



THE CHRONICLE

✠ *Serving Cricklade & Latton*

No. 574

March 2023

*Start of Summer Time: 26 March
Jubilee Clock, High Street. photo: Rick Dixon*



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SUZUKI

From the Editor

What's the time, Mr Wolf? A question to ask yourself on the morning of the last Sunday in March - the 26th. It's Summer Time and the clocks go forward one hour!

And we may have summery things to look forward to. After a prolonged absence, Cricklade Festival is returning in June and Cricklade Open Gardens will be with us again at the beginning of July - see pages 19 and 26 to read about these.

The Town Council are planning a Coronation Event for Sunday 7 May but we'll have to wait till next month for more details. You might not be able to wait that long if you want to borrow some bunting for your own planned event - the Fun Day Committee have some on offer (page 18). I'm sure it will be snapped up quickly!

Why does bunting make me think of babies? Well, 'Bye, Baby Bunting' might be

one of the rhymes at a new parent/carer and baby group starting in March - see page 24 for details of Bounce & Rhyme.

The Girl Guides Rainbow and Brownie units in Cricklade have been 'going from strength to strength'. They are now hoping to restart the Guide units for older girls. More information is on page 40.

Our Sports Section (pages 40 to 42) seems to be expanding. We now have articles from two pétanque clubs in the town - one at the Leisure Centre and one at Cricklade Spa on Common Hill.

With so much information this month it has not been possible to fit in the regular "disclaimer". Please see the February 2023 issue for the text we had to omit.

We send all our best wishes for the coming months.



In this issue

Bingo 4 Us	5
Bloomers	24
Bounce & Rhyme	24
Camera Club	2
Canal Restoration	17
Chronicle Diary	43
Church Appeal (St Sampson's)	27
Churches Together	22-23
Community Contacts	2
Cricklade Bowls Club	41
Cricklade Cinema	28
Cricklade Development Foundation	22
Cricklade Festival	19
Cricklade in the 1950s	25
Cricklade Library	20
Cricklade Pétanque Club	40
Cricklade W.I.	5
Editorial & Advertising Contacts	44
Fartrade Fortnight	6
Fifty Shades of Green	20

Foodbank	37
Garden Club	18
Girl Guides	40
Historical Society	18
Jenner Hall	37
Jenner Hall Save It Club	24
Jerusalem Joy	21
Jubilee Bunting	18
Latton Book	22
Open Door	6 and 39
Open Gardens	26
Parkinson's Café	39
Probus Club	41
Purton & Green Gable Surgery	26
Rugby Club	42
Saxons Pétanque Club	42
Sing Four Four	28
The Final Word	44
Town Council	4-5
Town Hall bookings	27
Waylands Estate Charity	25
Wiltshire Councillor	3

The deadline for the April issue is Wednesday 1 March 2023

Community contacts all 01793 unless stated or emergency

This section is intended to give quick access to emergency and community help phone numbers. If you spot something missing, please let us know: RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com or 01793 759123.

Churches	see centre pages	Link Scheme transport	07421 018 499
Cricklade Town Council	751394	Boots Chemist (100 High St)	750226
Latton P/Council ...	clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk	Dentist (104 High St)	750388
Wilts Councillor (Bob Jones)...	07973 863702	Gas leak reporting	0800 111 999
Wiltshire Council hub	0300 456 0100	Library (113 High St)	750694
Emergency Services	999	Open Door	07599 987851
Non-Emergency: Police	101	Optician (82 High St)	750415
Non-Emergency: NHS	111	Purton Vets (Bath Rd).....	751698
Non-Emergency: Covid Helpline	119	Samaritans	FREE: 116 123
Doctors: Purton Surgery	770207	Schools: St Sampson's Primary	750452
Green Gables Surgery	752633	Cricklade Manor Prep	750275
Cricklade (De Silva)	750645	Bradon Forest	770570

Cricklade Camera Club

New members are always welcome - you don't even need a camera. Everyone is welcome. So if you are budding novice or a more experienced photographer, why don't you try us out for an evening for a guest fee of £5.00.



For full details of our 2023/24 season's events see our website: crickladecameraclub.org or contact the Club Secretary, Anne Eckersley, for further information: email clubsecretary@crickladecameraclub.org.

On 7 March, in the Town Hall Annexe starting at 7.30pm we will be joined by Michelle Whitmore who will be presenting her talk on "Macro on a Budget" and reveal how you can produce fantastic images in your home using nothing more than your kitchen table, a standard kit lens and some very basic, cheap lighting.

She will also take a look at simple backdrops and how to create your own.
Website: michellewhitmore.co.uk

On 21 March, Rojer Weightman will be talking about "Still Life, Allegory, Vanitas and Memento Mori" via Zoom starting at 7.30pm.

Roger will explain the history of and difference between still life and its variants in Art and Photography. A fascinating talk about still life art and photography and the influences of the 17th century Dutch masters and the meanings they embedded into their paintings.

On 4 April, in the Town Hall Annexe starting at 7.30pm we have a practical portrait evening – "Flash Bang Wallop" with Graham Light.

On 18 April, Lynda Haney DPAGB BPE3* will be talking to us, about composite images – "How to Put it Together" via Zoom starting at 7.30pm.

Focus on Wiltshire Council

I try to be non-political in my monthly article, just reviewing the happenings at County Hall. However, Local Government is being brought to its knees with spiralling costs of materials, the lack of staff and political indecision. I am getting an increasing number of complaints regarding planning applications. The time taken to get decisions is increasing at every turn.

The reasons given are the huge number of applications being submitted by developers trying to bypass the five-year housing supply plan before the local plan is published. The Plan will probably limit their opportunity to build outside the framework boundary of existing settlements such as Cricklade.

The second cause of delays is that planning officers are leaving to go to the private sector. The spiral of increased workload on the remaining officers is now at unacceptable levels. Officers are handling 60 - 70 cases each, where the norm should be in the teens. The number of appeals by developers is also increasing as the refusal rate increases against developers' plans to build on green field sites. The outcome of this failure in the system is that you can expect to wait months for planning applications to be examined and decisions made.

The Administration has reduced the working hours of the traffic enforcement team. The outcome is that we are likely to see fewer enforcement visits and more indiscriminate illegal parking often putting pedestrians at risk. I have requested that the police use their powers and consider some of these parking incidents as motoring offences where there is clear evidence of danger to the highway or public.

As I write this, the budget papers have been published and can be viewed online at Wiltshire Council. Central government has approved up to 5% increase in Council Tax of which 1.9% will be for Adult Social Care. This will, it is hoped, reduce the bed blocking as the Health Authorities attempt to find suitable places for those fit to leave hospital but who need support during recovery or assisted living.

Until 31 March, an Assisted Travel Scheme is in place to encourage the use of public transport. All bus fares across the County will be capped at £2 for all users an opportunity to get out and about and visit people and places across the county.

If you are having a problem with Wiltshire Council, the Housing Association, or just need some general advice, I can normally find the right contact or highlight your problem to someone who can help. I have a direct telephone contact to all Officers in Wiltshire Council, and you will be surprised what can happen if you talk to the right person. I cannot promise to fix your problem personally, but I can assist you to resolve it.

I am also out and about in Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey during the week or available by phone to arrange a meeting. I can be contacted on my mobile 07973 863 702 or email me at bob.jones@wiltshire.gov.uk

Bob Jones, Wiltshire Councillor

Cricklade Town Council

Town Council Meetings

Monday 6 March: Community & Leisure Committee

Monday 13 March: Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

Monday 20 March: Full Town Council



All meetings are held in the Council Chamber, 113 High Street Cricklade SN6 6AE and start at 7pm.

Members of the public are welcome and have an opportunity to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting.

Hello and Goodbye

Cricklade Town Council is very pleased to welcome Mr Chris Bull as a new Town Councillor who was co-opted at the Full Town Council meeting on 16 January 2023. Chris is a long-term resident of Cricklade who is keen to help and improve the town in the future.

We have also said a sad goodbye to our Town Clerk, Mr Duncan May who has served Cricklade over the last eight years. We all wish him well in his new job with Gloucester City Council. His replacement will be announced in due course.

Advance notice of dates for your diary

This year's **Community Litter Pick** will be on Saturday 15 April 2023 from 9.45 to 11.45am

More details in April's Chronicle.

Please email admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk to volunteer.

This year the **Annual Town Meeting** is on Tuesday 18 April 7pm at the Town Hall.

A Coronation event will be held on Sunday 7 May 2023

More details to follow next month.

EV Charging points in Cricklade

CTC obtained a grant from the Department for Transport to install EV Charging Points in two areas of Cricklade. One is at the Fairview Fields/Stockham Close Car Park (next to the Rugby Field) and the other is at Cricklade Leisure Centre. There are four double charging points at each location.

CTC worked with BP Pulse who provided the 25% balance of the funding, meaning that there has been no cost to Cricklade residents in delivering the project.

MyWilts app and Police 101

If you spot any issues with footpaths, highways – this includes pot holes, flooding, public rights of way issues, road markings, street lights, fly-tipping, graffiti, to name a few, these are all issues that are dealt with by Wiltshire Council and can be logged online at any time by visiting my.wiltshire.gov.uk

Page 4



Pictured: Councillor Rod Case using the new facility.

The Chronicle

Cricklade is also being plagued at present by graffiti tags – these are unsightly and take a lot of time to clear up. Again this can all be logged online with Wiltshire Police. Any anti-social behaviour can be reported by calling 101 or visiting www.wiltshire.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour [QR code right]. If you are unable to report it yourself then please contact the office with as much information as possible and we can log on your behalf these issues that affect us all.



Civic Awards 2023 - Do You Know Someone Who Goes the Extra Mile?

Cricklade is renowned for its community spirit, so do you know of someone, or a group of people, who volunteer in the community and deserve to be recognised for all their hard work, bravery or courage? The Town Council is seeking nominations towards three categories of award: Young Person of the Year, Cricklade Community Award and Community Group of the Year. Details and forms are available on the website or from the Town Council offices. Closing date: Friday 10 March 2023.

The Town Council and Tourist Information Point is open:

Monday to Friday 10.00 - 16.00 hrs (Closed 12.30 - 13.30 hrs)

Closed on Public Holidays

Tel: 01793 751394 E-mail: admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk



Follow the Council @ www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil

Cricklade W.I.

Come and join the Cricklade WI! We meet on the third Thursday every month (except December) in the Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm. We always welcome new faces and the first 3 meetings are free, so come and give us a try!



At our February meeting we were privileged to listen to Rev. Dr Nicholas Henderson who talked about 'How to read the English Country Church' and we look forward to the March meeting when we will hear from Glenn Salter on 'Research and how it affects and influences the plotting of a novel'.

With various events and outings available through the Wiltshire WI and organised within our own group, there is always a variety of interesting things on and friendly faces to welcome you. If you would like more information please contact our Secretary, Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or email vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com.

Bingo 4 Us

Bingo4Us is a small non-profit group who meet at the Jenner Hall, Cricklade on Wednesday afternoons at 1.30 and it is 'EYES DOWN' at 2 pm. We are keen to have more members from the local area, including Purton, who will be made very welcome.

There is no joining fee, just a fee of £1 per session to cover prizes.

There are no forms to complete, so just come along on the day. For venue details and any questions please give Vicky a call on 07801 952 027.

Cricklade Open Door – From the Trustees

Many of you will be aware of Cricklade Open Door through the regular articles that appear in *The Chronicle*. You may be a member or have a relation or friend who benefits from the company, activities and outings offered by Open Door. We open three days a week on a drop-in basis although our nourishing hot lunches must be pre-booked.



We have two wonderful, employed co-ordinators and a marvellous team of volunteers who work tirelessly providing cups of tea and coffee, chatting to members, organising events and much, much more; the list is endless. Another group of invaluable volunteers are the drivers and escorts of our minibus who transport members to and from Open Door as well as those who ensure that the bus is cleaned, serviced, insured and safe to be used.

Up until 2021 we received an annual grant of just under £9,000 from Wiltshire Council and then in 2022 we were told it would be cut by 50% and withdrawn altogether in 2023. This follows budget cuts within Adult Social Care and has affected some 30 (mostly community run) organisations providing adult social opportunities across the county.

Now is not the time to consider the rights and wrongs of this decision, save to say that some groups have now folded. Open Door is very fortunate in that our future is secure for the time being, due to a very generous legacy that enabled Open Door to buy a new minibus; this means that our funds previously ring fenced for a new bus are still intact. However we cannot just dip into this money as many donations were given to us specifically for the minibus and, with rising wages, energy costs etc, it wouldn't last long!

We are most grateful to Cricklade Town Council who have awarded us a grant of £5,000 for this coming financial year. Many residents and businesses of Cricklade, as well as our own members, already generously support Open Door with fundraising events, monthly standing orders and donations. However we would be grateful for more financial support. If you feel you can help us please get in touch with our Treasurer: David Tetlow, david@tetlow.org.uk tel: 01793 750712 or pop into Open Door at Jenner Hall on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 10am and 3.30pm to pick up a standing order form and to see what we get up to!

Thank you.

Trustees of Cricklade Open Door Registered Charity 1124700

Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight 2023 runs from 27 February - 12 March.



Look out for a Fairtrade display in the Town Council window during this time. Please do try to buy Fairtrade goods during this period and beyond. Purchasing goods in this way gives farmers and producers in the developing world a much fairer deal and enables them to increase their incomes and reinvest in their land and small scale businesses.

Friday 3 March - There is a Fairtrade Coffee Cafe at the United Church, Calcutt Street 10 - 11.30am. A stall selling Fairtrade goods will be available. Do come along and support it.

Restoring the Cotswold Canals



... important work which started over 50 years ago is reaching our area!

The Cotswold Canals Trust was formed in 1972 to restore the 36 miles of the Stroudwater Navigation and the Thames & Severn Canal which together ran from Saul (on the Severn near Gloucester) to Inglesham.

Two substantial National Lottery grants have unlocked funding of over £50 million to enable restoration of 10 miles through Stroud to Saul. The large local population supports restoration as a means of regenerating what had become a dilapidated ribbon through their town and which has now attracted a large volunteer base. Restoration is now well advanced on the western sections.

We now want tackle the Eastern Section and develop plans and assemble resources to similarly restore the 10 mile eastern section **from South Cerney, through Latton and Eisey** to the Thames at Inglesham.

Not all is lost: Most of the historic route is still visible requiring dredging and repair, but a ¾ mile section in Latton was destroyed when the A419 bypass was built and will need to be re-dug. Elsewhere all of the original highway bridges have been lost and apart from one at South Cerney rebuilt in 2003, will need replacing – all seven of them.

Successful restoration of the canal is dependent upon three critical areas all coming together in partnership.

To help make restoration happen, we are getting support of Local Authorities, National Agencies, Trusts and local businesses.

To allow restoration to happen, we are asking land-owners to give access permission and help with land acquisition or leases.

To undertake the restoration, we need volunteers – lots of them. There are many volunteering opportunities where you can help by bringing existing skills and expertise, or you can help whilst learning new skills from our many experts.

Have a look at our website to find out more about what we have achieved, and see our A to Z of volunteering opportunities where you can be part of the largest canal restoration society in the UK, working together to leave a lasting legacy of a natural wildlife and leisure corridor across the south Cotswolds and Water Park..

Looking for a new hobby in 2023?

In addition to the more obvious hands-on physical canal restoration work, we urgently need volunteers to help with a range of supporting activities in our new workshops near Driffield involving mechanical and wood-working tasks. We are also setting up a new visitor centre and second hand bookshop near South Cerney and require volunteers to run it. There are many other volunteering opportunities – contact our friendly office team

to find out more and come along to a taster session or two.

mail@cotswoldcanals.org

www.cotswoldcanals.org

01453 752568



Cricklade Garden Club

Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month in the Town Hall Annexe. Tea and cakes are served from 7pm. Speaker starts at 7.30.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 14 March when our speaker is Vanessa Berridge.

She will be talking to us about The National Garden Scheme (NGS) and the gardens of Gloucestershire. The NGS organises the Open Gardens days when owners generously allow us to wander around their gardens in all their wondrous variety, all in aid of charity. Vanessa will be bringing copies of The Yellow Book, that indispensable guide to this year's Open Gardens.

This meeting is also our AGM and we promise that the business will be dealt with quickly and efficiently. The membership fee of £20 for the year will be payable - cash or card.

For information about the club, upcoming events and trips please look at our excellent website www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk We are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies (www.gfgs.org.uk) Visitors are very welcome at £3 a session - come and give us a try.

Queries to Anne 07717 695 022, Janet 07765 276 534, Bizzie 07876 347 973. We look forward to seeing you!

Cricklade Historical Society

Wednesday 15 March: The Purton Ships Graveyard on the River Severn.

Speaker : Paul Barnett

To be held in the Town Hall Annexe – Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Friday 19 May: Annual General Knowledge Quiz Night (with Supper)

To be held in the Town Hall – Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Ticket Price £12.50 – includes a light super and one free drink.

Bar Available, Non Members Welcome.

Tickets available online at www.cricklademuseum.co.uk

or from Tracy Threlfall on 01793 250352 or tracy@cricklademuseum.co.uk

Cricklade Jubilee Bunting

Are you planning a special celebration or street party? The Cricklade Bunting from the Jubilee Fun Day is available for you to borrow. All local Cricklade children were invited to design a triangle as a contribution to the project. Over 600 children and a number of the community's older residents took part and it's been kept stored safely at Cricklade Museum so it can be used for future events. There are about 250 metres in total, available in 20 metre lengths. If you'd like to borrow some or all of the Jubilee Festival Bunting for your event, please contact Pam Debenham at Cricklade Museum by email on:- pamdebenham@live.co.uk or phone 07453 766 744



Cricklade Festival

Sunday 18 June 2023



It's back! After 3 long years without this celebration of our Cricklade community, the Cricklade Festival returns to the High Street! So make sure you save the date, Sunday 18 June, and come along to welcome back this much-missed Cricklade summer event.

As has been its tradition, Cricklade Festival takes place on Father's Day – a great opportunity for the family to get together, enjoy the sunshine and meet friends old and new.

Cricklade Festival 2023 is being organised by a new committee, so it's a fresh start after the enforced break due to the pandemic. The committee would like to thank the old committee for all their hard work over the previous years. The Committee members are all volunteers, and the Festival is run on a not-for-profit basis, relying on the generosity of advertisers in our brochure and local donors and businesses for this event to take place. We would like to thank our sponsors, Pebley Beach and Mather & Murray, for supporting this year's relaunch.

Free entry, free entertainment, free family fun! With all the usual stalls and activities you've come to expect, plus some exciting new ones.

This year's Festival is more condensed in terms of location, focusing on the High Street with additional activities in the Green Gables car park, but will not fall short on entertainment for all the family. There will be plenty for the children to get involved in and an amazing variety of stalls for you to find a little something to eat, drink or take home with you.

Once again there will be a range of performers on the big stage, roaming street artists, children's entertainers, and an informal dog show for children to enter their pooch in classes such as waggiest tail or cutest puppy. There will also be a classic car display so if you have an interesting vehicle, of any kind, that you'd like to show, please contact

Gordon via email at gardenhills13@gmail.com.

Full details of the day's entertainment will be in the brochure which will be distributed in April.

We are calling out for volunteer marshals on the day, so if you would like to get involved, please contact Sharon at Things in the High Street (email info@crickladethings.co.uk or call 07413 039 894). Whether it's an hour or two, or the whole day, we welcome and appreciate all offers.

Remember, Cricklade Festival is all about Cricklade coming together as a community, so we look forward to seeing you there! We're on Facebook

www.facebook.com/crickladetownfestival, and we have our internet site, www.crickladefestival.co.uk.

Don't forget to put **Sunday 18 June, Father's Day**, in your diary!

Picture: a busy High street scene in 2019

50 Shades of Green

The Adventures of an Eco-Warrior Wannabee

My great grandfather, Tom Hudson, was known to make his own elixir of life and I'm willing to bet that the recipe was passed down from his mother, Ann Hudson. Ann appears to have been a formidable woman who lived her entire 'married' life 'over the broom' (a euphemism for common law marriage or unmarried) and retained her maiden name of Hudson – apparently poor James Owen was forbidden by his family to marry Ann as she wasn't the 'right sort', but Ann and James still managed to raise 11 children together, of which Tom was the eldest.



The elixir recipe is unfortunately lost but I wanted to revive the family tradition and of course it would have to be made with cheap or local ingredients (and avoid elderflower as I'm the only person in the world who dislikes it). After choosing two very common and safe herbs, nettle seeds and cleavers, I then investigated methods of extracting their herbal powers and after a little research it was very apparent that steeping the herbs in strong alcohol to create a tincture was obviously the method for me, so I started frequenting the reduced price alcohol section of Lidl (again). The alcohol needs to be more than 40% proof so I used slivovic, schnapps and a particularly strong, double distilled gin (all tested for quality obviously) and steeped my herbs in them for three months. After squeezing it out through muslin cloths (left over from when the kids were small) I decanted the tincture into second hand miniature gin bottles and presented it to friends in hand made gift boxes made from pizza cartons (thanks Anna).

One of the reasons for brewing this elixir was to 'create' a gift for my friends that did not involve new items – the Secret Life of Stuff, a great book by Julie Hill, explains the convoluted life-cycle of every bit of 'stuff' that we buy – from the mining of the materials, to the final shipping to store, and once you've read it you begin to see the vast and devastating consequences of our consumer, growth society.

As part of our efforts to reduce purchases of Stuff, Cricklade CAN will be working in 2023 to build a 'Library of Things' to enable Cricklade residents to hire infrequently used items, such as wallpaper steamers or gazebos, instead of purchasing one just for it to sit in your garage for 98% of the time. Every Kärcher left in Argos is one less drain on the planet!

I'm also creating an eco-library of books, including the Secret Life of Stuff - if you'd like a list of titles or to find out more about the Library of Things, email TrizaGreen@icloud.com.

Next time you see me in the pub, 'holding a G&T', just remember it's actually a herbal tincture of juniper with a quinine infusion and an additional source of vitamin C.

Cricklade Library

The Library is above the Town Council Office at 113 High Street. The entrance is through the gateway and there is a lift as well as stairs to the library level.

Current opening hours are: *(Closed Bank Holidays)*

Mon:	2–4pm	Wed:	2–4pm	Fri:	2–5pm	Sun:	Closed
Tues:	10am–1pm	Thurs:	2–7pm	Sat	10am–1pm		

Jerusalem Joy

Saturday 1st April Cricklade United Church

Jerusalem Joy - A Musical in a Day

12 noon start

Jerusalem Joy is a short musical, and quite easy to learn. A team from Christian Music Ministries will be coming to Cricklade United Church to run a scratch "musical in a day". All we need are singers and participants!

This will be a fun event for all ages and levels of musical ability (and none!) - just a willingness to participate!

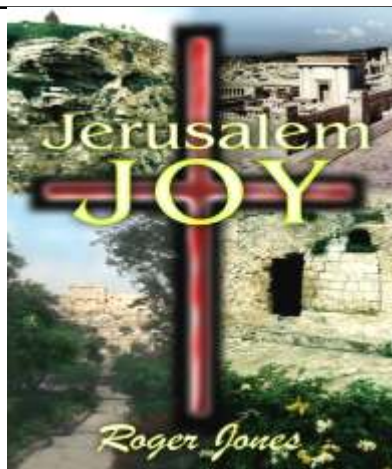
Venue: Cricklade United Church, Calcutt Street.

Time: 12 noon commencing with shared lunch – to help cover costs we ask for £5 to include lunch, £3 without lunch.

Performance: 4.30pm (approx.)

As well as singers we are looking for musicians willing to support us on the day.

For further details about the day and to register please contact Phillipa Knight on 01793 750556 or email phillipa58@hotmail.com



Cricklade Development Foundation

Our AGM will be taking place on Wednesday, 29 March 2023 at Cricklade Town Hall at 7pm. If you are interested, please go to our website crickladefoundation.org.uk to view the associated AGM documentation. All are welcome to attend.



As a Community Benefit Society, we must also complete an annual report for the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). This was recently submitted for the 2021/22 accounting period and has been accepted by the FCA. The report is available to view online via the Mutuels Public Register.

If you have any queries or wish to become a member (this entitles you to a vote at the AGM), please contact us via email at contact@crickladefoundation.org.uk or phone Terri Robertson on 07902 421 756. Thank you!

As always, for the latest news, please continue to check out our Facebook page for more up-to-date information on how the redevelopment of the Old Police Station is progressing.

Latton Book Update

While I'm making progress with my Latton and area book, I'm now concentrating on the village itself, and would welcome some help in filling in the gaps. If you knew Latton between the 1930s and 1970s please get in touch if interested. Tel: 01793 750542 or email: mfparsons071@btinternet.com

Many thanks, Marion Parsons

Churches Together

The Upper Thames Benefice

Cricklade St Sampson's, Latton St John the Baptist, Ashton Keynes Holy Cross and the Leigh All Saints

Contact details:

Vicar: Revd Canon Debbie Dewes email: vicar@upperthames.org.uk tel: 01793 752718

Associate Vicar: Revd Shirley Danby
email: shirleydanby21@gmail.com; tel. 07980 548844

Parishes Administrator: Jane Eyles
email: admin@upperthames.org.uk tel: 01793 979304

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches

Baptisms

15 January Owen Joseph Chamberlain, *at Holy Cross*

Weddings

20 January Tina Rowe and Kevin Cox, *at St Sampson's*

Funerals

11 January Lawrence Sidney Jowett, *funeral service at St Sampson's followed by interment in Cricklade Cemetery*

20 January Ronald George Bruton, *funeral service at Holy Cross followed by interment in churchyard*

Cricklade United Church

Calcutt Street, Cricklade

Minister: Revd Sarah Simpson, tel. 01666 826866

Email: sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com

As a United Reformed / Methodist Church, we are part of the URC North West Wiltshire Pastorate and the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit. Services of worship take place on Sunday mornings at 10.30am and all are welcome. Please have a look at our website for all the current information regarding our services, dates, times and other events.
<https://crickladeunitedchurch.co.uk>

Informal Worship

includes children's and youth groups at St Sampson's Church

Informal Worship meets once a month at 4pm on a Sunday. It's a relaxed service, which includes modern songs played by guitar/keyboard, short lively and relevant talks and groups for children (age 4-10) and young people (age 11-16). We enjoy refreshments before the service at 3.45pm. See the page opposite for dates (26 March this month) or visit upperthames.org.uk/calendar.

If you are new to Church or haven't been for a while, don't worry, we would love to see you! To find out more, please use the "Contact Us" form on the Upper Thames website.

er in Cricklade & Latton

Services for the Upper Thames Churches

5 March

Lent 2

- 8am Holy Communion *at St Sampson's*
- 10am Holy Communion *at Holy Cross*
- 10am Morning Worship with the Music Group *at St Sampson's*
- 10am Morning Worship *at St John the Baptist, Latton*
- 6.30pm Evensong *at St Sampson's*

12 March

Lent 3

- 10am Worship Together (*Joint Benefice Holy Communion*) *at St Sampson's*

19 March

Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday

- 8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast *at St Sampson's*
- 10am Holy Communion *at St John the Baptist, Latton*
- 10am Morning Worship *at St Sampson's*
- 10am Morning Worship *at Holy Cross*
- 4pm Evensong *at Holy Cross*
- 6.30pm Evensong *at St Sampson's*
- 4pm Informal Worship *at St Sampson's*

26 March

Lent 5

- 8.30am Holy Communion *at Holy Cross*
- 10am Holy Communion *at St Sampson's*
- 10am Morning Worship *at St John the Baptist, Latton*

Thursday morning prayers in St Sampson's:

8.30am for coffee & catch up, prayers from 8.45 and finish by 9.30am. Everyone is welcome.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Weekly Mass times

- 9.30am on Sundays
- 10.00am on Fridays

For notices please see the noticeboard on the railings of St Mary's.
Parish website www.stthomasparish.plus.com.

Father Michael Robertson can be contacted on 01285 712586 or by email
michael.Robertson@cliftondiocese.com

Gerry Dudley, our Church Secretary, is on 01793 750107.

The Friends of St Mary's website with more details of the history of the church is at
www.cricklade.stmary.org.uk

Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden

Two periods of icy weather and plenty of grey skies makes us look forward to warmer months and another busy season for Cricklade Bloomers. The bitter weather did not deter more than a hundred and fifty wreath makers who enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies and the satisfaction of producing beautiful wreaths made from greenery and berries gathered locally by the Bloomers. Another fifty-five bought wreath kits to make at home. Funds raised will be used for the summer displays.



Our efforts last year, once again brought an outstanding grade from The Royal Horticultural Society and Britain in Bloom South West in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood Awards'. The judges remarked, 'this is an impressive entry and Cricklade Bloomers are to be congratulated on their efforts not only within the walled garden but also around the town.' Excellent community engagement and sustainable initiatives were praised including the harvesting of water from roofs with a solar pump, use of peat free compost, the making of our own soil conditioner and the recycling of plants and bulbs to the public.

Start your gardening year, whether it be a garden, a window box, or a sunny window sill with pots of tulips, daffodils and irises for sale on the cart outside the walled garden, along with the usual perennial plants and delicious homemade jams and marmalades.

Help Keep Cricklade Beautiful, Sponsor a Planter

Cricklade Jenner Hall (Parish Hall) "Save It Club"

In the Monthly Draw held on 26 January the lucky winners were:

Draw held on 24 November

First Prize:	Mrs L. White	£38.10
Second Prize:	Mrs J. Norman	£25.40
Jenner Hall Funds:		£63.50



Thank you to all the "Save it Club" members for their continued support.

To Join the Jenner Hall "Save It Club" Please contact Paul Marley Tel: 752851

The Subscription for the "Save It Club" is only £12 per year. Subscribers are encouraged to pay a year's subscription of £12 by Standing Order.

All data is held under the guidelines of the General Data Protection Regulations 2018

Bounce & Rhyme

Enjoy music and rhymes with your baby followed by tea and biscuits. All free!

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in term time: 1.45 to 2.45pm at Cricklade United Church hall, Calcutt Street.

Starts on Tuesday 7 March. Further details from 01793 751104.

Cricklade in the 1950s

Greg's café. No. 102 High Street:

'Greg's Café in the fifties was between The Old Bear Inn and the chemists at No. 103. Meeting there was quite a highlight for us as teenagers.

We nicknamed it 'the Greasy Spoon'. There was nowhere else to go and Mr Gregory, the owner, who lived above the shop, did let you in – although I daresay we might have been a bit of a nuisance!

We'd buy a bottle of coke so that he could see we were spending our money. Keylocks also had a café, but Greg's café was open in the evenings and had a juke box. The favourite song chosen was Frankie Laine's 1953 hit, 'I Believe'. The boys in the picture are Alan Pegler (in sailor's uniform), and Brian Ryman.



From Cricklade Revealed part 8, and CR Extra part 5.

[Note: The former chemists at 103 is now 'One' (Home & Gifts). Greg's Café is now occupied by McFarlane Estate Agents. Ed.]

Cricklade Revealed Update: As you know Cricklade Revealed books are being phased out with no further reprints of single books planned. At the Museum's suggestion I have recently bought back their remaining stock which currently leaves only incomplete sets following brisk Christmas and New Year sales.

The 12 sets remaining (mostly of wartime and/or of post-war memories) range from sets of 13 books down to 5 books priced between £38 - £15 respectively.

I still have a limited number of single CR EXTRA books (parts 3,4 & 5) available, £3 each.

If interested in these unique memory books of 20th century social life in Cricklade and its surrounding area, and packed with local information, please email:

mfparkers071@btinternet.com or telephone me on (01793) 750542. Thank you,

Marion Parsons

Wayland Estates Charity

Supporting Cricklade, Past & Present

At their next meeting on 7 June 2023, the Trustees to Wayland Estates Charity will consider grant applications from organisations and groups towards any project or activity which has commenced or is about to commence. Any project seeking a grant must be for the general benefit of the people of Cricklade and the local area.

Application forms are available from the Clerk: John Harman

Tel: 07962 116 526 jharman@btopenworld.com



APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE 1 MAY 2023

Wayland Estates Charity is regulated by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 31 March 1976 as amended by resolutions dated 8 July 2009 and 5 February 2020. Copies of the Charity's annual report and investment policy can be obtained from the Clerk.

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities



A Message from the Surgery

We are still very busy at the moment and have seen a large increase in patients with respiratory symptoms. The current guidelines remain that staff and patients should continue to wear face coverings.

We have also recently seen an increase in staff testing positive for Covid. This can be quite disruptive to the practice as staff have to stay away for several days until they are no longer infectious. We thank you for your patience and understanding if we have to rearrange appointments.

Next PPG event – Saturday 30 September

Save the date for our next PPG event on the evening of 30 September. This is still at the early planning stage. More details soon!

200 Club draw

Thank you again to those supporting the 200 Club. The February draw was done by Medical Secretary Caren Dwyer. The £100 winner was Mel Hunter and the £15 winner was June Pitt.

Table Top and Books in Purton Surgery

The tabletop is up and running in the Purton Surgery Waiting Room. In addition there are books in the bookcase for purchase (50p each). If you wish to purchase from the Tabletop please hand your money to the reception team. Please also donate any books by handing them to the reception team ... and don't forget once you have read a book you can always bring it back to the reception team for the shelves!

As always, your support for our work to both inform and support patients is much appreciated. If you know of anyone who would like to be included in our email list (all sent bcc) then please ask them to contact via groupforpatients@gmail.com

Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary



Cricklade Open Gardens 2023

I am once again organising an Open Gardens Scheme in Cricklade. The date for this event will be the weekend of 1st and 2nd July.

I am looking for residents who are willing to open their gardens to the public during that weekend. You can do both days or just one if you prefer. The size of your garden does not matter as I am looking for both small and larger gardens to make it the success it has been over previous years.

If you have not opened your garden before or never even considered it, why not give it a go? It is great fun and you meet a lot of people who share your love of gardening.

We have raised significant amounts for local charitable causes and we hope to be able to continue that again this year. If you are able to help or want to discuss it before making a commitment, then please give me a call as soon as you can on 01793 759181 or alternatively email me at gloriaellen44@gmail.com.

Gloria Light

St Sampson's Church Appeal

We continue with our events for 2023. Look out for posters!

The St Sampson's Church Quiz

is taking place on **Saturday 4 March** at St Sampson's School.

£8.50 to include hot supper Teams of 6

Drinks available by donation 7pm for 7.30 start

Tickets from Sharon Smith: sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com - or 01793 751375.

We hope to see you there!

Advance Notice of Events at St Sampson's Church

Saturday 11 March : Cantores Chamber Choir

Saturday 1 April: Cricklade Band Concert

Saturday 22 April: Avebury Vocal Ensemble Concert



St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winner of the 15 January 2022 draw was:

Nigel Massey who won £30.00

St Sampson's Church Appeal benefitted by £30.00

It would be great to get 100 members in 2023! Contact Sharon Smith tel. 751375
sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com

We would still be grateful for any further donations to the next phases of the church appeal. Cash or cheques (made payable to St Sampson's PCC No. 2 Account) can be put in the donations box at St Sampson's, or sent to Adina Grace, Church Warden. For further details please contact Adina at janda.grace447@outlook.com or 01793 750138.

Online donations can be made scanning the QR code (right) or visiting <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com>.



Cricklade Town Hall

Your Community Hall

Book your event at Cricklade Town Hall. Birthdays, anniversaries, wedding celebrations, children's parties, quiz nights, club meetings, etc. - we have done them all! The Town Hall offers flexible space with tables, padded chairs, excellent kitchen facilities and free WiFi.

We offer a choice of one or more of the Main Hall, the Annexe, and a Committee Room, to meet your particular requirements. The Main Hall toilets and foyer area have been recently refurbished to a high standard, making our facilities eminently suitable for that special event you might be planning.

Please contact our Bookings Secretary, Mrs Nicola Fry on 01666 861023 (before 9pm please) or via email at crickladetownhall@hotmail.com for further details. Check out our Facebook page for photos and other information: www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall

The Town Hall was established on 11 July 1933 for the Parish of Cricklade and is a Registered Charity, No. 305499

The Chronicle



CRICKLADE CINEMA!

Our Spring 2023 season ends with two excellent films

Tues 14 March 8pm Emily Cert 15 130 mins

The life of Wuthering Heights author Emily Brontë is told in this elegant, atmospheric period drama.
(contains: infrequent strong sex, drug misuse)

Entry - £5. (Tickets are on sale at the Town Council office or on the door (subject to availability).



Tues 28 March 8pm Ticket To Paradise Cert 12A 114 mins

A romantic comedy starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts as a bickering divorced couple who travel to Bali to try to prevent their daughter from marrying a seaweed farmer, but discover more about themselves than they expected.
(contains: infrequent strong language)

Entry - £5. Tickets are on sale at the Town Council office or on the door (subject to availability).



And coming up ... We will be celebrating our 10th anniversary on **Saturday 22 April** with three shows throughout the day.

- Matilda The Musical (PG, 117mins)
- Top Gun Maverick (12A, 131mins)
- See How They Run (12A, 98mins)

Ticket prices and full programme to be confirmed next month.

**CINEMA
FOR ALL**

More details about all the films being shown and information on Cricklade Cinema can be found on the Town Council notice boards plus our website (www.cricklodecinema.org.uk) so why not take a look.

Email us at: cricklodecinema@gmail.com or phone on 750782. Check us out at Facebook Cricklade Cinema.

Sing Four Four

Our new season of rehearsals are now well under way and the choir are enjoying learning new songs and adding to their repertoire.



The choir rehearses in the United Church. The rehearsal itself starts at 7.30pm, but the doors are open from 7.00 so, if you wish, you can come early and catch up with friends.

We finish promptly at 9.30, so not a late night!

New people are always welcome. If you enjoy singing, please come along. There are no scary auditions!

For more information, please use our contact form, which can be found on our website: www.singfourfour.org.uk or email our musical director Jen Bamford at: jenloubamford@googlemail.com

Foodbank

Open every Friday 10.00am to 11.30 am in the Jenner Hall, Bath Road



Foodbank volunteers are kept busy every Friday with the number of clients who are accessing our services.

If you, or someone you know, needs access to the Foodbank, you can do it in any of the ways below:

call – 01666 826982 (we will call you back)

Email: cricklade@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Visit the website: malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

We prefer clients to have a voucher, but we will not turn away anyone in genuine need.

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Foodbank.

Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three-day supply of food.

Boxes are situated in Tesco (the box with our name on it), Culverhay Stores and Animal Fayre (pet shop). Our local churches: St Sampson's, St Mary's and Cricklade United will accept donations. Please check to make sure the church is open.

As an alternative, or if you are unable to visit one of our drop-off points, may we suggest a financial donation? Such a donation would enable us to purchase extra supplies as and when the need arises. Please go to the Malmesbury & District Foodbank website (above), click on the red 'Donate' button at the top of the 'Donate Food' page.

There is also a very useful App called 'BanktheFood' which you can download for up to the latest foodbank needs.

Items currently in short supply are:

- Small boxes laundry powder/liquid
- Cold tinned meat
- Meat pies
- Sauces (brown & ketchup)
- Tinned spaghetti

We are well stocked with the following:

Long life milk; Long life fruit juice; Soup; Baked beans; Washing up liquid; Pasta; Shower gel; Cleaning products; Fish; Biscuits.

Cricklade Jenner Hall ...

... continues to be At The Heart Of Cricklade for over 300 years.

The Jenner Hall continues to be a popular place for family events and smaller wedding receptions.



Our Trustees aim to make the Hall attractive to all age groups and any suggestions would be welcomed.

If you would like to book the Jenner Hall for a party or celebration, please contact our booking email address at jennerhall.bookings@gmail.com.

John Hickman, Chairman, Cricklade Jenner Hall Community Trust

Cricklade Open Door

We have had a good start to 2023 and long may it continue.

We had a super February, with a very interesting afternoon with 'Bizzie' and her monologues and anecdotes about the Welsh personality - Betty Price. Thank you, Bizzie, for a great afternoon at Open Door. The Open Door trustees organised a party for all the volunteers in February, which was a great 'thank you' to all the volunteers and staff who give so many hours of their time to making Open Door a welcoming, fun and supportive group for Cricklade residents. A Valentine Tea was held on 14 February, to remember and celebrate all our loved ones and great fun, memories and enjoyment was had by over 40 members and volunteers.



Now on to the end of February and into March.

We have great things planned for March, starting with a great Singalong at the very end of February! Rob and Sian will be back with us, thanks to The Wiltshire Music Centre's Celebrating Age Project. They will be with us on Monday 20 February from 11am to 12 noon. Everyone is welcome - Open Door members, visitors, friends, anyone who enjoys a good singalong to start the week off on a positive note.

Wednesday 1 March is St David's Day, so on our day - Thursday 2nd, we will celebrate at our afternoon bingo session with daffodils, Welsh cakes, bara brith and a BIG Welsh flag! Friday 3 March will be our first outing of 2023 for a pub lunch after the cold weather, when we will visit The Old Royal Ship Inn at Luckington. We will hold our AGM on Thursday 16 March at 11am when thoughts and plans for the future will be discussed. Something great to look forward to is our invitation to Cricklade Manor Prep School's production of 'Pirates and Mermaids' on Tuesday 21 March, 10.30 for 11am and back to Open Door for lunch (provided by Cricklade Manor) by 12 noon. We are so fortunate to be invited to enjoy the school productions of both Cricklade Manor and St Sampson's schools.

Moving ahead to April - Open Door will be closed on Easter Monday 10 April but keep an eye out in the April issue of *The Chronicle* for April/May events. A lunch at our excellent Cricklade Thai restaurant will be booked for a Friday in April; we love it there, we are looked after so well!

For any further information or an informal chat, please phone or pop in; details below.

Cricklade Open Door, The Jenner Hall, Bath Road, tel: 07599 987 851

Open: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays - 10am to 3.30pm

Lunch can be booked before 10am on the day - £5.00

Parkinson's UK

At The Cricklade Club, High Street, SN6 6AY

10.30am - noon

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

Join us for coffee, cake and chat on - 15 Feb; 15 Mar; 19 Apr.

We meet in The Living Room, turn right and follow the sign from the Foyer.

contact: parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call 07951 944 760.

Cricklade Pétanque Club

At the Cricklade Spa

We are a "self-build" club. All the pistes, the surrounding areas and the restoration of the shepherd's hut were entirely built by club members. We are the only club in the GWR region with access for wheelchairs around the playing area.

Our playing days are:

Mon 2 to 4.30pm

Wed 2 to 4.30pm

Tues 7 to 9.30pm (summer evenings)

Sat 10am to 12.30pm

We have a fully qualified Pétanque England coach and the coaching days are:

Wed 10 to 11.30 am Ladies Coaching

Fri 10 to 11.30am Mixed Coaching

On the last Friday of every month we have a social evening playing Pétanque with a fish and chip supper, followed by two fun games. We had a very successful quiz on 27 January with a buffet meal.

Our club will hold GWR and Cotswold competitions throughout the year.

We welcome friendly competitions and we are always open for new members.

Malcolm Brooks

Girl Guides Cricklade

The 1st Cricklade Rainbow unit and 2nd Cricklade Brownie unit are going from strength to strength. With a full packed and varied programme, the units are having lots of fun. A climbing wall trip, learning about Chinese New Year recently (involving lots of red paint), and planting primroses in mugs for friends and family are just some of our recent highlights.

The children transition from Rainbows (aged 4-7) to Brownies (aged 7-10) to a Guide unit (age 10-14) and then into Rangers (14-16) with the option of becoming a young leader at 14 helping other units.

We are delighted to announce that we are reopening the Guide unit in Cricklade. We aim to open this group after Easter, meeting fortnightly to begin with. If your daughter is between 10 and 14, and interested in enjoying a wide range of activities with the Guide unit, please do sign her up (details below).

We are looking for some more adult volunteers to help get the Guide unit running. A DBS check will be required. If this is something you would be interested in, please do register your details using the link below and someone from Guiding will contact you to discuss.

For general information about Girl Guiding: www.girlguiding.org.uk

To sign your daughter up: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter. [That's a bit long so here's a QR code. Ed]

To register your interest to be a volunteer: www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest



The Cricklade Girl Guiding team

The Chronicle

Cricklade Bowls Club

Last month I mentioned the sorry state of our old storage Portacabin which had partially collapsed.

We have now taken delivery of a new concrete-panelled cabin (*pictured*) which will provide weatherproof storage for our bowls match equipment, the mower and other greenkeeping equipment and materials.



For now, it means everything will be dry and we can start to remove the clutter from the changing rooms. However the job won't be complete until we can afford to fit new electrics and plumbing. The old cabin to the right in the picture will then be removed. The club would like to thank members who have put in a lot of hard work to get us this far:

alphabetically Clive, Dennis, Gerry, Jim, John D, John H, Matt, Paul C, Paul F and Rod.

It does mean we are in a good position to start the 2023 Season. We will be holding a Open Day on 15 April (10am to 4pm) to which all are invited to come along and have a "roll up" and see whether the game might be for you. Come and see what Bowls is all about, bring your friends. No previous knowledge or skill required. We have plenty of club bowls available for you to try. Existing club members will show you how it works.

If you want to have a go, please wear appropriate footwear i.e. trainers or flat bottomed shoes.

Cricklade Bowls Club is on the web (crickladebowlsclub.co.uk) and on Facebook too.

If you are interested, please just come along and have a go. There is no charge for the taster session, plus we have a licensed bar.

For more information please contact:

Roy Phillips (Secretary) roy2308@btinternet.com

Paul Coleman (Men's Captain) colemanpaul1@hotmail.com

Adina Grace (Ladies' Captain) janda.grace447@outlook.com

or anyone in the Club.

Cricklade & District Probosc Club

We are looking forward to our coming group meetings when the following talks will be delivered to us.

9 March How Close to World War III – The Cuban Crisis

23 March 1066 And All That

The meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday at 10am at the White Hart Hotel in Cricklade. Ours is a friendly group who enjoy keeping our minds active and socialising over a drink in the bar after the meetings. We are actively seeking to expand our numbers and look forward to welcoming new members to the Club.

For further information about our local club please contact the Honorary Secretary, Richard Roberts on 01793 751063

The Chronicle





Cricklade Rugby Club is holding a Family Quiz Night and Grand Raffle on Friday 24

March at the Town Hall, £20 per team of 6 plus as many kids as you can cope with! Tickets from Nicky Lloyd, 07769 736 904. Come along and have a great night out from 6.30 for 7.00 p.m.

We also need First Aiders for Saturday games (approx. 3 per month) to be part of a supportive coaching team – free kit, mileage and training. If you would like to join/play please contact Mike Murray, our Club Captain, at michaelmurray198922@gmail.com or phone 07514 596 910. Training is on a Thursday at 7pm at Fairview Fields; all are welcome. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters.

Next Fixture: 4 Mar vs Supermarine Away

Our Minis section continues to grow and is open to all shapes, sizes and genders. We aim to provide a safe environment where every player can enjoy rugby and develop their personal and social skills as well as a wide array of transferable multi-sports skills.

Training is held at our Fairview Fields ground and new players from age 6 are always welcome.

Juniors	Under 10-12	Friday 5.30 to 6.45pm
	Under 13s and 14s	Friday 7 to 8.15pm
Minis	Under 6s through to Under 9s	Saturday 11 to 12 noon

We are particularly keen to recruit U13s and U14s; please contact our Director of Minis, Seth Wareing, sethwareing@hotmail.com or phone 07305 059 879. We would also welcome any parents who want to get involved and support the Minis, so if you are interested please contact Seth.

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade

First of all apologies, there is a correction from last time: we were not hosting Winter Doubles matches at the Leisure Centre on Sunday 19 February. Both our teams were playing in Box, near Bath, that day.

If you came to watch our matches on Sunday 5 February, I hope you enjoyed it. Maybe you now fancy giving pétanque a try yourself? We're a friendly bunch and you can just turn up at one of our regular sessions at Cricklade Leisure Centre where we can lend you some boules if necessary. We play at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and 10am on Saturday mornings, but please arrive 10 minutes before the start time. Each session consists of three games with a break in between for a drink and a chat. We also run training sessions on the first and last Wednesday morning of the month.

On the social side, in January several of our members enjoyed playing skittles at The White Hart and we've just started a monthly get-together in the various pubs of Cricklade.

If you'd like to find out more about Saxons Pétanque Club please come and say hello, take a look at our notice board inside the Leisure Centre, or visit our website at saxonspetanque.co.uk.

The Chronicle Diary – March 2023

- 1 W St David's Day
end of day Chronicle copy deadline
- 3 F 10am to 11.30: Fairtrade Coffee Café at United Church, Calcutt Street
- 4 Sa 7pm for 7.30 start: St Sampson's Church Quiz at St Sampson's School
- 6 M 7pm Town Council Community & Leisure Committee, Council Chamber
- 7 Tu 7.30pm Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 9 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 10 F 4pm Cricklade Community Awards closing date, see page 5
- 11 Sa tbc Cantores Choir concert at St Sampson's church
- 12 Su 9.30am Prospect Hospice Fun Run, Stanton Country Park
- 13 M Commonwealth Day
 7pm Town Council Planning etc Committee, Council Chamber
- 14 Tu 7pm *speaker 7.30pm*: Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe
 8pm Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Council Office
- 15 W 10.30am to noon: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Club, High Street
 7.30pm Historical Society at Town Hall Annexe
- 16 Th 7.30pm Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe
- 17 F St Patrick's Day and Red Nose Day
- 20 M Spring Equinox
 7pm Full Town Council Meeting, Council Chamber
- 21 Tu 7.30pm Camera Club Zoom meeting
- 23 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 24 F 6.30pm 7.30pm start: Rugby Club Quiz Night at Town Hall
- 26 Su 2am Clocks go forward 1 hour - start of British Summer Time
- 28 Tu 8pm Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Council Office
- 29 W 7pm Cricklade Development Foundation AGM at Town Hall

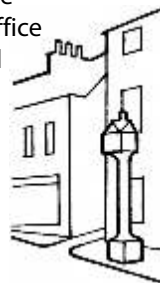
Every Week

- M 10am-3.30pm Open Door at Jenner Hall
 10am-noon Computer Club at Leisure Centre
- Tu 10am-3.30pm Open Door at Jenner Hall
- W 1.30 for 2pm Bingo4Us at Jenner Hall
- Th 10-11am Cricklade Credit Union: in Tourist Information Office
 10am-3.30pm Open Door at Jenner Hall
 1.30-4.30pm The Paint Palette: Ladies' Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
 7pm Rugby Club training at Fairview Fields
 7.30-9.30pm Sing Four Four choir rehearsal at United Church, Calcutt Street
- F 10-11.30am Cricklade Foodbank at Jenner Hall
 10-11.30am Coffee Cafe at Cricklade United Church Hall
 7pm St Sampson's church choir rehearsal
- Sa 10am-noon Cricklade Museum open, Calcutt Street

1st and 3rd Tuesday: Bounce & Rhyme 1.45 to 2.45pm at Cricklade United Church hall

Moon Phases - March 2023

7th ☉ 15th ☾ 21st ● 29th ☾



The Final Word ...

O God our Creator, your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning. Help us to leave yesterday and not to covet tomorrow but to accept the uniqueness of today. Take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and be served by each other. Amen

We are now part way into the season of Lent. Beginning 40 days before Easter, Lent has traditionally been a time of looking inward, a time of self-evaluation and self-examination. At times Christians have fasted during portions of Lent, others mark the days by "giving up" something that they particularly enjoy. For some it's sweets, for others alcohol, habits which often are picked up again when Easter arrives.

For many of us, we are so taken up with the busyness of life; that slowing down and looking inward requires a determined act of will. For Christians, Lent is a time to do exactly that.

In recent years, there has been less emphasis on giving up and more emphasis on taking on. Some will choose to go to church more often, carry out random acts of kindness, be more disciplined in bible study and prayer, or join a lent group to share thinking about this time together.

Perhaps we can all think about three things:

First, living in the moment. This is also called mindfulness. All it means is to pay attention to every single moment in the day.

Second, learn to let go. Start to simplify your life, possessions, thoughts, desires and expectations. When you can let go, you are ready to receive all the good things God longs to give you.

Third, develop a habit of thankfulness. The prayer at the start of this piece comes from the Wild Goose Worship Group and is often used in our Thursday morning prayers at St Sampson's church. It can remind us to be thankful for many things, help us appreciate our life day by day and bring us closer to God.

Lent need not be a time to live in guilt or shame. Instead it can be a time when we find ourselves in the place where we pay attention to our feelings – in that place of deep stillness where the hunger of our hearts and the heart of God meet and we can feel his love and peace.

Suzi Tipper, Licensed Lay Minister, Upper Thames Churches.

CRICKLADE CHRONICLE CONTACTS

Items for publication to the Editor: Rick Dixon, RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com, 01793 759123 or by post to 19 North Wall, Cricklade SN6 6DU.

Advertising: crickladechronicleadds@gmail.com, tel: 01793 752898 (office hours)

Distribution: Allan & Nick Webster, crickladechronicleadds@gmail.com, tel: 01793 752898 (office hours)



THE WINDOW
●
DOOR
●
CONSERVATORY COMPANY

Solo Home Improvements
a family run business since
1988
We are a **FENSA** Registered
company offering an A+3
energy rated product



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