

THE CHRONICLE

♣ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 601

August 2025

Sunflower Lane
picture © Rick Dixon



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From the Editor

August is the height of the summer period, the schools are out and events in this issue are thin on the ground!

You might like to visit the Dino-Weekend at the Swindon & Cricklade railway, at Blunsdon station on Tadpole Lane. Details are on page 40 if you fancy a family outing.

The Historical Society are holding a guided walk around the railway, canal and turnpike connections in the town on 24 August. Their more long term project (open to all) is learning to translate and transcribe medieval Cricklade wills into modern English. Page 28 for both of these.

The United Church are looking for singers to engage in their Musical in a Day. It isn't until 4 October, but time will fly past! Have a look at page 21 if you might be interested.

A new meditation group is being proposed and you can find details and contact on page 39.

St Sampson's Church Appeal are hosting a curry evening at Kavali on Monday 11 August. See the details on pages 24 and 25 with contacts for how to buy tickets.

Once we return from our summer torpor, lots of groups will come back to action: the Camera Club, Cricklade Cinema, the Garden Club, the Rugby Club ...

And of course the schools go back on 1 September.

Over several past issues I've commemorated D-Day and V-E Day. I didn't feel I could leave V-J Day unmentioned, so I have indulged myself on page 26. This then is an end to it. The rest isn't history ... it's now.



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The deadline for the September 2025 issue is Friday 1 August 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	Boots Chemist (100 High St)	750226
Cricklade Town Council	751394	Dentist (104 High St)	750388
Latton P/Council ...	clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk	Gas leak reporting	0800 111 999
MP (South Cotswolds)	01285 300555	Library (113 High St)	750694
	roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk	Link Scheme transport	07421 018 499
Wiltshire Councillor	752501	Open Door	07599 987 851
Wiltshire Council hub	0300 456 0100	Optician (82 High St)	750415
Emergency Services	999	Purton Vets (Bath Rd)	751698
Non-Emergency: Police	101	Household Recycling Centre	778205
Non-Emergency: NHS	111	Samaritans	FREE: 116 123
Doctors: Purton Surgery	770207	Schools: St Sampson's Primary	750452
Green Gables Surgery	752633	Cricklade Manor Prep	750275
Cricklade (De Silva)	750645	Bradon Forest	770570

Cricklade Town Hall

Book your event at Cricklade Town Hall. Birthdays, anniversaries, wedding celebrations, children's parties, quiz nights, club meetings, etc. 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 07977 758 389 (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 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 'stone's 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

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

Richard Hickman, Chairman, Cricklade Jenner Hall Community Trust



Cricklade Town Council

Town Council Meetings

Monday 28 July Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee (PCT)

Monday 4 August Full Council (FTC)

Tuesday 26 August Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee (PCT)

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



Welcome

Cricklade Town Council would like to welcome Mr Charlie Fyffe as our newest Councillor. Charlie was co-opted at the Full Town Council meeting on Monday 23 June 2025 and this means Cricklade Town Council are once again operating at our full capacity of 15 Councillors.

Skateboard Activity Sessions

The Council is again funding a Free Skatepark Session for children of all ages hosted by ATB Shop on Wednesday 30 July and Wednesday 13 August at the Leisure Centre between 10am and 1pm. Skateboards and scooters will be provided but bring your own if you prefer. Parents welcome to join in too! This year funding has also been secured from the FUEL (Food unity, energy, laughter) team at Wiltshire Council; the programme is funded by the Department for Education so many thanks to ATB shop for helping to secure the funds so that more sessions are provided for our younger residents in the summer holidays.



Hedges

Can all homeowners please note that you are responsible for your hedges. Please can you ensure that footpaths are kept clear of overhanging trees and hedges, and that undergrowth is not allowed to encroach onto footpaths. We have had several instances of brambles and stinging nettles encroaching onto paths causing injury, and impassable footpaths in recent weeks.

Floral Displays

We would like to express our thanks to Cricklade Bloomers for their floral displays that decorate the length of the High Street and the four corners of the town. Let's not forget the Council's own Grounds Team, Matt, Michael, David and Adam for their hard work in keeping the hanging baskets and all these other displays watered. Cricklade looks lovely and everyone's hard work is greatly appreciated by all.

Wiltshire Council – How do you report Complaints?

The Town Council is often contacted by residents who have a complaint, many of these issues are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Council is responsible for: resolving issues with dead animals at the verge, with drains and manholes, dog mess, fly-posting, fly-tipping, footpaths, pavements and kerbs (including weeds), graffiti, oil and debris on the roads, overhanging bushes and trees, pedestrian crossings, potholes, public litter bins, roads (inc. closures and diversions), salt bins, street lighting, street litter and sweeping.

To report an issue to Wiltshire Council, log on to the MyWiltshire app and complete the online form at My Wiltshire (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting) QR Code right. If you do not have online access, telephone 0300 456 0100.



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: 25 August

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

Website: www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk



Follow the Council @ www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil

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.



Coffee Café

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



Wiltshire Perspective

Three topics this month

- Bedding into the role
- Flooding & Community Resilience
- County Finances

A change of administration in County Hall has several different paces, the newly elected people get new laptops and badges in a few minutes. The new leader got elected in a few weeks, the detailed lower roles soon followed. Last month I mentioned that flooding and water quality were a focus for me, as well as chairing the Area Board for this year. The skills and knowledge required to perform those roles takes a little longer.

I am gradually learning the dimensions of the role and how the various moving parts work together. The flood summit held in March was very timely and as a result of that we are meeting with stakeholders in a focused and prioritised way. Cricklade recently set up a resilience working group which, when I presented to officers and our colleagues in Gloucestershire, showed us to be significantly ahead of some other communities' plans. This is reassuring, but means the work we do is harder because we're doing the heavy lifting from which others can benefit.

The scope of my flooding role is for the whole of Wiltshire, which is a much larger place than I had appreciated! There are expectations that Wiltshire Council will sort out all manner of problems, especially at this time of year to prepare for another wet winter but County Hall's perspective and capacity may fall short of that, because it is every householder who has the primary responsibility to do what they can to defend their house against flooding.

Flooding is also a prime example where issues far beyond one's own home can impact you, and you might similarly impact others, often unknowingly, for example if you weren't aware of responsibilities when you bought the property, to clear ditches. It shows how we need to be mindful, considerate and adaptable depending on the circumstances of those around you.

The budget for funding flood schemes is changing, and being simplified, but there's no mention of there being more funding available unfortunately.

Wiltshire Council's current budget was set by the previous administration, which overran slightly, (but could have been better planned for), so as is the tradition of these things, the new administration blames the old one for the state of the finances. A not unreasonable defence being that they expected to retain control, but now someone else is sleeping in the bed of their making.

However, the change of administration will probably not cause a sea-change in the County's spending envelope. It's what we have collectively voted for over a number of years. So claiming that we should now cut the fat, for example the roles of equal opportunity employment managers is simply wrong, there aren't any. I don't believe there's

Continues over ...

anyone in receipt of your council tax money that isn't working at full capacity or more.

Many thanks again, especially to those who have reached out to me, I have a full in tray and I apologise if it's taken me some time to respond to you, but it's a privilege help you. If you think I can help you, please do get in touch, or feel free to chase me and I'll do my best.

Nick Dye, councillor for Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey
Nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk or 752501

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities



200 Club

The July draw was done by Myra Hetherington, Health Care Assistant.

The £100 winner was Janet Newman and Paul and Susan West won the 2nd prize of £15.

All members of the 200 Club are allocated a number to be used in the draw, if you are a member and wish to know your number then please email our Treasurer: treasurer.psppg@gmail.com to request it.

200 Club Renewal

It's coming up to 200 Club renewal time! The 200 Club year starts on 1 October but subscriptions need to be received during September.

If you have set up a Standing Order then you need to do nothing else, as your membership will automatically renew.

It is much easier for both yourselves and Peter Kinsman, our Treasurer, if you set up a standing order for membership. A form for joining the 200 Club via a Standing Order of £15 per annum, taken on 1 September each year, is available at both Purton and Green Gable surgeries. Please hand in any completed forms to the receptionist at either surgery.

Being a 200 Club member will give you the opportunity of winning one of the two prizes each month, 1st prize of £100 or 2nd prize of £15.

Table Top in Purton Surgery

Thank you to all who support the Table Top in Purton Surgery Waiting Room, to those who contribute items and those who buy. We do need more donations, so if you have anything please hand your items to the Reception staff in either Purton or Green Gable Surgery. If you would like to purchase any items then please hand your money in to Reception.

Please remember that there are also books for sale at 50p each, put the 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

Mickie Hall, PPG Co-chair

Cricklade Garden Club

No meeting in August

Our gardening year starts in March with our AGM and in the ensuing months we have had excellent speakers on a wide range of topics.

Our March speaker was Kate Holton of the Fern and Ivy shop in Cirencester and who gave us many useful hints and tips on growing indoor plants successfully. The whisper of pens on paper as members scribbled notes as she spoke was proof that many of us really needed Kate's advice.

The majority of us have small gardens so every plant has to prove its worth. In April, Marion Stainton gave us an excellent, informative talk on plants that extend interest throughout the year in a small garden. Marion has recently downsized from a large garden, so spoke from experience.

Also in May we had our annual Plant Fair in the Town Hall. It was very successful with lots of plants sold to delighted gardeners who went on to sample delicious refreshments from the WI in the Annexe. Many thanks also to other stall holders who helped make it a great community morning.

In June we had a remarkable talk by Charlotte Hitchmough, a Director of Action for the River Kennet (ARK). She graphically described the critical state of our rivers. For historic reasons the run-off from our roofs goes into our sewerage system, so the torrential rain we sometimes experience overwhelms the treatment plants and our rivers are polluted. Our chalk streams, almost unique in the world, are particularly vulnerable. What can we do? Make rain gardens! Go to Charlotte's website to learn how to do this.

In July, Michelle of Page Green Flowers, gave us a delightful talk on growing cut flowers and explained the importance of all of us buying home grown seasonal flowers. The flower arrangements she created as she spoke were beautiful.

Our next meeting is on **9 September**: Philip Aubrey's talk entitled "Keep Them in Shape: The Why, When and How to Prune." Philip will give us a practical demonstration so it will be the perfect talk for preparation for autumn.

For information about the club and upcoming events, please look at our excellent website (www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk) Membership is £25.00 per annum and we are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies (www.gfgs.org.uk)

Visitors are always welcome at £5.00 a session - come and give us a try!

Enquiries to Bizzie 07876 347 973, or Janet 07765 276 534

We look forward to seeing you in September.

Bingo4U

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

£2 entry. Eyes down at 2pm.

Contacts: Chris 07500 871 680 or Liz 07780 473 024



Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden



We hope you are enjoying the summer lamp post baskets and troughs all around the town planted by Bloomers volunteers. And a big thank-you to the town's groundsmen for their regular watering.

If you would like to join or find out about the friendly Bloomers group just turn up at the Walled Garden behind Tesco's any Wednesday or Saturday morning from 9.30a.m. New members are always welcome; you do not have to make any formal commitment. Members just turn up when they can. There are usually a range of tasks for a variety of fitness levels, from repotting at tables in the Walled Garden, to weeding and planting the beds in the town, to heavier tasks such as turning compost or maintenance of the buildings and tools.

The deer fencing at the community orchard is now in place and we thank local fencer Brian Francis for his generous quote and hard work. If you are in need of new fencing, you can find his contact details elsewhere in *The Chronicle*.

Cricklade Camera Club

Are you interested in photography, or do you just want to take better photographs?



If so, why not come along to Cricklade Camera Club? Visitors and new members will receive a warm welcome – you don't even need a camera. Everyone is welcome. You can try us out for an evening for a guest fee of £6.00. Starting in September we meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Cricklade Town Hall Annexe and there is a range of talks, workshops and Zoom presentations throughout the year. To see all our activities take a look at the programme page of our website crickladecameraclub.org/program

During the summer there is a series of photo outings – the August outings will be published on the website crickladecameraclub.org

All are welcome, free of charge; just share car travel costs, and pay for entrance tickets where relevant. All outings are weather forecast dependant! If you would like to come along simply email competitions@crickladecameraclub.org

In Memory

JANICE ROBINSON

I wish from the bottom of my heart to thank all who sent condolence cards and came to Janice's funeral on 6 June.

£550 in donations will be passed on to the British Heart Foundation in her memory.

Once again, thank you from John and all Janice's family.

Cricklade W.I.

I hope you are enjoying the sunny summer weather though, frankly, I would welcome some rain! [Ed: 31C in Cricklade as copy was coming in!] Lots of enjoyable events going on in our great town at the moment. Our June meeting was an open meeting and we invited other local WIs. It is interesting to find out how different groups operate and there is always something to be learnt. As Chris Churchman is such an interesting speaker we had quite a few non-members attending his talk 'Losing England's Landscape', even a few gentlemen! Non-members are always welcome and, if a speaker is of interest to you, the cost is £5 to include refreshments and of course cake. We are always pleased to see you.



July saw a demonstration of henna tattoos. This was absolutely fascinating and a great addition to summertime dressing. The history of tattooing is also engaging.

Members signing up to attend were recently treated to a tour round the Amazon distribution centre in Swindon. It was absolutely an eye-opener. It is an incredible set up and gave us plenty to think about. Tours can be arranged from the Swindon Amazon website.

On **Thursday 21 August**, Alison Warren will be telling us all about the *History of Ice Cream*, very appropriately for the month of August although the rain might have arrived by then!

On **Thursday 18 September**, we will be learning about the *History of the Quaker Movement* whose core beliefs are based on Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Stewardship (SPICES): a good set of standards for today's society.

The on **Thursday 16 October**, Anne Eckersley will be giving us a very useful talk on taking photos with your mobile phone.

Over the coming months we will be receiving information on Staying Safe Online and Saxon Riding for the Disabled. We'll keep you posted!

We also host a regular Coffee and Chat session at 11am in the White Hart, Cricklade on the first Tuesday of the month. 5 August is the next session and everyone is always welcome.

If you are interested in becoming a member please contact our secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or email at Vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com.

Yvonne

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

In the Monthly Draw held on 26 June the lucky winners were:-

First Prize:	Christine Keep	£36.00
Second Prize:	John Hickman	£24.00
Jenner Hall Funds:		£60.00



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.

Cricklade Foodbank

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



If you, or anyone you know is struggling to put food on the table, please get in touch by phone on 01666 826982. If you leave a message, someone will return your call.

On 23 June, a group of Trustees and Volunteers went to Westminster to meet our MP Roz Savage and to be presented with a certificate of the Early Day Motion. The Motion stated the invaluable work undertaken by Malmesbury & District Foodbank. This is an honour for the Foodbank.

Stock levels have been slowly decreasing during this year. In January 2025 the amount of stock we had was 1,601kg. By May 2025 (the latest figures available) we were down to 1,007kg. In May we gave out 1,311kg of stock. As you can see, your donations are very necessary. We would struggle without them. Our usual collection points are: Tesco, Animal Fayre (pet shop), Culverhay Stores, St Sampson's School (during term time) and the local churches.

If you would like to join our dedicated band of volunteers, please email the Centre Manager on: crickladebcm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Royal British Legion

Curry night and quiz at Kavali 23 June.



A big thank-you to all those who came to the Kavali restaurant on 23 June in support of the Royal British Legion.

It really was a good turnout with twice as many 'Civvies' as ex-military present. The round of service-related questions in the quiz threw up some highly amusing answers!

Kavali as usual, provided excellent food and service.

Thank you all for supporting your local branch of The Royal British Legion.

Di and Cherryl

Latton 100 Club

The Draw has taken place for the second quarter and the winners are:

1st:	£100	Eileen Lawrence
2nd:	£28	Charles Houldsworth
3rd:	£17	Fiona Downe
4th:	£10	Sue Keen

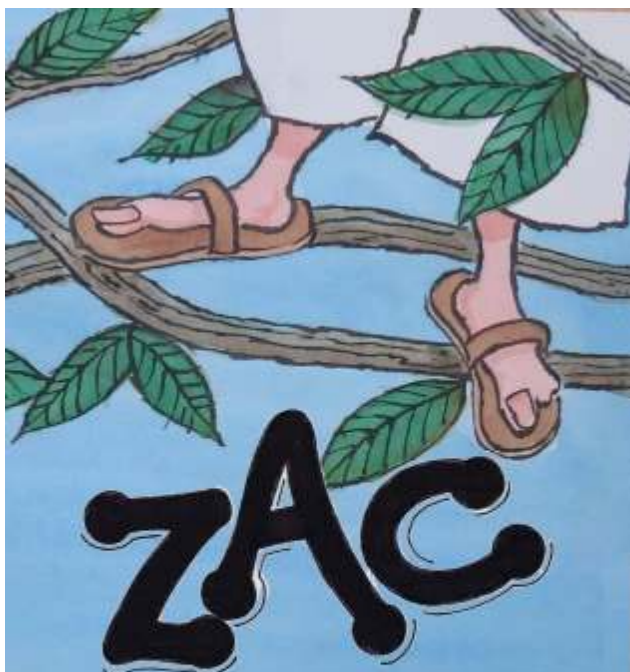
Congratulations to the winners.

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

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

Good luck!

Nicki Crabtree, Club Secretary



Zac

The story of Zacchaeus from Luke 19

"Sing a Musical in a Day"

4 October 2025 at Cricklade United Church

Cost is £10 (inc. Lunch) /£6 without lunch

11am to 5pm (performance at 6pm)

At the United Church we are holding another "musical in a day" event
on Saturday October.

The musical follows how Zacchaeus, the diminutive Chief Tax Collector, climbs a tree
to get a sight of Jesus, but Jesus calls him down! The rest is history!

Open to all ages and abilities, singers, instrumentalists, and those who just come to
watch! Led by a team of accomplished musicians – violinist, flautist, pianist, oboe
player and guitarists. The musical ZAC 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.

Cost is £10 with lunch or £6 without lunch.

The workshop will begin at 11am and the performance will be at 6pm.

Contact: phillipa58@hotmail.com tel 01793 750556

Churches Together

Services for the Upper Thames Churches

27 July

Trinity 6

- 10am Holy Communion at Waterhay Old Chancel
- 6.30pm Evening Service at Waterhay Old Chancel

To find the Old Chancel at Waterhay, look for the sign to Chancel which is along Waterhay Lane. If wet the services will be inside Leigh All Saints church in Swan Lane.

Services during August in the Upper Thames Group of Churches

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

3 August

Trinity 7

- 8am Holy Communion at St Sampson's
- 10am Worship Together Communion at Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes
- 6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

10 August

Trinity 8

- 10am Worship Together Holy Communion at St Sampson's

17 August

Trinity 9

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

24 August

Trinity 10

- 8.30am Holy Communion at Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes
- 10am Worship Together Communion at Leigh All Saints, Swan Lane

31 August

Trinity 11

- 10 am Holy Worship Together Communion 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.

Zoom Monday morning prayers – contact David Tarr

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches

Funerals

- 6 June Janice Mary Robinson, service at *St Mary's Cricklade*, with interment in Cricklade Cemetery
- 24 June Jessie Taylor, service and interment *at Holy Cross*

Y 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 August - all at 10.30am,

3 Aug	Ian Taylor	17 Aug	Rev Sarah Simpson
10 Aug	Rev Sarah Simpson - service includes holy communion	24 Aug	Trevor Stinton
		31 Aug	Worship Group

Bounce and Rhyme

We are a group for parents carers and grandparents who are looking after babies and/or toddlers.

As August is school holiday month we are meeting just once - 19 August. Time 1.45 - 3pm for nursery rhymes, a story book, refreshments and a chat.

Venue - the United Church hall in Calcutt Street. there is no charge we are delighted to welcome you.

St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future



We enjoyed a beautiful concert *The Armed Man: A Mass For Peace* in July. Over 80 choristers and musicians came from far and wide! Many thanks to the Come and Sing Team for organising and donating to the St Sampson's Church Appeal.

Coming Events

Monday 11 August at 7pm

Kavali Curry Evening

For tickets £25 (drinks extra):

Adina on 07592 916 966 or janda.grace447@outlook.com

Helen on 07976 546 825 or helendixonmail@gmail.com

See poster opposite.

Saturday 13 September

Concert in St Sampson's Church - organised by The Old Stables.

With Robert Vincent.

Please see their website for tickets.

theoldstables.yapsody.com

St Sampson's Church Fete

will unfortunately not take place in September this year.

An Autumn Fayre is being planned for October 2025.

St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winner of the June 2025 draw was

Anthea Butt who won £33.50.

St Sampson's Church benefited by £33.50.

To join the 100 Club, contact Sharon Smith tel. 751375 or email

sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com

Donations to the Refurbishment Appeal

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.





kavali
RESTAURANT



SUPPORTING ST SAMPSON'S CHURCH APPEAL

Kavali Curry Night

Monday 11th August 2025 at 7pm

QUIZ, RAFFLE & LOTS MORE

£25* per person

** to include Quiz, Raffle & Games. Drinks extra*

PLEASE CONTACT

Adina on 07592 916 966 or janda.grace447@outlook.com

Helen on 07976 546 825 or helendixonmail@gmail.com

Photo & Design: Rick Dixon

V.J. Day: 15 August 1945

There is a misconception by many that the Second World War ended on 8 May 1945 ... and everyone went home.

Even in Europe, that wasn't true. In many ways it was the end of one phase and the beginning of policing work and changes in policies to create a different future and a different mindset.

But the war went on in the Far East and (however much the propaganda says it was solely driven by the Americans), British, Australian, New Zealand, Indian and other Empire forces were heavily enmired in the inch-by-inch war advance against Japanese forces.

The US Manhattan Project to develop the Atom Bomb, was initially intended as a means for the ending of the European war, as Germany had been developing that armaments technology itself. As it happened, and whatever you may feel about the rights and wrongs of it, it was decided at that time that more allied servicemen's lives would be saved by dropping a uranium bomb on Hiroshima, than by not doing so. It was expected that the Japanese Empire would surrender that same day – 8.15am on 6 August 1945. Perhaps 120,000 people were killed within the first four days following the blast. Many others died afterwards from the effects of burns and radiation. Japan refused the demand for capitulation.

Three days later, on 9 August, a plutonium bomb was dropped on the city of Nagasaki. Over 2 square miles of the city were pulverised and some 73,000 people killed.

On 10 August, Japan agreed to talks towards conditional surrender and by the 14th accepted the demand for unconditional surrender. The following day was declared "Victory over Japan" or VJ Day, although it was not until 2 September that the final Japanese surrender was signed, thereby bringing the Second World War to a formal close.

Closing a war does not bring closure and perhaps one personal memory from the 1950s will suffice. I was living in Forest Gate, London E7, aged 6 in 1957, and a family lived opposite that my mother would visit from time to time. Let's call them the Smiths.

During school holidays, Mum would occasionally take me round to see Mrs Smith who would offer us a cup of weak tea with sterilised milk. (It was awful.) But I gathered from these visits that Mr Smith was upstairs, and would never come down. He had been a prisoner of war in a Japanese work camp and "liberated" by the Allies at the end of the war. He had suffered during the war and, although I was never allowed to know the reasons, was still suffering over 12 years later.

You may take your own view over the use of atomic bombs to end the war in Japan.

You may take your own view on recent actions to prevent Iran from developing these munitions.

You may want to consider the current ownership of nuclear armaments by states of rather dubious character.

We must though remember that the technology cannot be disinvented.

Rick Dixon

The Luck of the Draw

I have recounted some of my father's war stories in previous issues (June 2024, May and June 2025). He survived going in on D-minus-1 to Normandy, and not being blown up in a job he didn't get (Yangtze 1949).

He also passed to me a bullet which I still have at home. As 2nd Lieutenant on his motor gun boat he, among all the crew, was rostered on Oerlikon gun watch for German plane attacks. No one can stand watch for ever, so he was allowed "below" for a cup of tea and a stretch of legs. While below, there was a flurry of aircraft fire and everyone rushed topsides. No one had been hurt, but he found his helmet, left on the Oerlikon seat, had a hole in it. A bullet was on the seat underneath it. Dad called it his day for the Lucky Draw.

Rick Dixon

Cricklade Computer Club

On the first 'working' Monday of the month, we will be available from 10am to 12 noon in the Leisure Centre café. 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

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.

The Chronicle is published by Churches Together in Cricklade and Latton. It is prepared and distributed on a voluntary basis, printed by Webster Printing, Cricklade, 01793 752898 and funded entirely by local advertisements.

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

Articles and advertisements are accepted in good faith and The Chronicle cannot be held responsible for their accuracy, nor can it guarantee that they will be published. The Editor's decision is final.

Cricklade Historical Society

Sunday 24 August – Annual Walk

This will be a Transport-themed walk where we look at the railway, canal and turnpike routes around the town.

We will start outside the Town Hall at 2pm and finish at the Museum where refreshments will be on offer.

A Cricklade Wills Project

The wills of the inhabitants of Cricklade and its surrounding areas are preserved in the records of the courts administering probate. They are invaluable for historians; they shed light on social background, family relationships and much more. All of them are available to the public, but they are preserved in the form and language of the time, and few have been transcribed into modern English.

We are fortunate in Wiltshire that all these wills can be accessed online, with high-resolution images of the documents freely available (and at no cost). Fortunately, it is fairly easy to become proficient at deciphering these documents and, with a little practice, to transcribe them into Modern English. I have been doing this for over twenty years and now work as a Latin transcriber for the Richard III Society's publishing arm, and am happy to provide the help and support to enable anyone to start reading these records with ease.

I would like to form a group of interested people to begin transcribing and publishing the Cricklade wills. We could start by meeting regularly to examine the material available, learn and practice transcription techniques. If you are interested in joining the project, or know someone who would, please contact me in the first place by email. Peter Fullalove at peter.fullalove@btopenworld.com

Please note – This project is open to everyone not just CHS members.

Sing Four Four Community Choir

Thank you everyone who attended our Summer Concert at St Sampson's Church. It was a privilege to be able to sing in such a beautiful building, with its amazing acoustics.

The choir will now take a well-earned summer break.

Please look out for our recruitment notices around the town and the window display in the Town Council offices through the summer. If you have been in a choir, or never been in a choir come and give us a go. We would especially welcome any men who would like to join us.

Rehearsals will resume again on Thursday 11 September in Cricklade United Church.

We are always happy to welcome new members to the choir. There are no auditions, so please feel free to come along. The rehearsal times are 7.30 to 9.30pm.

For more information, please go to our website: singfourfour.org.uk. Alternatively, you can contact our musical director, Jen Bamford, on jenloubamford@googlemail.com



Cricklade Memory Café

Summer, hopefully is still in full swing when you read this and we have continued to enjoy, music, fun, laughter and friendship and of course cakes. Taking the Memory Café “on Tour” to Jennie’s kitchen was such fun. We were made so welcome and enjoyed lashings of sandwiches, scones and cakes and endless cups of tea and coffee. There are lovely pictures on our Facebook posts.



We are now planning our autumn and, dare I say, seasonal (Christmas) programme. Whilst we always welcome our visitors who are able to offer more specialised support and signposting to the relevant areas of help available, we also enjoy visitors who bring fun, laughter, music and games as does our friend Cat Attewell from *Home Instead*.

If you are a carer or family member of someone with memory impairment, or have memory issues yourself why not come along and see what a friendly, fun group we have and how much support our members gain from being part of CMC. So please pop along and see what we are all about on the first Wednesday of every month at the Town Hall Annexe from 10.30 to 12.30 for coffee, cakes, friendship and fun in a safe, non-judgemental, welcoming environment. We look forward to meeting you.

For more information, please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.

Meditation Group

Struggling to maintain and develop a regular meditation practice? If you have some meditation experience, would like to meet with like minded people and think you would enjoy the experience of practising in a group where the members take turns to facilitate sessions, then email Nicholas – nicholas.rose@mac.com

Cricklade & District Probus Club

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

7 August Shackleton’s Fateful Antarctic Expedition

21 August History of RAF Bases in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire



Meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday meeting 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, Martin Chambers on 01793 751223. If you contact Martin and advise you would like to attend, which is free for the first few visits, you will be allocated a dedicated host who will introduce you to our members. Alternatively, just turn up on the day and you will be made welcome. For further details about Cricklade & District Probus Club and our scheduled talks for the year, visit our new website at probus.org.uk/cricklade



DINO WEEKEND

**SATURDAY 16TH & SUNDAY 17TH
AUGUST**

10:30-16:00

**Meet our friendly dinosaurs making appearances
throughout the day and
have a rour-some time riding the train**

Adult £14
Senior £13
Child(3yrs & over) £12
Child(1-3yrs) £6
Train rides included

**SWINDON & CRICKLADE
RAILWAY**

Blunsdon Station, Tadpole Lane, Swindon, SN25 2DA
Registered Charity No. 507045

Swindon and Cricklade Railway – Dino Weekend

16 and 17 August 2025

at Blunsdon Station, Tadpole Lane, Swindon, SN25 2DA

Tickets: Adult £15, Senior £13, Child (3yrs and over) £12, Child (1yr-3yrs) £6

No need to book tickets

Cricklade Bowls Club

August means we are almost through our main playing season, though still with a full fixture list.



The heat waves in June and July meant that we needed to keep well-watered, both bodily and with watering of the green. The treasurer is praying for rain!

We continue with social evenings so you can still come along, and see what the game is all about, any Friday evening during the summer season. We have "roll-ups" starting from 6pm. It's best if you come at that time so we can sort out teams and coaching. If you decide it's for you, first year membership is only £15. You will find us at the Bath Road green, next door to the Fire Station, and opposite St Sampson's school.

We have a Coach, fully qualified with Bowls England, who will show you how to play and we have spare bowls you can use. All we ask is that you wear flat soled shoes on the green itself.

For more information please contact:

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

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

Margaret Essex (Ladies' Captain) margaret.essex@sky.com

We hope to see you sometime soon..

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

Our Club plays on the gravel in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and at 10am on Saturday morning. We have started a coaching session on Wednesday, 10 to 11.30am. Our Wednesday Summer Club evenings have resumed – 7pm to about 9pm.

Please come along if you are interested, and have a go! You can borrow some boules, with no obligation to join the club. Pétanque is fun and sociable. We play three games during each session, with a break after the second. If you decide to join our club, our annual membership fee is only £25.

We organize social activities, e.g. skittles evening, ten pin bowling and the occasional meal out. We have an annual charity day competition too.

Our more competitive members play in the Cotswold Pétanque League and in various competitions in the Great Western Region.

To find out more about us 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 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 Pétanque Club

Individual members and teams continue to participate in competitions and league games.

We are looking forward to our 3-ender doubles competition which will take place on Sunday 31 August at the club. It is always great fun, albeit tiring!

Our next social is on Friday 29 August.

Our playing days are: Mon 2 - 4.30pm Tue 7 - 9.30pm
Wed 2 - 4.30pm Sat 10am - 12.30pm

Coaching Sessions are: Wed 10 - 11.30am (ladies) Fri 10 - 11.30am (mixed)
Please arrive 10 minutes before start to avoid delays in play!

www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk Facebook Cricklade Petanque Club
email: info@crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk



Cricklade Rugby 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. Pre-season training has started! Senior men's on Thursdays 7 to 8.30pm at Fairview Fields – no experience necessary. Contact Captain, Nick 07542 021 692, or Coach, Pixie 07728 399 759 – all are welcome.

Mixed Tag is on Tuesdays 7 to 8pm. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters. We are looking forward to some pre-season friendlies, especially Old Guard vs Men's 1st XV.

Our Minis section continues to grow and is open to 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 will start in September and 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). 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 – if you are interested please contact Seth.

CRICKLADE CHRONICLE CONTACTS

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

Commercial Advertising & Distribution: Allan & Nicky, Webster Printing,
crickladechronicleadds@gmail.com, tel: 01793 752898 (office hours)

The Chronicle Diary – August 2025

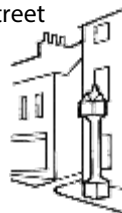
- 1 F end of day Chronicle Copy deadline
- 4 M 10am to 12 noon: Computer Club at Leisure Centre
7pm Full Town Council Meeting, Council Chamber
- 5 Tu 11am W.I. Coffee and Chat at the White Hart
- 6 W 10.30am to 12.30pm: Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe
- 7 Th 10.20am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 11 M 7pm St Sampson's Appeal curry night at Kavali Restaurant (page 25)
- 13 W 10am to 1pm: Skateboard Activity Sessions at Leisure Centre (page 3)
- 15 F **VJ Day**
- 16 Sa 10.30 to 4pm: Swindon & Cricklade Railway Dino Weekend
- 17 Su 10.30 to 4pm: Swindon & Cricklade Railway Dino Weekend
- 19 Tu 1.45pm to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street
7.30pm Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
- 20 W 10.30am to 12 noon: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Hotel & Spa
7.15pm for 7.30pm start: Historical Society at Town Hall Annexe
- 21 Th 10.20am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
7.30pm Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe
- 24 Su 2pm Historical Society walk starting at Town Hall (page 28)
- 25 M **August Bank Holiday**
- 26 Tu 7pm Town Council Planning, Conservation & Transport Committee Meeting, Council Chamber

Every Week

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10am-3.30pm: Open Door at Jenner Hall

Wednesday (2-4pm), Saturday (10am-noon) Cricklade Museum open, Calcutt Street

- 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
- 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
7.30-9.30pm 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



Moon Phases

August 2025 1st ● 9th ○ 16th ● 23rd ● 31st ●

The Final Word ...

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13:31-32:

Isn't it easy to overlook opportunities to help others because we don't think it would make a real difference. Little acts of kindness, chances to help another person, will pass us by if we're not paying attention. I keep reminding myself of this upside-down nature of God who has the most beautiful, powerful ability to take the little we have, offered to Him, and magnify it in a big way.

I also know when we feel unseen, unheard and unnoticed, it can feel incredibly hard to speak encouraging words to others. However, no matter what we may be facing, we have an opportunity not to overlook the small, mustard-seed opportunities where we can invest in others today.

When we feel invisible, help someone feel seen by reminding them how unique they are.

When we feel unheard, help someone feel heard by making space to listen to them, and prayerfully ask God how you can encourage them.

When we feel unnoticed, help someone feel significant by honouring the amazing little things they do to make the world a better place.

Why do all of this? We all want to live in a better world, so let's make a decision today to contribute to making it better. Let's vow to bring heaven to earth with the loving words we say and the moments we cultivate that bring laughter.

It doesn't have to be big to be significant. We can show up, listen and lean in. We can pray. We don't have to prove or earn anything. We can plan something joyful for another person that will simply be kind and honour God.

And sometimes God is inviting us to be a part of great things He is doing all around us, but we may miss the invitation because of its appearance of smallness or insignificance. We may never know what that next step is if we don't "listen for GOD's voice in everything [we] do, everywhere [we] go," as Proverbs 3:6 (MSG) instructs us. Each day we can look for His invitation to leave our plans behind to join Him in His wondrous work through small steps of obedience.

Let's start with the people right in front of us today. And watch how God turns something small into something big and beautiful in His timing.

I believe we have the opportunity to do something eternally significant every single day so let's not allow today to pass us by.

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



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