



THE CHRONICLE

✠ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 581

October 2023

Sunset at North Meadow
picture © Cheryl Dowdeswell



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SUZUKI

From the Editor

Summer is officially over this month as the clocks go back to GMT on the last Sunday of the month. Save the date and save an hour!

Talking of saving dates, now is the time to put the Christmas Lights event in your diary (p18). Can you find time to volunteer with the work that committee does?

Cricklade Link are also looking for volunteer drivers and coordinators. Neither are full-time commitments and drivers aren't committing to fixed dates - see page 6 if you can help.

Seeing is important and the NHS local diabetic eye screening programme is highlighted on page 17.

We have a lot of news in this issue from the regular sports club contributors. But there is also the Cricklade Fun Run event on 8 October at the Leisure Centre (p27). If you don't want to compete, it's fun to watch too.

On page 4, Bob Jones highlights housing policy issues around the County's 5-year land plan affecting local building proposals. It's always interesting, to me at least, to learn what's going on, or not, behind the scenes.



Another housing policy decision is the story from Cricklade Revealed on page 41. The extreme housing shortage after WW2 led locally to the building of a Nissen hut estate at Blakehill airfield off the Malmesbury road. Most of this is now a Nature Reserve and itself well worth a look.

Talking of looking, if you look up on the night of 28 October and it's not cloudy you will see a partial lunar eclipse. The full moon will turn red and a slice will be "bitten off". Full timetable on page 26.

I hope you like my slice of local life!

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The deadline for the November issue is Sunday 1 October 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

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 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



Cricklade Town Council

Monday 25 September Planning, Conservation & Transport Committee (PCT)



Monday 16 October Full Town Council Meeting

Monday 23 October Planning, Conservation & Transport Committee (PCT)

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers, 113 High Street, Cricklade SN6 6AE and start at 7pm. Members of the public are always welcome and have an opportunity to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting.

Remembrance Services

On **Friday 10 November at 11am** there will be a short closure of the area around the War Memorial to enable the local schools attend a brief service of remembrance.

The **Remembrance Sunday Parade on 12 November** will muster at Waylands and march down the High Street to the War Memorial, where the Act of Remembrance and a short service will take place. The parade will then march back up the High Street and then via Bath Road to St Sampson's Church.

There will be road closures in place on both days to ensure the safety of participants. The Council apologises for any inconvenience these events may cause residents but at no time will emergency services be hindered.

Urgent – We need volunteers to help with the road closure barriers for the events on 10 and 12 November. Please contact us if you are able to assist!

Skateboard event

In August, Cricklade Town Council paid for ATBshop to come to Cricklade and run a free afternoon of scootering and skateboarding for the young people of Cricklade. There were 35 young people from age 5 upwards. ATB provided free tuition, free hire and competitions ran throughout the afternoon. THANKS also to Cricklade Leisure Centre who supplied free refreshments. A great time was had by all.



Good Luck from the Town Council ...

...to all those taking part in the ½ Marathon, 10k and Fun Run on Sunday 8 October.
See page 27 for details of the events.

Cricklade in Bloom

Congratulations to all the winners of the Cricklade in Bloom event.

Best Front Garden Winner: 23 Deansfield

Best Community Garden Winner: Reeds

Best Hanging Basket Winner: 75 High Street

Best Garden Winner: 34 Pauls Croft

Youth Provision

The Rise Trust run a Safe Space on Tuesday in the Youth Building at Cricklade Leisure Centre: 6pm to 7pm for years 6 and 7, and then from 7.30pm to 8.30pm for year 8 and above. Not sure what to expect? A safe space to chill, get outreach support from youth workers, snacks and activities, meet new friends.

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

Focus on Wiltshire Council

The traditional summer recess of Wiltshire Council saw little Committee Activity during August, although this doesn't stop the never ending briefing documents that need to be read and commented on. In particular there are a number of briefings and consultations around planning. Always controversial as no one wants new build in their location, yet we have a chronic housing shortage across the County.

You will have heard me mention the five-year land for housing supply on many occasions. This is determined by the Local Plan, a document compiled by Wiltshire Council and approved by Central Government. The Local Plan is currently up for review. The current plan run was set in 2015 and has to be reviewed every five years – as you can see it is only now being reviewed in 2023 and cannot be expected to be adopted for some time given the slowness of the progress. When adopted it will lay out the blueprint for Wiltshire until 2038.

This gap in adopting the new plan is giving potential developers a get-out clause to challenge the current Land Supply as Wiltshire is without a current and adopted plan. In Cricklade we have seen developers challenge the old plan as being out of date. The Developers are now in a rush to get planning approval given Wiltshire Council has not met its target of land supply for housing. Their argument is that if Wiltshire cannot supply land within the areas designated, then the developers should be allowed to

build outside the designated areas. In the case of Cricklade, developers are seeking planning permission on land outside of the town for over 300 homes altogether.

Controversially the proposed new plan considers around 50 new homes would be more likely up to the period 2038. You can perhaps see why the rush to beat the new local plan figures is so important to the developers. The proposed new Local Plan is available for viewing online at Wiltshire Council and public comments are welcome.


Alongside this are similar plans for gypsy and traveller sites and a Design Guide to development across Wiltshire supporting planning criteria and design standards for housing.

As I write this, I am hopeful the nightmare that is the road closure at Calcutt Street is over. I was on holiday when this work commenced and although out of the country, I tried to resolve the issues through emails and telephone calls to the relevant authorities. It has been one of the worst planned and executed closures I have known. Not helped by the poorest of signage and some drivers intent on breaking the law and HGVs following Satnav instead of common sense. I have requested an enquiry into the planning of the closure albeit necessary for the sewer work. Cricklade Town Council have no input into the planning or outcome of this event and should be praised for their efforts to communicate with contractors and the Highways Department at Wiltshire Council who ultimately are responsible for planning and signing the diversions.

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 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



Friends of St Mary's Cricklade

INVITE YOU TO A

QUIZ EVENING

At Cricklade Town Hall

On Friday, 24 November 2023

Starting at 7pm until 10pm

Teams of 6 but we will fit you in if you can't make a team of your own.

Tickets: £10 per adult and £5 for child under 16 years old,
to include a light supper

Bring your own liquid refreshment and glasses.

Tickets available from 'Animal Fayre' (88 High Street)
or from Gerry Dudley on 01793 750107.

Cricklade Link



Two Hours – To Prevent Blindness - Could You Help

Imagine not being able to watch TV, cut up your dinner or find your way around your home. A Cricklade resident needed to visit the Great Western Hospital every week for several weeks for injections in their eyes to save their sight. After each injection their sight was impaired for many hours.

How would you cope with the journey? How would you get to the GWH?

According to the hospital transport rules you are not eligible for hospital transport.

Broken Arm! You have to go to the Fracture Clinic - according to the hospital transport rules you can go on the bus. However, if your appointment is at 9am, and you have two young children and no car it becomes mission impossible.

It would mean a bus at 7am to Swindon, a change of bus to the hospital all with a pushchair, young children and a broken arm!

The Cricklade Link offered a solution to both these Cricklade residents. Our Volunteer drivers gave up just two hours to help them get to hospital.

The patients gave a donation to the Link Scheme and the drivers were reimbursed their fuel costs, and parking is free for Link Drivers.

Link Drivers

Due to the retirement of a number of our long serving drivers, we are seeking new Link Drivers. We take requests on our answer machine and once a day the Co-ordinator matches up drivers and Link tasks.

Could you give up a couple of hours a week to be a Link Driver? Please call 07421 018 499 and leave your details and we will call you back for more details.

Link Co-ordinator

We are also seeking a Link Co-ordinator. We take requests on our answer machine and once a day the Co-ordinator tries to match up drivers and patients. The Co-ordinators can operate from any location and we supply a mobile telephone.

Co-ordinators currently cover a two-week stint every six weeks.

Help!!

Could you give up a couple of hours a week to join our drivers or be a Co-ordinator. Please give the Cricklade Link a call if you could become a volunteer on 07421 018 499.

Cricklade Link Scheme

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	

Take another look at Diabetic Eye Screening

Did you know? People diagnosed with Type 1 or 2 Diabetes are entitled to free eye screening under the NHS to check for signs of diabetic retinopathy – a condition that if left undetected and untreated can lead to sight loss.



Poorly controlled blood sugar levels and high blood pressure can result in damage to the small veins that crisscross your eyes. These are important because they supply blood to the vital parts of the back of the eye (the retina) that help us to see. When these are damaged by uncontrolled diabetes, it can cause haemorrhages, lesions and other abnormalities that will be picked up by regular screening.

Diabetic retinopathy, the name for this damage, used to be the leading cause of sight loss in the UK, but the introduction of the NHS's national screening programme in 2003 means this is no longer the case, which is great news for people living with the condition; but early detection and intervention are crucial.

Last year 50,000 people in Wiltshire and Bath & NE Somerset were eligible for screening but only 44,000 attended their appointment.

If you're newly diagnosed, you will be enrolled automatically by your GP and sent an appointment within 3 months. We screen in 3 venues: Swindon Health Centre, Eldene Health Centre and West Swindon Health Centre (the nearest to Cricklade/Latton).

All you need to do is attend – or rearrange your appointment to a more convenient time and place. Our welcoming, experienced and dedicated team will be very happy to see you.

Please get in touch if you have any concerns and we'll work with you to make your screening appointment as easy and stress-free as possible.

Contact our Administration Team on 01225 582300 or the Programme Manager on 01225 582303. Or email miul.administration@nhs.net



There is more information on our website:

<https://neccare.necsws.com/your-local-provider/banes-swindon-wiltshire> or by using the QR Code.

Or follow us on social media – search for BSW.NECcare

Cricklade & District Probus Club

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

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| 5 October | The RAF Transports Evolution |
| 12 October | Ladies Lunch (members only) |
| 19 October | Carrots, Courtesans and Culture |



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.

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

In the Monthly Draw held on 31 August the lucky winners were:

First Prize:	Giorgio Meccariello	£38.10
Second Prize:	Peter & Elizabeth Fullalove	£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

Cricklade W.I.

We are excited to welcome Terri Robertson to our meeting on **Thursday 19 October**. Terri will talk to us about the work which has been done on the Old Police Station and what is planned for the future. This redevelopment is good news for Cricklade so if you are interested in hearing what Terri has to say please come along.



We meet every third Thursday of the month (except December) at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe. Visitors are very welcome and the first three meetings are free. We have a speaker at most meetings but sometimes we just gather for a drink and a chat. There are lots of other events and outings open to members via our regional office so come along and find out more about us. For more information check us out on Facebook or contact our Secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or by email at vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com.

Pebbley Beach, Geomove, Girl Guides, The Gift Boutique, TS Card Creations, Sammy's kebabs, The Bear pub, His n Hairs, Scissors, Stitches, McFarlanes, The Chronicle

Cricklade Club, Animal Fayre, The White Hart pub, Chutneys, Josh Hair Co. Spruce

Things, Swindon Car & Van rental, Barista, Andrew Rhys Evans, Hart & Sons Butchers

Cricklade Christmas Lights 2023

Saturday 2nd December

We know it's early, but please save the date
for this year's event!

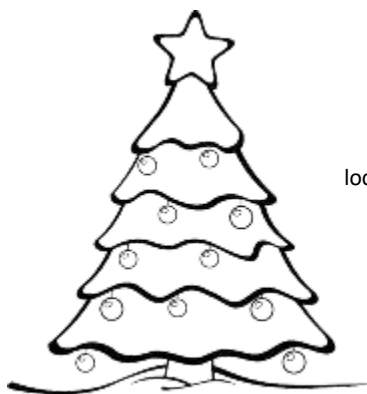
The Christmas lights committee would like to thank all the local businesses that supported the Christmas light switch on in 2022, your support was really appreciated by us and the Cricklade community.

We are now looking for sponsors for our 2023 event and would really appreciate your support again, along with anyone else who's interested.

We will also be having some stalls along the high street for local traders.

If you're interested in either, please contact Sally on sallyfyffe@hotmail.com / 07778 049927.

The Harbour fish and chip shop, C & R Family grocers, The Red Lion pub, Donna's Barber shop, Alternative Drum School, Cricklade Osteopath, Mathers & Murray



Purton in the First World War

In October 2018, I published a book giving the back story to the names on the Purton War Memorial. It is actually a history of the First World War including the background causes of the Great War and a month by month account of the war. It is interspersed with coverage of the war's effect on residents of Purton, a village typical of most if not all towns and communities in the United Kingdom. The stories behind the names are representative of all.



The book was serialised monthly in Purton Magazine from 2013 to 2019 with the timeline of the war years written 100 years after the action. The period beyond the end of the war is included: many died later from wounds incurred during the war or were physically or mentally scarred for the rest of their lives. I also discuss how the Great War Treaties affected our thinking today, caused the Second World War and led to the miseries of eastern Europe and the Middle East to this day. The "War to End all Wars" wasn't that.

Other events around the world are also covered such as the "Spanish Flu" pandemic, so similar to the recent Covid-19 pandemic in its effect upon the world. Of course, Covid was an unforeseen nightmare at the time this book was written.

There are 240 pages with pictures and maps in colour, where colour photography was possible in those days. Both Wiltshire and Swindon Library Services bought copies for their collections. Although the book covers almost every campaign during the war, it was intended as a social history rather than military.

You can now buy the book at £5 per copy, with local delivery in Purton, Cricklade and Latton. Postage will need to be added at cost for non-local sales. If you would like a copy, please email me at RickDixonMail@gmail.com or phone 01793 759123. Profits will go to Combat Stress. ISBN 978-1-9164618-0-2

Rick Dixon

Cricklade Town Hall

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Hall's ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Tuesday 31 October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Main Hall. All are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- Committee's Annual Report & Annual Balance Sheet.
- Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner
- Election of 4 Committee Members for a period of 3 years. Members retiring by rotation are Lester Buck, Mandy Hewer, David Tetlow and Amy Thomson.
- Any other business.

If you pay Council Tax or are registered to vote in Cricklade, you can stand for election, nominate someone else for election and also vote at the election. Nominations, with the names of two sponsors, should be delivered to the Chairman (Mr D.N. Tetlow), 1 Pleydells, Cricklade, SN6 6NG, Tel. 01793 750712 or Email at david@tetlow.org.uk prior to the meeting. Retiring Members are eligible for re-election.

Cricklade Town Hall – Registered Charity No. 305499

Bounce & Rhyme

Free music for babies sessions plus breastfeeding and chestfeeding support in Cricklade.

Cricklade United Church is pleased to host a fortnightly free of charge Bounce & Rhyme session for babies, toddlers and their carers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 1.45 to 2.45pm.

We sing nursery rhymes together, play instruments, read a story and meet new friends. We also enjoy a cuppa and a snack!

Tues 3 & 17 Oct

Tues 7 & 21 Nov

Tues 5 & 19 Dec (Xmas party)

We're also joined by Cricklade Breastfeeding Friends, to support all parents with any feeding or parenting needs, or just to be a friendly face to chat through any worries you have! We have a private space for feeding and discussion if needed. This support is provided by the Association of Breastfeeding Mothers (ABM) peer supporters.

And don't forget you can access the National Breastfeeding Helpline 9.30am - 9.30pm every day, 365 days a year on 0300 100 0212 to chat to a trained professional. We also recommend downloading the free Anya parenting, baby & breastfeeding app which is available 24/7 on your phone.

Letters

■ **KEN COLLIER** 1 May1933 – 1 August 2023

On behalf of our wonderful family, Carole and Mark want to express their heartfelt thanks for all who have sent such touching messages, flowers, cards, made amazing donations to the Fire Fighters Charity and attended Dad's funeral. We were overwhelmed and are very humbled, but knew he was loved by everyone who came into contact with him.

The Gas Lane residents and neighbours have always looked out for him and for this, we are truly thankful to them all.

Our thanks also go to Russell Osman, Patsy Gamble, Celia at C&R for the amazing flowers and our great crew at Cricklade Fire Station for all their help and compassion during this sad time.

We will miss our Dad and Bamps terribly and Gas Lane won't ever be the same ...

Carole Collier on behalf of the family

■ **THANK YOU – JOHN MARLEY**

Audrey, Tony, Paul and Clare would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and kind messages they have received, following the passing of John on 7 August.

Our thanks also go to Russell Osman at Blackwells for his care and help in arranging the funeral and Suzi Tipper for conducting the lovely Service at Kingsdown Crematorium.

All donations received (£265 so far) will be forwarded onto the British Heart Foundation.



St Sampson's Church Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future



St Sampson's Church Fete

A huge thank-you to all who attended and supported our fete. We particularly thank our local businesses who kindly gave vouchers and prizes, to those who supplied items for the various stalls and to all of those who gave of their time. It was another wonderful Cricklade community occasion and the weather was kind to us!

Update on the plans for the refurbishment

We are currently working on an informal consultation with organisations including the Anglican Church, Wiltshire Council and Historic England. We are sharing the proposed plans and information about the community consultation and the needs we have identified for the refurbishment. Once we have gathered their informal feedback, we will review the design concepts and work towards submitting a faculty to the Diocese of Bristol so we can receive permission for the work. To see the latest on the plans etc, please visit stsampsonschurchappeal.co.uk.

St Sampson's Church Appeal Fundraiser Draw

Would you like to win £100, a London hotel stay, original artworks or one of many other prizes?

Our fundraiser draw was launched at the St Sampson's Church fete. Draw tickets will be sold in the High Street, at forthcoming events and are also available from:

Adina Grace: 01793 380583 Helen Dixon: 01793 759123

Sharon Smith: 01793 751375

Draw date 14 February 2024

*Curry Evening

Join us at Kavali Indian Restaurant on Monday 6 November at 7pm for an Evening of Fun, Food and Fundraising.

**English dish available. Please advise of any dietary requirements.*

Tickets are £20 and available from:

Sharon Smith: 751375 Barbara Smith: 750666 Adina Grace: 380583

St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winners of the 14 August 2023 draw were Mr and Mrs Smith who won £31.00. St Sampson's Church benefited by £31.00.

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, Churchwarden and Treasurer, 24 North Wall, Cricklade SN6 6DU. For further details please contact Adina at janda.grace447@outlook.com

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



Churches Together

Services for the Upper Thames Churches

1 October

- 8am Holy Communion at St Sampson's
- 11.30am Harvest Celebration Holy Communion at Holy Cross
- 12.30pm Harvest Lunch in church at Holy Cross
- 10am Morning Worship at St Sampson's with music group
- 10am Morning Worship at St John the Baptist, Latton
- 5pm Harvest Celebration at All Saints, Leigh followed by tea and cake
- 6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

8 October

- 10am Upper Thames Worship Together Communion at St Sampson's

15 October

- 8am Holy Communion at St Sampson's followed by breakfast
- 10am Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Latton
- 10am Morning Worship at St Sampson's
- 10am Morning Worship at Holy Cross
- 6pm Evensong at Holy Cross
- 6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

22 October

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

29 October

- 10am Upper Thames Worship Together Communion at All Saints, Leigh
- 4pm All Souls Service at Holy Cross
- 6.30pm All Souls Service at St Sampson's

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.

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>

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

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches

Weddings

12 August Sarah Georgina McTiernan & John Peter Fellows *at St Sampson's*

Funerals

12 August Audrey (Ena Audrey) Sweeney *Interment of ashes, Holy Cross churchyard.*

25 August Charles Albert Telling *at Holy Cross, followed by committal in churchyard*

29 August John Albert Marley *at Kingsdown Crematorium*

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.crickladedstmary.org.uk

Prospect Hospice

A support group for Prospect Hospice is holding a Coffee Morning and Table Top sale on **Saturday 30 September**

starting at 10am at Cricklade United Church Hall, Calcutt Street. There will be cakes, Tombola, bric-a-brac, refreshments and raffle. All proceeds to Prospect Hospice.



Coffee Cafe

All are welcome to attend the weekly Coffee Cafe each Friday at Cricklade United Church Hall, Calcutt Street from 10am to 11.30am. Come along for a coffee and a chat.

Cricklade Open Door

September has slipped by, the days are shorter and summer clothes have been put away (did we actually wear many of them?) and now it's the count down to Christmas!



September was a relatively quiet month for Open Door but with all the usual activities taking place and mornings enjoyed by all – just meeting friends, making new friends and chatting over coffee for anything from 20 minutes to 2 hours.

Jan and Chris visited a new, to us, pub - The Winterbourne, with a view to having a members' pub lunch there and it really was very good ... such hard work on our day off! We have booked for Friday 29 September and we're sure it will be an outing enjoyed by all.

Monday 9 October, 10.45 - 12.00, we have a Sing Along morning with Sian and Rob with their new repertoire of songs and everyone, not just Open Door members, is welcome to come along. Singing raises our spirits, enhances lung function, beats stress, improves memory and is great fun - how about that! There is no entrance fee, just a donation basket with donations going to The Wiltshire Music Centre who supply these wonderful musicians and performers. There will be a 3-course, served buffet lunch afterwards, £6.00; everyone is welcome but please book for lunch on 07599 987 851, and if you're 'up for it', we have Seated Exercises after lunch for 45 minutes from 2pm. Early next year, we will welcome back 60's rockers - Bob and Pete (RPM), who entertained us in 2021.

Our members' Christmas Lunch is booked for Friday 8 December at The White Hart and our members' Christmas Tea Party will be held on Thursday 14 December and so the year rolls on!

It is vital to engage with people and groups that will help us all to feel part of the Cricklade Community and stave off feelings of loneliness or of not belonging, so do come along and find out if Open Door will suit/help you or try one of the other groups in Cricklade. We are blessed with so many interesting groups to suit all tastes - find them in *The Chronicle* or enquire at The Town Council office.

For further details about Open Door, telephone: 07599 987 851, email: crickladeopendoor@gmail.com or call in on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 10am - 3.30pm.

U.S.P.G. Elephants

Thanks again for your generous donations towards the Primary Health Care Scheme in southern Malawi. The April collection raised £556.88.

There is a report about this scheme, which we support, on the notice board at the back of St Sampson's church along with an acknowledgement letter for the £2334.00 donation that we sent last year from 2021 and 2022 collections.

I would like to round up the elephants for the October collection on Sunday 1 October. If you are able to bring them to St Sampson's that day I'd appreciate it.

Thank you all again for keeping your elephants well fed. If anyone who has not got an elephant and would like one please let me know.

Paul Fray 750740
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 meet on Friday evenings, 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.



All Souls

All Souls Bereavement Service, remembering those we love and see no longer for Cricklade and Latton will take place on **Sunday 29 October in St Sampson's Church starting at 6.30pm**. This is a quiet reflective service and will include the names of those associated with Cricklade and Latton, who have died in the last year and whose services we have taken. Families involved will receive a letter of invitation from our ministers.

We know that many people like to come to this service and remember family members who have died so please do come if you would like to; everyone is welcome as we seek God's comfort and hear the message of hope we have in Jesus.

There will be a time during the service when you can light a candle as we remember those whom we love but see no longer. Please email or ring (leave a message) our administrator Jane Eyles at admin@upperthames.org Tel 01793 979304 with the names of anyone you would like us to include. There will also be a list on the table near the main door in St Sampson's onto which you can add names.

In Our Broader Area : What's On?

■ Male Choir Concert at St John the Baptist, Cirencester

Saturday 14 October at 7.30pm: Cirencester Male Voice Choir with guests The Wessex., and Mezzo Soprano Lucy May Barker £10.00 Adults / U-16 free. Tickets and details from cirencestermvc.co.uk/concerts

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities



Patient Satisfaction Survey: You may have seen reported that in NHS England's annual independent survey Purton Surgery Receptionists received the highest overall rating for Patient Satisfaction in the area. Well done everyone!!

Purton Pharmacy: Members of the team at Purton Pharmacy are in regular touch with the surgery and one of the Pharmacists attended our recent PPG meeting. Don't forget that if you have prescribed medications which are no longer needed or are out of date then it's always safer to take them to a pharmacy for disposal.

Donation from PIPS: We were delighted to receive recently a gift of £412.50 from PIPS who donate their profits to causes chosen by their volunteers.

200 Club; All profits from the 200 Club go to help purchase items for the surgery which are not provided by the NHS.

New members are welcome!! The next year of the 200 Club starts on 1 October, payments are being taken, and names are now needed as soon as possible. The cost is just £15 a year and there are two prizes of £100 and £15 each month. If you would like subscribe please do so as soon as possible. If you renew each year then you may want to consider setting up a Standing Order which is much simpler for administration purposes. Forms are available at both Surgeries (Purton and Green Gable).

The September draw was made by Ruth Wakeley, Receptionist. The £100 winners were Brian and Ursula Scott and the £15 winner was Victoria Robinson. 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.



Harvest Raffle: After the successful raffle held a few months ago in Purton Surgery the PPG will be holding a Harvest Raffle in October. Tickets will be on sale from 9 October and the draw will be on 30 October when the winner will be contacted. Ask the Receptionists for tickets.

Covid Vaccinations: Covid vaccinations this year will be restricted to those over the age of 65 and those under 65 who are at risk. The NHS will contact eligible patients when their Covid vaccination is due. Please do not expect to hear from the Surgery.

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 secretary.psppg@gmail.com

Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary

Parkinson's UK At The Cricklade Club, High Street 10.30am - noon

Join us for coffee, cake and chat on 3rd Wednesday each month.

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 Foodbank

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



The school holidays have proved a challenging time for many of our clients and numbers remain high.

Around 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.

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

Financial donations are also very welcome. The Malmesbury & District Foodbank website has a 'donate food' page and there is a 'donate' button at the top.

Alternatively, you can use the 'bankthefood' app, which gives an up-to-date list of our foodbank needs.

Again, thank you to all the people who continue to give so generously week by week.

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



ENTER NOW!

SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

CRICKLADE

FUN RUN

10K FROM £18 1/2 MARATHON FROM £22
1.5 MILE FUN RUN FROM £5

<https://cricklade.fullonsport.com/event>

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



YOUR LEISURE CENTRE NEEDS YOU!

Be part of the team...we're always looking for individuals to volunteer at our events, please get in touch as we just couldn't do it without you!

For further details of all our facilities, courses, classes and events
Call **01793 750011** www.crickladeleisure.com [f](#) [crickladeleisure](#)

CRICKLADE LEISURE CENTRE Registered Office:Stones Lane, Cricklade Wiltshire SN6 6JW Reg Charity No:1125605

Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden

As summer turns to autumn and we hope for an Indian summer, Bloomers has a very busy few days swapping summer planting for winter. On Wednesday 11 October from 9.30am we will be stripping the planters and hanging baskets. We save the summer planting by potting them up to overwinter so that they can be used again next year or sold on our cart outside the walled garden. On Saturday 14 October from 9.30am the baskets and planters will be filled with colourful pansies and other plants to brighten the High Street through the winter. If anyone who cannot normally spare the time to be a Bloomer would like to help on these two busy days we would very much appreciate it. Just turn up on the day.



Looking forward to Christmas and our wreath making workshops, do you have any attractive seed heads, teasles, crab apples or fir cones in your garden? Don't compost them! We would welcome them as donations at the end of November. Even if you cannot donate some of your seed heads, don't compost them, or clear away too much autumn die back in your garden, as they are a valuable food source for threatened local bird population and provide protection for our insects over winter.

Help Keep Cricklade Beautiful, Sponsor a Planter

Cricklade Historical Society

Wednesday 18 October: Horse Procurement during the Great War

Speaker – Robert Lloyd

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

ON SALE NOW - CHS Calendar 2024

The CHS calendar for 2024 is now available for purchase at £10.00 each and would make an ideal Christmas present for family and friends. You can view the calendar and purchase it via our website (cricklademuseum.co.uk) or by contacting Pam Debenham on 07453 766 744.

Sing Four Four Community Choir

Rehearsals are now in full swing and the choir is busy learning a variety of songs, both sacred and secular, for the Christmas Concert on 3 December.



Rehearsals take place in the United Church on Thursday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30pm. Although we work hard, there is a friendly and informal atmosphere. There is no audition to join and all abilities are welcome.

Why not come along and give it a try?

Information can be found on our website (www.singfourfour.org.uk). Please use the contact form on the website. Alternatively, you can email the musical director, Jen Bamford, at jenloubamford@googlemail.com

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CRICKLADE CINEMA!

Our Autumn season continues on Tuesday 24 October at 8pm in the Town Hall.

A Man Called Otto (15, 126mins)

Comedy drama starring Tom Hanks as a grumpy widower whose thoughts turn to suicide after the recent death of his teacher wife. But as he prepares to hang himself, new neighbours arrive, with the family slowly but surely making an impact on his life. (contains: suicide theme)

And still to come ...

14 November: **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry**
(12A, 102 mins)

28 November: **Chevalier** (12A, 107 mins)

to be confirmed

All films start at 8pm in the Town Hall.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from The Town Council Offices at 113 High Street or on the door (subject to availability). Price £5.

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

Email us at cricklادecinema@gmail.com or phone on 750782.

Check us out at Facebook Cricklade Cinema



**CINEMA
FOR ALL**

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 10 October** when our speaker will be Fred Gillam. His talk is entitled "A Forager's Tales".

"The life of a forager," says Fred "is a varied one and full of surprises." Many of us have picked blackberries, which were particularly abundant this year, sloes for sloe gin, nuts and mushrooms - perhaps these last with a little anxiety - but what else can we gather from the fields and hedgerows? Fred the Forager will tell us more.

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

Membership is £20p.a. and we are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies (www.gfgs.org.uk) and the RHS. Visitors 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 in the 1950s

The period immediately after the Second World War was a very austere one for British people, since food rationing was as stringent as ever. Another national problem was the acute housing shortage due to the bombing of our major cities. Most people lived in far more crowded conditions than is imaginable today.

Bella Vincent, recalls; 'My husband and I were living in rooms in Cirencester at the top of a three-storey building with no door to the bedroom, an outside toilet, eating our meals with another couple, and I was pregnant with our first child. We applied for housing to Cirencester District Council where the point system was explained. You had points if you were married, but your husband had more points if he lived in his home parish. They were building council houses in Cirencester at the time, but there was a four-year waiting list.

The housing officer told us that Wiltshire County Council was converting Nissen huts into accommodation at Blakehill airfield near Cricklade, and said we would stand a better chance of getting a council house eventually if we applied for one of these. My

husband, who was from Cricklade, did so, and in a matter of weeks we were allocated a hut there. We moved during the first week in January 1950. It was so bitterly cold on our first night that in the morning I could see a fine layer of frost on the top blanket of our bed, and the tin roof was overrun with field mice! Even so, after Cirencester it seemed like heaven just to have our own front door key.'

From 'Cricklade Revealed', Part 8.

Pictured top: Children living at Site 3 Blakehill..

Below: Blakehill Nissen huts.

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 mfparsons071@btinternet.com

Marion Parsons

Cricklade Twinning Society

November Twinning Visit

We are planning an informal Twinning Visit for the weekend of 4 - 5 November, Bonfire Night – informal in the sense that we would ask folks already twinned and with an ongoing pairing to talk to their counterparts in Sucé. We will provide a programme for the weekend and would hope to involve as many people as possible, including those who don't have visitors.

Please let me know if you have invited your French counterparts so we know how many people to cater for. Please email chair@crickladetwinning.org.uk.

Chris Faulkner, Chair Cricklade Twinning Association

The Chronicle



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 Club social night is held on the last Friday of every month.

In October, 13 members will be playing pétanque in sunny Almuñécar, Spain.

At the end of October our Tuesday evening session (7pm-9.30pm) will stop over autumn/winter and return in spring 2024.

Get your dancing shoes ready! Our Christmas Party is on Friday 8 December at the Cricklade House Hotel and Spa. Three-course festive dinner followed by a disco. £45 per person. A £20 deposit is required with your booking to Barbara Law by 31 October. Non-members welcome.

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

Find us on Facebook by searching Cricklade Petanque Club

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade

If you've ever wondered what the difference is between "pétanque" and "boules" ... there isn't one! They are just two different names for the same game. In French, the word boule means ball, and in France people often refer to the game simply as boules. Outside of France the game is usually referred to as pétanque (pronounced pay-tonk).

Saxons Pétanque Club play on the gravel just in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and 10am on Saturday mornings. The summertime Wednesday evening sessions will be finishing at the end of September, but our informal training sessions will continue at 10am on the first and third Wednesday of the month.

Our recent social evening at the house of one of our members was great fun. About 30 of us played pétanque on the gravel driveway and then enjoyed a delicious supper. Everyone was invited to make a charity donation and we raised £280 for Julia's House Children's Hospice. We are now planning a skittles evening at The White Hart in November and have started discussing arrangements for our Christmas meal.

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



Join us for RUGBY – the sport that builds strength, teamwork and resilience. Training, Thursdays 7 - 8.30pm at Fairview Fields, no experience necessary; contact Captain, Mike 07514 596 910, or Coach, Pixie 07728 399 759. All are welcome and Mixed Tag continues with strength and conditioning on Tuesdays 7 - 8pm. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters.

Fixtures for October are:

14 Oct:	Minety II	at Home
21 Oct:	Swindon College Old Boys II	Away

Please come along and watch your local team.

We are pleased to announce that we will be joining forces with the Netball Club in hosting a Halloween Ball (fancy dress optional!) at 7pm in the Town Hall on 27 October, contact crickladerfc@gmail.com

Our Minis section continues to grow and is open to all boys and girls of all abilities. 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 (no experience necessary and the first four sessions are free):

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.

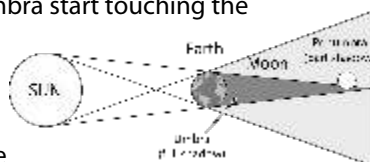
We would also welcome any parents who want to get involved and support the Juniors and Minis, so if you are interested please contact Seth.

Partial Lunar Eclipse

There will be a partial lunar eclipse on Saturday 28 October ... but don't get too excited! The most of the eclipse, or least of the moon, that you will see is as the picture but with the face of the moon turning red. Of course, if it's cloudy you won't see anything ...



- 19:01 Penumbral Eclipse begins The Earth's penumbra start touching the moon's face.
- 20:35 Partial Eclipse begins – the moon is getting red.
- 21:14 Maximum Eclipse – the moon is closest to the centre of the shadow, but only just touching it.
- 21:52 Partial Eclipse ends
- 23:26 Penumbral Eclipse ends.



Commentator

Cricklade Bowls Club

Our September close of season matches will have ended by the time you read this. But I don't know the results at time of writing! More next month.

We now move into our autumn and winter season. We have skittles teams playing usually two evenings a week and try to have a monthly social on a Saturday each month centred on quizzes, skittles and general get-togethers.

Our AGM will be at the Bath Road clubhouse at 8pm on Monday 13 November.

The 2024 season will start in April. 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



Cricklade Camera Club

Our full programme for the 2023-24 season can be found on crickladecameraclub.org, or contact the Club Secretary, Anne Eckersley, for further information: clubsecretary@crickladecameraclub.org



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 £6.00.

We meet in person on the first Tuesday of every month between September and June in the Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm - twice in fact this October!.

Tuesday 3 October at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe sees a welcome return to one of our favourite speakers. The lovely Mike Martin is joining in person to finally present his fabulous talk "Shooting People".

This charts Mike's journey into creative portraits, discussing how to get started, the value of collaboration with others, thoughts, composition and style, the importance of shooting for yourself, all illustrated with prints on Fotospeed papers and inks prints.

In the second half, Mike will show how he makes some of his more creative images, including 'before and after' shots, in an attempt to demystify and inspire our members to have a go themselves (www.mikemartinphotography.co.uk)

And on **Tuesday 24 October** at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe, join us for our second in-person evening this month for an evening we are calling What, When, Where, and How and Why and Who. Meet our members and listen to their photographic journey, or the reasons for taking a photo, how they took it, and how they achieved the finished results. There will also be a chance to see all the entries from this year's Annual Exhibition.

Tuesday 7 November: The first round of our annual PDI and Print League Competitions, judged by Martin Cooper.

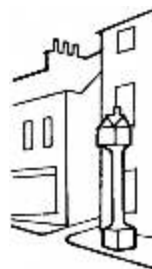
Tuesday 21 November at 7.30pm by Zoom: We enter David Gilliver's Macro World of Miniature People. Using macro photography and arranging miniature human figures with everyday objects, David creates intriguing and humorously surreal scenarios.

The Chronicle Diary – October 2023

- 1 Su *end of day* Chronicle copy deadline
- 3 Tu 1.45pm to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme. United Church, Calcutt St
7.30pm Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 5 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 8 Su Cricklade Fun Run, 10K and Half Marathon (see page 27)
- 10 Tu 7pm speaker 7.30pm: Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 16 M 7pm Full Town Council Meeting, Council Chamber
- 17 Tu 1.45pm to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme. United Church, Calcutt Street
7.30pm Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
- 18 W to 27 Oct: Wiltshire Schools half term (others may vary)
10.30am to noon: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Club, High Street
7pm for 7.30pm start: Historical Society at Town Hall Annexe
- 19 Th 10am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
7.30pm Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe
- 23 M 7pm Town Council Planning Committee, Council Chamber
- 24 Tu 7.30pm Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
8pm Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Council Office
- 27 F 7pm Halloween Ball at Town Hall (see page 41)
- 28 Sa 7pm to 11.30pm: Partial lunar eclipse – see page 26 for timings
- 29 Su 2am **End of British Summer Time** – clocks go back 1 hour
- 30 M Wiltshire schools resume
- 31 Tu 7.30pm Town Hall Charity Annual Meeting 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 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 - October 2023

6th ● 14th ● 22nd ● 28th ○ and eclipse

The Final Word ...

As October begins, there's a sense of transition in the air. We've marked Harvest, ensuring "all is safely gathered in" and as the evenings draw in, there's time to catch breath before the long dark days of winter.

The changing of seasons is one of the ways we become aware of our connectedness with the created world and the wider systems which enable so much of our daily lives. Acknowledging that connectedness can also prompt a sense of thankfulness for all who are part of those complex systems which make it possible for us to receive our daily bread and much else. And thankfulness is an often underrated attitude.

Recent reports of severe weather in different parts of the world have made us more aware of the fragility of those systems, impacted as many of them are by the climate crisis. It's easy to believe that individual actions have little bearing on such bigger systems or major issues. An attitude of thankfulness can help to shake that sense of helplessness or complacency, as we realise our interconnectedness and dependency on one another. Thankfulness for the choices we have as shoppers or consumers can focus our mind on the impact those choices might have.

But the practice of giving thanks each day can go beyond the material things of life. We can give thanks for the things that give us joy in the created world, for the people whose love and friendship we treasure, and for the creativity, talents and commitment that allow society to function.

So as the seasons turn, let's take time to be thankful, and allow our thankfulness to prompt our sense of connection with the world around us and one another.

Rev'd Liz Griffiths

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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.

Articles and advertisements are accepted in good faith and 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 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)



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