



THE CHRONICLE

✠ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 579

August 2023

Visions of Cricklade
picture © Pauline McManus



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SUZUKI

From the Editor

We have received many good comments about our colour front cover, this year sponsored by a kind but anonymous donor. So it is with great thanks that we acknowledge the grant from Wayland Estates Charity to part-fund the 2024 covers. We will need to raise the remainder and we have a plan for how to do that. More about this later.

In the current financial climate, we cannot add further to our advertiser rates in order to fund the cover. They already support our printing 2000+ copies per month which are distributed to each letterbox in Cricklade and Latton at no charge. That's quite a lot of paper!

I have taken many of the cover pictures myself and only using a mobile phone. I am no professional and you will see a call for more contributors inside this issue ...

and our thanks for the current cover.

As we reach August we are now into the "holiday season". Several organisations in the town aren't holding their regular monthly sessions so check their articles and the Diary page to ensure you don't arrive at a locked door!

But there is still plenty going on whether it be singing, sports, club outings, stamp collecting ... it's all here.

The town is well known for its floral displays and this month sees the judging by the RHS for the *It's Your Neighbourhood* competition. Let's hope we are judged "outstanding" yet again - Cricklade Bloomers always do us proud with their wonderful year-round work.



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The deadline for the September issue is Tuesday 1 August 2023

Community contacts all 01793 unless stated or emergency

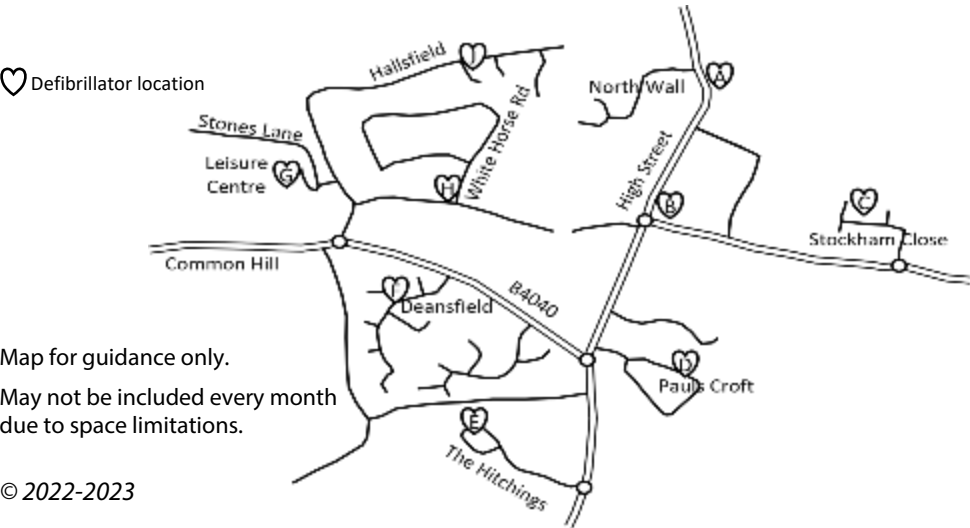
This section is intended to give quick access to emergency and community help phone numbers. If you spot something missing, please let us know: RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com or 01793 759123.

Churches	see centre pages	Dentist (104 High St)	750388
Cricklade Town Council	751394	Gas leak reporting	0800 111 999
Latton P/Council ...	clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk	Library (113 High St)	750694
Wilts Councillor (Bob Jones)...	07973 863702	Link Scheme transport	07421 018 499
Wiltshire Council hub	0300 456 0100	Open Door	07599 987851
Emergency Services	999	Optician (82 High St)	750415
Non-Emergency: Police	101	Purton Vets (Bath Rd)	751698
Non-Emergency: NHS	111	Household Recycling Centre	778205
Doctors: Purton Surgery	770207	Samaritans	FREE: 116 123
Green Gables Surgery	752633	Schools: St Sampson's Primary	750452
Cricklade (De Silva)	750645	Cricklade Manor Prep	750275
Boots Chemist (100 High St)	750226	Bradon Forest	770570

Defibrillator Locations - Public machines outside these premises:

What3Words location (///) is directly in front of the machine. To find the app, google What3Words.

- A. former Meadowpark School, SN6 6DD ///snapping.clearcut.tunnel
- B. Cricklade Dental Practice, SN6 6AA ///trackers.motivate.joystick
- C. 33 Stockham Close, SN6 6EF ///advances.bakers.opts
- D. 17 Pauls Croft, SN6 6AH ///grace.bind.framework
- E. 48 The Hitchings, SN6 6NJ ///thing.hydrant.height
- F. 24 Deansfield, SN6 6BP ///enabling.gymnasium.records
- G. Cricklade Leisure Centre, SN6 6JW ///smarting.drags.member
- H. Culverhay Stores (Londis), SN6 6EN ///awaiting.sunflower.achieving
- J. 9 Kitefield, SN6 6NF ///cupboards.scan.universe



Cricklade Town Council

Town Council Meetings

Monday 31 July: Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee (PCT)

Monday 21 August: Full Town Council Meeting

Tuesday 29 August: Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee (PCT)



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.

Cricklade Festival

The Council would like to thank the Cricklade Festival Committee for organising such a fantastic event on Sunday 18 June. A tremendous amount of effort takes place behind the scenes in putting on a community event so THANK YOU to everyone involved!

Floral Displays

We would like to express our thanks to Cricklade Bloomers for their floral displays that decorate the length of the High Street and the four corners of the town. Not forgetting David, Michael and Matt, our grounds team, for their hard work in keeping the hanging baskets and all these other displays watered. Cricklade looks lovely and everyone's hard work is greatly appreciated.

Skateboard Activity Session

The Council is funding a FREE Skatepark Session for children of all ages hosted by ATB Shop on Wednesday 23 August at The Leisure Centre between 1.30pm and 4.30pm. Skateboards and scooters will be provided but bring your own if you prefer. Parents are welcome to join in too!

Cricklade Local Youth Network (LYN)

The RISE Trust run a Youth Club who meet at Cricklade Leisure Centre every Tuesday from 6pm-7pm for Year 6/7 then 7.30pm-8.30pm for Year 8 up. This is an opportunity for young people to meet friends in a safe place with the benefit of outreach support from qualified youth workers. Please note, the club will continue to run during the 5 weeks of the school summer holidays – but there will be no session on Tuesday 25 July due to staff holidays.

Continues over ...

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: Monday 28 August 2023

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

Website: www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk



Find us on:
facebook

Follow the Council @ www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil

Wiltshire Council – How do you report complaints?



We are often contacted by residents who have a complaint, but many of these issues are actually the responsibility of Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Council is responsible for a wide variety of issues including – drains and manholes, dog mess, fly-tipping, footpaths, pavements and kerbs (includes weeds), graffiti, debris on the roads, overhanging bushes and trees, pedestrian crossings, potholes, public litter bins, public rights of way, roads (includes closures and diversions), street lighting, street litter and sweeping. You can log issues direct as below, or you can also telephone 0300 456 0100.

HOW TO LOG AN ISSUE



Type into your browser or Google: my.wiltshire.gov.uk or scan the QR Code.

Either log in or register – then pick a “Report it” category, which opens up further options – as seen with Roads, pavements & footpath category below (example):



1. The Welcome Page

If you don't want to sign in, you can still make a report but you won't get updates.

Login here
or just report, here



2. Click on Report It

You will see this list of options.

Say you want to report a pothole. That comes under Roads, Pavements and Footpaths. Click on that.

Then on Pothole.

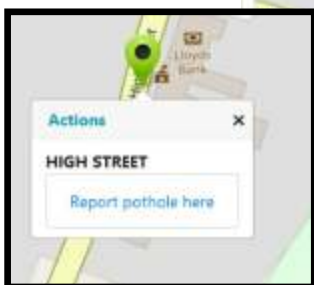
You can also use the MyWiltshire App if you have it installed on your phone.

3. Location

A map will appear, most likely centred on Trowbridge or showing all potholes reported in Wiltshire.

But there is a box in the top left corner where you can type the street name. Here we've typed "High Street, Cricklade". Press "enter" and the map will show the street location.

With your mouse (or touch pad) you can click on the precise location of the hole!



4. Report

When you click on the map, a box appears saying "Report pothole here". Select whether it is in the roadway or on the footpath and add any other relevant details, and you're done!

Focus on Wiltshire Council

The first meeting of the housing allocation review working party, on which I sit, took place at the end of June. Some of the statistics are quite shocking. The waiting list has grown from 3,500 in 2020 to 4,300 in 2023. There has also been an increase in homelessness and rough sleepers. Large numbers of those on the allocation list have no prospect of bidding successfully, not meeting the criteria. At the same time the housing stock is diminishing as the suppliers (Housing Associations) are selling off stock they consider uneconomical to renovate or repair. The larger the property a family requires the longer the wait, as there are so few large properties available.

In our area, given that an applicant meets all the conditions, they can expect to wait three and a half years for a two- or three-bed property. Currently there are only sixteen properties of all classes available. The bands for the criteria even to get onto the allocation list are so restricted.

There are four main bands. The highest for example might include Witness Protection in Band One, to Intentionally making yourself homeless (antisocial behaviour, or removal from housing for non payment of rent) in Band Three.

Continues over ...

Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade area has one of the highest allocation waiting lists with 152 on the list.

The review hopes to make the process simpler and more transparent. However, no matter how the allocation process is altered the housing stock is very limited and not set to rise; the list of people requiring housing will increase.

Coincidentally Wiltshire Council is also considering its local plan which includes the housing needs for the County. This includes the five-year land supply for housing. So on one hand we identify the lack of social housing and on the other the controversial development close to, or on our green open spaces. There are developers waiting to build all around Cricklade if they can get permission.

Will this help the shortage of social housing? Probably only with limited effect as the developers see four and five bed homes as their target to maximise profit.

Staying with the topic of housing, I continue to get multiple complaints about Green Square Accord concerning property and grounds maintenance. It is not satisfactory to wait weeks for heating repairs or security of your property. Please call me if you are having unresolved problems and I will try and mediate.

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.

Better news from our Area Board: I have been able to assist the Cricklade Football Club to secure an investment of £5,000 towards a secure storage compound for their equipment and £1,500 for the Festival Committee to purchase equipment for this year's returning Festival.

There are substantial funds available for local projects. If your Club or organisation needs funds for a capital project talk to me and I will guide you through the application process.

I am also out and about in Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey during the week or you can 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

Items for Publication in The Chronicle

We are always happy to receive items for inclusion in *The Chronicle*. However, whatever we may think about the content, we must have a name and address (postal or email) for the contributor.

We have received an anonymous item by post which we are unable to publish simply because it is anonymous. We can always write "name and address supplied" under the item at your request. But we must know those details ourselves.

If you believe this is you, please let us know and we will consider publication next issue.

The Editor

Cricklade Historical Society

Sunday 27 August: Annual Walk - Starts at 2pm

Start point: Town Hall car park. The walk will finish at the Museum where refreshments will be available.

Wednesday 20 September

The Wilts & Berks and North Wilts Canals: Speaker – Steve Bacon

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

Saturday 30 September: Barn Dance, 7pm to 11pm

Our next Fund Raiser is a Barn Dance, with a professional caller and a pay bar at the Town Hall. Tickets are £15.00 each which includes a light supper.

Tickets available from Stuart Pryde on 07764 742 527 or via our website -

www.cricklademuseum.co.uk

Free Service for Stamp Collectors

Mr Kevin New is offering a free service to consider the arrangement and content of postage stamp collections.

Please contact: Kevin New, telephone number 01793 751410. Address given after phone contact.

Cricklade Twinning Society

Saturday 5 August: Cricklade Twinning Society AGM & BBQ at 45 High Street back garden, with kind permission of Chris & Cathy Atkins. 4.30pm for short AGM and 5pm for BBQ, gluten-free and veggie/vegan options. Come along to find out how you can get involved in our 2024 trip to France! Bring cash for the raffle – and puds and prizes are always welcome. See you there!

Saturday 9 September: Murder Mystery Evening

A **brand-new** whodunnit with Purton Amateur Dramatic Society!

Raising funds for Cricklade Twinning Society on Saturday 9 September, 7.30pm at Cricklade Town Hall. Tables of 6 for £55 or £10 per adult and join others! Ploughman's supper included, gluten free with veggie/vegan option - bring your own drinks.

Tickets available from Ticketsource (fee applies - scan the code!) or by emailing tickets@crickladetwinning.org.uk or by messaging 07710 075 406.



Cover Photo

We are grateful to local amateur artist Pauline McManus for this month's cover. Pauline is a member of three local art groups.

We always welcome contributions for consideration for cover images: paintings, photos, drawings so long as they are "portrait" orientation and will fit an A5 page when scaled. Images should be in colour, jpg / png / pdf and 300 dpi resolution of better.

A local connection will suit best!

Send them to me at rickdixonchronicle@gmail.com. If in any doubt on format - ask!

Wayland Estates Charity

Supporting Cricklade, Past & Present



At their last meeting, the Trustees to the Wayland Estates Charity considered grant applications from organisations towards projects for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Cricklade and the neighbourhood thereof.

A total of £11,204.25 was awarded to the following:

- Bowls Club
- Brownies
- Cricket Club
- The Chronicle
- Development Foundation
- Festival Committee
- Historical Society
- Latton Basin Restoration
- Open Door
- Playing Fields Management Committee
- Prospect Hospice

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

Cricklade Rainbows

1st Cricklade Rainbows, Girlguiding unit is looking for an extra helper to start from September. Do you enjoy having fun, lots of laughs and getting arts and crafty? The Cricklade Rainbow unit is a local Girlguiding community group for young girls aged 5-7 years old. We are looking for another volunteer to join our team and help with running the unit and attending fortnightly meetings (Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm term times). We are ideally seeking someone who can join us from September as one of our volunteers is looking to step down after 10 years' service to the group.



If you would like to join our team and help us keep this very valuable local group running smoothly, we would love to hear from you. DBS checks and safe space online courses will need to be completed. Please contact Lottie Parkin at lottie_parkin@hotmail.co.uk / 07749 540 574.

Cricklade in the 1950s

Cricklade pantomimes

In the summer of 1957 a flourishing Music and Drama group was formed in Cricklade, drawing many young people, adult organisers and performers together to produce plays and pantomimes.

Pam Rudman, one of many teenage participants, explains that Mrs Muriel Weston, at the Forty, was responsible for teaching the various casts choreography in the Town Hall. A number of Cricklade's male teachers took part, so rehearsals were held at the Bottom School.

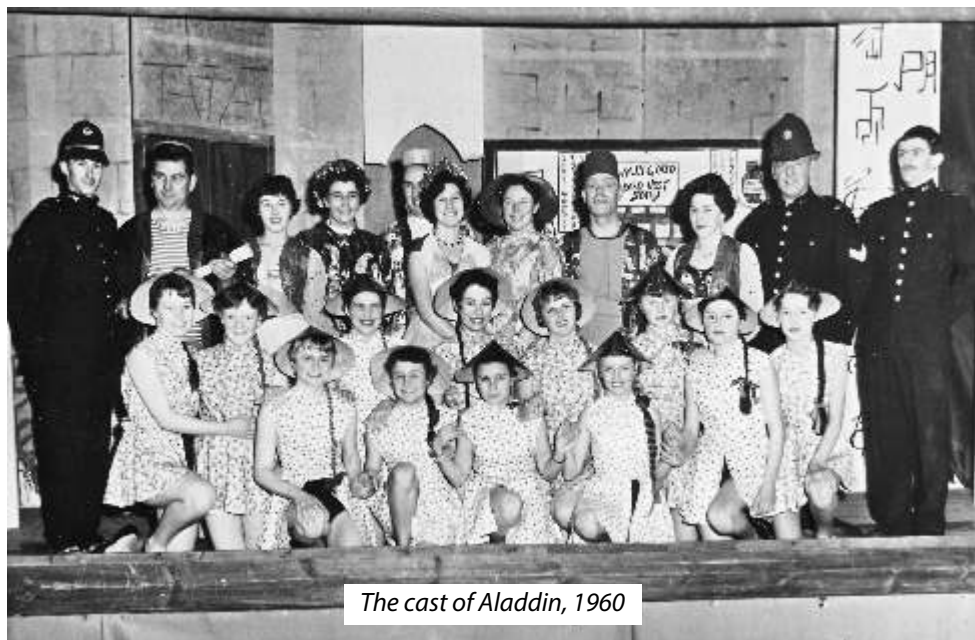
The first pantomime, 'Goody Two Shoes', took place in January 1958 to packed audiences. In this production Mrs Weston, with her beautiful soprano voice, played the heroine whose brother 'Tommy' was played by John Fieldhaus, while Bob Carling, teacher Bruce Beaumont and local residents Ivan Jenkins and Ron Yeates took the other character roles.

Mrs Elsa Lloyd directed the music, teacher Alec Robson was the stage manager, and his colleague, W J 'Binnie' Cusack – who also produced school plays – was responsible for its production. Such was their success that two more pantomimes followed – Babes in the Wood (1959) and Aladdin (1960) plus a number of one-act plays in between.

From Cricklade Revealed

There are still several single Cricklade Revealed books available at £3 each, covering the war years and the 1950s/1960s. For further details please contact me on 01793 750542 or email mfp Parsons071@btinternet.com

Marion Parsons



The cast of Aladdin, 1960

Cricklade Festival

A BIG thank-you to all the people of Cricklade who attended our Festival in June. We, on the committee, were amazed at the numbers in attendance, and we hope everyone had a good time!



Special thanks must go to all the volunteers who marshalled for us on the day – it wouldn't have happened without you!

However, without the funding of our local businesses there would be no Festival, so thanks to you all for your support and that from our two sponsors Pebley Beach and Mather & Murray.

A couple of quotes we received are

"Cricklade at its best!"

And from a couple who had recently moved to Cirencester "absolutely brilliant" ... and wished they had moved to Cricklade not Ciren!

So, now we have completed our first year, we move on to planning for 2024! Anyone who has some time to spare and is interested in joining us to make this happen, please contact us through our Facebook page or email to: info@crickldefestival.co.uk

Thanks to all once again.

*A selection of pictures from the day.
(parental permissions granted where appropriate.)*



St Sampson's Church Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future



St Sampson's church refurbishment design concepts

The open morning on Saturday 3 June was well attended and the St Sampson's Refurbishment Team were encouraged and excited to share the vision and design concepts with members of the congregation and townsfolk. If you haven't managed to see the displays yet, pop into St Sampson's Church when you're in Cricklade or visit stsampsonschurchappeal.co.uk.

Advance Notice

St Sampson's Church Fete : 2 September 2023

We look forward to an enjoyable day as last year!

We wish to thank all of you who have supported our events so far this year.

St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winners of the 13 June 2023 draw were

Mr and Mrs Tuck who won £31.

St Sampson's Church benefited by £31.

To join the 100 Club, contact Sharon Smith tel. 751375 or email sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com

We would still be grateful for any further donations to the next phase of the church appeal. Cash or cheques (made payable to St Sampsons PCC No 2 Account) can be put in the donation box at the church, or sent to Adina Grace, Church warden and Treasurer, 24 North Wall, Cricklade SN6 6DU. For further details please contact Adina at janda.grace447@outlook.com

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



Cricklade & District Probus Club

We are looking forward to our coming group meetings when the following talks will take place.

10 August Destroyer of Worlds

24 August The Two Ronnies



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

Churches Together

Services for the Upper Thames Churches

30 July Trinity 8

10am Holy Communion *at Waterhay*

6.30pm Holy Communion *at Waterhay*

Our 30 July services are outdoors, and to which anyone is most welcome, held in the graveyard of Waterhay Old Chancel. (To get there, look for the sign to Chancel off Waterhay Lane). Please do bring a rug or chair. If wet the services will be inside Leigh All Saints church in Swan Lane.

Services during August in the Upper Thames Group of Churches.

We have a different pattern of services during August. At 10am, we will be holding one service in one of our churches. The early communion services follow their usual pattern.

6 August Trinity 8

8am Holy Communion *at St Sampson's*

10am Holy Communion *at Holy Cross*

13 August Trinity 9

10am Holy Communion *at St Sampson's*

20 August Trinity 10

8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast *at St Sampson's*

10am Holy Communion *at St John the Baptist, Latton*

27 August Trinity 11

8.30am Holy Communion *at Holy Cross*

10am Holy Communion *at Leigh All Saints, Swan Lane*

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.

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches

Weddings

2 June Leanne Drew & Lee Flint, *at Holy Cross*

Funerals

8 June Bruce Archer-Smith, *at Cheltenham Crematorium*
with service of thanksgiving at St John the Baptist, Latton

9 June Hilary Mary Sharman, *at North Wiltshire Crematorium*

24 June Ena Florence Saunders, *Service at Holy Cross*
with interment in the churchyard

27 June Robin Garstone, *at North Wilts Crematorium*
with service of thanksgiving St Sampson's

er in Cricklade & Latton

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

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.crickladestmary.org.uk

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>

Parkinson's UK

At The Cricklade Club, High Street, SN6 6AY
10.30am - noon

Join us for coffee, cake and chat on 3rd Wednesday each month: 17 May; 21 Jun; 19 Jul.
We meet in The Living Room, turn right and follow the sign from the Foyer.
contact: parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call 07951 944 760.

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

Cricklade Open Door

Here we are in August and thoughts of autumn activities and even Christmas, keep popping up in our minds!



We had a great end to June and July with two invitations to watch school end of term productions, when we joined both Cricklade Manor Prep School and St Sampson's C of E Primary School and thoroughly enjoyed refreshments and the shows - 'Dream On' and 'The Amazing Adventures of Super Stan'. We really appreciate being included in the community with a much younger generation and to be given such warm welcomes. Huge thanks to staff and pupils of both our Cricklade schools.

We also had a super morning at Open Door when children from Thames Preschool visited us and helped to celebrate Chris A's special birthday and entertained us with songs and chatter before enjoying birthday cake with us all. A great Tuesday afternoon was enjoyed doing life drawings, with a live model, oh yes - fully clothed!! and a quiz afternoon and then a discussion afternoon were two of the other activities much enjoyed by all.

Our Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale took place on Saturday 15 July but at the time of writing this, we can't as yet give the total sum raised. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported Open Door and enjoyed a Saturday morning with friends and the Cricklade community.

Plans are afoot for a pub lunch outing in August. The venue still has to be decided and all the usual activities will be on offer throughout the summer holidays including a 'Super, Scrumptious, Summer Cream Tea' on Tuesday 22 August. We are only closed on August Bank Holiday Monday 28 August, otherwise open throughout the summer.

If you would like to find out more about Open Door, please pop in to The Jenner Hall, Bath Road, on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 10am and 3.30pm or telephone 07599 987 851 and chat with Jan or Chris.

Cricklade W.I.

It was good to see so many of our WI members at the Mikron Theatre on 20 July instead of our usual meeting. We now look forward to seeing you all again at our August meeting on Thursday 17 August.



Our guest will be Al Sylvester MBE who is a renowned Royal Air Force Mountain Rescue Service Leader. He will be speaking about the Royal Air Force's first 600-mile unsupported attempt to reach the South Pole. We are sure that visitors as well as members will find this an inspirational talk.

We are a friendly group and visitors are always welcome so do come and give us a try. We meet every third Thursday of the month (except December) at 7.30pm in the Cricklade Town Hall Annexe. We try and vary our meetings so, as well as speakers, we may have a gentle activity or just sit and chat. As well as monthly meetings there is a variety of events and activities organised through the Wiltshire WI. For more information please contact our Secretary, Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or by email at vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com

Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden

How are your sunflowers growing? Are they taller than you yet? Are they taller than your house? Calling all children who came to the walled garden during The Cricklade Festival to collect a free sunflower in a pot - keep watering and caring for your plant as you might be the winner! The three children who grow the tallest sunflowers will win a Smyths toy voucher. Measure the height of your sunflower and send it to anita@crickladeinbloom.co.uk by **Monday 28 August**. We will then check the measurement and award the prizes. Good luck everyone.



9 August is an important day for Cricklade Bloomers as it is the date we will be judged in the **Royal Horticultural Society's 'It's Your Neighbourhood' competition**. For the last five years we have been judged as outstanding and we hope to achieve the same again this year.

The sales cart is outside the walled garden every day, offering plants, honey, jams and marmalades. New members to Bloomers are always welcome – just pop along any Wednesday morning to join this friendly group of volunteers working to keep Cricklade looking good.

Help Keep Cricklade Beautiful, Sponsor a Planter

Sing Four Four Community Choir

Thank you to everyone who attended our Summer Concert on Sunday 2 July. It was a very successful and enjoyable occasion – see the picture below showing members of the choir.



The next phase starts on Thursday 7 September, where we will begin learning the repertoire for the Christmas Concert.

Have you ever thought about joining a choir? Not only is it enjoyable, but it offers a number of health benefits:

- Singing relieves stress
- Increases pain threshold
- Improves lung function
- Develops a sense of belonging and connection



(Photo: Peter Andrews)

Singers see an improvement in their physical, mental and spiritual health.

Why not come along and give it a try?

We meet every Thursday at 7.30pm in Cricklade United Church finishing at 9.30pm.

You can find more information on our website. Please use our contact form that can be found on the website (www.singfourfour.org.uk) or you can email the musical director, Jen Bamford, at jenloubamford@googlemail.com

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities



Parking for Purton Surgery

Please consider others when parking at Purton Surgery ... it is often possible to park just a five-minute walk away and, if you can do this, it will leave more parking in the Surgery Car Park for those less mobile.

Cricklade Festival

Thank you to all who stopped by the PPG table at Cricklade Festival last month. Please remember that the main Surgery is in Purton, and that Green Gable Surgery in Cricklade is a branch Surgery which is normally used each morning and one afternoon per week. Surgery staff are committed to other opportunities to use Green Gable – for example holding additional vaccination clinics.



200 Club draw

The June draw was made by Jo Harrison from the Living Well team. The winners were: £100 Howard Ockwell, £15 Christine Shailes. All members of the 200 Club are allocated a number to be used in the draw – if you wish to know your number then please email our Treasurer (treasurer.psppg@gmail.com) to request it.

The 200 Club year starts in September and names are now being taken for the coming year. Those paying by Standing Order do not need to take any action as membership will continue uninterrupted, however those who pay annually will need to renew ... and may want to consider setting up a Standing Order. New members always welcome. Forms are available in the Surgery.

Fundraising

The doors and windows at Green Gable Surgery need replacing and the PPG is currently raising money to help with the cost of these.

PPG Information

Information leaflets about the PPG are available in the Surgery.

Table Top and Books in Purton Surgery

If you wish to make a purchase from the Tabletop in Purton Surgery Waiting Room please hand your donation to the reception team. We are unable to receive any shoes for the table. There are also books in the bookcase for purchase (50p each).

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), please ask them to contact via secretary.psppg@gmail.com

Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary

Cricklade Open Gardens

The Open Gardens weekend was very successful. We raised a total of £2,820 which will be divided equally between Cricklade Open Door and St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Fund. Thanks to everyone involved.

*Gloria Light
The Chronicle*

Come and sing with St Sampson's Church Choir

If you enjoy singing and would like to be part of a committed, friendly team to sing beautiful choral music in church, please join us! We range from age 17 to 80. Our commitments are few and we do understand that everyone has busy lives and can't make everything!

- ♪ 2 Sunday communion services per month
10am - 11am (most important)
- ♪ 1 Sunday Morning Worship service with the organ
- ♪ Some weddings
- ♪ Annual Carol Service, Christmas Eve Midnight Mass and Christmas Morning
- ♪ Occasional Choral Evensongs

The ability to read music is helpful but not essential.

We are on our Summer Break from the end of July.

We restart on Friday 1 September, 7pm - 8.30pm, at St Sampson's Church. Why not come along and see if it's for you.



Please email admin@upperthames.org.uk and we will get back to you.

Foodbank

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



Thank you to everyone who gives so generously to our donation boxes. Your contributions are very gratefully received. The need for the Foodbank has never been greater. Sadly, as the numbers of clients increase, the amount of food available decreases. Stocks in the warehouse remain very low. Although all food donations are welcome, we would be particularly grateful for items that are gluten-free, as we are often asked for those. Also, there is a constant demand for pet food.

Donation points in Cricklade are: Tesco, Culverhay Stores, Animal Fayre (pet shop), the Leisure Centre, St Sampson's School and all the local churches.

Alternatively, you may like to make a financial donation. We can then purchase the items needed. There is a 'donate' button on the top of the 'Donate Food' page on the Malmesbury & District Foodbank website. Another way is the 'BanktheFood' App, which gives up to date Foodbank needs.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling to feed either themselves or their families, you can contact us on any of the addresses below:

call – 01666 826982 (we will call you back)

Email: crickladecm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Visit the website: malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Cricklade Garden Club

*** No meeting in August ***

Our gardening year starts in March and this year so far we have had a wide range of excellent speakers.

Vanessa Berridge gave us a beautifully illustrated talk on the National Gardens Scheme; Eddie Bailey revealed the underground world of plants and trees and the amazing ways they communicate; Dominic Hamilton gave us the remarkable history and restoration of the Painswick Rococo Garden; with John Heathcott, a volunteer with the Woodland Trust, we learnt so much about ancient woodlands; and David Pearce of Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens encouraged us to garden more sustainably.

We had interesting visits to very different gardens: Daglingworth House, a newly created garden; Pasture Farm, a beautiful traditional Cotswold garden; Kiftsgate - think roses and stunning views; and Sezincote, idiosyncratic, exotic.

We go to **Broughton Grange**, a garden designed by one of our foremost garden designers, Tom Stuart Smith, on **23 August**.

Our next meeting is on 12 September when our favourite nurseryman, Paul Green, will be bringing drought-resistant plants and others for autumn planting. Tea and cakes are served from 7pm; the speaker starts at 7.30pm.

For information about the club, upcoming events and trips, please look at our excellent website www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk

Membership is £20p.a. We are affiliated to the Gloucestershire federation of Gardening Societies (www.gfgs.org.uk).

Visitors are 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 in September.

Friends of Dance Common

After 10 years and the sad loss of our Chairman John Nevill, we are looking for new members to refresh the group and care for The Dance through the environmental challenges ahead. We would especially be keen to welcome members and volunteers from Hares Chase / Hitchings since The Dance is right on your doorstep.

We hold meetings 3 to 4 times a year and ideally have a programme of work parties to carry out light management of the common. If you are interested in getting involved please email friendsofdancecommon@gmail.com and for your diaries we will be holding our AGM at the Jenner Hall on Thursday 14 September at 7pm.

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		

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Summer Tennis Camps – August 2023 - 9am – 1pm

All players, all standards; Aged 8 to 17 Years

At Purton Tennis Club, Church Street, Purton, Swindon SN5 4DT

(adjacent to Purton Cemetery)

Tuesday 8th / Wednesday 9th / Friday 11th August

£25 per day or £65 for all 3 days

Bring a packed lunch and drink

Please book early as places are limited.

Contact: Coach – Sid Falconer: Text (only) 07854 969 603



So far, it has been a lovely summer for tennis and we have had some great tennis played. Social tennis is always fun – lots of laughs and it is not taken too seriously. We also have our various in-house tournaments – doubles, singles, mixed and so on. These are proving popular as players can come up against people they have never met before – which is always a challenge.

The summer league is more serious and our teams are doing well. We have a new squad playing in one of the lower divisions, but the tennis is competitive and great fun and, so far, they have had some really good results. So well done to all the players involved. The Men's and Mixed B teams are flying high and will be champions of their leagues, with Simon and Graham top of the stats – certainly something to be proud of!

In June we had a very successful open afternoon. It was good to see both new, and familiar faces turning up to play at Purton. Some joined the club on the day which was great to see. We will have another open day in the future, but should you be interested in picking up a racquet then please get in touch. Jo Adams is our membership secretary who can help you with any queries (jo.adams7@live.co.uk). Likewise, if you would just like to hire a court for the hour and play with family or friends, then please visit our website and follow the Clubspark link to book and pay for a court. (Please remember to contact the secretary for access.)

Finally, we recently had our welfare inspection from the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association). It is very important that tennis is fun, but also a safe sport to play. Our committee members have undertaken training on the subject, and put in place various policies so that all players of all ages can feel safe and welcome at Purton. Our policies are published on our website for all to see, and hard copies are displayed in the pavilion for members to read.

Janet Saunders (secretary) on behalf of the Committee PTC
janetcsaunders@gmail.com

Cricklade Pétanque Club

At the Cricklade House Hotel, SN6 6HA

Pétanque is good fun and a great way to meet people.

Our playing days are:

Mon 2 - 4.30pm

Tues 7- 9.30pm

Wed 2 - 4.30pm

Sat 10am -12.30pm

Coaching Sessions are:

Wed 10 - 11.30am (ladies)

Fri 10 - 11.30am (mixed)

Our monthly fish and chip night will be held on Friday 25 August. Details will be sent to all members.

For more information please go to our website www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk

Find us on Facebook by searching Cricklade Petanque Club on Facebook.

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade

Why not come and give pétanque a try? We're a friendly club 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 lasts just over 2 hours and consists of three games with a break in between for a cuppa and a chat. Our summertime Wednesday evening sessions (7-9pm) are more informal and usually finish with a visit to the Leisure Centre bar. Training sessions are held at 10am on the first and third Wednesday morning of the month.

We will have held our annual *Eileen Mitchell Charity Tournament* on Saturday 8 July, and we hope to have raised lot of money for Marie Curie. Fingers crossed for good weather! But the forecast wasn't good ...

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

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

In the Monthly Draw held on 29 June the lucky winners were:

First Prize:	Phyllis Hewer	£38.40
Second Prize:	Malcolm Brooks	£25.60
Jenner Hall Funds:		£64.00



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

Join us for RUGBY – the sport that builds strength, teamwork and resilience. Training, Thursdays 7 to 8.30pm at Fairview Fields, no experience necessary. Contact Captain, Mike 07514 596 910, or Coach, Pixie 07728 399 759 - all are welcome. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters.

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

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.

Cricklade Link

Could you spare a few hours a week to help your local community? We need co-ordinators for the Cricklade Link Service, to link our drivers with the service users. A phone will be provided. If you would like to help please call 07421 018499.



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.

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Contributions to The Chronicle are welcome for consideration on the understanding that the contributor's name and address are known or supplied (but may be withheld from publication on request) and that all related copyright issues have been cleared for publication in this Magazine - especially with those recognisable in any photographs. Opinions expressed are solely those of the respective contributors.

Items for publication should be sent to the Editor, and advertisement details to the Advertising Contact, both no later than the 1st of the preceding month. Although articles and advertisements are accepted in good faith, The Chronicle cannot be held responsible for their accuracy, nor can it guarantee that they will be published. The Editor's decision is final.

Cricklade Bowls Club

We've been doing rather well in our leagues. At the time of writing, the men's team are second in the Swindon & District Men's League: P 12; W 11; D 0; L 1 and only behind Supermarine B on points difference.



On the home front, care of the green is a constant issue. Now the wet weather is over, the lack of rain means we need to water the green most days. Watering keeps the green damp but the grass doesn't actually grow quite so much as it would in wet weather; but it still needs regular mowing and feeding.

We are looking for a solution to the waterlogging we had this spring. One of the possibilities may be the build-up of dead grass under the green, called thatch, which contributes to poor drainage. We can buy a scarifier attachment for the mower which will dig out the thatch and improve the condition of the grass itself; it may also solve the drainage problem. However we need to find one that we can afford!

Of course, none of the greens work is done without a team and we applaud our greenkeeper Neil for his year round work. He in turn is supported by those who put in the daily work of mowing, leaf clearance, swishing off worm casts, watering, etc. These include Clive, Chris, John D, Duncan, Jim, Paul F, Paul C, Roger, John H and Steve.

It's not only the green that needs attention. We have a long grassy, but sloped border between the club house building and the roadway which also has to be mowed routinely.

The Club expresses its thanks to Wayland Estates Charity in recognition of the grant award gratefully received.

You will find us in Bath Road opposite St Sampson's school. Cricklade Bowls Club is on the web (crickladebowlsclub.co.uk) and we're on Facebook too.

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



Pictured: Happiness is a green green especially new mown with stripes. (Though better in green than black and white!)

Photo: Rick Dixon

Cricklade Camera Club

Cricklade Camera Club's season runs from September to June. During July and August, details of friendly summer meets and workshops can be found on our website (crickldecameraclub.org) or contact the Club Secretary, Anne Eckersley, for further information: email address clubsecretary@crickldecameraclub.org



New members are always welcome - you don't even need a camera. Everyone is welcome. So, if you are a budding novice or a more experienced photographer, why don't you try us out for an evening for a guest fee of £6.00.

Our 2023/24 program is up on our website and we'll continue to have many excellent speakers covering a wide range of topics.

Our seventh season starts in earnest on Tuesday 5 September in the Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm for an entertaining evening with Chilterns Federation photographer Darren Pullman who is going to tell us "How to take a bad picture"! Darren says he takes a lot of images, not all of them work, but you can learn a lot more from your mistakes than from 'perfect' pictures.

This highly entertaining talk by Darren has the answers, and at the same time will provide guidance on how to turn the mediocre into excellent.
(www.pullmanphotography.co.uk)

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 know more about the Hall or check booking availability, please visit our website - crickladejennerhall.com.

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 or call on 07823 324 821.

Richard Hickman, Chairman, Cricklade Jenner Hall Community Trust

In Our Broader Area : What's On?

■ Tennis Coaching Sessions (age 11 to 17) at Purton Tennis Club

8, 9 and 11 August. See page 37.

■ Past and Present Family Festival at Swindon & Cricklade Railway

Saturday 12 to Sunday 13 August at Blunsdon Station, Tadpole Lane. (on site parking)
£10 Adults, £8 Child and £9 Concessions.

More details from swindon-cricklade-railway.org

Also: Day out with Thomas: Saturday 26 to Monday 28 August.

£19 Adults, £16 Child 2-17; Child Under 2 free.

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The Chronicle

The Chronicle Diary – August 2023

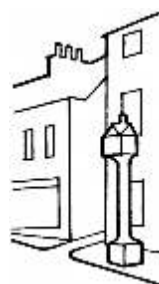
- 1 Tu *end of day* Chronicle copy deadline
- 5 Sa 4.30pm Cricklade Twinning Society AGM followed by BBQ, see page 17
- 8 Tu
7pm RHS 'It's your Neighbourhood' judging day, see page 25
speaker 7.30pm: Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 10 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 12 Sa *to Sun 13*: Family Festival, Swindon & Cricklade Railway
- 15 Tu 7.30pm Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
- 16 W 10.30am *to noon*: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Club, High Street
- 17 Th 7.30pm Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe
- 21 M 7pm Full Town Council, Council Chamber
- 23 W
1.30pm Garden Club outing to Broughton Grange
to 4.30pm: Free Skatepark Session at Leisure Centre, see page 3
- 24 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 26 Sa *to Mon 28*: Day out with Thomas, Swindon & Cricklade Railway
- 27 Su 2pm Historical Society Annual Walk from Town Hall car park
- 28 M **August Bank Holiday**
Send your sunflower's height to Anita! see page 25
Garden Club outing to Broughton Grange
- 29 Tu 7pm Town Council Planning etc Committee, Council Chamber

September

- 1 F Wiltshire schools restart (others may vary)

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 and Tag Rugby at Fairview Fields
7-10pm The Cricklade Band rehearsal night, at Town Hall, visitors welcome
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



Moon Phases - August 2023

1st ○ 8th ● 16th ● 24th ● 31st ○

The Final Word ...

Visiting shopping centres can be a trial at almost any time of year, but during the school holidays is probably the worst. I feel so sorry for parents being continually badgered by their offspring to buy this or that for them. Yet children themselves are under pressure from their classmates to have the latest toys or tech devices. From an early age children are being initiated into a scale of values based on what you own, rather than who you are. The boy with all the latest PlayStation games is seen as the role model, rather than the boy who is kindly and befriends you when you're lonely. Of course the parents themselves may already be under pressure from a different direction: trying to compete with the consumption habits of their work colleagues and their neighbours.

Much of our society in its pursuit of having ever more consumer goods has lost sight of the fundamental importance of being human. St Paul in his letters often urges people to forget about what he calls the unspiritual and instead to seek the spiritual. By spiritual Paul means what makes a person fully human, values such as kindness, self-control, patience, faithfulness, love of God and love of neighbour. By unspiritual he means all that blinds us to these values: attitudes which lead us to try to dominate others or to abuse the good things of God's creation.

Christian preachers, when they urge people to be detached from material goods, are sometimes accused of being killjoys. After all what's wrong with enjoying good wine or getting the latest state-of-the-art television or having a new conservatory built on to your house. There is nothing wrong with these or any other luxuries in themselves. It is when they come to dominate our lives, when the pursuit of luxury becomes the driving force behind all the decisions we make, that's when they become evil. Just think of the stress-related illnesses, the families which are broken apart, through people working ever longer hours or getting into debt trying to satisfy their material cravings.

Those who lead spiritual lives are not seeking to escape from the world. After all the world has been created by God and what God creates is good. To be spiritual is to live in a right relationship with the world. It is to acknowledge that creation is God's gift to us all and is therefore for us all to share. A spiritual person is one who detaches themselves from their own needs in order to support and build up the wider community where we can all enjoy and celebrate the gifts of others.

Rev. Michael Robertson, St Mary's Catholic Church, Cricklade

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