley Shrine (the casting was gender-blind, but the instances of 'she' in the script gave me the funny feeling I was not who they'd originally imagined for the role). With the directors' suggestions, Shirley transformed into a dishevelled hybrid of David Mitchell and Richard Ayoade's character, 'Moss', from *The IT Crowd*. With as much suppleness as a plank of kiln-dried hardwood, he snoops through most of the show, trying to disentangle the web of secrecy woven by the charismatic cult leader, Augustus Chalmers.

Unlike *An Enemy of the People* (which clocked in at two to two and a half hours long, depending on how many lines we remembered), *Vanitas* clocked in at a punchy sixty minutes and we only rehearsed for about two weeks beforehand. It was a crash-course in showbiz, during which I got to know a handful of really great people – a favourite memory already is of us gathering at the Turf Tavern on the night before our first performance to go over lines with the assistance of a Guinness. The next morning, I woke up, made some toast (I'd carelessly rammed a loaf into the freezer, only for the loaf to set into sheets of corrugated bread too warped to fit in the toaster – so I entrusted Fry with the job) and prepared for a day of last-minute notes and technical checks, conscious that my friends would be coming to see me that very night. And not just friends, it turned out, but reviewers too. Adding to the brilliant, but nerve-racking, news that we'd sold out on our final night, was the buzz around respected Oxford theatre critic, Peter Kessler, being a member of that packed audience. After a terrific closing show, there was much nail-biting and teethchattering and phone-

refreshing at our after-party as we awaited an update to his blog: *The President's Husband's Drama Reviews*. The review was unsurprisingly and fashionably scathing in places – 'Vanitas Latin means "an empty or worthless activity" – a refreshingly honest title' – and he ultimately considered the play 'Very interesting. But stupid', giving it two stars. His individual actor-based summaries were a little more forgiving and I seem to have fared quite well: 'Gregory Sidaway as Shirley, a visitor with the deductive powers of Inspector Gadget, delivers some punchy physical comedy, shaking hands with impossibly awkward stiffness and keeping his pen clipped to his spectacles.' Regardless, there is something about a theatre which excites, terrifies and has always stayed with me. It was with me back when I was a (granted, reluctant) narrator in my primary school nativity in December 2009 and it was with me in Oxford in February 2024 as I jumped onstage with a silly voice and – naturally – an even sillier walk. And, what's more, I've now had my first review! Not too shabby, I think you'll agree, fellow reader?

## VETERINARY ADVICE ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!



### The Importance of Vaccination

Vaccinations are an important part of our pets' healthcare requirements. They are there to protect our pets from potentially deadly diseases, such as canine parvovirus, feline enteritis and rabbit haemorrhagic disease. As well as stopping the potential spread of diseases like leptospirosis to humans.

Unfortunately, there has been a worrying trend of a reduction in the numbers of both pets and humans being vaccinated in recent years. This has led to regional outbreaks of serious diseases that have not been seen in large numbers for some time. Up to a third of pets are not kept up to date with their routine vaccinations. Vaccination, in part, works by 'herd immunity' – the more animals that are vaccinated the less likely those vulnerable to the disease will become infected. With fewer animals being vaccinated the more at risk our animals are, even those that are routinely vaccinated.

### Recommended vaccinations:

#### Dogs

- Core vaccinations (those recommended for any domestic dog worldwide) are for canine parvovirus, canine adenovirus (hepatitis) and distemper, after the initial vaccination course these are needed every 3 years.
- In the UK countryside leptospirosis is not only a potentially fatal condition but can also be spread to humans, this vaccine is needed every 12 months.
- Kennel cough can lead to a debilitating cough and is very contagious, it is recommended for dogs in any setting where there are multiple dogs present e.g. kennelling or training classes, or for dogs that are particularly sociable and enjoy greeting every dog. It is a 12 monthly vaccine usually given up the nose.

#### Cats

- Core vaccinations are for feline enteritis, feline herpesvirus and feline calicivirus (cat flu). Enteritis is given 3 yearly and the flu viruses are needed yearly.
- Feline leukaemia virus vaccine is given 3 yearly and is recommended for any outdoor cats.

#### Rabbits

- Rabbits have a single combined vaccination yearly which covers for rabbit haemorrhagic disease 1 and 2 and myxomatosis.

Most vaccination appointments will include a general health check to catch other conditions early, such as dental disease and heart disease. Contact your vet to make sure your pet is up to date with their vaccinations.

Best wishes *Eliza*

info@martinandcarrvets.co.uk  
martinandcarrvets.co.uk

## Slow horses and fast women

Brian Johnson-Thomas



My childhood memories contain many references to my Great Aunt, an individual for whom the term 'parsimonious' could have been coined. On one occasion I was dragooned into digging her potato plot for the, even then, niggardly sum of half-a-crown. When I then blew the lot on ice creams for my cousin and myself, this drew the observation that, if indeed I succeeded in making my fortune, I would doubtless blow it all on slow horses and fast women. Every March, with the Cheltenham Gold Cup looming, I think of her even though I have yet to make my fortune, let alone blow it all away.

One of the best ways to get to Cheltenham Racecourse has to be by steam train (as the crates and crates of empty champagne bottles at Toddington Station testify) and, this year, the Gloucester and Warwickshire Steam Railway have put out advice saying that, if you haven't pre-booked your ticket, then please use Toddington Station only as there's a big car park there without the security issues at the racecourse itself.

Also, even though the season starts tomorrow, the Stanway Viaduct is still closed for repairs and so Broadway Station is also closed until sometime next month.

See [www.gwsr.com](http://www.gwsr.com) for details. It's also Mothering Sunday next weekend, so I thought that we'd spend a few moments looking for something nice, but different, for Mum. Frankly I don't know a lot about Spas, wellness and all that but I did find out that nearby Hilton Hotel at Puckrup, just north of Tewkesbury has a Schmoo Spa offering a range of Spa treatments and that you can combine a visit there with the use of the Living Well Health Club adjacent. They're open from ten till six on six days a week.

Call 01684 271 518 or email [puckrup@schmooskincare.com](mailto:puckrup@schmooskincare.com). The above bit of research prompted me to dig a little deeper and this has given rise to a few more suggestions:- how about a wine tasting break at the Three Choirs Vineyards, also in Gloucestershire, for a treat? see [www.three-choirs-vineyards.co.uk](http://www.three-choirs-vineyards.co.uk)

Then my research really got going and I found two rather exciting presents. There's a drink made by a company called Clean Co which has produced a range of non alcoholic equivalents to full strength spirits – and which taste exactly like the real thing. The portfolio includes Gin, Tequila, Rum, Vodka and Whisky.

See [www.clean.co](http://www.clean.co)

Later I was really impressed by, of all things, a gourmet popcorn company. Joe & Seph's offer a range of upmarket and innovative takes on the humble popcorn, such as their Prosecco Popcorn and their White Chocolate and Strawberry Popcorn. If you really are looking for an unusual gift then the Pamper Night Gift Box and £25 looks good value.

See [www.joehandsephs.co.uk](http://www.joehandsephs.co.uk)

Otherwise, if you fancy treating Mum to a night out then you could do worse that head for the bright lights of the City and Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre which, next weekend, is hosting a touring solo dance theatre show called 40/40

featuring dancer Katherina Radeva in a show about turning the age of 40. I should perhaps add that there's a 'Content warning' which says:- "Nudity, heavy breathing, middle aged woman dancing with much joy". Well, it certainly sounds a different night out....

This leads me neatly on to our Cotswolds neighbours, the Longborough Festival Opera who this year will be the only opera house in England to stage the whole of Wagner's Ring Cycle. Since watching the whole cycle takes place across a whole week – and they're doing it three times - they have also added another Wagner opera "Die Walkure" plus Puccini's "La Boheme" and, for good measure, their touring company will stage Donizetti's "The Implausible Potions of Dr Dulcarama" in the Cidermill Theatre at Chipping Campden. Whilst, the Ring Cycle is already sold out, tickets for the others go on sale next week.

See [www.lfo.org.uk](http://www.lfo.org.uk)

Looks like an exciting month to come and then, wow! it's Easter and Spring at last....



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# Our local hospitals in WW2

Tim Hickson



*Evesham Community Hospital shows two of the WW2 buildings linked by a newer bit*



*Wonkswood Hospital, Worcester*

As elsewhere in Britain, all Worcestershire pre-War hospitals were expected to prepare to receive both military and civilian casualties. However, realising that they would not be able to cope with the numbers expected, new hospitals were built. One example was Ronkswood, on Newtown Road in Worcester. This was built in 1941 on part of the old Tolladine Golf Course. It had 600 beds in 14 wards. During the War it treated both military casualties and civilian ones, mainly from the air raids on Birmingham. It was meant to last ten years but after War ended, the celebrating soldiers, sailors and airmen returning to their wives and girlfriends caused a large growth of the birthrate. So Ronkswood became a partner of the old Worcester Royal Infirmary, in the heart of the city, its purpose being to deal with this new problem. It was extended to contain a new maternity unit and no more midwifery took place in the old Castle Street hospital. As we know, Ronkswood only closed in 2002 as the Worcestershire

Royal Hospital, opened in 2002, then took over. In Evesham, a hospital was built particularly to deal with casualties expected from training accidents at RAF Pershore and, later, RAF Defford. (Regular readers of this paper may recall an earlier article in which I mentioned the case of a secretary at RAF Defford's Sick Quarters who injured her leg in a cycling accident and should have gone to the Evesham hospital. However, the Medical Officer needed her so he curtained off a corner of the Airmen's Ward - now Croome's Canteen - and put her in there.) All the local RAF Stations had their own Sick Quarters for minor injuries, ambulance garages and mortuaries. The Evesham military hospital, enlarged, is still in use as the community hospital. The Asylum at Powick, with its sister at Barnsley Hall near Birmingham, was integrated into the WW2 Emergency Medical Services. However, although a hutted hospital was built in the grounds of Barnsley, Powick was never

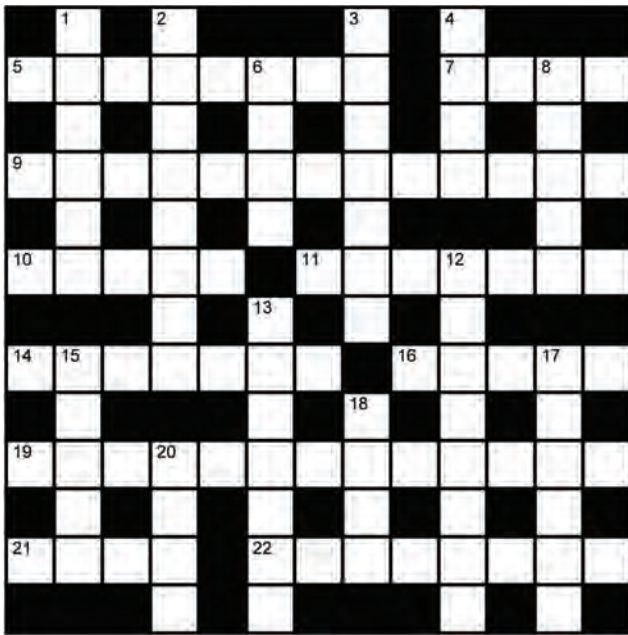
needed. (Incidentally, whilst researching the history of Powick I learnt that Edward Elgar, as a 22-year-old became the Bandmaster at the Asylum and went on to write The Powick Asylum Music - for those inmates and staff who could play instruments.) When the Americans came to Britain, starting in 1942, the first were the US Army Air Force to join the RAF in bombing, and later the US Army itself in preparation for the invasion of France. Whilst some British civilian hospitals were transformed for their use, they needed buildings that would house the incoming troops before being used as

hospitals to treat casualties after the D-Day. So they built five hospitals, in 1943, to the south-east of Malvern. Although these were used for a while after the war ended, mainly as accommodation for returning British troops, refugees and prisoners of war, they have nearly all been demolished. A few of the roads survive together with a large pair of emergency water towers. The Americans also made provision for their forces to have a rest from combat and, for example, Spetchley Court was used by their aircrews to enjoy a week's leave.. They called it The Flack Shack!



# Coffee Break

## Crossword



### Across

- 5 Strangle (8)
- 7 Defeat (4)
- 9 Style of painting (13)
- 10 Stage whisper (5)
- 11 As a rule (7)
- 14 Part of town (7)
- 16 Penniless (5)
- 19 Culinary measure (13)
- 21 Serpents (4)
- 22 Performs surgery (8)

### Down

- 1 Longest English river (6)
- 2 Hallway (8)
- 3 Most creepy (7)
- 4 Paradise (4)
- 6 Protruding tooth (4)
- 8 Agave fibre (5)
- 12 Its capital is Little Rock (8)
- 13 Cafe (7)
- 15 Mountain range (5)
- 17 Sickness (6)
- 18 Fail or misplace (4)
- 20 Speech defect (4)

## Sudoku

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

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

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

## Crosswords

### Sudoku

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## Wordsearch

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

- APPLES
- APRICOT
- AVOCADO
- BANANA
- BLACKBERRY
- BLUEBERRY
- CANTALOUPE
- CHERRIES
- CHOCHECHERRY
- COCONUT
- CRABAPPLE
- CRANBERRY
- DATE
- FIG
- GRAPEFRUIT
- GRAPES
- KIWIFRUIT
- KUMQUAT
- LEMON
- LIME
- LYCHEE
- MANGO
- MULBERRY
- NECTARINE
- ORANGE
- PAPAYA
- PEACH
- PEAR
- PERSIMMON
- PINEAPPLE
- PLUM
- POMEGRANATE
- RASPBERRY
- RHUBARB
- STRAWBERRY
- WATERMELON

## February Answers

1	T	2	M	3	A	4	E	5	S	6	H				
7	A	R	M	O	U	R	E	D	8	A	T	O	M		
	E	S	T		G		H		L						
9	A	M	A	S	S	10	R	E	G	A	T	T	A		
	B		A		11	A			R						
12	S	L	I	D	E	R		13	A	B	A	S	H		
	E				15	C	U	E			Y				
	16	D	E	A	T	H		18	R	E	S	I	G	N	
						R			O	W	I				
20	21	L	A	N	O	L	I	N	22	L	E	V	E	R	
		B		U		R		24	R		D		N		
25		S	E	T	S		26	A	C	A	D	E	M	I	C
		L		E		Q		T		N		C			

# Poets' Corner

## A Shropshire Lad

XXIV

Say, lad, have you things to do?  
 Quick then, while your day's at prime.  
 Quick, and if 'tis work for two,  
 Here am I, man: now's your time.  
 Send me now, and I shall go;  
 Call me, I shall hear you call;  
 Use me ere they lay me low  
 Where a man's no use at all;  
 Ere the wholesome flesh decay,  
 And the willing nerve be numb,  
 And the lips lack breath to say,  
 "No, my lad, I cannot come."

XXV

This time of year a twelvemonth past,  
 When Fred and I would meet,  
 We needs must jangle, till at last  
 We fought and I was beat.  
 So then the summer fields about,  
 Till rainy days began,  
 Rose Harland on her Sundays out  
 Walked with the better man.  
 The better man she walks with still,  
 Though now 'tis not with Fred:  
 A lad that lives and has his will  
 Is worth a dozen dead.  
 Fred keeps the house all kinds of weather,  
 And clay's the house he keeps;  
 When Rose and I walk out together  
 Stock-still lies Fred and sleeps.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

## Spot & Shop - February Winners

- 1) Frank Coan
- 2) Juliet Day
- 3) Barbara Washbourne
- 4) Simon Kite

**Last month's answer:**  
 Resolve Law group

# Fun Quiz!



1. Which famous Disney adventure features a character called Quasimodo?
2. What is a didgerido?
3. Some experts say that flamingo egg yolks are yellow-orange, but what other colour are they also often said to be?
4. What is the capital city of Austria?
5. Who steals a rose from the Beast's garden in the film Beauty and the Beast?
6. What mode of transport is a rickshaw?
7. Can you unscramble the following letters to reveal an island country located on the east coast of Africa: DAAAARCSGM?
8. What colour is Tinkerbell's dress?
9. True or false: Pigeons produce milk for their young?
10. Who created the word 'bump'?
11. What is the name of Dumbo's only friend?
12. Which male features on Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee's song 'Despacito'?
13. What word, beginning with letter C, describes the transparent layer that forms the front of the eye?
14. Which movie characters speak Banana language?
15. What type of sport is the Tour de France associated with?
16. Which land mammal has the longest tail in the world?
17. What is considered to be the sweetest fruit in the world?
18. What is Boo's real name in Monsters Inc?
19. How many hours are equal to 360 minutes?
20. True or false: Water boils at a lower temperature on top of Mount Everest than it does at sea level?

Answers: 1. The Hunchback of Notre Dame  
 2. A wind instrument formed of a long wooden tube that originally came from Australia 3. Pink  
 4. Vienna 5. Belle's father, Maurice 6. Bicycle (a 2 wheeled vehicle pulled by a human or bicycle)  
 7. MADAGASCAR 8. Green 9. True 10. William Shakespeare 11. Timothy Q. Mouse 12. Justin Bieber  
 13. Cornua 14. Minions 15. Cycling 16. Giraffe 17. Mango 18. Mary 19. 6 hours 20. True

**SPOT & SHOP!**

## COMPETITION TIME!

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

This month's anagram

**ARON BIRD OBEX**

**This month's prizes!**

**1st - £25 cash**  
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**2nd - Coronation Jigsaw**  
*Value £20*

**3rd - Reg Moule's Gardening Diary**  
*Value £10*

**4th - Pat's Pantry -**  
*Jar of home-made marmalade*

Complete and return this form or email:  
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**Powick Times closing date: 28th March 2024**

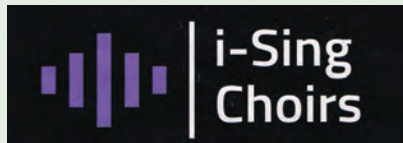
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Powick Times, Hughes & Company  
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fo



TUESDAYS

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## Copy Deadline

April Issue - 18th March 2024



## Rural Reels Films

Callow End Village Hall

Doors open at 7.00pm - Films starts at 7.30pm

Tickets £5 each

Tickets can be bought on-line and will also be available on the door subject to availability. No bar. You are welcome to bring your own drinks and snacks. Tea, coffee and squash will be served.

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

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,  
The Government data revealed that shockingly, rough sleeping in England has risen 27% in the past year. And more than doubled since 2010. These aren't just statistics, they are people, thousands of people, who's lives have fallen apart in a terrible way and haven't had the support and back up they need at that critical moment. As a result they are sleeping on our streets each night. This just should not be happening. One important way to reduce the number of people rough sleeping is to break the link between rough

sleeping and the criminal justice system. A third of rough sleepers have been in prison, and we know hundreds of people leave prison into homelessness every month. This is despite the importance of stable housing in reducing reoffending. Where there are key moments like leaving prison, and someone is at risk of homelessness, we need to ensure that everything possible is done to help people find and keep a home for the long term.

Campbell Robb  
Nacro, Chief Executive

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# Howick Times



## An Evening with Allan Lamb - England cricketing legend!

England cricketing legend Allan Lamb will be the guest speaker at a dinner in Worcester later this year. The dinner will be part of Worcestershire fast bowler Joe Leach's Testimonial Season and will also support grass roots cricket projects in South Africa. The dinner, which is kindly sponsored by The Lamb & Flag Worcester, takes place at Worcestershire County Cricket Club on Friday 28th June and along with Joe Leach and Lamby the evening will feature:

- A 3 course dinner
- Live music
- An auction
- Competitions, inc Lamb or Mutton Dressed as Lamb.

The evening will be compered by BBC H&W's Frank Watson with tickets costing just £60 per person.

Tickets can be obtained by contacting Mark - Email: [ma004g2691@gmail.com](mailto:ma004g2691@gmail.com) or tel: 07506 747619

### Allan Lamb

Allan Lamb, also known as Lamby – had an impressive international cricketing career. Spanning the decade 1982-92, Allan's cricketing career included 79 test matches for England and 128 one day internationals. He captained England three times against the West Indies and Australia, and captained Northampton CC from 1989 to 1994. Allan scored 4654 test runs with 14 centuries and 33502 first class runs, scoring 89 first class hundreds. He won the accolade 'Cricketer of the Year' in 1980. As well as having a famous sporting image, Allan is a



popular persona and is indisputably witty and entertaining. One thing is for certain there is no shortage of stories of his journey to sporting greatness.

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