

THE CHRONICLE

February 2025

✠ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 595

St Sampson's in Winter
painting © Tim Baynes
www.timbaynesart.co.uk



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SUZUKI

From the Editor

Pablo Picasso is quoted as saying "It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see". That applies to our front cover this month painted by Tim Baynes, so totally different from many of our photo covers. Instead of just the form, we see how that form is created. Tim may send us more cover pictures in months to come.

I hope others will too. We've had many pictures from around Cricklade and Latton including some paintings and some aerial views. I love receiving them and will always welcome and acknowledge pictures from art groups, camera clubs, folk with a mobile phone and an eye for the story a picture may tell. We may have to hold them until a month that goes with the image: Tim sent me this one back in September when the weather was rather warm and leafy!

As I write, we had snow overnight but morning temperatures have leapt and the

rain has washed most of the white stuff away. I hope you kept warm.

February brings back the sun. Dawn on 21 December was at 8.11am but 21 February will be 7.09am, giving about an extra hour's daylight at each end of the day.

Another source of light is the Wayland Estates Charity whose generous grants have supported many of the local charities and other social groups over the years.

Their Open Meeting on 5 February is on page 2. You may wish to put in your diary!

Kavali restaurant does a lot behind the scenes to support local causes. On page 24 we read that they sponsored the live Nativity at the Christmas Tree Festival.

Kavali are also hosting Curry Nights on 17 and 24 February in support of Defibrillator Funding and St Sampson's Refurbishment respectively. Tickets: see pages 33 and 21.



In this issue

Bingo4U	42
Bloomers	25
Camera Club	33
Christmas Tree Festival	24
Chronicle Diary	43
Church Appeal (St Sampson's)	21
Churches Together	22-23
Coffee Café	21
Community Contacts	2
Community Defibrillators	33
Computer Club	39
Cricklade Band	24
Cricklade Cinema	33
Cricklade Pétanque Club	42
Cricklade W.I.	37
Dressability Clothes Alterations	28
The Final Word	44
Foodbank	26
Garden Club	42
Historical Society	28

Jenner Hall bookings	2	Save-It Club ...	24
Latton 100 Club			6
Leisure Centre News			39
Lent Talks			18-20
Library			4
Link Drivers Needed			27
Memory Café			42
Open Door			20
Open Door Escorts			26
Our MP			6
Parkinson's Café			25
Probus Club			28
Purton & Green Gable Surgery			17
Rugby Club			41
Saxons Pétanque Club			41
Scouting in Cricklade			37
Sing Four Four			25
Snow White Panto			27
Town Council ...	3-4	Wiltshire Councillor ...	5
Town Hall bookings.....			2
Wayland Estates Charity.....			2
World's Toughest Row			40

The deadline for the March 2025 issue is Saturday 1 February 2025

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
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

Wayland Estates Charity

Supporting Cricklade, Past & Present

The next meeting of the Wayland Estates Charity
will take place on Wednesday 5 February 2025
in the Town Hall committee room, commencing at 7pm

This meeting is an 'open' meeting and the residents of Cricklade and the Parish thereof are all welcome to join the proceedings.

The agenda will be published in advance on Facebook and on the notice boards in the town.



Jenner Hall

The Jenner Hall is a popular place for family events and smaller wedding receptions. The Hall is attractive to all age groups. If you would like to know more about the Hall or check booking availability, please visit our website - crickladejennerhall.com. To book the Jenner Hall for a party or celebration, or your Craft Session, Fair, Table Top Sale, Quiz Night or even Dance/Exercise class, please contact our booking email address at jennerhall.bookings@gmail.com or call on 07823 324 821.

Our smaller annexe hall may be suitable for your Talk or Club Meetings etc.



Cricklade Town Hall

The Town Hall offers flexible space with tables, padded chairs, excellent kitchen facilities and free WiFi. There is a choice of the Main Hall, Annexe and Committee Room. Please contact our Bookings Secretary, Mrs Nicola Fry on 01666 861023 (before 9pm please) or via email at crickladetownhall@hotmail.com for further details, or Facebook for photos and other information: www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall



Cricklade Town Council

Town Council Meetings

Monday 27 January Community & Leisure Committee

Monday 10 February Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

Monday 3 March Full Town Council



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.

ADVANCE NOTICE – ELECTIONS IN 2025 - COUNCILLORS REQUIRED

There will be elections for the Town Council on Thursday 1 May 2025 - they take place every four years. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in standing for election then why not come along to a council meeting to see what it's all about. Alternatively, please feel free to give us a call, send an email or pop into the office with any questions you may have.

There are 15 seats around the council table and we want to make sure that they are all filled!

Christmas Lights Competition

The Council would like to thank residents who lit up Cricklade over the festive period, and congratulate the winners of the Christmas Lights competition.

Best lights

Winner: 11 Reeds

Highly commended: 40 Cherry Tree Road,
67 Pittsfield

Best decorated house

Winner 124 White Horse Road

Highly commended: 128 White Horse Rd,
6 Thames Lane

Best residential window

Winner: 93 High Street

Highly commended: 92 High Street

Best commercial window

Winner: Animal Fayre

Highly commended: Cricklade Hardware

Many thanks to the Christmas Lights Committee for organising a great evening on 30 November for all residents to enjoy.

Dates for your Diary

Annual Town Meeting: Tuesday 18 March 2025.

The winners of the Community awards will receive their certificates amongst other items on the agenda.

Annual Town Litter Pick: Saturday 22 March 2025. Where the community comes together to give the town a spring clean.

Cricklade Councillor Elections: Thursday 1 May 2025.

Come and help in Cricklade's democratic process.

Civic Awards

If you haven't already made your nominations for Young Person of the year, Cricklade Community Award and Community Group of the year, please remember that we need your forms by 21 February 2025. Details and forms are available on the website and from the Town Council Offices.

Event Calendar 2025

For those who use the Town Council Website to check events please be aware we can only publish items we have been informed of. For those of you planning an event, please email us your event or meeting details and/or poster to admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk and the website will be updated with your information.

For those running clubs, societies, welfare groups etc, please let us know of any personnel changes so that we can keep the website up to date.

Tourist Information Point

The tourist information point at the Council Offices, offers a range of items for sale, now including jute shopping bags and is still offering a colour/black and white photocopying service, along with our recycling points for stamps, ink cartridges, old mobile phones (please factory reset before handing them in), batteries, energy saving light bulbs and medical tablet blister packs (empty and squashed please).

Neighbourhood Plan Review Preliminary Consultation Summary

Cricklade Town Council is in the process of reviewing our Neighbourhood Plan. The current plan runs to 2026 and the review will extend it to 2038. Thank you to those that contributed to the Preliminary Public Consultation that took place in the summer of 2024. A Consultation Report has been produced setting out the background, the display material (including the questionnaire), and a commentary on the public responses. The full word-for-word responses are in the appendices. These documents are available to read on the CTC website or on paper copy in our office. The next step is for a Draft Plan to be prepared which will be subject to public consultation in 2025.

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)

Closed Public Holidays

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

Website: www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk



Follow the Council @ www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil

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		

Wiltshire Perspective

On 9 January, Wiltshire Council held an extraordinary meeting to look at the Government's devolution plans. As I write it's not clear either what the agenda is or what the most likely outcome is, hopefully I can give an update in the next issue.

My current understanding of the proposal is for Wiltshire, Somerset and Dorset to have a new Heart of Wessex Mayor. There are many things I'm not sure about this, including scope, purpose, outputs and perhaps most importantly budget to achieve those outputs and where that's going to come from. Another layer of administration for its own sake is perhaps the worst option, but I've got an open mind until more information is available.

One implication may be that if we reorganise the council then it would mean the elections currently planned for 1 May could be delayed, but currently a delay has been ruled out.

The second impact that central Government is having on Wiltshire is planning. Their stated intention is to build 1.5 million new homes in England. In the words of one of my favourite podcasts (BBC's *More or Less*) 'Is that a big number?' Of itself, yes, but that's over a five-year parliament, so that's 300,000 every year. The latest annual figures showed 234,500 new homes built, and almost 1.2m new homes over the last five years. Meaning around a 27% increase in new homes nationally.

This doesn't take into account that, according to the Local Government Association, there are already one million homes in England with planning permission that have yet to be started.

Some development is sorely needed, for example, in Latton, where I, with residents, argued for six new houses, which would include a new village hall and tennis courts for the community.

And in Cricklade, I hear on the doorsteps that building a few more houses in order to get commercial traffic off the High Street is a price many residents would welcome.

The upshot is that Wiltshire Council's current approach to planning isn't very sympathetic to many of the impacted local neighbourhoods. I can only represent your views if you let me know what you think; then I can better bang the drum for our communities.

We should be hearing soon about the Stones Farm development. I feel the best we could do as a community was done – being able to play my part in that was great, helping to argue our corner for team Cricklade.

Lastly, in February we start to see flowers emerge and getting to see a bit more daylight. My hope is that we will soon be starting to plan for specific improvements locally and Wiltshire Council wants to promote more 'active travel' (walking and cycling). A cycling holiday in Holland (which used to have the worst traffic in Europe) was a joy, and something I hope we could work towards.

Many thanks for all the help you give me to fight our collective corner of Wiltshire. It's a privilege to try to help people, and if you think I could be helping you, please do get in touch and I'll see what I can do.

Nick Dye, councillor for Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey

Nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk or 752501

Roz Savage MP

Roz Savage, MP for the South Cotswolds, is holding regular constituency surgeries to support residents with their concerns. Following parliamentary advice, these surgeries are now by appointment only.

Where possible, appointments will be held virtually. However, Roz is also hosting less frequent in-person surgeries at various locations across the constituency to ensure accessibility for all residents.

To book an appointment, please email roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk or call her office on 01285 300555. If you have specific accessibility needs, please let the team know when booking.



Latton 100 Club

The 100 Club draw for December 2024 has taken place and the winners are:

1st Prize	£100	Barbara Hurst	3rd Prize	£20	Mike Dearsley
2nd Prize	£29	Charmaine Davies	4th Prize	£8.50	Laura Cove

Congratulations! The next draw will take place at the end of March.

I wanted to thank you all for your support for the club which goes towards the upkeep of the fabric of St John the Baptist Church, Latton.

With the money raised we were able to help towards essential work to the stairs and removal of guano which had built up within the tower, both which were deemed hazardous. Steel mesh was applied to the windows to stop the birds flying in and nesting and the broken wooden ladders were replaced with steel ones. We are now able to get to the roof of the tower!

Last year we had 105 memberships and we are always happy to have new people involved! Remember you can have as many subscriptions as you want at £12 each (which obviously increases your chances of winning!) Half of the money goes into the prizes and the other half goes into the church upkeep fund.

As we are already into the new year, membership renewals are now due. Thank you to those that have already paid.

A reminder of the club's banking details:

Bank: HSBC	Account name: St John the Baptist Club 100
Sort code: 40-17-25	Acc No.: 51398091

Alternatively, you may send a cheque made payable to "St John the Baptist Club 100" to Daisyfield Cottage, 38 Upcott, Latton SN6 6DS.

If you wish to join or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email: Latton100club@gmail.com.

I would like to thank you again for your support and wish you all the very best for 2025.

Nicki Crabtree, Club Secretary

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities



Blood Pressure Machine for Cricklade Waiting Room

We are pleased to tell you that the PPG recently purchased a new blood pressure machine for Cricklade Green Gable Surgery waiting room, giving patients the same benefit as those attending Purton Surgery.

A Message from Kai Howard, Practice Manager

Thank you to all the patients who kindly bought GreenSteam's CD, from reception, in the run up to Christmas.

Some of you will remember GreenSteam from the 60s/70s. In their heyday they supported bands such as Status Quo and Slade and were well known on the local and Swindon gig circuits

All proceeds from their recent gig and the £40 from the sales of their CDs at the surgery have been handed over to Prospect.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM is planned for Thursday 6 March at 6.30pm in Purton Surgery. If you, as a patient of the Practice, plan to attend please contact Reception to register your attendance by Thursday 6 February.

200 Club: The January draw was made by Receptionist Dawn Watling. The lucky £100 winner was Val Humphries, £15 winner was Alan Robertson. 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.

If you would like to join the 200 Club then the best way is to set up a Standing Order for £15 to be taken annually on 1 September each year. Forms for this are available at both Purton and Green Gable surgeries. There are two prizes each month of £100 and £15.



Table Top in Purton Surgery

Thank you to all who support the Table Top in Purton Surgery Waiting Room, those who contribute items and to those who buy. We do not need any more donations at the moment. If you would like to purchase any items then please hand your money in to Reception.

Don't forget there are also books for sale at 50p each, please put money in the tin or hand into Reception.

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



Lent Talks

Churches Together in Cricklade, Latton, Ashton Keynes and The Leigh

We hear from 6 prominent people, each with a different and challenging story as they talk openly and honestly about their life, work and faith and how that faith impacts their lives.

If you are looking for some inspiration or are seeking answers to many questions about what is happening in our world and in our lives, then come along to this, our sixth series of talks during the period of Lent. Meet and listen to some inspirational and thought-provoking people.

All meetings will be held in St Sampson's Church, Bath Road, Cricklade, SN6 6AT

... and will start promptly at 7.30pm. Please arrive in plenty of time to be seated. Some will have merchandise for sale, so please come prepared if you want to purchase. There will be drinks following the talks and a chance to speak with the guest speaker. There is no charge for these events but there will be an opportunity to contribute towards the cost if you so wish.

Each evening is ticketed (free of charge) and these can be obtained from Graham Light by calling 07733 305 519 or by email grahamdlight77@gmail.com.

If you want tickets posted you will be asked to provide a stamped addressed envelope.



Thursday 6 March (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Stef Jones is a lifelong ad man who ran his own agency for 20 years. Voluntary work in HMP Brixton led him to the realisation that he had a passion for prisons and specifically, helping keep people out of them. Stef set up Onwards & Upwards in 2021 with Rob Love and together they created the first of their planned ventures, XO Bikes in May, 2022. Their mission is as follows:

We want to free ex-offenders from the cycle of reoffending by creating jobs that change lives for good. Our aim is to bring employment rates up and reoffending rates down. By creating trusted brands and small, beautiful and loud businesses, we mean to prove that employing ex-offenders makes business sense, so shifting attitudes towards employing them. Not every offence should lead to a life sentence.

www.onwardsandupwards.uk and <https://xobikes.com>

Tuesday 11 March (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Ram Gidoomal CBE is Chair of South Asian Concern and SHEIN External Advisory SRG Board. He is a Board Member of movement.org (formerly New York City Leadership Centre co-founded by Tim Keller and Mac Pier) and the Whole Word Institute which trains Bible translators in Biblical Hebrew, based in Israel.



He is a Trustee of the Word & Worship Trust and co-produced the albums Songs of the Kingdom and Asia Worship, both with Kingsway. He is Honorary Vice President of The Leprosy Mission England and Wales and Honorary Member of the Faculty of Divinity Cambridge University.



Tuesday 18 March (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Minister Shermara Fletcher-Hoyte is a millennial figure in Ecumenical, Pentecostal, and Charismatic relations. She serves as the Principal Officer at Churches Together in England and also has responsibility for racial justice and young adult ecumenical engagement. A dedicated minister and international speaker, Shermara is committed to fostering holistic and flourishing lives. Her leadership was notably highlighted when she read before a global audience of 4.1 billion at Queen Elizabeth II's funeral on 19 September 2022. Shermara's expertise and passion has earned her spots on platforms like BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 4, BBC World News, Talk TV, The God Channel, TBN, UBC Radio, and Premier Radio. Her accolades include the MAB International 2022 Young Leader of the Year Award, the 2020 Exceptional Young Woman Award from The Wise Women Awards, and the 2019 Community Recognized Project Award by the Queen's Lord Lieutenant, highlighting her significant impact within the community and homelessness sector.

Wednesday 19 March (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Stuart Burgess is Professor of Engineering Design at Bristol University and an adjunct professor at Liberty University, USA. He has led the design of the chain drive for the British Olympic Cycling Team for the last three Olympics and exhibited this work at the Royal Society. He has received many academic awards including: (i) the IMechE Clayton Prize 2019 (the top mechanical engineering prize in the UK); (ii) the Turner's Gold Medal for spacecraft design; (iii) a Design Council Prize presented by the UK Minister of State for Trade and Industry; and (iv) the Wessex Scientific Medal for work on biomimetics. see <https://profstuartburgess.com>.



Thursday 10 April (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Rt Hon John Glen MP has been the Member of Parliament for Salisbury since 2010 and was elected to serve on the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee in October 2024 having been the Shadow Paymaster General for 4 months since the July 2024 General Election. John served in the cabinet of Rishi Sunak's administration as both Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster General in the Cabinet Office, during which time he delivered the compensation scheme for the Infected Blood Scandal. Prior to these cabinet roles he spent a record tenure of four and a half years as Economic Secretary (City Minister) in HMT and was briefly Arts Minister and a Parliamentary Private Secretary to three cabinet Ministers including Lord Hammond when he was Chancellor. John was a strategy consultant at Accenture from 1997-2010. He was also a JP in Westminster for 6 years. John grew up in North Wiltshire and attended King Edward's School, Bath before reading Modern History at Mansfield College, Oxford (1993-1996) where he was JCR President. John studied for an MBA at Fitzwilliam College Cambridge in 2002-3. In 2014/15 John completed an MA in International Security and Strategy at King's College London whilst participating in the Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS) Course for senior military leaders and civil servants.

Continues over ...



Friday 11 April (7.30pm at St Sampson's Church)

Lisa Potts first came to prominence when, as a nursery nurse in Wolverhampton, she protected her pupils from a machete-wielding attacker. Through her bravery she has won 19 awards including the highest civilian award the George Medal. Lisa, talks about how God carried her through her difficult and terrifying experience, the subsequent rehabilitation through her terrible injuries and how she came to terms with her new found fame.

NOTE: *This talk is not suitable for those under the age of 13.*

Cricklade Open Door

We reopened after the Christmas break on Monday 6 January and were very happy to get going again with all our regular activities, lunches, special events and to once again spend time with friends and fellow members.

We were very fortunate again, last year, to have had the support of so many Cricklade residents, businesses and organisations.

St Mary's Catholic Church chose Open Door to receive the money raised at their Christmas Concert and Raffle and we received the magnificent sum of £1400 - a marvellous donation following a marvellous concert. BIG thanks!

Again this year, the Westmill Residents' Association still managed to support us at Christmas with their raffle, even though the evening had to be cancelled because of the bad weather.

We have also received several generous, financial gifts from supporters of Open Door, all of which will ensure that we can continue running in the future.

Gifts of raffle prizes, Christmas plants given to several of our members from 'Friends of Cricklade Elderly', our Christmas Tree for the Tree Festival sponsored by C & R Grocers and boxes of mince pies delivered to many of our members from Cricklade Manor Prep school and many other 'ad hoc' gifts are ALL very much appreciated. Thank you all, very much.

The weeks and months roll on: do keep an eye out for our posters around the town, which advertise our weekly and special events. Becky and Lucy, violinists, are returning on Monday 24 February to share their very varied programme with us. We enjoyed them so much last October and they seemed to enjoy both Cricklade and Open Door so that they are coming back to entertain us and start the week off with a swing.

A members' lunch has been booked at Jigsaw Thai Restaurant on Friday 21 February. That makes two special events to brighten up what is usually a cold and damp month!

All our usual activities – Knitting, Crochet Group, Seated Exercises and Bingo – will continue and our Tuesday afternoon programme of games, quizzes etc. Or if you fancy a coffee and a chat, or just want to check us out - call in in the mornings and you will find a warm welcome, in a lovely warm hall.

Cricklade Open Door, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10.00 - 3.30
at The Jenner Hall, Bath Road. Telephone 07599 987851



St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future



We look forward to these exciting events in 2025, helping to raise funds for our church appeal project. Proceeds from these events will help us to continue with the project to make St Sampson's Church a warm, light and flexible space for the community of Cricklade.

Kavali Curry Evening: 24 February at 7pm

Tickets £25 per head from:

Sharon on 01793 751 375

Helen on 07976 546 825 or helendixonmail@gmail.com

The ticket price includes Quiz, Raffle & Games. Drinks extra

Grammy nominated American singer/songwriter Kim Richey

live in concert at St Sampson's Church 1 March at 7.30pm

Tickets £15 available from www.theoldstables.yapsody.com

Quiz at St Sampson's School 29 March

The Wessex

This much acclaimed Male Choir will be in concert

with guests the Cirencester Male Voice Choir

at St Sampson's on 26 April helping to raise funds for the Church Appeal.

Ticketing information will be available in the March issue of *The Chronicle*.

These concerts are usually sell-outs, so put the date in your diary now! ... Better still, buy your tickets as soon as they come available!

Cricklade Festival: 6 June – Church Tower tours

St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winner of the December 2024 draw was Val Atfield 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

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

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



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.

Churches Together

Services for the Upper Thames Churches

2 February Presentation in the Temple

- 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
- 10am Morning Worship *at St John the Baptist, Latton*
- 6.30pm Evensong *at St Sampson's*

9 February 5 after Epiphany

- 10am Upper Thames Worship Together Communion *at St Sampson's*
- 3.30pm AK Messy Church: *venue to be confirmed*

16 February Septuagesima: 3 before Lent

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

23 February Sexagesima: 2 before Lent

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

Thursday morning prayers in St Sampson's:

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

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches

Baptisms

- 17 November Oscar John James Stewart *at St Sampson's Cricklade*
- 8 December Edith Elizabeth Holman *at Leigh All Saint's*

Funerals

- 2 November Graham John Clarke; *interment of ashes Holy Cross church*
- 9 November Stephen Brown; *interment of ashes at Leigh All Saint's*
- 15 November Sheila Sampson; *service and burial Holy Cross church*
- 28 November John Clifford Bowron; *interment of ashes at Holy Cross church AK*
- 17 December Doreen Margery Golding; *service at Holy Cross church, burial at All Hallows church South Cerney*
- 19 December Ruth Megan Baker; *service at St Sampson's, burial Cricklade cemetery*
- 23 December Elspeth Addy Walker; *service in St Sampson's; private cremation*

er in Cricklade & Latton

The Upper Thames Benefice

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

Contact details:

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

Associate Vicar: Revd Shirley Danby

email: shirleydanby21@gmail.com; tel. 07980 548844

Parishes Administrator: Jane Eyles

email: admin@upperthames.org.uk tel: 01793 979304

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Weekly Mass times 9.30am on Sundays
10.00am on Fridays

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

Parish website www.stthomasparishfairford.org.uk.

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.crickladedestmary.org.uk

Cricklade United Church

Calcutt Street, Cricklade

Minister: Revd Sarah Simpson, tel. 01666 826866

Email: sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com

As a United Reformed / Methodist Church, we are part of the URC North West Wiltshire Pastorate and the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit. Please have a look at our website for all the current information regarding our services, dates, times and other events. crickladeunitedchurch.co.uk

Sunday morning services during February

2 Feb	Mike Dearsley	16 Feb	Rev Sarah Simpson
9 Feb	Rev Sarah Simpson	23 Feb	Martin Osman

Bounce and Rhyme

We are a group for parents, grandparents and carers with babies and/or young children. We meet every fortnight - on Tuesdays 1.45pm to 3.00pm for nursery rhymes, a story book, tea/coffee refreshments and a chat. Venue - the United Church Hall in Calcutt Street. Next Meeting: 4 February
There is no charge - we are delighted to welcome you.

St Sampson's Church Christmas Tree Festival

We would like to thank all those who attended the Christmas Tree Festival at St Sampson's Church in December. We hope you enjoyed the stunning trees so beautifully decorated by businesses and local community groups. Many thanks to all those who made such a big effort decorating their magnificent trees.

Thanks to Chelworth Nursery for delivering all the trees, to the Leisure Centre for all the laminating and CB Slade Estate Agents for printing all our posters.

We would like to give special thanks to the Cricklade Band for playing at the event and St Sampson's Church Choir for their wonderful singing.

Huge thanks go to Kavali for sponsoring the live Nativity and the following businesses and groups for sponsoring a tree or making a donation:
CB Slade Estate Agents • Cricklade Art Group • Donna Barbers • Cricklade Dental Practice • Cricklade Leisure Centre • Get Smart Energy Services Ltd • Cricklade Town Council • Hillis & Porter Financial Planning • Meadow Bridge School • Cricklade Foodbank volunteers • The Body Clinic Beauty Salon • The Red Lion • Cricklade Hotel • Armstrong Autos • Animal Fayre • One Home & Gifts • Bayfield Opticians • Cricklade Stores • Bath Road Vehicle Services Ltd • McFarlane Estate Agents • Michael Hart & Son Butchers • Scissors Hairdressers • SPRUCE • Boots (Cricklade Branch) • Cricklade Things • Chutneys Indian Cricklade • Court Leet • A.K. Electrical • C & R Family Grocers • James Butchers • McBrides Diner • Jigsaw Thai Restaurant • Harbour Fish & Chip Shop • PC Doctor Dan • Purton Vets.

Many thanks. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

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

In the recent Monthly Draws, the lucky winners were :-



28 November Draw

First Prize: Jan Aylward £35.70
Second Prize: Sally Dye £23.80
Jenner Hall Funds: £59.50

19 December Draw

Christine Keep £36.00
Phillipa Knight £24.00
£60.00

The Save It Club raised £712.00 in 2024 - these funds will go towards the up-keep of the Jenner Hall. Thank you for your 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 Band

Happy New Year Everyone! If I hadn't had a few days off between Christmas and New Year, I wouldn't have missed the copy deadline – there will be a fuller report in the next issue!

Regardless – everyone in Cricklade's band is so grateful for all the festive support, keeping us playing in our Cricklade community – a huge thank-you!

Paul and the band



Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden



Dispel those winter blues ... get out for a good walk and visit Cricklade's Millennium Woods where there is a good display of snowdrops. Bloomers have planted hundreds of snowdrops in the previous two years and they will be beginning to spread and provide essential pollen and nectar for insects over winter. Wear your wellies as it could be very muddy by the bridge. Please keep to the paths and keep those dogs on a lead so as not to destroy the display.

There are pots of crocus are for sale on the cart outside the walled garden to brighten your home and look forward to spring.

Cricklade Parkinson's Café

We have now been meeting at The Cricklade Hotel and Spa since September 2024 and they have proved to be fantastic hosts for our gatherings on the third Wednesday of each month.

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

At our December café their staff had laid things out beautifully and with a lovely festive vibe. A lovely surprise on that day was to receive a donation from The Cricklade Pétanque Cub and this was really appreciated - thank you.

I'd also like to thank Cricklade Town Council for supporting us throughout the years by helping us to spread the word of our café by means of social media. Likewise, we are grateful to Rick and *The Chronicle* for their unwavering support for the café by including our details in every publication.

Our café attracts visitors from far and wide and we look forward to seeing them again in 2025.

Thank you all.

Vincent and the PUK Cricklade café Volunteers Team

Sing Four Four Community Choir



Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Concert in St Mary's Church, Purton on 1 December. We were delighted to see a 'full house' and hope everyone enjoyed our varied repertoire.

After a well-deserved break at Christmas, the choir reconvened at the beginning of January in the United Church, Calcutt Street to begin rehearsals for the summer concert on 6 July in St Sampson's Church. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings between 7.30-9.30pm during term time. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome.

The choir was saddened to hear of the death of our Founder and Patron, Mary New. Her commitment and enthusiasm helped the choir to grow in both competence and confidence. The fact that the choir is still going strong under a new musical director is a great tribute to Mary. She has left us a wonderful legacy. The choir had the privilege of singing at Mary's funeral.

Thank You, Just a Couple of Escorts Needed Now

Open Door started 2024 short of volunteer drivers for our minibus which carries Cricklade VIPs (the Open Door members) to and from Jenner Hall every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. We ended the year with a full complement of drivers and that side of the transport system working well.



For 2025 we could now do with two more volunteer escorts to travel on the minibus with our VIPs and help them to and from their front doors and up into the minibus.

If you can give some of your time, please come and join the happy minibus team as an escort in 2025. To get going just email Adina Grace at jandagrace447@outlook.com and your help will be much appreciated!

Cricklade Foodbank

Open every Friday 10am to 11.30am in the Jenner Hall, Bath Road



We don't cover Cricklade exclusively!

If you live in North Wiltshire (North of the M4) and need help from our foodbank there are a few simple steps to follow.

✦ The most important step is to get in touch ✦

We know it can be difficult to take that first step, but please know that you will reach a friendly voice, who'll treat you with dignity & respect and in the strictest of confidence, always.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

Call 01666 826982 (leave a message and we will call you back)

Email info@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

When you get in touch, we will chat with you about your situation and work out a plan as to how we can help.

This help may involve us suggesting you speak with a relevant local agency who can help with your particular circumstances and issue you a food voucher.

Other times, it may be that we issue you a foodbank voucher straight away, so you can access food immediately.

For more information, including details on of our Foodbank Centre opening times and locations in Malmesbury & Cricklade, please use this link

<https://malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/>

#FoodBank #LocalFoodBank #MalmesburyFoodBank #CrickladeFoodBank
#MalmesburyAndDistrictFoodBank #SupportLocal #HelpingCommunity
#MalmesburyLife #CrickladeLife #HungerFreeFuture #EndFoodPoverty
#FeedYourCommunity #Malmesbury #Cricklade #Purton #PurtonLife

Thank you to everyone who so generously responded to our appeal for Christmas items. We were able to include a number of festive items for all the clients who visited us during December.

Some More Link Drivers Still Needed Please

Cricklade Link, for those of you who do not already know, provides essential transport services for Cricklade and Latton. Here is a summary of the volunteer trips we made in 2023:



382 trips covering 7565 miles and involving 1022 volunteer hours helping residents in our community getting to and from appointments across our local area as well as many non-medical trips.

We still need more drivers as we have had to turn down some requested jobs in 2024 because we had no volunteers available.

If you can give some of your time driving for us, with your mileage expenses paid, it should enable us to provide for needs of people locally.

To be part of helping Cricklade and Latton people, contact me, Jonathan Taylor, at jonathan1m@hotmail.com and I will get your joining process going. Thank you.

PADS Pantomime 2025

Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs

By Bob Heather & Cheryl Barrett

Annual Pantomime 2025

Performed by

Purton Amateur Dramatic Society

*Thursday 6 February, 7.30pm

Friday 7 February, 7.30pm

Saturday 8 February (Matinée), 2.30pm

Saturday 8 February 7.30pm

Purton Village Hall (SN5 4AJ)

Tickets available to purchase from:

Flawless Floors and Co-op, Purton

Or by contacting: 07495 362 968



*Thursday night only-

One carer can attend for free (must still book a ticket)

Cricklade & District Probus Club

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



6 February "Hailes Abbey and the Mystery of the Holy Blood"

20 February "Defence of the Draft - A Gloster Boy abroad"

The meetings normally take place fortnightly, on a Thursday morning at 10am for a 10.20 start, 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.

Is your Wardrobe Ready for Spring?

Everyone has a right to well-fitting clothing, and as winter fades away, you may be thinking of changes to reflect warmer weather, and ensure your clothes for the coming seasons still work for you. If you struggle with zips and buttons or find that off-the-peg clothing doesn't cater for your body, that can be a challenge.

Dressability
Tailored to fit your needs

Contact us at DRESSABILITY! We offer bespoke clothing adaptations and alterations for the over 65s, children and adults with disabilities, those with dexterity issues and other specific needs ... allowing you to maintain your independence and keep ready for whatever season.

As a charity, our funding allows us to alter and adapt clothing at a subsidised and affordable cost.

Contact one of our dressmakers today.

Call: 01793 512878 or Email: mail@dressability.org.uk Web: dressability.org.uk

Visit us: Bradbury House, Westmead Drive, Swindon, SN5 7ER

Reg. Charity 1102083

Cricklade Historical Society

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 19 February Town Hall Annexe at 7.30pm

Would you like to join the Cricklade Historical Society?

By doing so you will be supporting us in the running and maintenance of the town's Museum. Annual membership is only £20 (Single) or £30 (Joint). Membership entitles you to free entry to all our regular talks (non members £5), unless otherwise stated, to Newsletters and a free copy of our annual publication, the CHS Bulletin (non members £3.60) which contains articles and photographs on our local history.

You can download a Membership application form from our website www.cricklademuseum.co.uk or contact Paul on 07585 420027.

Cricklade W.I.

As in previous years, our January meeting kicked off the New Year with a party. Members were pleased to catch up with each other and exchange news from the Christmas holidays. Thank you to the Committee for providing the drinks, nibbles and serving the refreshments.



At our February meeting we will hear all about The Dog's Trust and its wonderful work in rehabilitating and rehoming dogs in need and giving help and support for dog owners and professionals. Lucy Maynard will talk about the history of the charity and stories of its incumbents.

If you are interested in this talk or any other talks we have throughout the year then pop in to one of our meetings. We meet at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of each month in the Town Hall Annexe; all we ask is a £5 donation towards refreshments. Details of our speakers or activities will be in *The Chronicle* each month or check us out on Facebook or see one of our posters around the Town. If you would like to talk to someone about our WI you can contact our Secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or at vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com. You can also chat to members and non-members at our Coffee and Chat at 11am on the first Tuesday of each month in the White Hart - just come along.

Scouting in Cricklade: 50 years moving!

Cricklade has been part of the Scouting movement for over 50 years, something to celebrate! This has been enabled by many volunteers over the decades, all helping to give the young people of Cricklade and surrounding areas skills for life. In addition to adventurous experiences, these skills include teamwork, leadership and a sense of wanting to make a positive contribution to society. With community events such as the Duck Race, Race Nights, Christmas Post and Remembrance Day, Scouting in Cricklade has become a part of local society.



All of the volunteers, past and present, give varying amounts of time, have differing skills, and learn from and thoroughly enjoy their scouting experiences. You are never too old or too busy to enjoy a night under the stars or a fresh baked pizza from an open fire!

At present, there are various spaces in the volunteer roles at Cricklade Scout Group. Whether helping to deliver the activities, organise fundraising or contribute to the running of the Group, your existing skills and knowledge will be valuable to the Group. The only commitment is reliability, as the frequency, quantity and availability is up to you! Scouting has a very flexible approach to volunteering. It really can fit around your busy work, home and social lives and gives a great alternative way to relax.

We'd really like to hear from you with any offers of help, ideas and suggestions - please reach out to us for a chat via email contact@2ndcrickladescouts.org.uk or Facebook www.facebook.com/2ndcrickladescoutgroup or speak to a volunteer ... you may well know one!

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Cricklade Leisure Centre

Welcome to everyone who visited Cricklade Leisure Centre in January. Whether you tried out a fitness class at our Open Evening or joined us as a member, well done for making a commitment to your health and fitness in 2025.



If you have any questions about membership, our classes or timetables please ask one of one of our friendly team. We are always happy to help.

News Update:

We've recently launched a NEW fitness class timetable for the New Year. You can find details on our website or pop into the Centre to pick up a copy from reception. If you are a GOLD member, all CLC fitness classes are included as part of your membership package. SILVER and BRONZE members pay a discounted price. Non-members welcome. Advance booking required.

Coming Soon:

February Half Term Intensive swimming lessons

Date: Monday 17 to Friday 21 February Price: £35 per child

Stages: 1 and 2 Time: Stage 1 at 11-11.30 and Stage 2 at 11.30-12 noon

Children must be of school age.

Please call us on 01793 750011 or pop into reception to book. Payment will be required at time of booking.

Sunday 2 February – Boxing tournament

Sunday 6 April - Cricklade Half Marathon, 10k and Fun Run

Lace up those running shoes because this amazing event is planned for 6 April. Full details including start times and how to register will be on our website.

As well as runners we also need marshals and other volunteers. Can you help? Please contact us and let us know if you can spare a few hours.

Thank you.

For all the latest news:

Follow us on Facebook

Visit www.crickladeleisure.com

Email admin@crickladeleisure.co.uk

Call us on 01793 750011

Or just pop in. We'd love to see you.

Cricklade Computer Club

Every Monday morning we will be available from 10am to 12 noon in the Leisure Centre cafe. We try to help anyone with problems with computers, tablets, phones etc. We are volunteers and there is no charge for any help we are able to give you.

Even if you have no particular problems you could always pop in for a coffee, a cake and just a general chat!

Roger Heafield

Atlantic Rocketman – The World's Toughest Row '24

My name is Andrew Major. I grew up in Cricklade in the 70s and 80s attending St Sampson's Primary & Junior school, and my mother still lives in Cricklade.

On 11 December, I started an epic journey rowing solo 3,000 nautical miles across the Atlantic Ocean from La Gomera in the Canary Islands to Nelson's Dockyard, in Antigua & Barbuda in an ocean rowing boat just 7 metres long in an annual race called The World's Toughest Row.



The Atlantic Ocean is the second largest of the world's five oceans and covers 17% of the earth's surface with an average depth of 2,646 metres. I envisage it will take me 50-80 days to row across. More people have reached the summit of Everest or travelled into space than have successfully rowed an ocean.

Everyone who has embarked upon this epic voyage prior has chosen a charitable cause to champion. I am honoured and proud to be supporting the Elton John AIDS Foundation which provides meaningful and tangible support for LGBTQ+ communities. Together let's end LGBTQ+ stigma

My Ocean Rowing Boat is "Jazzy" and looks like a piece of art with the Pride ribbon wrapped around it. I will take everything I need to survive for a crossing lasting 60-90 days at sea including all my own food and water maker.

I will face 40 foot high waves, the relentless sun beating down on me and salt sores.

Follow My Journey ... you can!

Each rowing boat taking part in the race will have a small device attached to it called a Yellow Brick Tracker. You can see my progress each day by downloading the free *Yellow Brick YB Races App* onto your phone or device.

Open the Race App and tap on the grey bar at the top called 'Add Races' – click here and add races to your feed. Search for the World's Toughest Row – Atlantic 2024 and click on this icon to access the map and leaderboard.

[I've downloaded the app, and it shows Andrew's Atlantic Rocketman with an estimated finish date of 22 February 2025. Ed.]

Become One of the Crew

Many family, friends & business acquaintances have asked how can they support me.

If Cricklade residents would like to donate to my cause, then they can either use their phone's camera to scan the QR code (right) which will take them directly to my GoFundMe page.



Alternatively, please visit www.atlanticrocketman.com website where you are one click away from donating.

I will row with pride as we collectively work towards a brighter, more inclusive future.

Andrew Major www.atlanticrocketman.com mob 07766 202 282



The Club is keen to recruit new players. Come and join us and have some fun; Adults, Juniors and Minis! RUGBY – the sport that builds strength, teamwork and resilience.

Adult 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 along and support your local team. Coming matches are:

1 Feb Swindon College Old Boys (Home), 15 Feb Swindon IIs (Away)

1 Mar Royal Wootton Bassett IV (Away).

Results: the last match in November we lost to Supermarine 0 - 57, in December we won against Royal Wootton Bassett 57 - 5 and lost against Swindon II 10 - 26.

Is your son in Year 10? Then contact Seth and he can come along and join the new Under 15s.

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. Training is held at our Fairview Fields ground and new players from age 6 are always welcome (no experience necessary and the first 4 sessions are free):

Juniors **Under 11s:** Fridays 5.30–6.45pm. **Under 12s:** Fridays 6–7.15pm.

Under 16s (MC Quins joint with Minety) Fridays 7-8.15pm at Cricklade / Tues at Minety.

Minis **Under 6s** through to Under 9s, Saturdays 11-12noon.

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.

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

Do you fancy trying a new sport this New Year? Why not try pétanque? It's the same as French boules and is very easy to pick up.

Saxons Pétanque Club play on the gravel pistes just in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and 10am on Saturday mornings and our newly qualified coaches plan to start coaching sessions in the spring.

On the social side, several of us enjoyed our late Christmas meal at The White Hart in Cricklade, in January, and we will be organising another skittles evening there soon.

Our AGM was on Tuesday 21 January at Cricklade Leisure Centre. We will let you know of any notices.

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.

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	Sat	10am - 12.30pm
Wed	2 - 4.30pm		



Coaching Sessions are:

Wed	10 - 11.30am (ladies)	Fri	10 - 11.30am (mixed)
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For more information please go to our website www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk

Find us on Facebook by searching Cricklade Petanque Club

Email: info@crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk

Cricklade Memory Café

After celebrating our first Christmas with an action packed party, delicious lunch at the White Hart and a successful raffle, we are now looking forward to our second year.



Our first AGM is being held at Cricklade Town Hall Annexe on Wednesday 12 February at 5pm, coffee/tea and biscuits will be available. We hope many of our members, supporters and members of the public will attend to hear about our achievements and our plans for the future.

As always new members are very welcome to join us on the first Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall Annex from 10.30 to 12.30 for coffee, cakes, friendship and fun in a safe welcoming environment. For more information, please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.

Cricklade Garden Club

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

There is no meeting in February so our next one is on **11 March** which is also our AGM.



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

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

Visitors 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!

Bingo4U

Come along on Wednesday afternoons at the Jenner Hall – anyone welcome.

£2.00 entry. Eyes down at 2pm

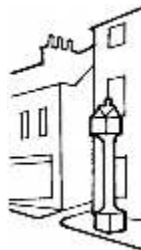
Contacts Chris 07500 871 680 or Liz 07780 473 024

The Chronicle Diary – February 2025

- 1 Sa *end of day* Chronicle copy deadline
- 3 M 10am *to 12 noon:* Computer Club at Leisure Centre
- 4 Tu 1.45pm *to 2.45pm:* Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street
7.30pm Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 5 W 10.30am *to 12.30pm:* Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe
7pm Waylands Estates Charity open meeting, Town Hall committee room
- 6 Th 10.20am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 10 M 7pm Planning, Conservation & Transport Committee, Council Chamber
- 12 W 5pm Memory Café AGM at Town Hall Annexe, all welcome
- 14 F Valentine's Day
- 17 M Wiltshire schools mid-term break (others may differ)
6.30pm Kavali Curry Evening for Defibrillator Support. Tickets see page 33
- 18 Tu 7.30pm Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
7.30pm Camera Club Zoom meeting
- 19 W 10.30am *to 12 noon:* Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Hotel & Spa
7.15pm *for 7.30pm start:* Historical Society AGM at Town Hall Annexe
- 20 Th 10.20am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
7.30pm Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe.
- 21 F 4pm Civic Awards nomination deadline at Council Office
- 24 M Wiltshire schools resume (others may differ)
7pm Kavali Curry Evening for St Sampson's Appeal (page 21)
- 25 Tu 8pm Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall. Tickets from Council Office

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 Bingo4U 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



Moon Phases

Feb 2025

5th 

12th 

20th 

28th 

The Final Word ...

In January some people like to review the past year with its good parts and the parts we didn't see coming or want. And some like to set themselves goals or resolutions for the year ahead.

Here in February, it is very early in our year, and I often find that it is a time of wondering for me.

I wonder how long my resolutions of healthy eating and doing more exercise will last. I wonder what new challenges and disappointments will occur during the year ahead. I wonder when I look back, what the high and low points of this year will have been.

We none of us know what lies in store for us in our future; a good thing I have always thought!

One thing I do not wonder about is how I will cope with all that will come my way.

In my life I put my trust in God and I know that he will be beside me every step of the way. He will give me the strength to face up to all the problems that life sends and share in my joys and my sadnesses. I am sometimes asked what my favourite Bible passage is and I have no hesitation in quoting Jeremiah 29 verse 11.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

With God, and his plans for me, how can I be afraid of what the new year ahead holds? I can confidently face my future with His grace and peace in my heart. A prayer that we sometimes use in our Thursday morning early morning prayers contains the sentence "Help us to leave yesterday and not to covet tomorrow but to accept the uniqueness of today"

It is called the present because it is a gift.

So I wish you all the gift of an exciting and happy 2025 and my hope for you is to put your trust in God and know his love for you throughout your life.

Suzi Tipper, Licensed Lay Minister (with Upper Thames Group of Churches)

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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.

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01793 790210



Email: ian@heritage-treecare.co.uk
www.heritage-treecare.co.uk