

Whittington Times



A free monthly newspaper for Whittington and surrounding areas

Issue 4

August 2025

FREE



The Lionesses are victorious!

England's Ladies' football team are Champions of Europe again. The popular Lionesses retained the title after beating Spain. On their way to the final, they won crucial quarter-final and semi-final matches with seconds to spare! The never-give-up English spirit was in evidence throughout the whole tournament and the win was a brilliant achievement, watched by a global audience of forty five million!

The summer sport has continued with another brilliant Test Match. The Wimbledon tennis and the Open golf championship were incredible to watch. We do stage these events well and they are very enjoyable.

We also celebrate the eightieth anniversary of VJ Day, the end of war in the Far East and the end of WW2. My Father and relatives were involved and it was a day of great rejoicing in Worcester. Many house parties

followed as family members started to arrive home, including street parties. A new life began with a father!

In local news, we have received reports regarding the South Worcestershire Development Plan. This mammoth project and its implications for local villages is concerning many people. Some appear to have similar feelings as they did towards the Tiddesley Wood development project. In this case, residents took to the streets in protest, including our MP, Dame Harriet Baldwin.

However, on appeal, the development was approved. So now there seems to be a feeling of inevitability about things, a feeling that this plan will happen anyway. There is a long way to go in the planning stages and some years before anything is implemented.

August sees the annual Plum Festival in Pershore, this is always a well organised and well attended event. The weather forecast looks good and it should be another fantastic success.



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From the Parish Council



The timing of our monthly parish council meetings and the deadline for submitting 'copy' for the *Whittington Times* means that we're usually reporting a month behind, so bear with me as I report on what we've been doing in June and what we have lined up ahead of us in July and beyond.

Highways

We know that you share our frustration over highway issues. The traffic congestion at the Swan roundabout and the dangers of trying to join that roundabout from the village. The street lighting not working along the A4440 Swinesherd Way, bounded on either side by Whittington Walk and Wildmore. The repeatedly damaged and unrepaired barriers at the Whittington Road roundabout and the County Hall roundabout. The speed of traffic along Swinesherd Way. The very odd central reservation on Swinesherd Lane on the only way in and out of Whittington Walk. With a new administration in office at the county council, we have invited them to meet with us as a matter of urgency to discuss these and other outstanding highway matters. We won't let up in trying to get them resolved.

New noticeboard for Whittington Walk!

If you live on Whittington Walk, you may have noticed our shiny new parish noticeboard on the corner of Gilmour Drive and Skylark Rise. Do make a note to check it out every so often to see what's going on in Whittington Walk and across the parish. We received a grant request from the parish church of St Philip & St James for the upkeep of the Churchyard. The church is part of the fabric of our parish and its sole income is from giving. Within its churchyard is an 800 years old 'venerable' yew tree, which requires special and regular

attention at considerable cost. The church relies heavily on volunteers, but certain jobs require the services of experts and professionals. We were delighted to support the church with a donation of £700.

Vision Whittington

We want to be proactive and think about what Whittington might look like in one year, three years and five years' time. There's a huge amount going on at the moment with the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) and the Local Government Reorganisation, (the biggest shake-up of local government since 1974) being just two matters keeping our brain cells busy! Look out for our residents' consultation through your letterbox and on our website and Facebook pages during August. We understand that SWDP might not be on everyone's radar just yet, but no matter where you live in our parish, there will be an impact.

Infrastructure to cope with the significantly increased population is essential and we, along with neighbouring parish councils in Norton, Stoulton and Drakes Broughton have been working together to fight for infrastructure (roads, schools, hospitals, GP surgeries, shops, recreational facilities and much more) to be in place before the houses are built and occupied.

You can find out more about South Worcestershire Development Plan at: www.swdevelopmentplan.org
Local Government Reorganisation at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk or www.shapeworcestershire.org

Our Community Spaces working group is integral to all this as we think about community spaces we might like on the new Parkway development. The only plot of land we currently own is the

allotments site in Honeywood Place on the Wildmore estate, but this may all change in the next couple of years if Wychavon and Worcestershire hand over their land to us before they are integrated into the new Unitary Authority.

By the way, if you fancy a bit of 'grow your own' on our allotments site, get in touch with the Clerk to the Council – clerk@whittingtonparish.gov.uk

The Wellbeing group of councillors is focusing on mental health and wellbeing and we are exploring ways of engaging with residents and drawing to their attention local services and support groups. Perhaps you were able to attend Wychavon's free workshop on Friday 18th July at our Community Hall. It was designed to raise awareness of the mental health challenges which are often faced by those working in isolated rural settings.



Whittington Summer Fayre

We hope you were able to go along to the fayre on Saturday 12th July. It was blisteringly hot, but everyone had a great day browsing the 40+ stalls, enjoying the food and drink, and maybe learning some circus skills! Sadly, but understandably, the heat meant the organisers couldn't go ahead with the dog show.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

We have a parish councillor vacancy. Look out for the article in this edition on what's involved. We'd love to hear from you if you would like to find out more. Please contact the Clerk to the Council at: clerk@whittingtonparish.gov.uk for more information if you'd like to play your part in looking after and developing the parish. We also have space for a few residents on our working groups, so if the thought of being a councillor is a bit much, don't worry! It would be great to have you on board just helping out informally with a few things that are of particular interest to you.

Next Parish Council meeting: 7:30pm, Tuesday 23rd September, Whittington Community Hall. Come along!

*Richard Boase
Chairman,*

Whittington Parish Council

Whittington Parish Council

Clerk to the Parish Council: David Hunter-Miller

Tel: 07513 122918 | mail: clerk@whittingtonparish.gov.uk
www.whittingtonparish.gov.uk | Facebook com/whittingtonpc

*Please visit us and 'sign up' for updates.
Parish Council Agendas, Minutes, Accounts,
Policies & Procedures, Allotment details, vacancies,
tenancy agreement, terms and conditions,
Planning Applications, News and much more.*

Whittington Parish Allotments

The Parish Council maintain 15 allotments for rental to Parishioners at:

Wildmore, Honeywood Place, Whittington WR5 2SL
See the website for further details.

Parish Council Meetings

Support your Parish Council. We meet at 7.30pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Whittington Community Hall.

Future meeting dates and times are on the website:

www.whittingtonparish.gov.uk

The Daily Telegraph Top 500 Pubs

The Masons Arms, Wadborough



Such excitement in Wadborough after the beloved village pub, The Masons Arms, has been selected for the prestigious Top 500 Pubs in England list, compiled by Will Hawkes for The Telegraph.

What an achievement for a small village pub that only re-opened in 2021 after lockdown closure. Lydia and Simon, ably assisted by Tash and a small crew of helpers, ensure there's always a welcome. Wadborough itself is a village of only about 80 houses and the loyal band of pub supporters are delighted to see

regular non-villagers plus occasional passers-by swell the numbers. The pub provides such a friendly atmosphere, with a great range of expertly kept beers and ciders, a wine list to please all tastes, and just about every other refreshment you can imagine – alcoholic and non-alcoholic!

The menu covers all tastes with regular seasonal offerings, from summer specials to Christmas dinners and everything in between, including 'festivals' such as Mother's and Father's Days, Valentine's, Easter Sunday etc. Be sure to book for special occasions though as they soon reach capacity. Oh, and did I mention Sunday Roasts that are exquisite – but again need to be booked. Lydia wants the 'pub to be the hub' of our community, and it certainly fills that role. A village association, which includes Lydia and Simon; arranges celebrations that have included the late Queen's Jubilee and King Charles' Coronation, using the pub as the venue and focal point. The recent VE80 event brought villagers together for a poignant commemoration.

Funds raised during these events have supported a wide range of causes in addition to funding the village defibrillator, which is based – where else – on the front wall of the pub. Beyond this, donations have been made to support Ukrainian refugees, MacMillan, Alzheimer's Society, mental health support, UNICEF, Royal British Legion, St Richards Hospice – the list goes on. Regular pub-based activities include a very well supported golf society, monthly quiz nights, book clubs, bike meets and annual one-offs such as the Traitors Day and the Summer Party – all of which help create the bond so vital for a community. There's that word again – community – The Masons Arms offers everything a great pub needs and has been recognised for this. 'The Pub's the Hub' is the greatest priority. Next up, it seems our local MP is drawing up contenders for best pub in the constituency – nothing more to say! It's been difficult to find out how many pubs are still open in England, but it's likely to be something over 35,000. To be



within the top 500 is such a brilliant achievement – big cheers to Lydia and her team. Mind you, it'll always be the Number 1 pub in Wadborough, and a quick poll of customers places it top of the county and well towards the top of that 500 list! Cheers!



Gregory Sidaway joins Hughes & Company!

Gregory first became associated with the Pershore Times as a Work Experience student when he was fifteen years of age and attending Pershore High School. He wanted to be author/journalist.

Alan Hughes, the proprietor, was so impressed with the work he did that he offered the schoolboy a monthly column. Gregory grabbed this opportunity and it was called 'Teenage

Focus', later 'Gregory's World'. He has been writing articles for our newspapers ever since. He won a place at Exeter College, Oxford University, where he recently obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree 2/1 in English Literature. A brilliant achievement. A few days after completing his final exams and before the results were published, Alan phoned and offered Gregory a full time position with the

company, and he immediately accepted.

He is being trained to assist in editing and making the newspaper. He will in addition be using his outstanding journalistic skills to the full. We consider this a major appointment in our company and, with five newspapers, a great opportunity for Gregory to develop his skills.

Editor



The Swan

The most visible image from Whittington is The Tump on the top of Crookbarrow Hill, seen by many thousands of passing motorists; the most venerable is the Whittington Church, with its origins over one thousand years ago; the most visited location is the Swan Inn, which is enjoyed by thousands every year, with its legendary hospitality from friendly staff and famous fish pie from the busy kitchens. The popularity of this pub, which has been revived and

David Hallmark

restored by the efforts of the Hume Family of two generations, is shown by their frequent bookings and the happy camaraderie inside. We offer an outdoor playground for children, as well as party rooms upstairs and garden room

downstairs for private functions. Reunions, celebrations and anniversaries all assemble at the Swan, with its local reputation and national attraction by the M5 Motorway. Whittington is lucky to have this ancient pub in modern hands and, despite difficult times in the pub industry, this one is working hard to deliver the very best.

"There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man, by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn."

Samuel Johnson





St Philip & St James' Parish Church Whittington

A Ninth Century Chapel rebuilt in 1844

In the Worcester South East Team
St Philip & St James Whittington and
St Mark in the Cherry Orchard

Vicar: The Rev'd Andy Stand . 01905 358150

Church Officers for Whittington

Churchwardens:

Miss Janet Pearson 01905 357485

Miss Jayne Rayer 01905 351344

Asst. Warden: Mrs Brenda Giles 01905 25709

Organist:

Hon Secretary: Mrs Liz McKinnon 07803 600807
email: lizziemck@rocketmail.com

Hon Treasurer: Mrs Brenda Giles 01905 25709

Safeguarding Officer: David Chestney 01905 359708
Elizabethan Room

bookings coordinator: Mrs Caroline Mayfield . 01905 764822
email: caroline.mayfield40@gmail.com

Magazine Editor: David Chestney 01905 359708
email: david.battenhall@outlook.com

St. Martin with St. Peter

Team Rector: Rev'd Peter Hart 01905 355119

Assistant Curate: Rev'd Richard Wood

Assistant Curate: Rev'd Mike Bunclark

Holy Trinity & St Matthew Ronkswood

Vicar: Rev'd Rob Farmer

Team Administrator: Rebecca Caskie Tel: 01905 358083
email: worcestersoutheastteam@gmail.com

*Team Office, St Martins Church,
London Road, Worcester WR5 2ED*

*For enquiries about Baptisms, Thanksgivings,
Marriages and Blessings,
please contact the Team Administrator as above.*

*The Team Office at St Martin's is open on:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Visits, ideally should continue to be by appointment.
Rebecca can always be reached by phone and email.*

Church Services

Saturday 2nd August

10:30am-12 noon

Yew Brew in Elizabethan Room

Sunday 3rd August

11:00am

Trinity 7

Parish Communion

Sunday 10th August

11:00am

Trinity 8

Family Service

3:00pm

Concert in Church -

Part of the Worcester Festival

Saturday 16th August

10:30-12 noon

Churchyard Help Out Morning
and the Yew Brew
in the Elizabethan Room

Sunday 17th August

11:00am

Trinity 9

Parish Communion

1:00pm

Baptism

Tuesday 19th August

10:30-12noon

Churchyard Help Out Morning

Saturday 23rd August

2:00pm

Wedding Blessing

Sunday 24th August

11:00am Family

Trinity 10

Communion

Sunday 31st August

11:00am

Trinity 11

Morning Prayer

Saturday 6th September

10:30-12 noon

Yew Brew

in the Elizabethan Room

Sunday 7th September

11:00am

Trinity 12

Parish Communion

1:00pm

Baptism

To receive the

Whittington Times

by email each month

email: news@hughes.company

with your name, email address and Ref:Whittington Times

Whittington Times

Collection Points:

Hughes and Company, Pershore

The Swan, Old Road, Whittington

Brentknoll Vets, Whittington Road

Whittington Community Hall

Whittington CofE Primary School

Oak Apple, Spetchley Road, Worcester

St. Peter's Garden Centre, Broomhall

Our latest residents!



Photograph - David Hallmark

Our Historic Bridges

Tim Hickson



Worcester Bridge

These bridges, sometimes replacing fords, sometimes earlier bridges, have a rich history. Let us start with Worcester's bridge. In the C11th, there was no other bridge between Bridgenorth and Gloucester. Almost certainly, there had been a Roman wooden one before. In the C14th, the bridge was rebuilt with a fortified gate tower in the middle like that at Monmouth. These bridges crossed the Sever between the end of Tybridge Street on the west bank and Dolday on the east bank. Trade across the river made a large contribution to Worcester's prosperity. Then, in 1781, a bigger, new bridge, designed by local architect, John Gynn, was built further downstream between Bridge Street and New Road. The old bridge was then demolished. Later, the new bridge was widened to what we see today. However, there is, of course, another bridge south-west of the city, Powick Bridge, still there crossing the Teme. This is a late medieval structure with C18th additions. Here, at the beginning of the English Civil War, in

1642, the first major skirmish took place as Parliamentary cavalry crossed the bridge heading for Worcester. It seems they were unaware of the large body of Royalist troops camped on the north side. In the ensuing fighting, the Parliamentary soldiers could not retreat fast enough across the narrow bridge. Some tried to ford the river, which that day was high, and fifty were drowned. Interestingly, in 1651, fighting over this bridge was part of the Battle of Worcester, the final act in the war. This time, Cromwell was involved and, of course, he won. To see what the citizens of the loyal city thought of that, go and look at the front of the Guildhall. Going downriver to Upton upon Severn, there is another bridge. Looking at the geography, it is easy to see that a crossing here was important, as it linked drove roads. We know there was a medieval ferry that was replaced by a wooden bridge that was there in 1539, when John Leland visited, and then by a stone one in 1609. During the English Civil War, the Royalists in Upton



Monmouth Gate Tower

destroyed the central arch to prevent Parliamentary troops crossing and heading to Worcester up the west bank of the river. However, they put a plank across the gap so they could cross and then went to the pub. Guess what? Under cover of darkness, the Roundheads quietly crossed the plank and surrounded their opponents. Later, the bridge was repaired but in the great flood of 1852, it was swept away. Two years later, a cast iron arched bridge was built in its place. One arch of this could be slid away to allow tall ships to pass. However, this took a long time to do and, in 1882, that arch was made to swing, which was quicker. When cars and lorries came on the scene, that bridge was too weak so, eventually, in 1940, the current one was built further upstream. Visit the town or find an aerial photograph and you can see the abutments of the old bridges. Moving to the Avon (an Old English word meaning 'river!'), Pershore's old bridge similarly had an arch demolished during the Civil War to stop Parliamentary troops crossing.

Although it was repaired, the advent of motor cars and lorries meant that it was deemed sensible to replace it with the wider modern one that we use today.



The Roundheads crossing Upton Bridge

Finally, Eckington Bridge is still in use, battered but repaired. It still has its refuges where pedestrians can cower whilst horses, cars, lorries or buses pass. When I lived in Eckington there were no traffic lights at the bridge and the unwritten rule was that the first vehicle to the brow of the bridge had right of way. That caused a lot of fun.



Powick's Old Bridge



Eckington Bridge



JAPAN: UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

MIDNIGHT BROADCAST BY MR. ATTLEE

GEN. MacARTHUR TO ACCEPT CAPTULATION

VICTORY DAYS TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

Japan has surrendered unconditionally. This was announced simultaneously at midnight in London, Washington and Moscow—by Mr. Attlee, President Truman and in a statement broadcast by Moscow radio.

Gen. MacArthur has been appointed Supreme Allied Commander to receive the Japanese surrender, stated President Truman. Britain, Russia and China will be represented by high officers. In the meantime Allied armed forces have been ordered to suspend offensive action.

In Britain victory holidays will be to-day and to-morrow.

Mr. Attlee and President Truman both read the Japanese reply to the Allies' surrender terms. This reply was received through the Swiss Minister in Washington last night. President Truman said it was "a full acceptance of the Potsdam declaration, which specifies the unconditional surrender of Japan."

The Emperor of Japan was broadcasting to his people at midnight local time, four a.m. B.S.T.

JAPANESE REPLY

Mr. Attlee, broadcasting in London at midnight, said:

"Japan has to-day surrendered. The last of our enemies is laid low."

"Here is the text of the Japanese reply to the Allied Command:

"With reference to the announcement of Aug. 10 regarding the acceptance of the provisions of the Potsdam declaration and the reply of the Governments of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and China, sent by Secretary of State Byrnes on the date of Aug. 11, the Japanese Government has the honour to reply to the Governments of the four Powers as follows:

"1. His Majesty the Emperor has issued an Imperial rescript regarding Japan's acceptance of the provisions of the Potsdam declaration.

"2. His Majesty the Emperor is prepared to authorise and insure the signature by his Government and the Imperial H.Q. of the necessary terms for carrying out the provisions of the Potsdam declaration.

"3. His Majesty is also prepared to issue this communication to all military, naval and air authorities to issue to all forces under their control wherever located to cease active resistance and to surrender arms, and to issue such other orders as may be required by the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces for the execution of the above-mentioned terms.—Signed, Togo."

"Let us recall that on Dec. 7, 1941, Japan, whose onslaught China had already resisted for over four years, fell upon the United States, who were then not at war, and upon ourselves, who were sore pressed in our death struggles with Germany and Italy, taking full advantage of surprise and treachery.

"THE TIDE TURNED"

War Lasted 3 Weeks Short of 6 Years

The war lasted a little over three weeks short of six years, Britain's participation being from Sept. 3, 1939, to Aug. 14, 1945. For the four chief Allied nations its duration was:

China: 2,960 days, from July 7, 1937, to Aug. 14, 1945.

Russia: 1,420 days, from June 22, 1941, to May 9, 1945, and Aug. 9-14, 1945.

United States: 1,346 days, from Dec. 7, 1941, to Aug. 14, 1945.

Russia's war with Japan was over on its sixth day.

Hostilities between Britain and Germany in the last war began on Sept. 1, 1914, to Nov. 11, 1918.

BONFIRES & SHIPS' SIRENS GREET NEWS

Cheering Crowds In London

News of Japan's surrender was received in the Thames-side districts by a medley of noise from ships' sirens. Many people were awakened by continuous blasts and firework explosions.

Across the Thames in Kent, as far as the eye could see, bonfires were blazing in a manner reminiscent of the nights of the blitz.

At 9 or 10 a.m. American forces in the main hall of the American Forces Bandstand in the West End of London were playing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

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WEeping CROWD AT IMPERIAL PALACE

"OUR EFFORTS ARE NOT ENOUGH"

Waiting "Forgive us, O Emperor, our efforts are not enough," a weeping crowd of Japanese bowed to the ground before the Imperial Palace in Tokyo to-day after a message announcing an Imperial decision had been read in the palace grounds.

A report of this scene was broadcast by the Japanese News Agency to its offices in the Far East to-day and picked up in New York.

Then, without explaining what the Imperial decision was, the agency spoke of its transmission and asked visitors to hold up the radio. This implied that what was being broadcast was not for use until the Emperor's decision was made public.

The Emperor's message, the agency said, was delivered to the people through the radio, the Imperial Palace in Tokyo to-day after a message announcing an Imperial decision had been read in the palace grounds.

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PARLIAMENT OPENING MARKS END OF WAR

RECORD CROWDS EXPECTED FOR TO-DAY'S ROYAL DRIVE

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The State opening of Parliament to-day will form part of the celebrations which are to mark the end of the greatest war in history.

Police arrangements have been made to cope with crowds far larger than had been expected when it was first decided to restore some part of the panoply associated with similar occasions before the war.

It is expected that all records will be broken by the number of spectators lining the route from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords. In expectation of the announcement of Japan's surrender, several additions were made to the ceremonial previously arranged.

The King, in his speech from the Throne, will refer to the capitulation of Japan. He will follow in anticipation of Japan's surrender, but which he will announce finally to approve until the Emperor's decision is made public.

Over time Dec. 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, the House of Commons was in session. An alteration in Parliamentary business has been necessitated by yesterday's events. After the State opening has been carried through in accordance with previous arrangements, both Houses will adjourn. They will be reconvened at 4 p.m.

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Farming

Mike Page

I did say in last month's article that in life I try to remain optimistic. That approach has to be one of the bedrocks of farming life, because farming is an industry with little or no control over many of the major input factors that affect it, and one of the more important of those factors is weather. Between the seasons of 2023-24 and 2024-25, we have swung from far too much rainfall, preventing many fields from being used to grow crops or graze animals in 23-24, to prolonged semi-drought conditions in 24-25; crop yields at harvest – not so very far away as I write this in early July – will likely be sharply down, along with the increasing likelihood that both grazing and conserved forage for livestock will be in tight supply later this summer and into winter. It has rained this morning here (7th July – Pinvin) but something and nothing rain, certainly not enough to encourage any real recovery in growth; the latest weather forecast is for continuing dry conditions, perhaps the occasional shower. I am not talking 'drought' in the sense the word is understood in some other parts of the World – where in some areas it may not rain at all for months or even years; such parts of the World are not used for grain crop production, but might be used for animal grazing, but on a different scale to the UK; here



Wheat crop changing colour already as it moves earlier than usual into the final grain ripening and bulking-up phase

we might be thinking of grazing five sheep per one acre on good grassland; in the outback of Australia it is more likely to be one sheep per five acres, or very often even lower. Regrowth of grass fields harvested already for silage/hay has been poor as yet from lack of rain, combined with well above average temperatures drying the soil out yet more. Another result can be seen in the photograph, showing a wheat crop changing colour already as it moves earlier than usual into the final grain ripening and bulking-up phase; soil moisture has to increase through some fairly heavy rain very soon, or grain yields in this area and also much of England are likely to be low; combine-harvesters will already be on the move by the time this

is being read and perhaps they will show results better than those I am predicting. I hope so. But one way or another, farmers cope with difficulties as they arise, because coping with such circumstances is what the job is all about. We can but hope that the present Government will not push further troubles our way as their tax and other policies have in the time they have been in office. Perhaps a general election and some other Party elected into office? They all have been promising: "It will all be so marvellous, with everything sorted out, if we are in power." I have my doubts! A quote – and meant as a joke (I hope!) – that has always stuck in my mind is: "It is better in life to be a pessimist, at least that way you are never going to be disappointed in the way

things turn out." But I will stick with being an optimist and I am sure that cattle and sheep think the same way, ever hopeful that there is 'better stuff' in the next field than in the present one. In the times I have gathered sheep or cattle together to move them, once they as a group, realise that your intention is moving them onto a new field, they are enthusiastic to make that move, ever hopeful of the promise of something better and ready and willing to go through the gate full of optimistic enthusiasm. Occasionally, it does not work out, but that does not seem to dull their optimism when the next opportunity arises. Like them and regardless of this year's outcome, you are likely to find me still here farming come next season!

A magical summer visitor

Karen Rose

It's August and the long, hot, early summer means that the fields around Pershore are sun-scorched and already harvested. This is a time of change for nature, as we move towards Autumn. Hedgerow fruits and berries appear, birds start to depart and the long summer evenings begin to get shorter. Some of our summer visitors are still with us though, so keep an eye out for a very exotic bird imposter. If you've ever spotted what looks like a tiny hummingbird darting among your garden flowers, chances are you've encountered the Hummingbird Hawk-moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*). With its rapid wingbeats, hovering flight, and long proboscis for sipping nectar mid-air, this day-flying moth is a wonderful summer

surprise. Unlike most moths, the Hummingbird Hawk-moth is active during the day, especially in warm, sunny weather. That's why we've been getting reports of them visiting local parks and gardens. It's a migrant species, often arriving from southern Europe, though in recent years warmer UK summers have encouraged some to stay and even breed. Their favourite nectar stops include honeysuckle and buddleia, making our gardens a perfect stage for their aerobatics. With their tiny wings beating up to 85 times per second, they hover with astonishing precision - just like a hummingbird - and their orange hindwings flash as they dart from flower to flower. So, next time you're in the



garden on a warm August afternoon, keep your eyes peeled. That blur of wings and flash of orange might just be one of nature's most charming

imposters—the Hummingbird Hawk-moth. *Karen Rose is a biodiversity officer for Wychavon District Council*

Sunny Sunflowers

It's August, which means it's Sunny Sunflower season! Their joyful blooms really brighten up the garden and make fabulous cut flowers too, but there is so much more to the humble sunflower than first meets the eye. I love looking at the centre of the sunflowers and the patterns created by the seeds - it's called the Fibonacci Sequence. This is where the sunflowers arrange their seeds in spirals, with two sets of spirals winding in opposite directions from the centre, which means space is optimised and it maximises seed production by ensuring each seed gets sufficient sunlight. Isn't nature amazing! So whether you're after a statement plant for a wildlife-friendly border or a compact bloom for a container, there's a sunflower variety to suit your space. Sunflower 'Titan' is a whopping variety with a flower head that

could reach 60cm in diameter. It's perfect for competing in 'the tallest sunflower' competition. Most sunflowers are annuals which means you need to sow seeds every year. However, if you're looking for a perennial variety that will bloom year after year, try the *Helianthus* 'Happy Days', which is a stunning dwarf variety with dramatic bright yellow flowers, with double centres, and blooms from July to September, on stems approximately 90cm high. Another favourite is *Helenium autumnale* 'Short and Sassy' – which technically isn't a sunflower, but they're both members of the Asteraceae family. They're great for the front of borders and pots as they only grow to around 45cm tall, so don't need staking, and they have a fabulous common name of 'sneezeweed'. Ideal for late summer colour too. An interesting fact about

sunflowers is that they can clean up toxic soil and were planted at Chernobyl to absorb radioactive isotopes after the disaster. In 1994, researchers planted sunflowers on floating rafts in a contaminated pond near the reactor. Within just ten days, the plants had absorbed about 95% of the radioactive isotopes from the water. This technique has since been explored in other contaminated sites, including Fukushima in Japan and industrial areas with heavy metal pollution. It's a low-cost, eco-friendly way to help heal damaged landscapes. Sunflowers are the perfect plant for a wildlife friendly garden as not only are the flowers loved by bees and other pollinators, but their seeds are adored by finches in the autumn. They're edible and nutritious for us humans too and are packed with vitamin E, magnesium, and selenium. So add them to your granola for



Nikki Hollier

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extra taste, fibre and protein at breakfast time and if you have any left over, pop them into your bird feeders. I'm off to the Sunflower Fields at Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park, open until Thursday 31st August, which will be an absolute treat. For more information and to book tickets check out their website: www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk



August gardening tips

Early in the month

Keep dead-heading flowering plants and picking beans to maintain production. Liquid feed bedding plants in tubs and baskets but switch to high Nitrogen feed, which stimulates new growth for flowering later. If carrot fly bothers you, grow the crop under garden fleece or insect barrier mesh for excellent control. Thin out overcrowded water lily foliage on ponds. Start preparing the soil for laying new lawns next month. Vine Weevils will be laying eggs in tubs and containers now. One sure remedy is to water the compost with Bug Clear Ultra Vine Weevil Killer which makes the compost vine weevil proof for two months. For natural control, use nematodes or put a half inch deep layer of horticultural grit on the surface of the compost to deter successful egg laying and larvae development.

Mid-Month

Take cuttings from Geraniums, Fuchsias, Penstemons and other semi-hardy plants. Keep Camellias, Hydrangeas, Magnolias, Pieris, Azaleas and Rhododendrons well watered to prevent bud drop later. Semi-ripe cuttings can be taken from a wide range of shrubs. These are short side shoots, which have slightly woody bases. Pot some strawberry runners into 18cm (7in) pots. Leave them outside until January, then put them in the greenhouse for an early crop. Trim over lavender, Santolina (cotton lavender), Helichrysum (curry plant) lightly after flowering. Sow last outdoor carrots, lettuce, radish and spinach beet in the vegetable garden. Sow Japanese onion seeds soon or buy autumn planting onion sets next month. Summer prune Wisteria – cut

back all new growth to five leaves up from where it arises from main branch, unless it is required to extend the plant. Sow Browallia, Schizanthus and Calceolaria in the greenhouse for winter pot plants. Plant young strawberry runners for cropping next year. Take Hydrangea cuttings – they could make a flowering pot plant for next year. Try collecting some seed from your own garden plants – you could get a new variety. Take cuttings from heathers. Use 2.5 cm (1in) long shoot tips. Root in gritty compost. Look out for specially stored early seed potatoes, plant soon for new potatoes for Christmas dinner. *Later this month* Spring flowering bulbs will be around now. Buy Colchicums, Madonna lilies and Autumn-flowering crocus soon. Gather up and dispose of

Reg Moule BBC Hereford & Worcester



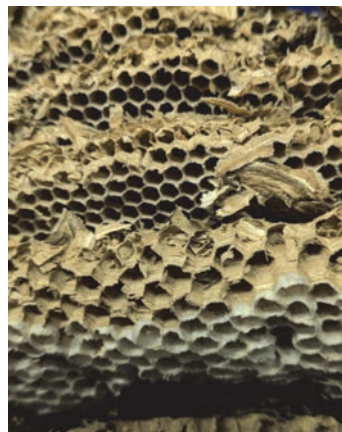
diseased rose leaves as they fall. Prune rambler roses. Summer prune trained forms of fruit trees. Clean and check over greenhouse heaters. Pot up some herbs dug from the garden ready to bring indoors in October for winter use. Sow a final batch of parsley seed outdoors and some spring cabbage. Check over any bulbs e.g. tulips that you have in store to ensure that they are fit to re-plant.

Bees versus Wasps

Martyn Cracknell



A tiny phase one wasp nest with just seven cells in a shed roof



A mature phase three nest with horizontal layers of cells for raising workers.

Like many people in this part of England, I have taken advantage of the fine weather, dining alfresco and enjoying an occasional barbecue. Until July, we had seen virtually no wasps, and we were certainly not bothered by them, and neither were the bee hives. Then suddenly, in the first week of July, I noticed action at the entrance of one small colony. Further examination revealed that the bees had been raided and killed, and some hundreds of wasps were pillaging the remains of the honey stores. It is not unusual for wasps to attack, destroy and strip a beehive. More often than not, there is some underlying problem which has led to the bees failing to defend

themselves. In this case, the colony had a newly hatched queen and no brood to defend. I reduced the entrances of all other hives to a single bee passageway and checked that there were no other gaps through which wasps could enter. Prevention is always better than cure.

What was so surprising was the timing of the attack. Normally, mid-August is the critical time, coinciding with the removal of the summer honey crop. The intervention by the beekeeper in opening the hives and taking the boxes of honey inevitably creates an aroma of honey around the hives and breaches the hive's structure, thus attracting wasps and then permitting their entry. We have various strategies to

minimise the risk, but wasps can be a serious problem, and bees have to spend considerable time and energy to defend themselves. Even so, some hives will succumb under the relentless attack. Wasps are very strong and it may take six bees to wrestle an invader and drag it out of the hive.

As soon as ivy starts to flower and plums and other fruit start ripening, usually in September, the wasps can get a sweet reward without a fight, so they leave the bees in peace. A look at social media revealed that many other beekeepers had noticed the onset of wasp attacks and there was a lively debate about the deployment of wasp traps. So why do wasps change their behaviour from barely noticeable to positive nuisance? Wasp biology is discussed in detail for each of the species of British wasp listed by BWARS (Bees, Wasps and Ants Recording Society). Their website describes eight species of social wasp which all have a broadly similar life history, and can be divided into five phases.

1) Large mated Queens emerge from hibernation and begin to build a nest of paper made from chewed wood and saliva. They lay a few eggs and hunt for flies or caterpillars on which to feed the grubs. They feed themselves on nectar from flowers.

2) The queen stays at the nest and lays eggs. The first cohort of new wasps chew wood to make paper to expand the nest. They also forage for caterpillars, flies, etc. to feed the grubs. When they feed a grub, it exudes a drop of sweet liquid as a reward, which reinforces the workers' foraging behaviour. These grubs are often poorly fed and hatch as rather small wasps.

3) The nest expands. With more workers, the income of food into the nest is better, resulting in better growth of the grubs and larger wasps. Their predation on aphids and other garden pests is a valuable service to gardeners and fruit growers. After the nest has reached peak size, the queen produces drones (male) and virgin queens. These leave the nest and mate. The queens seek somewhere to hibernate. The males die after a few weeks.

4) The nest now has fewer young grubs to be fed. Workers returning with a meaty offering are unable to find a grub to feed and do not get their sweet reward, so they begin to search for sweetness directly. They attack ripening fruit, such as plums, they rob honey from beehives and try to get in our drinks at picnics and outdoor cafes.

5) The nest dies out and the paper structure will not be re-occupied.

To be continued ...

Village Life

John Driscoll

The summer of 2025 continues to provide long hot days (and nights!) that have encouraged many of us to adopt a slower pace of life while seeking shade and a cool drink. All very well if you don't have pressing activities to fulfil, but of course many have jobs requiring them to keep going no matter the temperature. Hopefully, we've all had the opportunity to enjoy at least some of the long lazy days the summer keeps giving!

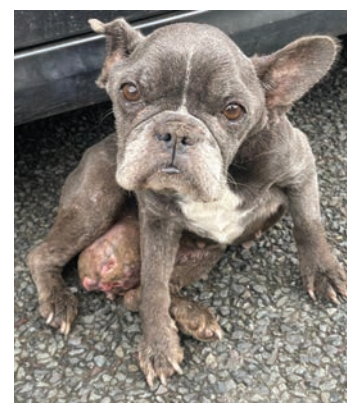
Our amazing community has once again shown itself in its best light after helping a poor little canine friend in need of help. An afternoon walker found the poor dog abandoned at the side of a road just outside the village. She was in very poor condition, showing signs of hunger as well as infections and other likely health problems. A heartbreaking picture on our WhatsApp village chat received immediate supportive responses.

Within a very short time, two village residents had taken her to a vet in Pershore where she was fed and treated for immediate ailments. She was microchipped, efforts would be made to contact the owner, and, if there was no response, she would have been placed in the care of the dog warden. Sadly, she was more poorly than originally thought and had to be laid to rest to save her further suffering.

I know a sad situation like this would have been dealt with similarly in years past, but our local telegraph – WhatsApp – meant the story could be shared in real time. There would have indeed been no shortage of volunteers if help was requested on the village chat, especially as the enormous eyes staring up from this little dog would have melted many a heart.

Reflecting on life in our village and how lucky we are to live in such beautiful surroundings led

a few of us to think about unravelling some of our local history and stories that long-term residents have to tell. A visitor asked which was the oldest property in the village and some speculation followed. Tempting to say it would be the pub, but then who would build a pub unless there was a nearby community to support it? It will almost certainly be either associated with farming, the nearby estate or the church. We are mentioned in the Doomsday Book, so there are quite a few possible candidates. Luckily, we have some senior residents who can recall life in the village spanning quite a few decades, so maybe we should promote a project to create a record of their stories and recollections of village life – even if some names will need changing to protect dignity and avoid embarrassment! One for the winter months ahead perhaps. Which leaves me wondering



how many of our predecessors in the village were lucky enough to be able to say they were 'living the dream', as our redoubtable pub landlord often says? Without resorting to viewing the past through rose-tinted spectacles, it can only be hoped that was the case for many of them. Let's see if we can bring some of their stories back to life and can all be allowed a glimpse into their dreams. Here's hoping!

Calling All Writers!

Short Story Competition!

We are keen to read and celebrate talent of all ages.

There are categories for writers aged under-18 and writers aged 18 and over.

The two winners will be published in the October magazine.

Write about whatever inspires you!

Word Count: Up to 500 words

Deadline:

Monday 15th September

*Please hand in or email your submissions to:
news@hughes.company,
including your name and category
(under-18 or 18 and over)
by Monday 15th September*

Hughes & Company, 8 Church Street,
Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1DT



Ailsa's Kitchen Ailsa Craddock

BBQ time - when the men of the house take over and say they've done all the cooking – apart from the planning, shopping, salads, puddings, drinks and inviting! Anyway, here are a few suggestions and, hopefully, harmony will reign over the flames.

BBQ Spiced Chicken with corn and cos lettuce

8 chicken drumsticks*
2 tbs sea salt flakes*
1 tbs smoked paprika*
1 tbs ground coriander*
1 tsp chilli powder*
1 tsp ground black pepper*
1/2 tsp ground cloves*
1/2 tsp ground allspice*
Extra virgin olive oil to drizzle
4 corn cobs
Chilli oil to serve (optional)
Lime wedges to serve
Cos lettuce wedges

(*Spice Rub)

Preheat barbecue to a medium heat. For the spice rub, place all the ingredients in a container and shake to combine. Extra spice mix will keep for up to six months in a sealed container. Brush the chicken with the olive oil then rub over 2 tbs of the spice rub. Place chicken and corn on the barbecue and cook for 15-20 minutes, turning, until chicken is cooked through and corn is slightly blistered. Remove from barbecue. Drizzle chicken with a little chilli oil and serve with corn, lime and grilled cos lettuce.

BBQ Salmon with dill, capers and lemon

1.5 kg salmon side
1/4 cup olive oil
2/3 cup baby capers, rinsed, chopped
1 small red onion, finely chopped
1 cup flat-leaf parsley, chopped
1/2 cup fresh dill leaves, chopped
2 tbs finely grated lemon rind
1 tbs Olive Oil

Lemon wedges to serve
Preheat barbecue to medium-high. Place a large sheet of foil on bench and top with baking paper. Place salmon on paper. Brush all over with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Fold baking paper and foil over salmon to enclose. Transfer parcel to barbecue. Cook for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, combine capers, onion, herbs, lemon rind and oil in a bowl.

Remove salmon from barbecue and rest for 5 minutes. Unwrap. Transfer to a serving platter and spread with herb mixture and serve with lemon wedges.

Vegetarian Bean Burgers

1 can of pinto or black beans (other varieties also work)
3 tbs tomato paste or ketchup
1/2 tsp salt
1 grated garlic clove



1 onion, chopped finely
2 tbsp flour
1/2 cup cooked diced vegetables of choice

Spices of your choice paprika, cumin, curry powder to taste
Drain, rinse and mash the beans. Stir in all the other ingredients to form patties, adding more flour if too soft. Preheat your bbq cook on a greased sheet of foil for 7-8 minutes per side. Serve with your favourite burger toppings—ketchup, mustard, avocado, onions, etc.—on buns or in lettuce wraps for a lower carb option.

BBQ Pineapple with chocolate dip

1 star anise
1 cinnamon quill
5 whole cloves
8 Szechuan peppercorns
100g unsalted butter, melted
1 pineapple, peeled, cut lengthways into 8 wedges
Finely grated zest of lime
100g dark chocolate, finely chopped
125ml of single cream

Place the star anise, cinnamon, cloves and peppercorns in a dry pan over medium heat. Toast for 3 minutes or until fragrant.

Transfer to a spice grinder or mortar and pestle, and grind to a fine powder. Place half the spice mixture in a bowl. Add the butter and stir to combine. Set aside. Preheat a barbecue to a medium-high heat. Thread the pineapple onto skewers and brush with the spiced butter. Grill, brushing frequently with spiced butter, for 10 minutes or until lightly charred. For the chocolate dip, place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl. Place cream and remaining spice mixture in a saucepan over medium heat. Bring to the boil, then pour through a sieve over the chocolate. Set aside to cool for 1 minute, then use a spatula to stir until smooth and combined. Stir in a pinch of sea salt. Serve pineapple skewers with the chocolate dip, grated lime zest and extra sea salt.

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Campers and Candles

Angela Johns

We are just back from a successful frolic to France in the campervan, where every little town looks like a WW2 movie set. After last year's trip to France, my partner playfully suggested a budget just for votive candles. Another French town, another church, another candle lit and contribution made. The cathedral or church will usually be the most ancient part of the town. I love the architecture, stone masonry and wood carvings, the stained glass and the gargoyles, the sheer size or the simplicity – all that history moves me. I pay my euro or two, light my candle and then recite the names of all those that have gone before me, picturing each person in turn. I have nothing to say, just an acknowledgement that they were in my life and now they are not. The world continues to turn regardless, just as the flame continues to flicker as I stand there, the small candle serving to represent simultaneously both a continuity and a vulnerability. The act of paying, choosing my candle, lighting it and watching the flame dance as I recite the names, is a ritual that makes me pause a moment. I feel love and gratitude, occasionally regret and sadness. It is a small private moment of remembrance and connection. I am so disappointed, therefore, if I creak open the door (or file in with everyone else) with my coins at the ready in my pocket, and I see rows of electric candles. This change in tradition feels so soulless to me. You put your money in the slot (or wave your smartphone over the card reader) and a candle alights. You don't know which one it



will be and it looks identical to all the others, a fake flicker in unison. I have to send a wry message to the Ones That Have Gone Before telling them they will have to wait. Another day, another church to visit, until I'm all churchied out and my candle budget is blown. Luckily, with this kind of change, I can choose whether I accept it or not. I walked away on this occasion. I can honour the dead and feel grateful to still be alive by feeling the tingle of the sun rays on my skin, by hearing the leaves being rustled by a welcome breeze in a heatwave, by smelling the warmth of a freshly baked baguette, and tasting the perfect balance of cream and strawberry in a tartlette fraise. I don't need a candle – but it is really, really nice to have one.

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

Navigating Change

Emily Papirnik

Is it time for change? How might you know? Sometimes, it's a quiet whisper: a restlessness, a sense of misalignment, or the feeling that you've outgrown an old way of being. Other times, it shows up louder—a repeated emotional pattern, a physical place or situation you keep returning to, even when it no longer nourishes you. It may be subtle or stark, but the invitation to change often begins with awareness. Many believe change only happens when we hit rock bottom. While it's true that crisis can be a catalyst, change doesn't always need to come from collapse. It can emerge incrementally, through conscious intention and small, steady steps. Conviction plays a role—when we know deep down that something must shift. However intention is equally powerful. It is the energy we bring to the change, the way we hold it, nurture it, and allow it to grow. For example, I once worked with a client who felt stuck in a cycle of self-doubt. Rather than waiting for a breakdown, they chose to explore that feeling gently, journaling, working with their energy and creating 'Truths' in a weekly exercise, and slowly shifting their inner narrative. Over time, that intentional practice



reshaped their experience of self-worth. Another client faced a sudden life transition and had to make a clear, bold decision. They chose conviction—stepping into a new chapter with courage, knowing that the discomfort of change was necessary for growth. Whether change comes in waves or whispers, the most lasting transformations often involve both conviction and intention. We must allow ourselves to see what is no longer working, focus on what we do want, and then take loving action toward it. If you're wondering whether it's time for change, trust your inner knowing. Tune into how your body responds to certain patterns or choices. Listen to what your heart is asking for. And know that small, intentional steps can lead to the most profound, lasting shifts. Change doesn't have to be overwhelming. It can be a gentle unfolding.

"Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must first set yourself on fire."

Fred Shero

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Romy's Uni Life

Romy Kemp *Liverpool University*



Thoughts over summer

The majority of my summer break so far has been meeting up with friends and family. I am currently trying to organise a university house meet up so that all seven of us can catch up and spend the night in our flat. Since we are all scattered around the United Kingdom, it is hard to organise a meet up with everyone because people are busy and the distance is certainly a factor to think about for the majority of us. By the time my article has come out, I will have gone up to the house - so I will give an update next month!

I honestly cannot wait to move into my flat in September and decorate my room and make the house our home. This is one of the best parts of moving in to a new flat/house because you can really make it your own which, I think, really helps students find out who they are as a person and it truly shows our growing independence as young adults. As much as I will truly miss my housemates from my second year, we all decided on different living arrangements for third year. I will stay in contact with both of them for life and will definitely meet up with them regularly throughout my final

year of university, and beyond. I will especially miss living with them because I had lived with both of them for two years (first and second years of university) so it will certainly be a change for me, but I plan to invite them over a lot throughout third year.

More work experience

In my last article, I wrote about the work experience that I did in a secondary school, and wanted to do some more work experience in another school. I decided that I should go back to my old school and do some work experience there. I went back for the final week of school before the summer holidays began. This meant that my work experience worked a bit differently to how it would at any other time of the school year. I worked with some Year 10s all week as a helper. Instead of helping in the English department, it was more of a work experience week for them. I really enjoyed going through activities with them and helping them reach their full potential for the week.

I also really enjoyed going back to my school because I was able to see my teachers and how the

school has changed. It was lovely to catch up with the teachers and get to know them not just as a former student, but as an adult who is thinking of going into teaching. They treated me with the utmost respect and I truly appreciated that as it made me realise that I could certainly be a teacher making an impact on the students.

Quite a few businesses from outside of the school came in to talk to the students about what avenues they could take in the future - from apprenticeships to talking about pensions, it was lovely to see the students learn about careers that they didn't know they could do. Even I learnt things about what I could've done before university, but also what I could do after university. It was lovely to go back to the school I grew up in and see a different side of it. I was welcomed back warmly and enjoyed every second of the day, and it is all I've been able to talk about! I will definitely go back and do some more work experience at my old school because I enjoyed it so much and it was lovely going back to my old school.

Beach Safety



Taking your dog to the beach can be a fun and enriching experience for you and your pooch. However, going to the seaside comes with certain dangers for dogs.

Make some preparations

Make sure that you have got poo-bags, water and toys at the ready? Can your dog swim? Do they even like water? Is the beach you plan to visit a pet-friendly one?

Prevent jellyfish stings

If your dog is stung by a jellyfish, the seawater can do a great job of preventing the release of further toxins.

Avoid heat exhaustion in dogs

Make sure you give your dog lots of fresh water to drink and take regular shade breaks.

Prevent wasp stings

If your dog is stung by a wasp, keep a close eye on them. It's a good idea to visit your vet to have the sting checked over.

Watch out for sharp objects

Broken bottles or discarded sharp items aren't so easy to spot when you're at the beach so you'll need to take extra care.

Don't let your dog drink salt water...

Bring your dog's bowl along with you, plus their own bottle of water, and make sure you offer it to them regularly.

For more information on keeping your pet safe and comfortable at the beach, or any aspect of their welfare, have a chat with us.

Best wishes *Eliza*

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

Hot off the Press

We've voyaged far and wide together, fellow reader. These last few years have seen the map of Gregory's World grow, filling with detail and colour, knowledge and experiences. Now, I'm gaining knowledge and experience closer to home. I've submitted articles for the Pershore (later Upton, plus Kempsey, plus Powick, now Whittington) Times for about six years. But for the first time since my week of Year 10 work experience in 2019, I'm writing to you from the inside, from the citadel of local news that is Hughes & Co. I have my own desk, my own comfy swivel chair, and even my own mug that says: 'Start the day with a smile ... it irritates people.' To my left, Tash is assembling a book called James Balfour's *Reminiscences of Golf*, binding it in blue Buckram, impressing the cover with gold foil, and carefully gluing in five folded maps by hand; she'll have to repeat this meticulous process for another hundred or so copies of Balfour, but she also told me she has Audible, so the hours should fly by. To my right, Andy is busying away at a hundred jobs a minute, ping-ponging between the phone, the computer, the photocopier, the

guillotine, and the till; just when he thinks he's found a quiet moment out in the yard, the phone chirps and he's back at it again. I'm sitting in a nook of paper, pens, and printers, and frequently ringing Simon; he's our tech wizard, training me in the ways of the force (otherwise known as QuarkXPress, the programme used to assemble each month's issue). I was surprised at the number of people who are involved behind the scenes in contributing to, producing, and distributing the paper you're now holding – many of whom often poke their head around the shop door like relatives popping by to say hello. Meanwhile, all of this takes place under the watchful eye of Alan, who assured us only this morning that he's never worked a day in his life because working at Hughes & Co. feels like a holiday! It certainly feels like a new chapter. After battling through Exam season (and finding my way out of that Thai massage), a calmer, cooler, suppler version of me enjoyed a honeymoon period of four final weeks at uni before the end of Trinity term. Four weeks of punting, pubbing and sleeping made for a fitting epilogue to these last three years. I even got to experience another Oxford

tradition: the schools dinner. This is essentially a victory dinner you have with your tutors and the rest of your subject cohort after exams are done and dusted. It's highly anticipated and fabled by students because of its two desserts, decanters of port, and snuff. The snuff was passed around the dining table in a small wooden box. A divider in the middle separated a lighter and a darker variety, the milder stuff from the stronger stuff. My tutor showed me how I should spoon a molehill of it into the dimple beside the base of my thumb – the same dimple you sprinkle and lick salt from before necking a tequila shot, but you were probably already thinking of that, fellow reader. Then I sniffed the snuff. My nostril fizzed. You only live once, so I opted for the darker variety. Also, you only live once, so I decided that was the first and only time I would ever do that. I was more taken with the Bath Oliver biscuits that were then passed around in a silver tin, and the cup of coffee that topped it all off – because it was only ten o'clock at night. Thinking about it one month on, I already appreciate what a wacky and wonderful bubble universe I'd got used to sliding in and out of over the last three



years. A trilogy is enough for me, brilliant, exhausting, inspiring, but enough. So, it was fortuitous when the phone buzzed and Alan reached out once again with an opportunity. This time, a nine to five at Hughes & Co. My first week on the job hurled me straight in at the deep end – thank goodness, that's where there's no faffing around and you learn quickly. I helped add the finishing touches to each of the five papers, before sending them to the printers and uploading them online. Six years after a shorter, specklier, school-uniformed me first stopped by to discuss a work experience placement, here I am, printing off proofs and about to take them upstairs to M. He'll make short work of any flowery language with a deft stroke of his fountain pen. Anyway, I'd better get cracking. Let the holiday begin!

Evie's Teenage Focus

Evie Aubin Oxford Brookes University

As you know, I've been to many concerts. It seems that every other month, I'm writing to you about someone I've seen or am going to see. And, unsurprisingly, this is going to be another one of those times. But hey, at least I'm consistent! Last time I wrote to you, I mentioned I was going to BST Hyde Park in London to see a variety of different artists; some of which I had seen play before, some I had been wanting to see for what feels like forever, and some people I had never heard of before, but now don't know what I would do if I was never introduced to their music. The first weekend I went to Hyde Park, was the Friday that Olivia Roderigo was headlining the show. My day started bright and early, meeting Daisy at the train station and getting the 10:30 train into London Paddington. I always forget how busy trains are supposed to be, since going to university I

usually only get the train up to Oxford (and on what seem to be quieter days). This train to London however was absolutely packed with regular commuters, as well as a few people we spotted going to the concert as well. Once we made it to Paddington, we got the tube to Victoria, where we met up with one of my friends from university and a friend she brought from home. After what felt like an eternity of trying to find each other, calls and text messages not going through, we finally found everyone and headed to Spoons for lunch before making our way over to the venue. By the time we got there, our gates had been open for about half an hour and so, after a brief security check, we were in! We had a quick walk around, scoped out a few spots where we could be for the headlining acts and then walked across the grassy field by the rainbow stage to get some drinks and listen to some music

in the shade. Whilst seeing Olivia was obviously a massive highlight from the show, I think the best moment was finally seeing The Last Dinner Party. I was supposed to see them last year but after the concert was cancelled, the group never rescheduled the show, and so this was the first time I had the opportunity to see them. To me at least, that was a very special moment. Olivia was of course amazing; she sang some of her hits and even brought out Ed Sheeran as a special guest. The weekend after followed a very similar schedule. I went to London on my own this time though, meeting a different friend from university when I got to London. We saw a bunch of my favourite artists, such as Gigi Perez, Sydney Rose, Asha Banks, Finneas, the Favours and, of course, Gracie Abrams and Noah Kahan, who I had seen before but will jump at any opportunity to see again. They



were amazing as always, Gracie bought out Aaron Dessner as a surprise guest and Noah bought out Lewis Capaldi. However, what made the night more amazing than anything else was when he played my favourite song of his: "strawberry wine". The song isn't on any of his set lists so I had never heard it live before and hadn't expected him to play it. When he did, I just started crying (very over dramatic I know but that's just me!). I promise you, this will be the last time I yap about a concert ... at least for a few months. Until next time, toodles!

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Do you want a VAT invoice?

Carol Draper



It sounds like a simple question, and it is one that gets asked in numerous situations but what is a VAT invoice, when should one be provided, who needs one and what does it contain? If you are buying something as a private individual, the answer is straightforward – in most circumstances, you do not need a VAT invoice. While we all pay VAT, only VAT registered businesses can reclaim it.

If you are a VAT registered business making a VAT rated supply to another VAT registered business, you are required to issue a VAT invoice. In the same way, if you are a VAT registered business and wish to reclaim VAT, you require a VAT invoice to support your claim for VAT. The format of the VAT invoice depends on the value of the supply.

For supplies with a gross value of £250 or below, it is possible to reclaim VAT with a less detailed tax invoice. Such an invoice must show the name, address and VAT registration number of the supplier, the nature of the purchase, the gross amount paid, and the rate of VAT included in the supply. Common forms of such supply include restaurant receipts, fuel and retail shop receipts.

For any supplies with a gross value greater than £250, in addition to the details included in the less detailed invoices, a valid VAT invoice must show:

- the name and address of the customer,
 - the date of supply of the goods and date of issue of the invoice,
 - an identifying, sequential number,
 - a description which identifies the goods or services supplied, the quantity of the goods or the extent of the services, and the rate of VAT and the amount payable, excluding VAT.
 - the unit price (where relevant),
 - the rate of any cash discount offered,
 - the total amount exclusive of VAT (the net amount) and the total amount of VAT charged.
- Of all the above requirements, the address of the customer is probably the information that is most often missed. If the required details are missing HMRC could legitimately reject a claim for VAT, so it is worth checking the documentation you have.

Carol Draper FCCA
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Margaret Thatcher



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the June edition of "Thoughts from the Snug", which pointed out the lack of common sense that exists in society today.

A few examples of this spring to mind. Firstly, why does a jar of peanut butter carry the warning "may contain nuts"? I would be disappointed if it did not contain nuts. Secondly, why does a box of cornflakes have a picture of said flakes in a bowl with the caption "serving suggestion". Really? One of my pet hates is when people press the button on a pelican crossing even when there is no traffic about. Or won't walk until the green man flashes, even though

there is no traffic about.

On a larger scale, the fact that the U.K. is not "allowed" to drill for gas in the North Sea because of the mad "net zero" agenda - instead we BUY most of our gas from Norway who obtain it from ... Oh yes, the North Sea. Or the fact that in April this year, our so-called government purchased coal from Japan to fire the last remaining virgin steel plant in Scunthorpe. How has an island that is surrounded by sea and has vast reserves of untapped natural resources become reliant on other countries at vast expense to the tax payer? I feel that the overriding reason for this is that people have

become accustomed to not thinking for themselves because it is so much easier not to. They have been programmed to farm out responsibility for everything in their lives, predominantly through the overreach of technology and governments. Many nefarious government agendas create problems, then supply people with the solutions to the problems that they created. If you are encouraged not to take responsibility for your own life, you become unable to think critically and listen to everything you are told without ever questioning anything. In the West, we are constantly told

that everything must be for our convenience, often just because we have become lazy; or that we are "worth it", which has created a self-obsessed culture. A dangerous combination when combined with the lack of responsibility for your own thoughts and actions.

The mainstream media should report the facts and express an opinion, but not mix up the two. It is up to us to take responsibility and do our own research, not just blindly go along with a narrative that is not always for our own good.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Reynolds

Dear Editor,

The Parkway project, part of the South Worcestershire Development Plan, is now in the advanced stage. It is going to happen! With the Parkway being the focal point, we will in time see a development the size of Droitwich. The area will extend or impact across the parishes of Whittington, Norton, Littleworth, Stoulton, Drakes Broughton, Wadborough and White Ladies Aston. It is not just about houses. The proposals include schools, community hubs, medical centres, shops, retail parks, business parks, safe cycle and pedestrian routes, and green spaces. The impact will be significant.

The positives include much needed homes, employment and business opportunities, recreational facilities, transport links and alternative means of travel. The concerns will be many: the delivery of the infrastructure required to support a new town, the impact and potential for disruption (particularly during construction) on existing residents, the road network, public rights of way, wildlife and open countryside. I have lived and worked in the District of Wychavon for many years. I have been involved in one way or another with the SWDP process from the start and recently represented the communities of Whittington at

the Government Planning Inspector's public hearing. I have for fifteen years, been a Parish Councillor and I am currently a member of the Joint Parishes Committee.

We all want this to be a success. We want this project to achieve the best, with minimum disruption to existing residents and road networks.

Consequently, Landowners, Developers, Homes England, Highways, Planning Officials, District and County Councillors have formed the Wychavon Garden Community Project Board.

The purpose of the Board is to guide the development and accelerate delivery of the Wychavon Garden Community

Settlement through a cohesive approach to planning and on-site delivery including infrastructure.

I have been invited (along with two other community representatives) to be a member of the Wychavon Garden Community Project Board.

If anyone has any thoughts, issues or concerns regarding the development that they believe should be subjects of representation to the Board, then I invite you to contact me via email: slbrookerwgcpb@gmail.com

*Steve Brooker
Whittington*

Talk the talk: learning a new language pays off

When we think about language learning, we often picture schoolchildren reciting verb conjugations or teenagers cramming for exams. But what if I told you that now might actually be the perfect time to start? Whether you're learning French for a long-awaited trip, brushing up on Italian to connect with your grandchildren, or simply looking for ways to keep your brain active, picking up a new language later in life is not only possible - it's incredibly beneficial. Studies have shown that it can strengthen memory, boost mental agility and even help protect against cognitive decline. It can be fun too! Gone are the days of endless grammar drills. Today's language learning is designed to be fun, interactive and focussed on real-life

conversations. And of course, language is all about connection. Joining language classes is a great way to meet people with shared interests as well as gaining insights into new cultures. And there's no pressure to be perfect. The joy is in the journey. Take Sue Peasgood, from Malvern: "Having dipped in and out of learning Italian at home, I eventually took the plunge and joined one of Louise's classes. What a refreshing change it was to be in a supportive, stimulating environment. When learning alone, it is all too easy to lose direction and to find the intricacies of a foreign language tedious, but Louise provides such a wide range of interesting activities that it becomes both motivating and achievable. It's

such a fun way to learn." Sally Morgan from Worcester agrees: "I never felt I could master languages at school, so the fact that I now love Louise's lessons and the Italian language is really wonderful. I recently travelled

to Tuscany and was so thrilled when I found everyone could understand my Italian. I loved it!"

*To find out more, contact:
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From the Boundary

Peter Jewell, Resolve Law

Who ever said test cricket was boring? In England, test cricket is appreciated and followed. Test grounds should always include Lords, the Oval and Edgbaston. They are always full, allowing the ECB to charge more to assist with ground root cricket. The third test at Old Trafford has become interesting. At lunch, England were talking 600 runs by tea on the fourth day, but in the event England lost Pope and Root going to Washington Sundar. I cannot give you any more because the editor is chasing me for copy. Worcestershire are dead and buried in the Division One. However, they are doing better against Warwickshire, and they have an outside chance of qualifying in the T20 . I watched some of the ladies' football quarter-final against Sweden, that was a close one!

However, some of the penalty taking was pathetic. What was admirable was how they bounced back from injury, including the Keeper, who was bloodied and bruised with cotton wool up her nose to stop the bleeding. Now, the men are more worried if their hair gets out of place, and they roll about in pain without being touched, such wimps. Well done to the Lionesses for the semi-final victory against Italy. Now, we await the final against Spain, who are quality.

It seems the appeal over the Littleton County election is in the High Court. The council seem to be doing everything to stop it and frighten off the Reform candidate with costs. More of that at a later date.

Talking about a shambles, the government now have '30 in and 30 out' scheme, an arrangement

undertaken by Starmer with his new chum in France. So what about the other 500 to 600 a day? And who is paying? Labour and the Tories are doing nothing. Starmer has changed the voting age to 16. Most children of that age are (or should be) at school, and learning about life. 99% of them are still in the stage of taking and not contributing. Let's be controversial. Why should someone not contributing to the state have a vote? Retirees who have contributed for 25 years should be able to vote. People who are disabled, excluding those who are on the lazy scam, should also be able to vote. Let's have a look at the politicians. I have met a lot and I would employ very few of them.

Here's something I did not know: Starmer's father was a toolmaker and his mother, a nurse. I had

heard it perhaps fifty times but ignored it, because he still seems out of touch. Ministers on both sides of the house clearly do not know what really goes on and that the civil service runs everything (Yes Minister). So now we have immigrants here by the thousand, some who are here illegally. Just announced. Corbyn's new party have more members than Reform? God forbid that this no-named party gets a stronghold in this country, then we are really finished.

Come on, you readers, let's hear from you! Send your letters to the Editor!



A View from the Middle

As another month passes by, I am sadly still confined to watching cricket from the sidelines and coaching rather than playing. I made some misjudged attempts to join in with my protégés from time to time, until a jolting pain and stern words from my physio put a stop to that. It is remarkable to watch others put their skills into practice and so interesting to find out how each responds to the various different coaching methods and pressures of attention and competition. It turns out that I get far more satisfaction in seeing a player respond positively to my coaching than I ever did playing, so this enforced absence from playing may become permanent. Happily, I passed my latest university module and can move onto my studies in sports and exercise psychology, which

I am very excited about. I'm a strong believer in lifelong learning and can't wait to discover new things. One thing my injury has allowed me to do is walk, and this enabled me to enjoy a terrific time with our neighbours at Tewkesbury Medieval Festival. Every year, I am astonished by the scale of the event but, this year in particular, I was full of admiration for everyone involved given the weather. Shielded by a large golf umbrella, I still sweltered in the heat but could barely imagine how much the participants were suffering. During one of the marches to battle re-enactment, we spotted one soldier spraying water under his armour in a battle to stay cool and wondered how authentic to 1471 that method might have been! Tewkesbury

Abbey, always so popular for its grandeur and solemnity, was a cool haven for weary (and toasty) festival goers. I was struck by a sense of calm and serenity, even if the sign at the door asking visitors to please leave their weaponry (including axes, maces, bows, and arrows) on the table before entering was a little alarming.

There is such a wealth of history in and around Pershore that it can sometimes be forgotten among the hubbub of everyday life. It reminds me of the impermanence of things and how every age has built on the one before. We are as technologically advanced now as we have ever been, but the same was true of our medieval forefathers, who could not have imagined space travel, the internet, or artificial intelligence. This makes me wonder how life on



Earth might develop over the next 800 or so years. Or will it be life on Mars by that point?!

Thoughts from the Snug...

Here in the Snug, conversation regularly turns to the topic of food and drink; we are, after all, Hedonists! Good places to eat out and intriguing recipes often send Snug members into flights of ecstasy and, on one occasion, even poetry. This, in turn, prompted a suggestion that we should each come up with a poem that reflected our hedonistic

fascination with food and drink. Frankly, although a grand and noble aim, the results were, in poetic terms, rather shallow.

For example:

*'Round the teeth,
Then round the gums,
Look-out guts,
Cos here it comes!'*

Definitely the worst example, but two others (just suitable for print) followed:

*'There was a young Woman from Clyde,
Who ate a green apple and died.
The apple fermented inside the lamented,
And turned into cider inside her inside.'*

Food, drink and poetry

And ...

*'I love a Martini said Mable,
I only have two at the most.
At three, I'm under the table,
At four, I'm under the host.'*

Pathetic! Can readers provide better examples? Contributions welcomed by the editor.

Buddy Bach

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For more information, contact:

Len Evans at the Soldiers of Gloucester Museum, Gloucester Docks Tel. 07801 472 396 or

Steve Lewis, Q&C Militaria Shop, in Cheltenham on 01242 519815

We look forward to welcoming you to our next meeting!

Jazz Event

Wednesday 6th August

Featuring the Will Powell Quartet plus singer Penny Powell. Raffle.

The quartet is led by much-admired Leeds-based guitarist Will Powell and also includes Birmingham-based saxist Catherine Gulati.

Starts at 7:30pm - Free admission

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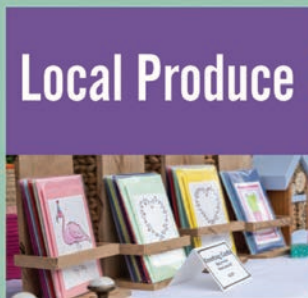
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be inspired!

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Malvern Festival Chorus Open Rehearsal

Tuesday 2nd September 2025
at 7:30 pm

We invite you to our 'Open Rehearsal' in the Music School, Malvern College (Priory Road end of College Rd)

We are looking forward to the 2025-26 season and keen to welcome new members!

More details about MFC can be found at: www.malvernfestivalchorus.co.uk



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u3a
Persore & District

No Meeting in August
Our next meeting is on :

Tuesday 16th September at 2pm
Inside the mind of a cryptic crossword setter...

With Mark Hartshorne, known as "PostMark" in his crossword life, delving into the world of words.

All welcome, including non-members
Meetings held at Number 8, High Street, Persore

For more details, contact Sally Whyte
Speaker Coordinator on
email: u3apershoresally@gmail.com
www.persore.u3asite.uk

Down on the Farm

Brian Johnson-Thomas



Some forty years ago, as journalists we used to treat the nascent Glastonbury Festival, “in Farmer Eavis’s fields” (which I recall as being slightly shambolic at that time), with a certain amount of amused disdain, little appreciating that it would metamorphose into the entertainment giant it is today. Perhaps fortunately, there’s still space for more local music festivals which still cater for up-and-coming bands (the Glasto headliners of tomorrow?). A local one of these is the Down on the Farm Music Festival at Abbey Dore in the heart of Herefordshire’s Golden Valley. Starting as a one-day event in 2012, it’s now a three day festival under the tutelage of the owner of Gwatkin Cider, Denis Gwatkin, who has played in several bands since his teenage years with most of the practice sessions and performances being at the farm. Their aim is to give local up-and-coming bands the opportunity to play live on stage alongside more established names on the live music circuit. Over the years, they’ve hosted such names as the fantastic tribute acts: Hats Off to Led Zeppelin,

Guns n’ Roses Experience, and many, many more. Hot and cold food will be available, along with a diverse range of ciders and perries (all made onsite), a full bar, and tea and coffee. Camping is included free of charge when a weekend ticket is purchased and the campsite is close to the festival, with toilets and showers. Children are welcome. *For details, visit www.musicglue.com/down-on-the-farm.*

Note that last bit about children being welcome, because what to do with the little darlings during the long school holidays can turn out to be a bit of a problem. Even going for a family walk can be problematic, as some recent research for the outdoor chain, Mountain Warehouse, makes clear. (We have just seen their new store in the Cotswold Designer Outlet retail park just off the M5 at Tewkesbury, worth a browse). They say that the typical Family Walk Formula is revealed as one hour and eleven minutes long, up to two tantrums, three ‘treasures’ picked up and at least two snacks consumed per child. In more detail, the formula



reveals: tantrums start fast. The first meltdown hits just 19 minutes in – barely out of the car park. Top triggers? “I’m too tired”, “It’s too long”, and of course, “I need the loo.” Snack strategies? One in three parents bring two to three snacks per child. Parents do the heavy lifting. Nearly half carry all the bags, and a quarter end up hauling the child and their rock collection. Kids collect an average of three random items – from flowers to ... old rubbish. Only 18% of walks go to plan. Weather, snack shortages and emergency loo stops are the top culprits. Forewarned is forearmed! *For more family walk ideas, see www.mountainwarehouse.com/community/walking-3/the-family-walk-formula/* You could well find the family visiting nearby Croome Court, where the National Trust have planned a whole series of family days out at Croome as part of their Summer of Play. They say, for example, “we’re celebrating all things bugs and biodiversity, with critter-themed fairground games, hands-on creative workshops and a mini theatre for performers big and small.

Just go to: www.nationaltrust.org.uk and scroll down to find Croome. Don’t forget the other conservation charity, English Heritage, either! Nearby, Witley Court offers not just romantic ruins but a wilderness play area, the chance to wander the woodland walks and, of course, the opportunity to picnic in the superb gardens and watch the giant fountains (Perseus and Andromeda) fire off every so often. *Visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk and scroll down to Witley Court.* For those of us who are rather more mature, then the season at Longborough Festival Opera is, sadly, drawing to its close. We were fortunate to see a sparkling performance of Debussy’s *Pelleas et Melisande* last month and it was especially nice to see and hear Kateryna Kasper (Melisande), Brett Polegato (Golaud) and Karim Sulayman (Pelleas) making the Longborough debuts. The last performance of this season is Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas*, with the curtain coming down for the last time this year on 2nd August. *For details, see: www.lfo.org.uk*

Worcestershire’s biggest free art event is back!



Worcestershire Open Studios Art Week returns this summer for its 10th anniversary, running from Saturday 16th to Monday 25th August 2025. This popular event offers a rare opportunity to explore the studios and creative spaces of local artists and makers and it’s completely free to attend! Set against the stunning Worcestershire countryside, visitors are invited to step inside creative spaces, meet the makers, and discover a wide range of artistic disciplines. From painting and ceramics to jewellery, textiles, and printmaking, there’s something

to inspire everyone. Throughout the week, many artists will be offering live demonstrations and workshops, giving insight into their techniques and inspirations and perhaps even encouraging you to have a go yourself. Whether you’re an art enthusiast or simply curious, the event is a fantastic way to meet the artists and makers on your doorstep and also further afield. You might even discover your new favourite artist or a unique piece to take home. Many studios will have original artworks, prints, cards, and unique pieces available to buy

perfect for adding something special to your space or gifting to someone else. Don’t miss this inspiring celebration of local talent - a creative journey through Worcestershire you won’t want to miss!

To help you plan your visits, the official event website features an interactive map, a digital guide, and a full artist and maker directory: www.worcestershireopenstudios.org

A Turn Around the Ground

There is still time to sign up to be part of a fundraising event being staged in aid of The Baker Foundation, the organisation set up following the tragic death of Josh Baker last year. "A Turn Around the Ground" is a sponsored meander around New Road, Worcester, on Saturday 20th September where you can do as many or as few laps of the ground as you want to do – every circuit will make a difference. Weather permitting, the walk

will take place on the outfield around a course set out following the boundary line. Walkers will be able to start their laps from 8am onwards with The Chestnut Marquee available for toilets, rest breaks and refreshments.

Entry and registration is just £20 inc a commemorative t-shirt to wear on the day. If you fancy joining in, please contact Mark on 07506 747619 or via email: ma004g2691@gmail.com



Cancer Trust expands podcast platform



The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust has relaunched its podcast, 'Young Me vs the Big C', now available on Spotify, Amazon Music and Apple Podcasts. This exciting step makes the podcast more accessible than ever, allowing young listeners to tune in from home, download episodes for hospital visits, or listen on the move with their families. The podcast was created to offer a safe and stigma-free digital space for children and teenagers diagnosed with cancer, helping them feel less isolated

and more connected to others with shared experiences. The first episode features 14-year-old Ewan, who completed treatment for Acute Lymphocytic Leukaemia, offering a powerful and honest account of his journey. Two episodes are already live, with five more scheduled for release, one each week over the next five weeks. They share a variety of perspectives from young people who've experienced cancer themselves, as well as siblings and parents who all speak with warmth and courage.

Each episode offers listeners a chance to hear stories that reflect the challenges and strength found in the face of childhood cancer. Dr Jen Kelly, CEO of the Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust, said: "Being diagnosed with cancer is an incredibly isolating time for any child or young person. 'Young Me vs the Big C' is one of the ways we're helping them find connection, reassurance and a sense of community during a difficult journey." Now streaming on Spotify,

Amazon Music and Apple Podcasts, the podcast is set to grow in both reach and impact. Future episodes will explore a range of topics, including coping with diagnosis, returning to school, mental health and friendships. Listeners will also hear from parents, siblings, teachers, healthcare professionals and others whose lives have been touched by childhood cancer. There are exciting plans ahead, with themed episodes, guest speakers and opportunities for young people to take part in conversations that matter to them. The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust hopes the podcast will continue to spark important discussions and celebrate the resilience of young people facing extraordinary challenges. The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust welcomes anyone interested in sharing their story or getting involved. By contributing, young people can help others feel seen and supported, while being part of something uplifting and empowering.



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Jazz News

Peter Farrall



Pershire Jazz on a Summer's Day, again at Number 8 this year and themed "jazz royalty", presented a mini Debrett's of the jazz world, generating many queries as to how such a host of noble names and titles came to be. None of them are genuine, but mostly nicknames bestowed by fellow musicians, fans or critics with reference to physical appearance or some individuality in style of playing or lifestyle. Joe "King" Oliver, New Orleans cornetist, was so called simply because of his exceptional mastery of his instrument but it's sad that such a giant of early jazz eventually died in abject poverty. Edward Ellington was dubbed "duke" by early childhood friends because of his already gentlemanly demeanour and tidy way of dressing; he liked and adopted the name and so it was

Duke for the rest of his life. One of Ellington's closest friends and musical rival was William "Bill" Basie, who was being introduced on a radio show where the presenter thought Bill Basie sounded too mundane and jokingly said: "Can I call you Count?". Basie non-committally agreed but the name stuck, and the band soon became world renowned. Did the name change stimulate this rise to fame – probably? Earl Hines was not nicknamed Earl, that was his real name, but he was called "Fatha" (father) Hines in recognition of his huge part in the development of jazz piano. Greatest among the aristocratic ladies of jazz has to be Ella Fitzgerald, whose incredible vocal talent justifiably earned her the title "Queen of Jazz" right from the early days of her

long and stellar career. Friend and rival of Ella was Billie Holiday, called "Lady Day" by her great friend and often musical collaborator, Lester Young, who admired her sophisticated style and pronounced her a "real lady". Billie returned the compliment by calling him "Prez" (president) because he was "the greatest". So, there we have a brief acquaintance with the jazz "royals", but there were jazz musicians bearing genuine titles. Bhumbol Adulyadej, the king of Thailand, was an avid jazz fan and accomplished musician playing mainly alto saxophone but also clarinet, soprano sax, trumpet, guitar, and piano. He spent some time in America, appearing with many of the leading musicians of the day including Benny Carter, Lionel

Hampton and Stan Getz. Here in Britain, Lord Anthony Colwyn, trumpeter, band leader and crusader for jazz appreciation in the House, was a real hereditary peer. Sadly, he died of Covid-related problems in 2024. Pershire Jazz Club continues with an eclectic programme for 2025, culminating in a very special Christmas event. *Pershire Jazz Club Last Wednesday of the Month in the Function Room, Pershire Football Club* Doors open at 7pm, music at 8 Admission £12.50 to include a raffle ticket. Book in advance and pay on arrival, email: club@pershirejazz.org.uk Tel: 01527 66692 or find us on Facebook. Check out our website www.pershirejazz.org.uk

Music Matters

Steve Ide

Glastonbury kicked off the summer festival season in style, with the weather matching some unforgettable performances. There were many highlights, including Pulp sounding as good as ever and Ezra Collective with one of the most joyful and uplifting performances you will see for a while. Other notables are Wet Leg, Neil Young and Wolf Alice, all available on the BBC iPlayer if you want to spend a happy evening catching up. Oasis have started their much anticipated run of comeback gigs with their typical swagger. With such well known tunes, there's lots of love for the band and they seem to be enjoying being back performing again to rave reviews. The Gallagher brothers always come with a feeling of

jeopardy. Will they fall out again? Definitely? Maybe? There are countless festivals to attend and gigs from Coldplay, Stevie Wonder, Billie Eilish and many more. We're spoilt for choice this year, it looks to be a scorching summer of music and sun. **Notable new albums** Moisturiser by *Wet Leg* This highly anticipated album has managed to live up to the hype. They return with a new look and their simple, fun songs about relationships, with some killer snubs. Coupled with the deadpan, sarcastic delivery from Rhian Teasdale and killer guitar tunes, this is an album of great pleasure. Notable track: Catch these fists

All Asimov and No Fresh Air by *Half Man Half Biscuit*

Nigel Blackwell works his magic again, with satirical, funny lyrics. This album pulls off the difficult trick of being witty without trying too hard. Also where else will you find a song about the history of Rawplugs? Notable track: McCalligog and his hens

Self Titled by *Kae Tempest*

A typically honest and open album by Kae, covering the changes in their life and the journey they've been on. Notable track: Know yourself

Add to playlist Mr Bojangles by *Nina Simone*

Dignity by *Deacon Blue*

She brings the sunlight by *Richard Ashcroft*

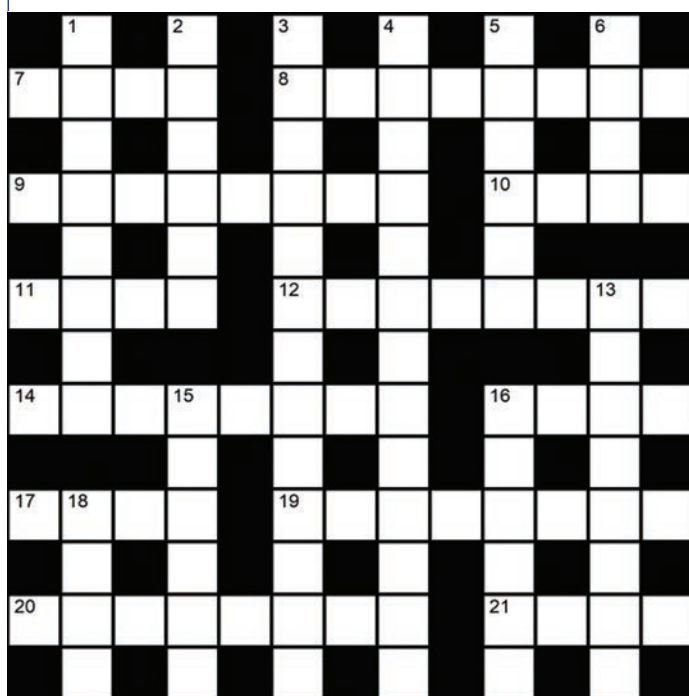
Dead stick by *King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizards*

Songbird by *Fleetwood Mac*



Coffee Break

Crossword



Across

- 7 "Good heavens!" (2,2)
 8 Poll's findings (8)
 9 Cross rats veer all over the place (8)
 10 Corn covering (4)
 11 "Private Benjamin" actress (4)
 12 Annoy (8)
 14 Wine crops (8)
 16 Where tadpoles might be found (4)
 17 Botanical balm (4)
 19 Yesteryear (3,5)
 20 Militant supporter (8)
 21 "It's good for what --- you" (4)

Down

- 1 Lost one's query (5,2,1)
 2 Abounding in trees (6)
 3 Accommodation for paying guests (8,5)
 4 No.2 who oversees moral weakness? (4-9)
 5 Million seller, for example (3,3)
 6 Burden of proof (4)
 13 With affection (8)
 15 Unlawful removals (6)
 16 Earliest (6)
 18 Desired by detectives and salespeople (4)

Sudoku

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

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

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

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

Wordsearch

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

ANVIL
 BANJO
 BELL
 BONES
 BUGLE
 CHIMES
 CRWTH
 DRUM
 FIFE
 GONG
 HARP
 LUTE
 LYRE

MOOG
 OBOE
 ORGAN
 PIPE
 REBEC
 REGAL
 SHAWM
 SHENG
 SITAR
 TABOR
 TUBA
 VEENA
 VIOLA

Brainteaser

What is the missing letter ?

B	D	2
W	?	3
C	G	4
A	K	10

Poets' Corner

XLVIII

Be still, my soul, be still; the arms you bear are brittle,
Earth and high heaven are fixt of old and founded strong.
Think rather, -call to thought, if now you grieve a little,
The days when we had rest, O soul, for they were long.

Men loved unkindness then, but lightless in the quarry
I slept and saw not; tears fell down, I did not mourn;
Sweat ran and blood sprang out and I was never sorry:
Then it was well with me, in days ere I was born.

Now, and I muse for why and never find the reason,
I pace the earth, and drink the air, and feel the sun.
Be still, be still, my soul; it is but for a season:
Let us endure an hour and see injustice done.

Ay, look: high heaven and earth ail from the prime
foundation;

All thoughts to rive the heart are here, and all are vain:
Horror and scorn and hate and fear and indignation-
Oh why did I awake? when shall I sleep again?

XLIX

Think no more, lad; laugh, be jolly:
Why should men make haste to die?
Empty heads and tongues a-talking
Make the rough road easy walking,
And the feather pate of folly
Bears the falling sky.

Oh, 'tis jesting, dancing, drinking
Spins the heavy world around.
If young hearts were not so clever,
Oh, they would be young for ever:
Think no more; 'tis only thinking
Lays lads underground.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Quiz!

- 1) Which is the largest ocean - the Pacific or the Atlantic?
- 2) Brian Lara played international cricket for which national side?
- 3) Which pop star was born in Gary, Indiana on August 29th, 1958?
- 4) Which smoked fish might you expect to be served with cream cheese and lemon juice in canapes?
- 5) Which TV character was first portrayed by William Hartnell in 1963 and more recently by Peter Capaldi?
- 6) Which former England footballer scored against Morocco in a pre-World Cup 1998 friendly to become, at the time, England's youngest goalscorer?
- 7) Russell Crowe plays Inspector Javert in which 2012 film?
- 8) Which colour gives it's name to the region of spacetime that has such strong gravitational effects that nothing can escape?
- 9) Which American actor and political activist is known for playing Moses in The Ten Commandments and Ben Hur as the title character?
- 10) Who is the Roman goddess of love?
- 11) Cordozar Calvin Broadus Jr. is the birth name of which US rapper known for hit singles 'Gin & Juice' and 'Drop It Like It's Hot'?
- 12) Appaloosa, French Trotter and Mustang are all breeds of which animal?
- 13) Which singer had a 2011 hit with Born This Way?
- 14) Which Steve Carell movie has the tagline 'The longer you wait, the harder it gets'?
- 15) Kurt Cobain was the lead vocalist with which US rock band?
- 16) In which sport might you compete for the Claret Jug?
- 17) Wolfgang Amadeus is the first names of which Austrian composer?
- 18) An Anglophile is a supporter or admirer of what?
- 19) The logo for Chang Beer features two of which animal?
- 20) Which former Question of Sport captain was known for his 'flying dismounts'?

Answers: 1) The Pacific 2) West Indies 3) Michael Jackson 4) Salmon 5) Dr. Who 6) Michael Owen 7) Les Misérables 8) Black (Black holes) 9) Charlton Heston 10) Venus 11) Snoop Dogg 12) Horses 13) Lady Gaga 14) The 40 Year-Old Virgin 15) Nirvana 16) Golf 17) Mozart 18) English (or British) customs or people 19) Elephant 20) Frankie Dettori

July Answers



August Brain teaser: W plus 3 is 26, or Z

Did You Know?

Worcestershire boasts the oldest newspaper in continuous and current production in the world? 'Berrow's Worcester Journal' began as the 'Worcester Post-Man' in 1690 and has been in print ever since.

Word of the Month

'Addlepatied'

Definition: to be confused; eccentric; flustered

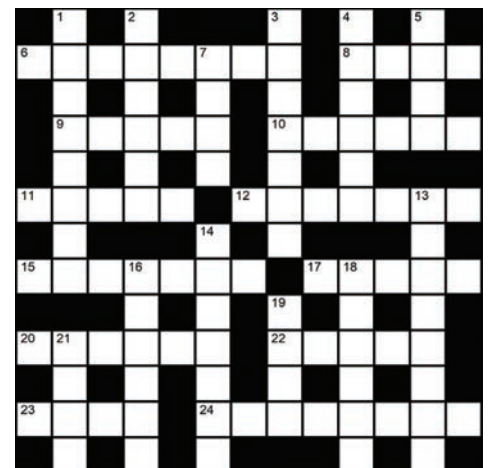
Anagram Crossword

Across

- 6 His toast (2,4,2)
- 8 Puss (1,1,2)
- 9 Rules (5)
- 10 End-all (6)
- 11 Swede (5)
- 12 Cabinet (3,2,2)
- 15 Toilets (1,1,5)
- 17 Dig in (5)
- 20 Mauser (6)
- 22 Gable (5)
- 23 Coat (4)
- 24 Baseline (8)

Down

- 1 Plasters (8)
- 2 Phaser (6)
- 3 One farm (7)
- 4 Clue in (6)
- 5 Nope (4)
- 7 Sots (4)
- 13 Noblesse (8)
- 14 Coulomb (7)
- 16 Ill - woe! (3,3)
- 18 Gun dog (6)
- 19 Able (4)
- 21 Raja (4)



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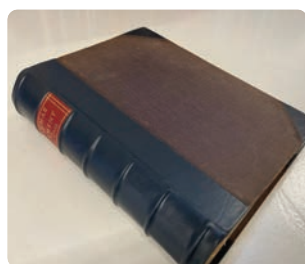
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***Copy Deadline for
September Issue - 21st August 2025***

Should I become a Parish Councillor?

What is a parish council?

A Parish Council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the Parish with an overall responsibility for the well-being of the local community. The Parish Council plays a vital role within the Parish of Whittington. It is the level of government closest to the community and for this reason the parish council is invariably the first place that residents will go with concerns or ideas. On their own, Parish Councils have limited powers to make decisions. However, they can consult with those organisations that do make final decisions, such as County or District Councils, police etc. These organisations are aware that a Parish Council gives the best reflection of how a community feels and so its views will be taken seriously.

What are a Parish Council's responsibilities?

Parish Councils may serve the community on many issues:

- crime and safety, planning, environment and highways
- local amenities and services such as playgrounds, cemeteries, allotments and other community facilities
- provide bus shelters, public toilets, litter bins and other street furniture

Parish Councils are often well placed to access grant funding which can be used for various projects to improve the community.

Why become a Parish Councillor?

As a Parish Councillor, you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support, a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve. Seeing your community change for the



better because of decisions you have helped make is something that can give you a sense of achievement and pride. *How much time does it take up?* Whittington Parish Council usually meets once a month in the evening. In addition to these regular meetings, Councillors may also act as representatives on an outside body, community activities, new projects for the community etc.

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor?

To stand for election on the Parish Council you must:

- be over 18 years of age and on the electoral register
- be a Parish resident / business owner or live within three miles of the parish boundary
- be able to attend evening meetings every month
- be able to represent the views of local people
- have an interest in local issues and a desire to improve the quality of life in the Parish

The position is unpaid and voluntary, but some expenses such as training are paid for by the Parish Council.

Don't take our word for it.

*Come along to a Parish Council Meeting!
For further details contact
Clerk to the Parish Council,
David Hunter-Miller
Tel: 07513 122918
Email:*

www.whittingtonparish.gov.uk



Meet your safer neighbourhood team

Officers can be contacted on the below numbers concerning community issues. To report a crime in progress call 999 and for non emergencies, report online at www.westmercia.police.uk/report. If you are unable to report online, you can contact us via the 101 non-emergency number.



Inspector Dave Wise



Sergeant Cathy Atkinson

Pershore Rural SNT (pershorerural.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



PCSO Claire Doughty
07814 040601



PCSO Lee Stirling
07483 106189

Pershore Town SNT (pershoretown.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



PC Molly Keeler
07817 947084



PCSO Rebekah Ashley
07773 053576



PCSO Jo Rice
07929 091572

Spot & Shop - July Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1) Thersea Millward | 5) Liz Coward |
| 2) Clive Spencer | 6) Mrs Sheila Shettard |
| 3) Sonia Dorrell | 7) Hillary Price |
| 4) Mrs Derreth Thomas | |

**Last month's answer:
Part Time Girl Friday**

**SPOT
&
SHOP!**

COMPETITION TIME!

Take a look at the anagram

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

Chance
to WIN
£50
CASH

**This
month's
anagram
ADRENALINS
ECSTATICAL
HANDFULS**

This month's prizes!

1st - £50 cash

2nd - £25 cash

Donated by Hughes & Company

3rd £20 Food Voucher

at The Queen Elizabeth, Elmley

4th £10 Voucher

at Revills Farm Shop, Defford

5th £10 Voucher

at Craftypyro, Bakers Arcade, Pershore

6th Reg Moule Gardening Book

7th Pat's Pantry -

Jar of home-made marmalade/jam

Complete and return this form or email:

news@hughes.company for your chance to win!

Whittington Times closing date: 22nd August 2025

Answer:

Name:

Telephone/email:

Return to: Hughes & Company/Whittington Times

8 Church Street, Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1DT

The Moongate at the Community Hall



'Moongate' is the name of the sculpture outside Whittington Community Hall which has previously featured in photographs in the Whittington Times. But what is it? And what does it mean?

This grey steel circle was created by Simon Probyn, a metalwork sculptor working from a Herefordshire studio. With collectors nationally and internationally, he has worked extensively with landscape designers, collaborating in the design of award-winning gardens with members of the RHS at Chelsea, Hampton Court Palace and Malvern. He says of this Moongate piece: 'I started making walk-through round sculptures in 2017. Gardeners loved them as they could create two different spaces and, by walking through the Moongate, you were transported into another garden. A Moongate Seat was a practical addition and they have been very popular too.'

When I first saw the piece during one of the Open Studios weeks in 2022, I felt immediately that it was just the thing to enhance our new community hall: contemporary, with its clean lines, and its grey steel complimenting the vivid green roof. With financial support from the Elmley Foundation and Whittington Parish Council, we were able to install the sculpture in 2023. An added bonus on a practical level is that it provides a great location for photographs, a frame for our view over the fields, and, best of all, a quiet seat to rest and contemplate. Come and sit on it sometime!

To discover more about Simon Probyn, visit:
www.simonprobyn.co.uk

Richard Holroyd
Whittington Community Hall
Management Committee member



Regular classes at Whittington Community Hall

MONDAY

10.30am-11.30am - Zumba -

with Aimee Ford, email: aimeeford@yahoo.co.uk

5.30pm - The Star Project Children's Theatre

(term time only) with Jo Payne, email: director@thestarproject.info

TUESDAY

4.00pm-6.30pm - Dance (for 3 year olds and above)

with Elizabeth Gibbs, email: lizdance@icloud.com

6.30pm-9.30pm - Gong Bath & Sound Meditation

with Angela Latham. (varying monthly dates available)

email: evenstartbabe@msm.com

WEDNESDAY

4.30pm-5.30pm - Yoga

with Natalie Houlding, email: natalie@zafyoga.com

6.30pm-7.30pm - Pilates

with Rebecca Hadlington, email: fitness-worcester.com

THURSDAY

10.00am (for 10.15am start) - 11.00am Zumba -

with Denise Wrafter,

11.00am-12.00 Yoga -

with Denise Wrafter, email: sdwrafter@btinternet.com

7.15pm-9.15pm T'ai Chi -

with Dr Marc, email: marc@obelison.com

FRIDAY

9.45am-10.45am Zumba -

with Aimee Ford, email: aimeeford@yahoo.co.uk

12.00noon-1.00pm Nia Barefoot Movement -

with Sarah Handley, tel: 07935 150853

6.00pm-7.00pm Duke Yoga

with Fiona, email: fib42@hotmail.com

Useful numbers

Fire Station 0300 333 3000

Library (The Hive) 01905 822866

Police Station 101

..... (In an emergency always call 999)

CrimeStoppers 0800 555 111

Post Office 01905 353537

197 Bath Rd, Worcester WR5 3AH

St Peter's Surgery 01905 363351

St Peters Drive, Worcester WR5 3TA

Haresfield House Surgery 01905 368503

37 Newtown Road, Worcester WR5 1HG

Whittington Parish Council

Clerk- David Hunter-Miller 07513 122918

District Council

Out of Hours Emergency Hotline -

In an event of an emergency call: 0300 003 5367

Worcestershire County Council

To report faulty traffic lights or urgent

Highways issues call: 07875 033759

Please note: This number should not be used for 'day-to-day' enquiries.

- Waste Services 01386 565018

- Pot Holes 01905 765765

Help the Homeless 0300 500 0914

Memory Lane . . .Whittington & District Women's Institute



November 6th 1997 - planting a Glastonbury Thorn in the churchyard extension to commemorate the centenary of the W.I movement

The first meeting of Whittington and District WI was held in the schoolroom at 7pm on 23rd February 1939 under the guidance of Mrs Pedley, a Voluntary County Organiser. The first president was Mrs. Mark Bates and the secretary Mrs. Richardson. Among the founder members were Mrs. Doris Williams, Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Corfield. The last two were to remain members for the rest of their lives and Mrs. Corfield won an award for ten years of unbroken attendance at meetings.

The March meeting was also held in the schoolroom but from April until July, the venue was Crookbarrow Farm.

In September, just after the outbreak of the Second World War, Mrs. Arnold Webb invited the institute to meet at New Place, Whittington Road. In October, the meeting was again at Crookbarrow Farm at 3.30pm.

Then, from November onwards, the meetings were held once more in the schoolroom, the times varying between 4pm and 7pm. The first Annual Meeting was held in January 1940 when there were 38 members. The subscription was then 2s. per year but rose to 2s.6d. in 1944, then to 3s.6d. and 5s, increasing steadily over the years to the present level of £15.50!

War-time activities consisted of canning and jam making (for which sugar was purchased in bulk by the Institute), war-time cookery, knitting, collection of rose hips, salvage and blood donation. One of the talks was on "Household Jobbery"!

An attempt to start Fold Dancing classes failed through lack of support but there was a choir for some years.

Meetings were held every month but in March 1943, it was decided to hold eleven

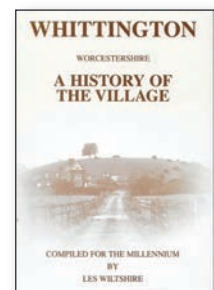


Whittington & District WI 25th Birthday Celebration, February 1964

meetings in the year always in the schoolroom but at varying times, either afternoon or evening. In 1951, the Institute was offered the use of the Ebenezer Baylis canteen as a meeting place. Mrs. Russell Baylis was a long-standing member and embroidered a tablecloth for the president's table, which is still in use, as is the cloth embroidered by Mrs. Doris Wilkes for the treasurer's table.

In 1954, the Annual Meeting was moved to November. In January 1955, the Institute met for the first time in the new Village Hall, where it has met at 2:30pm on the third Thursday of every month, except August, ever since, apart from an occasional Garden Meeting held at members' homes. The institute members were very pleased at last to be able to meet in Whittington itself and are very much at home in the hall, which continues to receive

much praise and admiration from visiting speakers. In 1962, there were 54 members and in 1964, the Institute celebrated its Silver Jubilee and held a dinner in the Village Hall. The Golden Jubilee was celebrated with enthusiasm but, sadly, a much smaller number of members in 1989 and in February 1999 the Diamond Jubilee was celebrated. It is interesting to note that ten past members have lived to be over ninety years of age and one over a hundred!



Reproduced by kind permission of Les Wiltshire's estate. Anyone interested in buying a copy of 'Whittington Worcestershire - A History of the Village' Compiled for the Millennium by Les Wiltshire, please email info@whittingtoncommunityhall.co.uk

From Whittington Primary School

It has been a busy Summer Term at Whittington CofE Primary School. The children have all been learning new and exciting things, with all classes venturing outside the classroom to experience hands-on learning on school trips. Our Year 6 pupils went on an outdoor adventure residential for two nights, where they participated in high ropes, archery, caving and much more. Later in the term, their adventures continued as they took to the Severn for a day of Bell Boating. Year 5 had several exciting trips, including a day at the Three Counties Show, where they performed a selection of songs to a lucky audience. They performed

with confidence and showed off their voices and moves, they even included some solos!

The pupils in Year 4 went on a trip to Slimbridge Wetland Centre where they learned all about ecosystems, deforestation and met some mammals that would usually live in the rainforest. They came back full of excitement and rainforest facts.

Year 3 had a great time learning survival skills at Bishops wood. They participated in activities which included gathering resources from the woodland area and building a waterproof shelter to hide in. They were able to develop their knowledge of how to use the world around

them, tracking animals, finding fuel, and lighting a fire.

The Year 2 pupils had a busy day out in the sun at Worcester Woods Country Park. They got to explore the woods, play on the park with friends and even ended the day with a yummy ice cream.

Our time travelling Year 1 class went to Blitz Hill, where they experienced what it would have been like to live in a Victorian town. The children visited a Victorian shop and cottage, met craftspeople demonstrating their trades and enjoyed fish and chips (cooked the old-fashioned way!).

Our youngest pupils in Reception class went on a very exciting

adventure to Weston-super-Mare. The children thoroughly enjoyed digging in the sand and making sandcastles with their friends and the teachers. With the sea close, they were able to paddle in the cool water and jump over waves.

At Whittington, we value trips because they enhance learning experiences and bring them to life (as well as providing lots of fun along the way!). We hope everyone in Whittington has a lovely summer. We can't wait to welcome back our school community in September.



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Whittington Times



**SPOT
&
SHOP!**
See Page 25

PTA Raises £15,000 for School's Pupils

The Whittington PTA are delighted to announce that, for a second year running, we have managed to raise over £15,000 for the children at Whittington. So far, we have spent £10,500 on enhancing pupils' experiences in school, including a recent order for fifteen brand-new eleventh generation iPads, which will support learning from September onwards.

The Whittington CofE Primary School PTA is a registered charity, run by the parents and teachers at the school. The school children are the beneficiaries of the charity, meaning every penny we raise gets spent on them.

Our small but dedicated committee fundraise all year round with the support of other parent volunteers to enrich the educational experience of the children at our school. Activities this year have included school discos, magic shows, Christmas fairs, summer fairs, pre-loved uniform sales, weekly tuck shops, sponsored runs and, for the first time, a 'Wonka' Bar sale where children had the chance to find Golden Tickets and win a treat for themselves and their class!

We work very closely with the school to decide how to spend



the funds we raise. This year, we have funded playground markings and new playground equipment, goal posts, African drumming workshops, a falconry display, 32 ukuleles, and litter picking equipment, and spent £2,000 on new books to support literacy and a love of reading — a shared priority for both the school and the PTA.

Another large part of our funding goes towards subsidising school trips. Inclusivity is very important to the school and the PTA and we want all the children at Whittington to be able to share

in the same exciting experiences. That's why each year, the PTA contributes £5 for each child to subsidise the cost of a school trip, helping bring down the cost for parents. We are a small but ambitious committee and are always striving to do the best we can for the children at Whittington. Next year, we already have plans to fundraise and purchase another fifteen iPads, which will provide the school with a full class set of 30 for the first time. This is something we are incredibly proud of and are committing to

deliver for our children.

We are also keen to start working more closely with our community, as we know how many dedicated individuals there are in our parish.

To support the children at Whittington, visit our website www.pta-events.co.uk/whittingtoncofe

to join our School Lottery or earn us money for free by signing up to Easyfundraising. If you would like to be involved at all, or think you can help in anyway, please get in touch at PTA@whittington.worcs.sch.uk

We would welcome some help tidying and looking after our churchyard!

**Could you come along and join us on
Saturday 16th August or
Tuesday 19th August
between 10.30am and 12 noon?**

*Please bring some gloves and gardening tools if possible.
Refreshments will be available.
Families welcome.*

**Church of St Philip & St James
Churchyard, Whittington is a
conservation area.**

It is beautiful and peaceful.

www.whittingtonchurch.co.uk

Story Time With the classics



Whittington Church

Inside the Church with a Craft. If nice we can sit outside.

Thursdays 10am: 24 Jul, 31 Jul, 08 Aug, 14 Aug, 21 Aug

Church of St Philip & St James, Whittington,
Worcester WR5 2RQ



**Quiet music
for a Summer Afternoon**

A concert of light classical music

Joanne Jefferis & Mike Elden

'Cello & Piano

Sunday 10th August at 3.00pm



Followed by refreshments

Free entry with donations to
Church funds & Mentorlink

Local parking will be signposted

www.whittingtonchurch.co.uk

