

# THE CHRONICLE

✠ Serving Cricklade & Latton

No. 603

## October 2025

Millennium Wood  
picture © Bizzie White



# PLATINUM HYUNDAI & SUZUKI

Swindon & Cirencester

NEW NAME, SAME FRIENDLY TEAM

## NEW CAR SALES:



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**Tel: 01793 816800**

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# From the Editor

William Butler Yeats could have been looking at our lovely front cover picture when he wrote:

"The trees are in their autumn beauty,

The woodland paths are dry,  
Under the October twilight the water  
Mirrors a still sky."

My thanks to Bizzie White for photographing this scene at Millennium Wood a year ago.

This October seems to be full of events. The United Church will be rehearsing and performing their Musical in a Day "Zac" on 4 October - details are on page 25.

If you are into quizzes, there are two this month: the Historical Society's is on the 17th (page 19) with St Mary's Church on the 31st (page 21). Both events are at the Town Hall.

St Sampson's have their Autumn Fayre at the primary school on 11 October with information on page 24.

There are two of the ever popular Kavali fundraising Curry Nights this month. One is on the 6th in support of PURR cat rehousing, page 17. The second is on behalf of Cricklade Bowls Club on 20 October with details on page 17.

Help is also in demand: *The Chronicle* needs new distributors. If you feel you can lend a hand, see page 4. And 2nd Cricklade Scouts are looking for new adult helpers to join their team - see page 20.

And a final note that the clocks go back by one hour in the early hours of Sunday 26 October. Personally, I change my watch at bedtime on the Saturday!



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The deadline for the November 2025 issue is Wednesday 1 October 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](mailto: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 ...	<a href="mailto:clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk">clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk</a>	Gas leak reporting .....	0800 111 999
MP (South Cotswolds) .....	01285 300555	Library (113 High St) .....	750694
	<a href="mailto:roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk">roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk</a>	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

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](mailto:crickladetownhall@hotmail.com) for further details, or Facebook for photos and other information: [www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall](http://www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall)



## 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](http://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](mailto: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 Jenner Hall (Parish Hall) "Save It Club"

In the Monthly Draw held on 28 August the lucky winners were:-

First Prize	Rob & Kate Crow	£35.70
Second Prize	Charles Head	£23.80
Jenner Hall Funds:		£59.50

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 Town Council

## Town Council Meetings

**Monday 29 September** Premises and Finance Committee

**Monday 6 October** Full Town Council

**Monday 20 October** Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

**Monday 27 October** Personnel Committee

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.



### Remembrance Services

The Remembrance Sunday Parade on 9 November will muster at Waylands and march down the High Street to the War Memorial, where the Act of Remembrance and a short service will take place. The parade will then march back up the High Street via Bath Road to St Sampson's Church.

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

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

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

**Skateboard event.** In August ATBshop came to Cricklade and ran two free scootering and skateboarding sessions for the young people of Cricklade. There were over 40 young people from age 5 upwards at the events. The events were funded by the FUEL programme at Wiltshire Council. A great time was had by all.



**Cricklade Town Council has paid for another session** to be run by ATB and that will take place at the skatepark on Wednesday 29 October 2025 from 10am to 1pm. Open to young people aged from 5.

## Halloween and Bonfire Night

As we approach these winter events, please take care of what you wear, during the darker evenings. If you are trick or treating, please only approach homes who visibly want to join in the fun and ensure you are with a responsible adult at all times. If possible ensure your pets are kept calm and safely locked indoors, it can be very trying for some animals. Lastly for those on the roads, please watch out for children and animals on these nights –sometimes exuberance gets in the way of safety!

**CORRECTION TO LAST MONTH'S CHRONICLE UPDATE:** - Cricklade In Bloom Best Front Garden Winner was No.5 Thames Lane and Highly Commended for Hanging Baskets was No.23 Reeds, Cricklade. APOLOGIES!

### The Town Council and Tourist Information Point is open:

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](mailto:admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk)

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



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

## 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](mailto: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.

## New Distributors

*The Chronicle* needs new distributors for the Culverhay outer circle delivery round which is for 98 copies. If you feel you would like to do this then please contact Allan or Nicky on 752898 for more details.

We also need a temporary distributor for Pittsfield from number 50 to 92 and Hopkins Orchard – 50 copies in total. If you would like to do this round please get in touch.

## 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





## Wiltshire Perspective

Two topics this month:

- Council Plan
- Active Travel

**Council Plan:** In February Wiltshire Council approved a Business Plan. Since the election, the Council has since drawn up a different approach called a Council Plan, setting out the strategic priorities that the Council wants to focus on. This was taken around several locations

in the county and feedback was and is being taken on board. It's not the usual door stopper document, only about half a dozen pages. You can find it by going to [tinyurl.com/whswzny7](https://tinyurl.com/whswzny7), or by searching Wiltshire Council plan 2025-2035, or this QR code (right).



There was general agreement from all parties that it helped clarify the scope of what any council can do and to try to set expectations of what is possible after multiple decades of drift away from council control. One example is social housing, where the Council used to be the landlord, but which is now in the hands of private companies. Wiltshire Council can however still exert pressure on them, and our ability has been demonstrated a few times by my work here in our division.

**Active Travel:** This means cycling and walking and is something Wiltshire Council has been promoting for some time. The two main factors are limiting traffic growth and the obvious health advantages for both individuals and the environment.

The Council's process is to draw up detailed plans for the larger towns and fund the infrastructure later. Our local communities were left off the list, but it doesn't mean we can't move forward on our own, at least for the 'planning-what-we-want' phase.

Royal Wootton Bassett drew up detailed plans to have a cycleway to Swindon, which took many years and it had a projected budget of £5m. The price was too high and the whole project was put on ice. I've no idea how that figure broke down or what proportion was going to be funded by Swindon Borough Council, but I'm not surprised at the outcome for that price.

Hopefully a less ambitious approach might have more success and I would like Cricklade and Latton to think about what we want so we can help our own communities.

It's all very well me thinking up ideas, but it's all of us collectively that need to ensure that what we aim for will squeeze the most benefit for as many of us as possible. With that in mind I would like to reach out to as wide a range of residents as possible to gather thoughts for what best looks like, so we get the optimal outcome for us.

If you have thoughts, or would like to critique ideas, I hope to set up a site by the time of publication. The site will be [crickladelattonactive.com](https://crickladelattonactive.com)

I'm aware that not everyone has access to the internet. If you don't or resent always being pushed in that direction, I apologise, and if you can't get to the library I will try to ensure printed copies are available if you contact me.

If you think I can help you with this or anything else, please do get in touch and I promise to do my best.

[Nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk) or 752501

Nick Dye, Councillor for Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey

# Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

*Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities*



Our next talk is on **SEPSIS** and takes place on Thursday 2 October 19.30 at Purton Surgery Waiting Room

SEPSIS is a topic which people generally know little about; it can be life threatening and also is very hard to spot. The talk will be given by Melanie Phillips who is the Sepsis, Acute Kidney Injury Lead at the Great Western Hospital.

Entrance is free but in order to manage the numbers, you need to pick up a ticket from the receptionists at either surgery, Purton or Cricklade. The tickets are available from 1 September.

These free talks set up by your PPG are an essential part of our remit to offer interesting and informative information about various topics which may be of interest to our patients.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all the staff at both Purton and Cricklade Surgeries for achieving over 93% satisfaction rating in the NHS England GP Patient Survey this year. We are in the top 10% for GP surgeries in Wiltshire.

## 200 Club

The September draw was done by Sofia Moraes at Purton Surgery. The £100 winner was Janet E Newman and Kaileigh Tasker won the second prize of £15. Congratulations to them both!

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](mailto:treasurer.psppg@gmail.com) to request it.

A form for joining the 200 Club via standing order of £15 per year taken on 1 September each year, is available from both Purton and Green Gable surgeries. Please hand in any completed forms to the receptionists at either surgery.



## 200 Club RENEWAL

Most 200 Club members have now renewed their annual membership as it is due each year on 1 September. Thank you all very much.

If you have set up a Standing Order then there is nothing else to do, your membership will automatically renew. However, if you have not yet done so, I urge you to renew very soon, so that you do not miss out on any of the draws!

## Table Top in Purton Surgery

Thank you to all who support the Table Top in Purton waiting room and sale of second hand books in both Purton and Green Gables surgery waiting rooms - to those who contribute items and those who buy.

We do need more donations, so if you have anything to donate, please hand your books/items to the Reception staff in either Purton or Green Gable Surgery. For any items you wish to take away, please give your donation to the Receptionists at either surgery.

**News:** - The NHS have launched a WhatsApp channel giving trusted health information straight to your phone. Simply search for NHS in the WhatsApp "updates" tab.

*Mickie Hall, Purton PPG*



# P.U.R.R Fund-Raising Evening

**Monday 6 October 2025 at 7pm**

**At Kavali Indian Restaurant, High Street, Cricklade**

£25 per person including Quiz and Raffle. Drinks extra.

Please book via Claire on 07712 669 090

or email: [info@purrescue.co.uk](mailto:info@purrescue.co.uk)

Please do not book direct with Kavali. Seating numbers are limited.



## **Pussycat Urgent Rescue Rehoming**

(P.U.R.R) is an independent rescue that started in 2020, just rehabilitating young feral kittens and finding them loving homes. This project grew organically as I was asked to take in an adult, found at a local yard, and then the project kept growing from there after. We now take in and rehome domestic, stray and feral cats of all ages.

P.U.R.R has rehomed over 100 cats in the wider Swindon area including Cricklade and Purton. and is usually full with 30+ adults and kittens with us at any one time.

The rescue is run primarily by one person with some valued supporters helping with food etc, but we are always in need of more donations and help to keep us going.

We are always on the look out for volunteers that are able to give up their spare time to work with our cats ... either as a hands on feeder and cleaner

and/or "cat cuddlers" who come and spend time with the cats and play and give them a sense of being loved.

*Claire Barrett*

## **Sailability European Championship 2025 - Norway**

Antony and Toby had a amazing race at the venture championships and came 4th in their class and 11th overall.

They would like to thank everyone who came to their evening at The Kavali. Your support enabled them to go and compete.

A special thank-you to Kavali for providing an amazing meal.

# Cricklade Bloomers

## Whispers from the Walled Garden



Bloomers has received many compliments on the summer planting around the town. I hope you have enjoyed the floral displays. It's time now to change the plants ready for winter. If you would like to help our wonderful volunteers with planting, just turn up at the Walled Garden behind Tesco any Wednesday morning in October. You will be made very welcome; the kettle usually goes on at 11am for tea/coffee and chat.

Our extremely popular Christmas wreath workshops, wreath kits and table arrangement workshop can be booked by visiting [crickladeinbloom.co.uk](http://crickladeinbloom.co.uk)

If you can provide any evergreen foliage for the workshops we can collect them from mid-November. Please contact [anita@crickladeinbloom.co.uk](mailto:anita@crickladeinbloom.co.uk)

## Cricklade Garden Club

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



The next meeting is on **Tuesday 14 October** and our speaker is Nicola Hope (*pictured*) whose talk is entitled ***Tales of the Potting Shed: Tips and Tales from a Professional Gardener***

Nicola is an RHS Master of Horticulture who runs an organic gardening consultancy and garden design service based in Malmesbury. Her gardening experience includes working in Highgrove, the Abbey House in Malmesbury, Sting's Lake House and Anoushka Hempel's Cole Park.

With these credentials, who better to give us help and advice with our (somewhat smaller) gardens?

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

Membership is £25 p.a., we are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies ([www.gfgs.org.uk](http://www.gfgs.org.uk)).

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

Queries to Janet 07765 276 534 and Bizzie 07876 347 973.

*We look forward to seeing you!*

## Cricklade Open Door

September has slipped by, the days are shorter and chillier and shops are reminding us that Christmas is just around the corner!

September was a relatively quiet month for Open Door but with all the usual activities taking place in the afternoons and the mornings, open for coffees and chats with friends old and new. Why don't YOU come and spend some time at Open Door, you will be made very welcome.



Our Coffee Morning was held on Saturday 27 September and was very well attended and supported by Cricklade residents. There was lots of chat, laughter and money raised to help keep Open Door in the community. Thank you to all who worked hard on the day and beforehand, to those who supplied raffle prizes, to Chris for all her fabulous baking and to everyone who came along to make the morning a success.

We will be having an Afternoon Tea in October, the full works with sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes, scones and a glass of something fizzy!

Also in October we are having a visit from Years 1 and 2 from St Sampson's C of E Primary School, who will come with their Autumn/Harvest songs and stories.

A BIG NOTICE is that Open Door will be closed for two weeks at the beginning of November. We will not be open on weeks commencing Monday 3rd and Monday 10th. We will be back and ready for the run up to Christmas on Monday 17 November.

*Come and enjoy Cricklade Open Door*

*Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10.00 - 3.30*

*The Jenner Hall, Bath Road, Cricklade – Tel: 07599 987 851*

## Cricklade Historical Society

### **Wednesday 15 October – War to Wildlife Project**

Speaker – Vince Povey: Vince will be updating us on the former RAF Blakehill site with a lean towards the Cold War wireless experiment.

*(This will be our last talk for this year, however we already have talks planned for 2026!)*

All meetings are held at the Town Hall Annexe – doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Refreshments available from 7.15pm.

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### **Friday 17 October – Quiz Night**

Our annual fund raising Quiz Night will be held at the Town Hall.

Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Ticket price £10 per person, which will include one free glass of wine/soft drink along with snacks/nibbles. Teams of six players. A pay bar with wine, beer and soft drinks will be available.

Tickets can be purchased from the Town Council Offices or via our website ([www.cricklademuseum.co.uk](http://www.cricklademuseum.co.uk))

## 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.



# Cricklade Foodbank

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



If you need our help, please contact us by phone on 01666 826982.

If there's no reply, please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

The Foodbank team has been delighted to welcome a few new volunteers in the last couple of weeks. We hope you will enjoy your time with us and being part of this important service. However, we can never have too many volunteers, so if you'd like to join our merry band, please contact the Centre Manager on:  
[crickladecm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:crickladecm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk).

We are always grateful for all our donations. At the moment we are particularly looking for washing-up liquid, razors and laundry detergent. Over 90% of the items distributed by the Foodbank is donated by the public, so your donations are vital in helping those in need. We still have our usual collection points: Tesco, Culverhay Stores, Animal Fayre (pet shop), the Town Council Office, St Sampson's School (during term time) and the local churches.

## Join the Adventure!



### **Volunteer with 2nd Cricklade Scouts**

Looking for a fun, rewarding way to give back to the community? Come and support local young people while enjoying the adventure yourself!

#### *Why Volunteer?*

- No experience needed – full training and support given
- Make a real difference in the lives of local young people
- Be part of a welcoming, friendly team of volunteers
- Learn new skills while having plenty of fun outdoors

#### *What We Do*

- Weekly activities for young people between 6 and 18. These include pioneering, orienteering, cycling, archery, shooting, Ultimate Frisbee and more!
- Bi-annual group camps, frequent local camps with our younger sections
- Popular fundraising events such as:
  - The Cricklade Duck Race – a summer favourite at the Bridge over the Thames
  - Christmas Post – our festive card delivery service across the town

#### *How You Can Help*

- Support weekly meetings or occasional events
- Help organise fundraising activities
- Share your skills (or just bring your enthusiasm!)
- Give as much or as little time as you can – every bit counts

#### *Get Involved*

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

#### *Contact us via:*

- Facebook: [facebook.com/2ndCrickladeScoutGroup](https://facebook.com/2ndCrickladeScoutGroup)
- Email: [groupleadvolunteer@2ndcrickladescouts.org.uk](mailto:groupleadvolunteer@2ndcrickladescouts.org.uk)

Come along, get stuck in, and be part of the 2nd Cricklade Scout family!

# All Souls Services 2025

Our annual All Souls Bereavement Service for Cricklade and Latton, remembering those we love and see no longer, will take place on Sunday 2 November in St Sampson's Church starting at 6.30pm. A quiet and reflective service, we will include the names of those associated with Cricklade and Latton who have died in the last year and whose services we have taken. Anyone who would like to come is very welcome and families involved will receive a letter of invitation from our ministers.

We know that many people from the community like to come and remember family members who have died: everyone is welcome as we seek God's comfort and hear the message of hope we have in Jesus.

There will be a time during the service when you can light a candle as we remember those who have died. If you are coming to the service and would like the name of your loved one included, please contact our administrator, Jane Eyles at [admin@upperthames.org.uk](mailto:admin@upperthames.org.uk), or phone 01793 979304, with the name(s) to be included.

For Ashton Keynes and Leigh there will be a similar service at 4pm on 2 November in Holy Cross Church, Ashton Keynes.

## In Memoriam

BRIAN TURNER MUIR

Jeanie and family would like to thank everyone who came to Brian's funeral and sent cards and messages.

£577 was collected in aid of Blind Veterans UK who helped him so much.

Special thanks to Cricklade Surgery, particularly Steve and Louise who were so very kind and helpful. And of course our wonderful team of carers from "Helping Hands" and to Blackwells' Funeral Directors who provided an excellent service.

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VALERIE ATFIELD

Mark and Caroline would like to express their deepest thanks for all those that attended Valerie's Funeral on Friday 20 July and the numerous lovely messages received.

Your generosity has meant £750 will be sent to the MS Society, in her memory.

With heartfelt thanks from Mark, Caroline and all their family.

## St Mary's Annual Quiz Night

Friday 31 October 2025 at 7pm

Cricklade Town Hall

Tickets Adult £10.00 Children under 16 £5.00

Available from Animal Fayre, High Street, Cricklade,  
St Mary's RC Church or Anita Barrett on 01793 750039.

A light supper is included in the ticket price, please bring your own drinks.

Join us for a fun filled evening!



# Churches Together

## Services for the Upper Thames Churches

### 5 October

#### Trinity 16

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

### 12 October

#### Trinity 17

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

### 19 October

#### Trinity 18

- 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*  
with children's activities in Jenner Hall
- 10am Informal Morning Worship *at Holy Cross*
- 6pm Evensong *at Holy Cross*
- 6.30pm Evensong *at St Sampson's*

### 26 October

#### Trinity 19

- 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.*

*Zoom Monday morning prayers – contact David Tarr*

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

### Weddings

- 9 August Charlotte (Lottie) Elizabeth Constance Beadle & James Benjamin Wright  
*at Holy Cross*
- 9 August Katie Elizabeth Terrett & Thomas Edward Rawes *at St Sampson's*
- 30 August Emma Sophie Pilgrim & Daniel Christopher Arden-White *at St Sampson's*

### Funerals

- 15 July Brian Turner Muir *at Kingsdown Crematorium*
- 8 August Valerie Christine Atfield *at St Sampson's and North Wiltshire Crematorium*
- 12 August Nelson Dean *at St Sampson's and Cricklade Cemetery*
- 26 August Ann Panting *at All Saints Churchyard*



# *er in Cricklade & Latton*

## **Cricklade United Church**

Calcutt Street, Cricklade

Minister: Revd Sarah Simpson, tel. 01666 826866, Email: [sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com)

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

### **Sunday morning services during October - all at 10.30am**

5 October Mike Dearsley

19 October Martin Osman

12 October Rev Sarah Simpson

26 October Jenny Corkett

This will be our harvest festival service and will include communion. We will be making a special collection for food bank items.

### **Bounce and Rhyme**

A group for parents, carers and grandparents who are looking after babies and/or toddlers – taking place on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1.45 to 3pm.  
Venue: the United Church hall in Calcutt Street.

### **This month - 7 October and 21 October.**

Do come along for nursery rhymes, a story book, refreshments and a chat. There is no charge we are delighted to welcome you.

## **St. Mary's Catholic Church**

### **Weekly Mass times**

9.30am on Sundays

10.00am on Fridays

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

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

Father Michael Robertson can be contacted on 01285 712586 or by email  
[michael.Robertson@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:michael.Robertson@cliftondiocese.com)

Gerry Dudley, our Church Secretary, is on 01793 750107.

The Friends of St Mary's website with more details of the history of the church is at  
[www.crickladestmary.org.uk](http://www.crickladestmary.org.uk)

## **The Upper Thames Benefice**

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

Contact details:

Vicar: Revd Canon Debbie Dewes - email: [vicar@upperthames.org.uk](mailto:vicar@upperthames.org.uk) tel: 01793 752718

Associate Vicar: Revd Shirley Danby - email: [revdshirleyd@gmail.com](mailto:revdshirleyd@gmail.com) tel. 07980 548844

Curate: Revd Sharon Gleed - email: [curate@upperthames.org.uk](mailto:curate@upperthames.org.uk) tel: 07305 006693

Parishes Administrator: Jane Eyles - email: [admin@upperthames.org.uk](mailto:admin@upperthames.org.uk) tel: 01793 979304

# St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

*Creating a Community Space for the Future*



# Autumn Fayre

**Saturday 11 October 2025**

**2pm - 4pm**

**at St Sampson's School, Bath Road**

*Church Tower Tours  
... weather permitting!*

**Refreshments**

**Cakes Books**

**Tombola Raffle**

**Bric a brac Bottle Stall**

**& more!**

**Free Entry**

**Independent stalls welcome.  
Booking fee £10, via:  
sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com**

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

The lucky winners of the August 2025 draw were

Paul and Avril Fray who won £33.

St Sampson's Church benefited by £33.

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

[sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:janda.grace447@outlook.com)

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



# CRICKLADE CINEMA!

Our Autumn season continues on Tuesday 28 October at 8 pm in the Town Hall.

## Mr Burton (12A, 124mins)

The true story of how a moody Welsh teenager called Richard Jenkins (Harry Lawtey) became international star of stage and screen Richard Burton, thanks to the guidance of teacher/mentor Philip Burton (Toby Jones).

(Contains: infrequent strong language, discrimination)

And still to come...

25 November – Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy  
(15, 124 mins)

16 December – The Ballad of Wallis Island (12A, 99 mins)  
\*\* to be confirmed \*\*

All films start at 8 pm in the Town Hall.

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

More details about all the films being shown and information on Cricklade Cinema can be found on our website ([www.crickladedecinema.org.uk](http://www.crickladedecinema.org.uk)) so why not take a look?

Email us at: [crickladedecinema@gmail.com](mailto:crickladedecinema@gmail.com)

Check us out at Facebook Cricklade Cinema

## Zac – A Musical in a Day

The story of Zacchaeus

**Saturday 4 October 2025 at Cricklade United Church**

Performance 6pm (doors open 5.45)

Come and hear the musical story of Zac. 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!

Led by a team of accomplished musicians - violinist, flautist, pianist, oboe player and guitarists and singers. 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.

No entrance fee or ticket required (donations welcomed)

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

The Chronicle



**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**





## Sing Four Four Community Choir

Please look at the poster adjacent, advertising our 'come and sing' event to be held on 15 November in the United Church. We will be singing Vivaldi's 'Gloria'. All the details for the day are on the poster. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible.

The choir has now begun rehearsals for the Christmas Concert, to be held in St Mary's Church, Purton, on Sunday 14 December. Please keep the date free. Anyone is welcome to join the choir. You just need a love of singing.

For more information, please go to our website: [singfourfour.org.uk](http://singfourfour.org.uk). Alternatively, you can contact our musical director, Jen Bamford, on [jenloubamford@googlemail.com](mailto:jenloubamford@googlemail.com)



## Swindon Open Studios 2025

Artists in Cricklade will once again be taking part in Swindon Open Studios on the weekends of 20th & 21st and 27th & 28th September 2025. You can find out when the venues will be open by visiting the



Swindon Open Studios website at [www.swindonopenstudios.org/search?q=Cricklade](http://www.swindonopenstudios.org/search?q=Cricklade) or use the QR Code left:

**Cricklade Art Group**, Thames Hall, High Street, SN6 6DG  
Open 20th & 21st September – 10am until 4pm

**Great Western Embroiderers**, Jenner Hall, Bath Road, SN6 6AX  
Open 20th & 21st September – 11am until 4pm

**Teena Ackary**, 6 Thamesmead Cottages, SN6 6BH  
Open 20 & 21st and 27th & 28th September – 10am until 4pm

**Marit Taylor**, 109 High Street, SN6 6AE  
Open 20th & 21st and 27th & 28th September – 11am until 5pm

**Tim Baynes**, 5 Giles Avenue, SN6 6HS  
Open 20th & 21st and 27th & 28th September – 11am until 5pm

**Old Post Office Gallery**, 29A High Street, SN6 6AB  
Open 20th & 27th September – 10am until 4pm

You will be able to find more details about the artists from the Swindon Open Studios brochures which you will find in many venues around Cricklade (and wider afield) or you can check out the Swindon Open Studios website at, [www.swindonopenstudios.org/search?q=Cricklade](http://www.swindonopenstudios.org/search?q=Cricklade)

## 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

The Chronicle

SING 4/4 COMMUNITY CHOIR  
**COME & SING**  
**VIVALDI'S**  
**GLORIA**  
MUSICAL DIRECTOR:  
JEN BAMFORD

**15th November, 2025**  
**Cricklade United Church,**  
**Calcutt St, Cricklade, SN6 6AZ**

♪ **Cost: £15** ♪

( + small booking fee if booked through TicketSource)

**Registration & hot drinks - 10.30am**  
**Informal performance - 4pm**



Please bring your own  
score- the Barenreiter  
edition is preferred.

Light refreshments will be  
available, but please bring  
your own packed lunch.



To book, scan the QR code to register  
through TicketSource

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/sing-44-  
community-choir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sing-44-community-choir)

or contact us through the email:  
[phillipa58@hotmail.com](mailto:phillipa58@hotmail.com)

[www.singfourfour.org.uk](http://www.singfourfour.org.uk)

## Cricklade W.I.

Our group continues to be as busy as ever. September saw us enjoy a fascinating talk about the history of the Quaker Movement encompassing their core values of simplicity, peace, integrity, equality and stewardship. It gave us all something to consider. These talks are always very informative and thought provoking.



**On 16 October** the speaker will be Anne Eckersley who will give us some guidance on taking photos with your mobile phone. So no more blurred images with heads missing and closed eyes.

**20 November** will see a session on Staying Safe Online given by The Bobby Van Trust.

All meetings commence at 7.30 in the Town Hall Annexe. The cost to visitors is £5 which includes refreshments and of course delicious homemade cake.

Cricklade continues to be involved in many other Wiltshire WI events including walks, talks, nature events, even a sponsored wing walk! Some good outings are also in the pipeline for 2026. We also support other groups in the town. There is also a lot of talent in the group including a skilful artist, accomplished crafters and even a published novelist. So there is always someone interesting to talk to!

The Coffee and Chat on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in White Hart continues to be very well supported the next one is on 7 October. Everyone is welcome.

If you are interested in finding out more about us please contact our secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or email at [Vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com](mailto:Vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com).

## Ashton Keynes Village Choir

If you like singing, come and join a successful and friendly choir.

Ashton Keynes Village Choir welcomes male and female singers. Rehearsals on Tuesdays 7.30pm in the school hall, Ashton Keynes.

Please come along or phone Georgie for more details 07526 924 710.

### Save the Date

Winter Concert

29 November at 7pm

Village Hall, Ashton Keynes

## Parkinson's UK

**At Cricklade Hotel & Spa, Common Hill SN6 6HA : 10.30am - noon**

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

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

Contact: [parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com](mailto:parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com) or call 07951 944 760.

The volunteers team looks forward to seeing you there!



## 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. Come and try us out – your first evening is FREE.

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](http://crickladecameraclub.org/program)

On **Tuesday 7 October** at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe, Matt Emmett will be visiting us to give his talk "Rediscovering our forgotten heritage (Part 2)" which should be a great evening. Everybody loved his first talk when he came a few years ago.

On **8 October** we will join bh Photography Club for their Zoom meeting when an external speaker will be giving a presentation.

On **Tuesday 21 October** at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Committee Room we will be holding a Critique Evening. An opportunity for members to show their images and gain opinions and advice before entering Round 1 of the League Competition; it is open to everyone and, whether you show images or not, it's a great way to help understand what makes a good photo.



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## Cricklade Memory Café

Autumn is now here with its glorious colours, after a lovely if rather warm summer. We are now really looking forward to our Christmas festivities. Our party is booked for Wednesday 17 December, with the fantastic Tony M once again providing the music and singing before a tasty buffet lunch. Our special Christmas Raffle will also be drawn after lunch.

We had a surprise generous donation from Saxons Pétanque as well as sponsorship from a number of local businesses in August. As ever these are always so gratefully received and used to support our café and provide treats for our members.

We were delighted to welcome several new members in August. Are you a carer or family member of someone with memory issues or indeed have memory issues yourself? If so, come and see what a friendly, fun group we have and how much support our members gain from being part of CMC. Pop along and see what the Café is about on the first Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall Annexe from 10.30 to 12.30 for coffee, cakes, friendship and fun in a safe, welcoming environment. You will be most welcome. For more information, please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.



## 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 & District Probus Club

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

- 2 Oct *Peter Petrie*: The Man who Built Britain
- 16 Oct *David Head*: Operation Black Buck (Falklands War)
- 30 Oct *John Clark*: Weird and Wonderful Engineering – Items designed for D-day landings.



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](http://probus.org.uk/cricklade)

# Swindon Croquet Club

## Our teams win their end of season games

In the final game of their season against Worcester Norton, Swindon's Handicap team won 12-2 in a match that was shortened due to the very hot weather on the day. Swindon finished joint league winners with Cheltenham but conceded the title through 'hoop difference'. Captain Clive Smith commented, "Another excellent season for the



Club but we are disappointed to miss out on top spot. Congratulations to all the players for their brilliant play."

*Left: Dave Booth's (SCC) winning shot in his game against Worcester Norton CC at Worcester.*

Swindon came out 12-8 winners in this end of season finale of the 'Level play' league against Camerton and Peasdown.

Player of the day was Fiona Hancock who remained unbeaten in all her games. Non-playing Captain, Terry Clements thanked everyone for their efforts throughout the

season, "Every player has shown tremendous skill and application in a very competitive league. We look forward to 2026!"

*Right: Colin Brain (SCC) in action against Camerton & Peasdown*



## Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

Our Club plays on the gravel in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and at 10am on Saturday mornings.

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 organise social activities, e.g. skittles evening, ten pin bowling and the occasional meal out. We have an annual charity day competition too, and proceeds this year were donated to Cricklade Bloomers and Cricklade Memory Café.

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

To find out more about Saxons Pétanque Club, please come and say hello, take a look at our notice board inside the Leisure Centre, or visit our website at [saxonspetanque.co.uk](http://saxonspetanque.co.uk).

## Cricklade Bowls Club

### Kavali Fundraising Curry Evening

**Monday 20 October 2025  
at 7pm**

Kavali Indian Restaurant,  
High Street, Cricklade  
£25 per person  
including Quiz and Raffle.  
Drinks extra.

Please book via

**Gill** 07739 835 773 or  
[g.sarjent@gmail.com](mailto:g.sarjent@gmail.com)

**Helen** 07976 546 825 or  
[HelenDixonMail@gmail.com](mailto:HelenDixonMail@gmail.com)

You do not need to be a club member to join us!

Please do not book direct with Kavali.

Seating numbers are limited.



 In aid of Cricklade Bowls Club

# Kavali Curry Night

**Monday 20th October 2025 at 7pm**

**QUIZ, RAFFLE & LOTS MORE  
£25\* per person**

*\*To include Quiz & Raffle. Drinks extra.*

**PLEASE CONTACT**  
Gill on 07739 835773 or [g.sarjent@gmail.com](mailto:g.sarjent@gmail.com)  
Helen on 07976 546825 or [HelenDixonMail@gmail.com](mailto:HelenDixonMail@gmail.com)

We will have finished our 2025 bowling season by the end of September and we will be into our Winter Skittles season indoors in the club house.

Club Social evenings will be held on the first Saturday of each month, so we do manage to keep together during the off season.

Committee Members will be busy preparing for the AGM which will be held starting at 7pm on Tuesday 11 November in the Bath Road club house.

Unless there is any spectacular news from the AGM, we will sign off until the next article in March 2026 with news of the 2026 season.

For more information please contact:

Roy Phillips (Secretary) [roy2308@btinternet.com](mailto:roy2308@btinternet.com) or 07751 201 793

Paul Coleman (Men's Captain) [colemanpaul1@hotmail.com](mailto:colemanpaul1@hotmail.com)

Margaret Essex (Ladies' Captain) [margaret.essex@sky.com](mailto:margaret.essex@sky.com)

Rick Dixon (Treasurer) [rickdixonbowls@gmail.com](mailto:rickdixonbowls@gmail.com) or 07743 274 977



### Moon Phases

**October 2025**

7th ○

13th ●

21st ●

29th ●

# Cricklade Pétanque Club

Our pistes are at Cricklade House Hotel and Spa, SN6 6HA

At this time of year, many sporting activities take a break in the winter months. Pétanque is played throughout the year, the only concession to the season being that we no longer play on a Tuesday evening.



At the end of August we had our 3-ender competition organised by Sue McKechnie. Congratulations to Sue for her excellent planning and to Allan and Laurence, the eventual winners.

If you would like to come along and have a go you would always be welcome on any of our playing days as below. There is nearly always someone around to show you the ropes but better still there are Pétanque England DBS checked qualified coaches at our coaching sessions. These sessions are a combination of training and then playing a couple of games. Nothing too serious. It really is a lovely way to get a bit of gentle exercise and to meet new people.

**Our playing days are:** Mon 2 - 4.30pm  
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](http://www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk) Facebook Cricklade Petanque Club

email: [info@crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk](mailto: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. Senior men's training is 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.

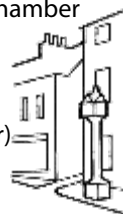
In October we play at home to Devizes II on 4th and away to Royal Wootton Bassett on 11th.

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 is held at our Fairview Fields ground and new players from age 6 are always welcome (no experience necessary and the first four sessions are free). Please contact our Director of Minis, Seth Wareing, [sethwareing@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

# The Chronicle Diary – October 2025

- |    |    |         |   |
|----|----|---------|---|
| 1  | W  | 10.30am | to 12.30pm: Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe                     |
| 2  | Th | 10.20am | Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel                             |
|    |    | 7pm     | Sepsis talk at Purton Surgery - free but ticketed, see page 6   |
| 4  | Sa | 5.45pm  | 6pm start: Zac - musical in a day. United Church, see page 25   |
| 6  | M  | 10am    | to 12 noon: Computer Club at Leisure Centre                     |
|    |    | 7pm     | Kavali Charity Curry Night for PURR cat rehoming, see page 17   |
|    |    | 7pm     | Full Town Council Meeting, Council Chamber                      |
| 7  | Tu | 1.45pm  | to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street        |
|    |    | 7.30pm  | Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe                                 |
| 11 | Sa | 2pm     | to 4pm: St Sampson's Autumn Fayre, St Sampson's School, page 24 |
| 14 | Tu | 7pm     | speaker 7.30pm: Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe                 |
| 15 | 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        |
| 16 | Th | 10.20am | Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel                             |
|    |    | 7.30pm  | Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe                              |
| 17 | F  | 7pm     | 7.30pm start: Historical Society Quiz Night at Town Hall, p19   |
| 20 | M  | 7pm     | Kavali Charity Curry Night for Bowls Club, see page 41          |
|    |    | 7pm     | Town Council Planning,etc Committee Meeting, Council Chamber    |
| 21 | Tu | 1.45pm  | to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street        |
|    |    | 7.30pm  | Art Group at Town Hall Annexe                                   |
|    |    | 7.30pm  | Camera Club meeting in Town Hall Committee Room                 |
| 23 | Th |         | to 3 Nov: Wiltshire Schools autumn break (others may differ)    |
| 26 | Su | 2am     | <b>End of Summer Time</b> – clocks go back one hour             |
| 27 | M  | 7pm     | Town Council Personnel Committee, Council Chamber               |
| 28 | Tu | 8pm     | Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Council Office      |
| 29 | W  | 10am    | to 1pm: scooting/skateboarding sessions, at skatepark, page 3   |
| 30 | Th | 10.20am | Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel                             |
| 31 | F  |         | Hallowe'en  |
|    |    | 7pm     | St Mary's Church Quiz Night at Town Hall, see page 21           |



## 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           |
|    | 7-8.30pm     | Senior men's Rugby training at Fairview Fields                     |
|    | 7-10pm       | The Cricklade Band rehearsal night, at Town Hall, visitors welcome |
|    | 7.30-9.30pm  | Sing Four Four choir rehearsal at United Church, Calcutt Street    |
| F  | 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 - page 41



## *The Final Word ...*

On my daily walks or runs around the town, I often pass the community orchard in Fairview Fields. Over the past couple of years, it's been a delight to watch it develop from small, straggly saplings to the point of seeing real apples and pears. The trees are still very young but even during the difficult dry spring and summer this year, their roots have been robust enough for them to continue to grow and, quite literally, bear fruit.

In Psalm 1, the writer talks of the faithful as those who are "like trees planted by streams of water, that yield fruit in due season, and their leaves flourish; and in all they do they give life".

Like many people, I look at the world around us often with a heavy heart. Amid wars, acts of unconscionable cruelty and disregard for others' humanity, and inaction in the face of climate crisis, it can be all too easy to fall into despair and think "what can I do in the face of all this?"

While I can't change the world, I have increasingly become aware of the connection between my own words, actions and responses, and the "big issues". I can choose not to add to the violence and hate of the world by careful choices in what I do or how I speak of others. Even if the soil of public discourse feels increasingly dry and parched, each of us can choose to do what we can to bear good fruit; to root ourselves in love and wisdom and to strive that in "all we do we give life".

*Revd Liz Griffiths*

*Cricklade resident and Director of Bridge Builders  
(a small Christian charity, focused on reconciliation)*

*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.*

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