

# THE CHRONICLE

✦ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 591



Cricklade Bowls Club

*Bowls at Windsor  
Cricklade v. Royal Household  
pictures © Brian Sawyer*



Royal Household  
Bowling Club

## September 2024



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**SUZUKI**

# From the Editor

We have a Royal-themed cover this month. Cricklade Bowls Club, which was founded in 1928, was prestigiously invited to play against the Royal Household Bowling Club in Windsor Great Park. Our cover picture depicts the two teams and you can read about it on page 41. We welcome pictures from other clubs in the town representing their successes and their anniversaries.

September is officially the start of autumn, but I'm beginning to wonder what the seasons represent these days. A cold and wet start to June, followed by a heatwave in July and the ups and downs predicted for August, leave us in a bit of a pickle for planning outings. Stoically, we shall hope for the best.

But schools will restart in September. That we know! And the Parkinson's Café will be reborn at its new venue at Cricklade House and Spa – same days as before: third Wednesday of the month – in this case 18

September. See page 28 for details.

Two local groups are participating under the banner of Swindon Open Studios on the weekend of 21-22 September. Great Western Embroiderers are at the Jenner Hall (page 27) while the Cricklade Art Group are at the Thames Hall by the river (page 26). A gentle stroll between the two perhaps? Then pop in to the Leisure Centre for their Open Day? (page 25)

If you want to be personally active, Ride & Stride encourages you to visit churches throughout Wiltshire on 14 September (page 17) while the Cricklade Walking Group invite you to their walks between starter, stroller and strider level on page 42.

On a more sedentary note, Cricklade Cinema starts its autumn season – see page 28.

Whatever you do, pace yourself and enjoy it!



## In this issue

Ashton Keynes Village Choir .....	40
Bingo 4 Us .....	19
Blakehill Camp .....	18-19
Bloomers .....	25
Bowls Club .....	41
Broader Area - What's On? .....	4
Camera Club .....	6
Church Appeal (St Sampson's) .....	20
Churches Together .....	22-23
Coffee Café .....	27
Cricklade Art Group (Open Studios) .....	26
Cricklade Cinema .....	28
Cricklade Library .....	5
Cricklade Pétanque Club .....	42
Cricklade W.I. ....	6
The Final Word .....	44
Foodbank .....	39
Friends of St Mary's .....	24
Garden Club .....	39
Great Western Embroiderers (Open Studios) .....	27

Historical Society .....	6
Jenner Hall bookings .....4	Save-It Club..... 2
Leisure Centre News .....	25
Letters to the Editor .....	24
Memory Café .....	24
Motor Neurone Disease Walk .....	20
Open Door .....	20
Parkinson's Café .....	28
Probus Club .....	41
Prospect Support .....	24
Purton & Green Gable Surgery .....	17
Ride & Stride .....	17
Rugby Club .....	40
Saxons Pétanque Club .....	40
Sing a Musical in a day! .....	26
Sing Four Four .....	26
Town Council .....	3-4
Town Hall bookings .....	2
Twinning Association .....	19
United Church .....	23 & 24
Walking Group .....	42
Wiltshire Councillor .....	5

**The deadline for the October 2024 issue is Sunday 1 September 2024**

# 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](mailto: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 ...	<a href="mailto:clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk">clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk</a>	Library (113 High St) .....	750694
Wiltshire Councillor .....	752501	Link Scheme transport .....	07421 018 499
Wiltshire Council hub .....	0300 456 0100	Open Door .....	07599 987 851
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](mailto:crickladetownhall@hotmail.com) for further details. Check out our Facebook page for photos and other information: [www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall](https://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 (Parish Hall) "Save It Club"

In the Monthly Draw held on 25 July, the lucky winners were :-

First Prize:	John Fryer	£36.90
Second Prize:	Lyn White	£24.60
Jenner Hall Funds:		£61.50



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. (GDP Regulations compliant.)



# Cricklade Town Council

## Town Council Meetings

**Monday 2 September** Full Council Meeting

**Monday 9 September** Premises and Finance Committee

**Monday 16 September** Community and Leisure Committee

**Monday 23 September** Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

All meetings, commence at 7pm, and are held in the Council Chamber, 113 High Street. Members of the public are welcome and have an opportunity to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting.



### Protect our open spaces

Can we kindly request you respect the Trees of Remembrance around the Town? There has recently been damage caused to these trees, which apart from damaging the tree, which may or may not recover, causes upset to the family who have selected and paid for the tree as a lasting memorial of their loved one.

Please note the use of barbecues even biodegradable ones, are banned on Cricklade Town Council Land, this includes Hallsfield Meadow, Fairview Fields, Millennium and Jubilee Woods. We have no objection to picnics, but request you remove all your waste and belongings from the area when you leave. Please put rubbish in the bin and leave the area as we hope you found it.

### Cricklade in Bloom

The judges have been out and about in Cricklade and have seen some wonderful gardens and displays.

	<b>Best Front garden</b>	<b>Best Hanging basket</b>	<b>Best front door</b>	<b>Best commercial</b>
<b>Winner</b>	4 Pittsfield	23 Abingdon Court Farm	2 Bath Road	Red Lion
<b>Highly commended</b>	51 Pittsfield	62 Deansfield	115 Lady Mead	Blackwells

Congratulations to you all.

### Overgrown Hedges and Bushes

Everything in the garden is growing rapidly, unfortunately not just the flowers and vegetables.

The Council is receiving many enquiries relating to hedges and bushes, where foliage is drooping or has grown over property boundaries, making footpaths and pavements difficult to walk along for everyone. Please look at your boundaries and clear the way for others to walk without difficulty. If you have elderly neighbours, they may appreciate a hand to clear theirs.

### MyWilts app

Have you spotted any issues with footpaths, highways? – this includes pot holes, flooding, public rights of way issues, road markings, street lights, fly-tipping, graffiti, to name a few. These are all issues that are dealt with by Wiltshire council and can be logged online at any time by visiting [my.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://my.wiltshire.gov.uk)

### Town Council Small Grants

The Town Council has a small grant scheme for local community and voluntary groups. Application forms and guidance can be found on our website and hard copies are available from the Town Council Offices.

### Neighbourhood Plan Review – Preliminary Public Consultation

A big thank-you to everyone that took the time to complete the recent survey. Our Working Party is currently reviewing your comments and will be producing a report in due course. To keep up to date with progress please take a look at the Neighbourhood Plan page on our website and items in future issues of *The Chronicle*.

#### The Town Council and Tourist Information Point is open, except Bank Holidays:

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

Tel: 01793 751394 E-mail: [admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk)

Website: [www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk)



Follow the Council @ [www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil)

## Cricklade Jenner Hall ...

### ... At The Heart of Cricklade for over 350 years.

The Jenner Hall is a lovely 17th century Cotswold stone building, which continues to be a popular place for family events and smaller wedding receptions, and is only a 'stones throw' away from St Sampson's Church, with the bonus of a courtyard at the front of the Hall.



Maybe you would like to hold your Craft Session or Fair, Table Top Sale, Quiz Night or even Dance/Exercise class with us. In addition, our smaller annexe hall may be suitable for your Talk or Club Meetings etc.

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

For more information about the Hall or to check booking availability, visit our website: [crickladejennerhall.com](http://crickladejennerhall.com)

To book the Hall, please contact our booking email address at: [jennerhall.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:jennerhall.bookings@gmail.com) or call on: 07823 324 821.

*Richard Hickman, Chairman, Cricklade Jenner Hall Community Trust*

## In Our Broader Area

### ■ Swindon & Cricklade Railway: Military Weekend

**Sat 21 to Sun 22 September** Blunsdon Station, Tadpole Lane, Swindon, SN25 2DA

Adult £10 / Child £7 / Senior £9 . Trains running to special timetable.

[swindon-cricklade-railway.org/event/military-weekend](http://swindon-cricklade-railway.org/event/military-weekend)

Page 4

*The Chronicle*

# Wiltshire Perspective

Firstly, I know this isn't how it's supposed to work, but can I ask for some help please? I'm sure there must be some photos of the Thames flowing freely as I remember it used to many years ago. Currently, I suspect its flow rate is a small fraction of what it used to be, and I'd like to put some pressure on the Environment Agency to maintain the Site of Special Scientific Interest in the correct manner. So any photos of the river around this time of year from previous years would be greatly appreciated. If you can provide a location so I can show a then-and-now comparison, that would be even better.

Secondly, Wiltshire Council have drawn up a policy for the accommodation of gypsy and travelling communities. This will be going to public consultation in the near future, and I've asked for a link to the location where feedback can be given, but I've not received a response. As a substitute, I've asked that the link be placed on the websites of both Cricklade and Latton Councils as well as their respective Facebook pages when available. It should be live by the time of distribution (fingers crossed).

On the matter of GreenSquareAccord, they appear to prioritise some maintenance jobs and others they simply can't seem to get round to. For example the two metre hole in the Parsonage Farm Close garage next to the Malmesbury Road has been there for around three years – compare that with the speed with which they put up signs in the car park in Heberden House (which has been included in my discussions with their chief executive). Having said that, parking is a problem, but not as serious as people feeling threatened with eviction, which is my primary focus with them, and with which I am pleased to say I'm making progress.

A number of people have been pointing out to me that verges and other areas are not being cut back or maintained as they used to be, which is obviously a seasonal problem, but a first for me. It came as a surprise that in all of Wiltshire, there's only a single full-time person maintaining all of the trees, in one of England's largest counties. However that person will be visiting Cricklade in September to remove a goat willow that's damaging a neighbouring property.

I have also been chasing within County Hall a number of road maintenance issues, to try and get the work progressed before bad weather starts to cause delays once the days start shortening in the near future.

Can I also apologise if I'm not getting back to you as quickly as you would like. I do try to respond as fast as possible, but please feel free to chase me if I'm being distracted by my other day job.

As ever, if you think I can help please get in touch and I'll see what I can do.  
*nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk or 752501.*

*Nick Dye, Wiltshire Councillor*

## 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	

## Cricklade W.I.

Our August speaker, Stewart Linford, was extremely popular and attracted new visitors. Stewart explained the evolution of chair making including the Winston Churchill armchair which he created. An award winning member of Toastmasters International Speakers, Stewart's talks are laced with uniquely humorous stories and accounts of dealing with famous clients.



We now look forward to welcoming JoAnne Huntley to our 19 September meeting when we will be learning about the history of lace. Starting as far back as Egypt in the 600s we will have the opportunity to see collars and fragments of lace dating from the 16th century. JoAnne has been a teacher of a range of crafts over 30 years and has a studio in Wiltshire where she teaches and creates all styles of lace: bobbin, Bruges tape, ornate Honiton and delicate specialities of needle lace.

If you would like to join any of our meetings, we meet on the third Thursday of each month in the Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm. We welcome visitors at only a small charge of £3 for refreshments. Come and see what we are about or contact our secretary Viv Tomkins on 01798 752459 or at [vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com](mailto:vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com) or check us out on Facebook.

## Cricklade Historical Society

**Wednesday 18 September** – Latton Basin Restoration.

Speakers – Doug Small & Jan Flannigan

This talk will be held in the Town Hall Annexe. Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Please note, this talk is different to the one shown in our member's Programme of Events.

## Cricklade Camera Club

The Club's season runs from September to June. During July and August we have been running a varied range of friendly summer meets and workshops.

Our season starts in earnest on **Tuesday 3 September** in the Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm with a fascinating and entertaining evening as members talk about their successes over the last year and discuss their photographic projects for the new season - with plenty of images that were successful (and maybe some that weren't!)

New members will receive a warm welcome - you don't even need a camera. Everyone is welcome. So if you are budding novice, a more experienced photographer, or just want to learn how to take better photos, why don't you try us out for an evening for a guest fee of £6.00.

Our 2024/25 programme of excellent speakers, competitions and workshops can be found on our website: [crickldecameraclub.org/program](http://crickldecameraclub.org/program)

Our second meeting in September will be a Zoom meeting on **17 September** with Alan and Julie Walker who will be explaining how to maximise your success in competitions. Their talk looks at how to improve individual images for competitions across a wide range of photographic genres. They will look at the capture and getting it right in the camera, plus the necessary post production to avoid criticism from judges, before a brief look at taking photography to the creative level which is often successful in many competitions.



# Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

*Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities*



## Good News for Cricklade!

Green Gable Surgery now has an additional consulting room!

Thanks to a couple of members of the receptionist team for all their work in converting a store room to create this addition. The PPG has agreed to fund a new consulting couch and chair, NHS England has provided a computer and the room is up and running. What a benefit for Cricklade patients!

## Thank you

Our thanks to Jeanne Perons who is standing down having been a member of the PPG committee for a number of years.

## 200 Club draw

The July draw was done by Receptionist Karen Humphrey and the £100 winner was Jane Smith. 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](mailto:treasurer.psppg@gmail.com) to request it.



## 200 Club Renewal

It's 200 Club Renewal time – and new members are also welcome! What do you need to do? ...

1. Setting up a Standing Order is the simplest way to do this and forms are available at both Purton and Green Gable surgeries. If you're not already a member then you can join now ready for the new year. The cost is just £15 a year and there are two prizes each month of £100 and £15. Setting up a Standing Order for your £15 to be taken annually on 1 September is much simpler for you and for administration purposes.
2. If you have already set up a Standing Order then you need do nothing else, your membership will automatically renew.

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](mailto:secretary.psppg@gmail.com)

*Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary*



## WHCT Ride and Stride

**Saturday 14 September 2024**

We need volunteers to walk or cycle – or indeed ride on horseback – to visit as many churches as possible in our area. We hope that you will persuade your family and friends to sponsor you. Half of the money you raise will benefit your "home" church and half will go to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust.

More details are available from our churches but make a note of the date and start planning. Help to make The Great Cycle Ride come back to life.

## The Story of Blakehill Camp - part 2

From 1947 or early 1948 a new community of over 500 people sprang up following the conversion of the ex-RAF huts at Blakehill - all from different areas and backgrounds.

After the misery of living in primitive accommodation, their new private facilities seemed like heaven! Five of six sites were used. Site 1 on the north side of Chelworth Road opposite a row of cottages, Site 3, behind Chelworth House reached via a concrete driveway from the Chelworth road, Site 4 on the south west side of the Chelworth to Ashton Keynes crossroads, Site 5 on the south side of the Malmesbury road at Common Hill, and Site 6 on the north side of Common Hill.



Soon local business and tradesmen were delivering their goods and services by van directly to all five sites regularly – not only essential food but services including television aerials for rented sets. With no telephones, telegrams were frequently delivered, and a doctor's appointment meant using the only phone box on the Malmesbury road before 10am!

In 1949 Monty, a grocer from Cricklade, established another shop at Site 5 in a former RAF Guardhouse. With its added Post Office facilities, tenants could now manage their finances close at hand. Bert Giles' coaches from Bath Road, Cricklade, ran Blakehill workers to Swindon companies as well as school runs, an hourly service bus ran between Swindon and Cirencester along the

Malmesbury road, and ditto a special workmen's train every morning and evening.

Soon, under the official title of 'Blakehill Community Centre', the residents formed their own licensed social club on Site 6 for members only, including Leigh and Chelworth. A Sunday school and babies' clinic, football and darts teams, even children's film shows soon followed, and Camp councillors were appointed to officially represent the residents. A new Junior school was eventually established at Blakehill by converting two adjacent huts on Site, and in 1948 the Blakehill Community Committee appointed a temporary headmistress before Mr and Mrs John Horlock were found accommodation on site.

By 1956 the closure of Blakehill camp was imminent – and the last in this series will concentrate on the re-housing of its many residents to new council estates at Cricklade and elsewhere.

*Pictured top, Site 3 Blakehill*

*Middle Joan Jarvis at Monty's Store*

*Bottom: Blakehill fancy dress.  
Coronation Day, 1953*



N.B. The above is a very brief synopsis of what are undoubtedly the most detailed descriptions of social life at Blakehill Camp uniquely to be found only in various parts of the Cricklade Revealed book series as they are based entirely on the vivid memories of those who lived there.

**Sale!** More than half of Cricklade Revealed's 15 books are now out of print. However, reprints of complete sets of all 15 books at only £25 (less than half the original price) are now on offer for a limited period. Advanced orders ONLY. Please ring Marion on 01793 750542 or email: mfparrsons071@btinternet.com to add your name to the rapidly growing list.

Profits from all CR sales are donated to Cricklade Open Door.

## Cricklade Twinning Association

We are pleased to announce that the links between Sucé-sur-Erdre and Cricklade have been reformed following the 4-year break forced upon us by Covid. In total 13 people were able to travel to Sucé, although, due to other commitments, only 6 were able to make the formal weekend of 30 May to 2 June. Jane and Gary Whinfrey (remember them?) had arrived the previous weekend, whilst a party of 5 visited a couple of weeks later.

The formal party were very well received and were taken, on the Friday, for an exquisite meal at a restaurant in Cholet, followed by a visit to the Japanese Gardens at Maulévrier.

Saturdays are spent with the host families, undertaking various activities. Your writer's hosts took Terry and Debbie to the seaside town of Pornic where we enjoyed a delightful day.

Before leaving on the Sunday afternoon, we all gathered on the banks of the river Erdre for a picnic followed by a walk alongside the river. Unfortunately, the footpath did not exist. At least two people took the plunge, although upon later checking, everyone had survived.

Not all the visit was for pleasure though: progress was made on the staging of a Youth Football Tournament between Cricklade and Sucé as part of their visit to Cricklade during 2025. Hopefully more information on this will be available during the autumn.

It was the Association's Annual General Meeting in late July. This was coupled with a BBQ at Chris and Cathy Atkins' home. The existing Committee raised the matter that it had been in position for some time and that some younger members would add a more dynamic approach to the organisation. The meeting asked the committee to review its recruitment methods, and then voted that it remain in post for the forthcoming year. Discussions were also held on the Association's programme for 2024/25. This will be worked upon in the coming weeks and published as soon as possible.

Upon the completion of business at around 5pm, the thirty-two who attended settled down to a very pleasant BBQ in the warm July sunshine.

Once-again a big thank-you is given to Chris and Cathy for doing the cooking and allowing this function to take place at their home.

**Bingo 4 Us** meet on Wednesday afternoons in the Jenner Hall, Bath Road, Cricklade. Doors open 1.45pm with EYES DOWN at 2 pm. New members will be made very welcome. No joining fee, just pay £2 per session. No forms to complete just come along on the day. Any questions to Chris 07500 871 680 or Vicky on 07801 952 027.

*The Chronicle*



# St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

*Creating a Community Space for the Future*

We thank you for your continued support for our events.

Our church fete on 7 September is our next big fundraising event.

Please see information about it and come along for an enjoyable community day!



## Church Fete

**Saturday 7 September 2024**

**2pm - 4pm**



**Trips up the tower!**

**Soft toy parachute jumps!**

**Cream teas!**

**Raffle Stalls BBQ**

**Free Entry**

**Independent stalls welcome.  
Booking fee £10, via:  
[sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com)**

### **Advance Notice of Events**

Wine Tasting Evening Friday 4 October 2024

Christmas Tree Festival 29 November - 1 December 2024

**How to give:** Cash or cheques (made payable to St Sampson's PCC No. 2 Account) in the donations box in church or send to Adina Grace (Church Warden and Treasurer), 24 North Wall, Cricklade, SN6 6DU. For further details please contact Adina on 01793 380583 or email [janda.grace447@outlook.com](mailto:janda.grace447@outlook.com)

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



### **St Sampson's Church 100 Club**

The lucky winner of the July 2024 draw was:

Ruth Evans who won £31.50

St Sampson's Church benefited by £31.50.

To join the 100 Club, contact Sharon Smith tel. 751375 or email [sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com)

## Cricklade Open Door

Here comes autumn and the countdown to Christmas! Monday 2 September heralds just 16 weeks and a bit to the big day!



At Open Door we have already decided on dates for our Christmas Lunch and Christmas Tea Party and have begun the more difficult thoughts about entertainment at the Tea Party.

During August our usual activities continued, so with the nights gradually drawing in, why not try Seated Exercises on a Monday afternoon - lively, fun and good for keeping us moving even though we are seated, filling the days and the evenings won't seem so long? Our Thursday afternoon bingo session would welcome some new faces: forget thoughts of bingo on a seaside pier or other perceptions, bingo can help us with hand, eye and ear co-ordination and we have a laugh and good refreshments. Tuesday afternoons are a treat - anything from quizzes to Beetle to guest speakers to cream teas, it varies week by week. Each morning we are open for coffee and chat 10 - 11.45am; bring your knitting on a Monday morning because that is when the knitting group meets.

At the end of August we had a scrumptious Strawberry Cream Tea with a cake auction - all cakes made by our Star Baker, Chris.

A date for your diaries - **Monday 14 October 11am - 12 noon**. We have another music morning brought to us from The Wiltshire Music Centre and we have two young, vibrant violinists coming along to entertain us with classical and modern music. Posters will be on notice boards in Cricklade nearer the time, but just come along, there's no entrance fee but donations at the end of the concert. The music will be followed by a served buffet lunch with a glass of wine, just £6.00 but please book for lunch beforehand.

Open Door - The Jenner Hall, Mondays (not 26 August), Tuesdays and Thursdays  
10am - 3.30pm Telephone 07599 987 851

## D'Feet Motor Neurone Disease

**"Walk to D'Feet" Fundraiser, Lydiard Park on 8 September**

The Gloucestershire and Wiltshire branches of the Motor Neurone Disease Associations have joined forces to run the event at Lydiard Park, Swindon. This is on the same wheelchair accessible route as the weekly Park Run.



Do you know someone with Motor Neurone Disease? Do you want to "do your bit"? Or you just like walking in the woods?! Or simply want to donate?

**Make the date: Sunday 8 September at 12 noon**

Participants can walk either one or two laps of the 2.5 km circuit. The entry fee donation is £10 which includes a free T Shirt. Registration in advance ensures the right size T-shirt is ordered for you!

To register, contact [peter.mills@mndassociation.org](mailto:peter.mills@mndassociation.org) or call 07734 084 290.

To donate, go to [www.justgiving.com/page/mndglos-169149651623](http://www.justgiving.com/page/mndglos-169149651623) or QR code right.





# Churches Together

## Services for the Upper Thames Churches

### **1 September Trinity 14**

- 8am Holy Communion at St Sampson's
- 10am Holy Communion at Holy Cross
- 10am Morning Worship at St Sampson's  
with music group and children's activities in church
- 10am Morning Worship at St John the Baptist, Latton
- 6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

### **8 September Trinity 15**

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

### **15 September Trinity 16**

- 8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast at St Sampson's
- 10am Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Latton
- 10am Morning Worship at Holy Cross
- 11.30am Harvest Morning Worship at St Sampson's followed by harvest lunch
- 6pm Evensong at Holy Cross
- 6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

### **22 September Trinity 17**

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

### **29 September Trinity 18**

- 10am Worship Together Communion at Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes

#### ***Thursday morning prayers in St Sampson's:***

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

*Everyone is welcome.*

## St. Mary's Catholic Church

**Weekly Mass times** 9.30am on Sundays  
10.00am on Fridays

For notices please see the noticeboard on the railings of St Mary's.

Parish website [www.stthomasparishfairford.org.uk](http://www.stthomasparishfairford.org.uk).

Father Michael Robertson can be contacted on 01285 712586 or by email  
[michael.Robertson@cliftondiocese.com](mailto: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](http://www.crickladestmary.org.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](mailto:vicar@upperthames.org.uk) tel: 01793 752718

Associate Vicar: Revd Shirley Danby

email: [shirleydanby21@gmail.com](mailto:shirleydanby21@gmail.com); tel. 07980 548844

Parishes Administrator: Jane Eyles

email: [admin@upperthames.org.uk](mailto:admin@upperthames.org.uk) tel: 01793 979304

## **From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches**

### **Baptisms**

14 July Artemis Mercurio Bleu Oxley *at All Saints*

### **Weddings**

20 July Laura Lang & Alexander Taylor *at Holy Cross*

26 July Jodie Manners & Christopher Belding *at St Sampson's*

27 July Katy Housden & Alexander Kuttschreuter *at Holy Cross*

### **Funerals**

9 July Barry Kelly, *burial of Ashes at Kingsdown Crematorium*

9 July Vinnie Kelly, *burial of Ashes at Kingsdown Crematorium*

16 July Claire Duly *burial of Ashes in Holy Cross churchyard*

24 July Graham John Clarke, *service and committal at North Wiltshire Crematorium followed by service of thanksgiving at Holy Cross*

## **Cricklade United Church**

Calcutt Street, Cricklade

Minister: Revd Sarah Simpson, tel. 01666 826866

Email: [sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com](mailto: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. Please have a look at our website for all the current information regarding our services, dates, times and other events.  
[crickladeunitedchurch.co.uk](http://crickladeunitedchurch.co.uk)

### **Sunday morning services** at 10.30am during September

1 Sep Catherine Price from Minety

8 Sep Rev Ray Adams service includes Holy Communion

15 Sep David Hoar from Swindon

22 Sep Trevor Stinton from Swindon

29 Sep Community Partners COPA Service. Celebrating the transfer of the COPA charity activity to the Management Committee in the Dominican Republic

# Cricklade United Church

**Bounce and Rhyme** - a group for babies and toddlers

Restarts in September for the new school term. Come along and enjoy a social afternoon with music and rhymes for the little ones. Chat and refreshments including lovely cake available!

Tuesday 3 September and Tuesday 17 September from 1.45pm to 2.45pm

**Worship Services during September** - see page 23

## The Friends of St Mary's Church, Cricklade

We will be holding our AGM on Tuesday 8 October at 7pm in the Church. All interested parties are welcome to join us.



## Letters to the Editor

### ■ DAVID MESSENGER

The family of the late David Messenger would like to take the time to thank everyone for their support during and after their loss of a dear husband, father, father-in-law and bampy.

The family appreciate everyone who attended the funeral and for their charitable donation to the CJD support charity.

They would like to give a special thanks to Steve S, Steve B, Pete P, Ian C, Jim T and Brian F for carrying the coffin and the Cricklade & Westlea Fire Brigade for their guard of honour.

They would like to say thank you to Carter Funeral Directors for organising the funeral, Shirley Danby for arranging a lovely service and Pete for sharing his memories of Dave.

We are eternally grateful.

*Marie, Claire, Laura, Steve, Patrick, Emily, Jorja, Joana, Thomas, Jenna and Jade.*

### ■ GOLDEN WEDDING

Mike and Christine Hatton would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes on their 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Thank you.

*Mike & Christine*

## Prospect Support Group

On 29 June a local Prospect Hospice support group had a Coffee morning and raised £429.28. Many thanks to the following local businesses who gave raffle prizes – The White Hart, Michael Hart, Tesco's and Cricklade Hotel. Thanks also to Cricklade United Church for allowing us to use their Hall. We appreciate the many people who came or gave generous contributions. Well done, Cricklade.

*Hazel Rowland and Yvonne Keeble*

## Cricklade Memory Café

The café is open on the first Wednesday of each month from 10.30 to 12.30 at the Town Hall Annexe for people with memory impairment, their family or carers.

To find out more please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.

# Cricklade Bloomers

## Whispers from the Walled Garden



We are delighted that our first wild flower bed has produced an appreciated gold and blue vista at the turning circle. This month (September) we will be scything and clearing the wild flower annuals to plant fritillary bulbs and native crocus. Bulbs in a wild flower area must be fine leaved and early flowering so their dying leaves do not cover the sprouting wild flower seed mix later in the spring.

Today, the last day of July, it is 30 degrees centigrade and a third day of above average temperatures. My garden might be wilting and turning brown due to empty water butts; however, Bloomer's water butts are not empty as approximately 8,000 litres of rain water are saved every year from our own hut roofs and one of the adjacent Tesco roofs.

Additionally, we make around 6 cubic metres of compost a year that we use to condition the flower and shrub beds around the town as well as providing free compost to Cricklade residents. For the planters and the Town Council lamp post baskets we do have to buy in compost but this is peat free and made locally. Currently, we have over 100 polyanthus and a multitude of ivies saved from last year's winter baskets to be used again this coming winter.

Sometimes extensive renovations on our facilities are required. This summer it has been the PVC roof of our 20 square metre covered area. We are replacing it with ultra violet light resistant polyvinyl which will have a longer life. The old PVC will go into the hard plastic recycling at Purton. We look forward to staying dry as we work once the autumn rains arrive.

## What's On at Cricklade Leisure Centre

**Open Day Sunday 22 September 10am-4pm**

Come along and find out what goes on at your friendly local Leisure Centre. We'll be offering guided tours of the centre, children's activities and a chance to give some of our activities a try. There may even be a special offer for those joining us as members on the day.



No need to book for the Open Day\*, just come along and find out more.

\* Swimming sessions will need to be booked in advance - please call us on 01793 750011 or ask at reception. Non members can book up to 2 days ahead.

*Coming soon:*

### **Lace up those trainers!**

It's Cricklade's annual Fun Run, 10k and Half Marathon on Sunday 6 October. If you haven't already entered, please head to [www.fullonsport.com](http://www.fullonsport.com) for the full details.

We are also looking for volunteers to marshall on the day. If you can help, please contact us on 01793 750011 or email [tom@crickladeleisure.co.uk](mailto:tom@crickladeleisure.co.uk)

**For full details of all our activities** please visit [www.crickladeleisure.com](http://www.crickladeleisure.com), email [admin@crickladeleisure.co.uk](mailto:admin@crickladeleisure.co.uk), ring us on 01793 750011 ... or just pop in. We'd love to see you.

## Cricklade Art Group

Cricklade Art Group is a forward-thinking collective of artists keen to develop their skills and support others. Four experienced members, Lesley Cowley - Fused glass, Julie Norman - Acrylics and mixed media, Gill Olney - Digital and traditional media and Lynne Young - Ceramics, will be taking part in the Swindon Open Studios this year over the weekend of 21 and 22 September from 10am until 4pm.



Situated in the Thames Hall, next to the river, there will be refreshments for you to enjoy and a selection of ceramics, fused glass, framed artwork, prints and greeting cards available to view and to buy.



Come along and talk to them about the group and their individual approaches to their art which they will be demonstrating during the weekend - they would love to see you.

## The Sing Four Four Community Choir

The Choir begins rehearsals for its Christmas concert on Thursday 5 September. Rehearsals take place in the United Church, Calcutt Street every Thursday during term time. We begin at 7.30pm and finish promptly at 9.30pm. The choir enjoys singing a wide range of music, both sacred and secular.



We are always on the look-out for new members, especially tenors and basses.

If you think you would like to join us, please come along and give it a try. You will be most welcome.

Information can be found on the website ([www.singfourfour.org.uk](http://www.singfourfour.org.uk)). Please use the contact form on the website. Alternatively, you can email the musical director, Jen Bamford, at [jenloubamford@gmail.com](mailto:jenloubamford@gmail.com)

## Sing a Musical in a Day – Greater than Gold

**5 October 2024 at Cricklade United Church**

With just over a month to go, there is still time to sign up for our “musical in a day” event on Saturday 5 October. Led by a team of accomplished musicians - violinist, flautist, pianist, oboe player and guitarists. The musical *Greater Than Gold* is written by Roger Jones, a well-known composer of modern music and worship songs. The style of music is lively and modern, with an appeal to all ages. You don’t need to be able to read music, or be a budding “Taylor Swift” – all you need is enthusiasm 😊

The cost for the day is £5 to include a lovely lunch, or £3 if no lunch. Timings for the day 11.30 to 6.30pm approximately

Contact: [phillipa58@hotmail.com](mailto:phillipa58@hotmail.com) tel 01793 750556



## Great Western Embroiderers

Great Western Embroiderers are taking part in  
**Swindon Open Studios Weekend**  
which is celebrating its 20th Anniversary



**on 21 to 22 September 2024**

GWE was established in 2007 and has been meeting in Cricklade throughout.

Please come and see our artwork on display and meet some of our members who will be demonstrating a variety of stitching and fabric skills during the two days.

Two themes for this year's exhibition are

**The PARIS OLYMPICS and the ARTS & CRAFTS MOVEMENT**

11am – 4pm Saturday 21 September at Jenner Hall, Bath Road

11am – 4pm Sunday 22 September at Jenner Hall, Bath Road

Refreshments available.

## 20th Anniversary Swindon Open Studios

2024 is the 20th anniversary celebration of Swindon Open Studios (SOS) and it's the BIGGEST EVER in its history. During the last two weekends in September, 130 participants will display a wide variety of arts and crafts in 56 venues across Swindon and surrounding areas.



Everyone benefits. Visitors see many beautiful creations and artists get to meet their audience, gaining valuable feedback. Visitors see the muck and mess of the creative process behind the scenes and discover stories behind particular works. Some visitors might even be inspired to start their own creative journey! A number of places offer "have a go" sessions, which may need to be booked and paid for in advance.

Those taking part around Cricklade are: Tim Baynes – drawings, oil pastels and paintings, Great Western Embroiderers – fabrics, threads and mixed media with The Cricklade Art Group displaying ceramics, glass, mixed media and digital artwork.

According to Sheryl Fox of the committee, "Swindon Open Studios is for everyone. It's really accessible, plus you get to meet the artists and see where the magic happens."

Several venues offer light refreshments and garden spaces to enjoy, which makes it a

good day out. Check the website [swindonopenstudios.org](http://swindonopenstudios.org) for full catalogue of participants so you can plan your route. For updates, follow #swindonopenstudios. Printed brochures are available from mid-August.



left: SOS Website



right: Interactive Map

## 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 CINEMA!

We are back with what we hope is another great season of films for you this autumn, and we now have 90 season tickets on offer so why not come along and enjoy a night at the movies amongst friends.

**24 September** – One Life (PG, 110 mins)

**22 October** – Wicked Little Letters (15, 104 mins)

**26 November** – Bob Marley: One Love (12A, 107 mins)

**17 December** – Wonka (PG, 102 mins)

All films start at 8pm in the Town Hall.

Tickets can once again be purchased from the Town Council Offices at 113 High Street or on the door (subject to availability). Single ticket: £5, Season Ticket: £12 (that's just £3 per film).

Our Season ticket has been extremely popular and we sold out very quickly last time out so please get yours early.



We kick off the season with an outstanding and genuinely uplifting true life drama

**Tuesday 24 September at 8pm**

**One Life** (Cert PG, 110 mins)

The story of humanitarian Nicholas Winton, who saved the lives of hundreds of Central European children before the breakout of World War Two. Anthony Hopkins and Helena Bonham Carter star.

*(Contains: moderate threat)*

More details about all the films being shown and information on Cricklade Cinema can be found on our website

*([www.cricklodecinema.org.uk](http://www.cricklodecinema.org.uk)) so why not take a look.*

Email us at: [cricklodecinema@gmail.com](mailto:cricklodecinema@gmail.com) or phone on 750782

## Parkinson's Café Cricklade

We are looking forward to our reopening at our new venue for the Cricklade Café.

As of **Wednesday 18 September**, we will start afresh at **The Cricklade Hotel & Spa**.

There you will find plenty of level parking, good access and an accessible loo!

We are very grateful to Derek and his team at The Cricklade Hotel & Spa for welcoming the café to their fine establishment.

The volunteers team look forward to seeing you there!

*Vincent, Maggie, Sean, Ray and Jim - your volunteers team.*

**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**

**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup>**  
**CHANGE ATTITUDES.**  
**FIND A CURE.**  
**JOIN US.**

# Cricklade Foodbank

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



Many parents will be relieved that their children are now back at school. The long summer holidays put extra pressure on limited budgets and many families find this a struggle.

Thank you, again, for your generous donations. If you use Facebook, please keep an eye out for posts from Malmesbury & District Foodbank, highlighting our more immediate needs.

You can also continue to donate through our usual channels: Tesco, Culverhay Stores, Animal Fayre and all the local churches, are regularly emptied. St Sampson's School will now be open again.

Another way to make a financial donation is via the Malmesbury & District Foodbank website, where there is a 'donate' button. Also, you can download the app 'Bankthefood' for up-to-date food needs.

If you would like to make a regular donation via Standing Order, please contact Cricklade Foodbank Centre Manager, Hugh Thomas, on 07483 107 807. He will be able to give you all the relevant bank details.

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](mailto:crickladecm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

Visit the website: [malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk](http://malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

## 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 September** when we welcome back Richard Rickitt as our speaker. Richard is a bee keeper, editor of BeeCraft, the national beekeeping magazine and last year he published an acclaimed book "Beekeeping for Gardeners."

His talk is entitled **Introducing the Amazing Honey Bee.**

There can be few people, nationally and internationally, who are more knowledgeable on the extraordinary story of the honey bee and we are delighted he will be with us again. A talk not to be missed.

For information about the club, upcoming events and trips please look at our excellent website [www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk](http://www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk)

Membership is £20 p.a. We are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies. ([www.gfgs.org.uk](http://www.gfgs.org.uk))

Visitors welcome at £5 a session – come and give us a try.

Queries to Bizzie 07876 347 973 or Janet 07765 276 534

We look forward to seeing you!

## Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

Saxons Pétanque Club plays on the gravel pistes just in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 10am on Saturday mornings and 7pm on Wednesday evenings during the summer. On some Wednesday mornings we hold informal training sessions for those who want them.

Our Eileen Mitchell Memorial Competition back in July was a huge success. Members of the Mitchell family joined us for a fun morning of pétanque and we raised £300 for Marie Curie.

We're inviting a few members from Cricklade Pétanque Club and Cirencester U3A to join Saxons Pétanque Club members for a 3-ender on 15 September where, as it says, each match is just 3 ends. Pairs will be drawn from a hat so it should make for a good, sociable bit of competition.

Saxons Pétanque Club membership is very reasonable at just £20 per annum for adults and £5 for children. If you'd like to find out more, 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](http://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. Mixed Tag with strength and conditioning on Tuesdays 7 - 8pm. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters.

Come and watch the fun when the President gets together some old timers to play against our senior team, **Friday 30 August 7pm** at Fairview Fields. This is followed two weeks later with a fun social game vs Chineham on 14 September 2.30pm with a BBQ. Friends and family welcome.

Our Minis and Juniors 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. Please contact our Director of Minis, Seth Wareing, phone 07305 059 879 or [sethwareing@hotmail.com](mailto:sethwareing@hotmail.com). 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.

## Ashton Keynes Village Choir

Ashton Keynes Village Choir's summer concert on Saturday 13 July was a sell out! It was a fantastic and fun event, raising the roof with joyous singing.

£650.00 from the raffle was raised for the Parkinson's UK Swindon's charity Swindon Parkinson's Activity Group. Sean Devine received the donation on behalf of Vincent Mobey and thanked the choir and the people of Ashton Keynes for their generosity.

*Kind Regards, Georgie*

## Cricklade Bowls Club



Twenty-one members of the Club, plus a few supporters, were fortunate to be invited to play a friendly match against the Royal Household Bowling Club at their green at Windsor Great Park in July. Despite armed police security at Shaw Farm Gate, and warnings that we would end up in The Tower if we strayed from the green area, we were well received. The weather was kind but we still lost 4-2. Afternoon tea followed and we all enjoyed the day. Both teams are featured on this month's front cover.

Now we are into September and the club competitions and league matches will be coming to an end. We hold our Club Championships Finals Day on Saturday 21 September. The year is finished off on the next Saturday with the Captain v Chairman team match followed by a barbecue. We hope for more kind weather!

If you want to know more about the game of bowls, your best opportunity is to come to one of our Club Nights at 6pm every Friday until the end of September – we've had a lot of interest this year! Come along to the Bath Road green, opposite St Sampson's primary school. No charge, no experience necessary and no special kit – just make sure to wear shoes with a flattish sole if you want to have a trial bowl. We have club members who can show you what to do and we have spare bowls for you to use. We will welcome you to the club bar for refreshments afterwards!

From October until March, all members are invited to come to our monthly Social Evenings on the first Saturday of each month. During this "off" season the skittles members of the Club will be playing league matches in the alley in the clubhouse.

For more information please contact:

Roy Phillips (Secretary) roy2308@btinternet.com or 07751 201 793

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

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

Rick Dixon (Treasurer) rickdixonbowls@gmail.com or 01793 759123

We hope to see you there.

## Cricklade & District Probus Club



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

5 September      Robert Dudley, Queen Elizabeth and the  
Kenilworth Entertainment of 1575

19 September      An Exploration through History and Culture

The meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday at 10.20 am 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 Pétanque Club

At the Cricklade House Hotel, SN6 6HA

Pétanque is great fun and an excellent way to meet people.

## Our playing days are:

Mon	2 - 4.30pm	Wed	2 - 4.30pm
Tue	7 - 9.30pm	Sat	10am -12.30pm



## Coaching Sessions are:

Wed	10 - 11.30am (ladies)	Fri	10 - 11.30am (mixed)
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We would like to thank Crapper & Sons Landfill Ltd and Community First for their grant of £3,000 under the Landfill Communities Fund scheme, funding our new pergola and two extra pistes.

Three members of the club, Sue McKechnie, Prue Zarola and Helen Dixon played in the 2024 Inter Regional Competition at the Isca Centre in Exeter on Sunday 28 July representing Great Western Region (Gloucestershire, North Somerset & Wiltshire) and competing against teams from Devon and Cornwall. GWR won the competition with 20½ points, while Devon came a close second with 19 points.

Congratulations to Helen Dixon who has passed Pétanque England accreditation as Coach (Level 1). Helen joins Malcolm Brooks as official coaches.

In September, 17 Club members will be playing in the Guernsey Pétanque Open.

Our Club social night will be on Friday 27 September.

For more information please go to our website [www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk](http://www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook by searching Cricklade Petanque Club

## Cricklade Walking Group: part of Get Wiltshire Walking

Come and join weekly walks in Cricklade, led by fully qualified walk leaders. Friendly and fun, it's a great opportunity to get fit, meet new people and get to know your local area. Everyone's welcome provided you are independently mobile, able to meet the physical demands of your chosen walk and can maintain responsibility for your own safety and wellbeing. We are sorry but no dogs, other than sensory dogs, are allowed.

Walk leaders manage and tailor the following walks to meet the needs of walkers:

- Fridays 9.30am meeting at Waylands (by flag poles): Starter, Stroller & Strider walks;
- Tuesdays 6.30pm meeting at Cricklade Leisure Centre: Strider walk only

On your first visit, please allow a few minutes to complete a short registration form.

For further information contact local walk leader Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or email [vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com](mailto:vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com).

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## Moon Phases

**September 2024**   3rd ●   11th ○   18th ○   24th ○

# The Chronicle Diary – September 2024

- |    |    |            |   |
|----|----|------------|---|
| 1  | Su | end of day | Chronicle copy deadline   |
| 2  | M  |            | Wiltshire Schools resume (others may differ)                        |
|    |    | 10am       | to 12 noon: Computer Club at Leisure Centre                         |
|    |    | 7pm        | Full Town Council Meeting, Council Chamber                          |
| 3  | Tu | 1.45pm     | to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme. United Church, Calcutt Street            |
|    |    | 7.30pm     | Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe                                     |
| 4  | W  | 10.30am    | to 12.30pm: Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe                         |
| 5  | Th | 10.20am    | Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel                                 |
| 7  | Sa | 2pm        | to 4pm: St Sampson's Church Fete                                    |
| 9  | M  | 7pm        | Town Council Premises & Finance Committee, Council Chamber          |
| 10 | Tu | 7.30pm     | Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe                                     |
| 14 | Sa |            | WHCT Ride and Stride, see page 17                                   |
| 16 | M  | 7pm        | Town Council Community & Leisure Committee, Council Chamber         |
| 17 | Tu | 1.45pm     | to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme. United Church, Calcutt St                |
|    |    | 7.30pm     | Art Group at Town Hall Annexe                                       |
|    |    | 7.30pm     | Camera Club Zoom meeting  |
| 18 | W  | 10.30am    | to noon: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Hotel & Spa <b>NEW VENUE</b> |
|    |    | 7.15pm     | for 7.30pm start: Historical Society at Town Hall Annexe            |
| 19 | Th | 10.20am    | Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel                                 |
|    |    | 7.30pm     | Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe                                  |
| 21 | Sa | 10am       | to 4pm: Cricklade Art Group Exhibition, Thames Hall                 |
|    |    | 11am       | to 4pm: Great Western Embroiderers Exhibition, Jenner Hall          |
| 22 | Su |            | Autumn Equinox  |
|    |    | 10am       | to 4pm: Cricklade Art Group Exhibition, Thames Hall                 |
|    |    | 11am       | to 4pm: Great Western Embroiderers Exhibition, Jenner Hall          |
|    |    | 10am       | to 4pm: Open Day at Cricklade Leisure Centre                        |
| 23 | M  | 7pm        | Town Council Planning (PCT) Committee, Council Chamber              |
| 24 | Tu | 8pm        | Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Council Offices         |

## Every Week

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Monday, Tuesday, | Thursday: 10am-3.30pm: Open Door at Jenner Hall                    |
| Tu 6.30pm        | Cricklade Walking Group - from Cricklade Leisure Centre            |
| 7-8pm            | Mixed tag rugby at Fairview Fields                                 |
| W 1.45 for 2pm   | Bingo4Us at Jenner Hall  |
| 2-4pm            | Cricklade Museum open, Calcutt Street                              |
| Th 10 -11.30am   | Acorn Community Bank: in Tourist Information Office                |
| 1.30-4.30pm      | The Paint Palette: Ladies' Art Group at Town Hall Annexe           |
| 7-10pm           | The Cricklade Band rehearsal night, at Town Hall, visitors welcome |
| 7-8.30pm         | Cricklade Rugby Club training at Fairview Fields                   |
| 7.30-9.30pm      | Sing Four Four choir rehearsal at United Church, Calcutt Street    |
| F 9.30am         | Cricklade Walking Group - from Waylands/Saxons Rest                |
| 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                              |



# *The Final Word ...*

I confess that I find myself startled that although I haven't lived with an academic year to guide me for well over 30 years, I still feel like September, the beginning of the new school year, is the start of something for me.

Perhaps like me you remember the outing for school shoes, new pencils (extra exciting if they had my name on), and a new rough book; a new bus pass, needing to be up on time, and the reunion with friends in the new classroom setting.

Of course, for many of our younger friends it is time for a new school or university, and there is that extra nervousness of everything being new.

So do you feel like something new is beginning? Or maybe you are feeling the passing of summer and beginning to feel the autumn air and turn of the year?

Whichever it is, I suspect that for many of us September is a transition month, a time when things change just a little.

Some of us love change, and some of us wish everything would stop changing and stay as it is!

In the midst of change and changing circumstances, Jesus said some words which are ours to hold onto. At the end of Matthew's gospel he says: 'I am with you always to the end of the age.' Whatever changes you face, exciting, frightening, good, hopeful, difficult, worrying – in the midst of it all, Jesus is there like a rock, promising always to be with you, and never to leave you, till the end of the age.

When I am worried about the new school term or anything else, those are my 'go to' words to hold onto. Give it a go, I think you will find those words trustworthy and true.

*Revd Canon Debbie Dewes (Vicar, Upper Thames Group)*

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