

# The Chronicle

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No. 608

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April 2026

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# From the Editor

I have many to thank for good wishes and help during my indisposition last month. But none more so than Clare Flanagan

who stepped in to take over the editor role just after the normal copy deadline.

Thankfully she was familiar with the layout program used (Canva Affinity) but getting to grips with someone else's method of working is always the big challenge.

February being a short month didn't help!

The March issue arrived on doormats a little later than usual but it did arrive!

Thank you, Clare.

We are now definitely into spring with the main event being Easter, a sign of renewal in the year. We have an Information Weekend on North Meadow this month hosted by the Court Leet (page 4). Bloomers have their

Fritillary Teas at Thames Hall on the weekend of 18 and 19 April (page 21). I do hope we have a fritillary display this year after such a wet beginning to the year.

There are two fundraising events at Kavali Restaurant this month. The St Sampson's Refurbishment Appeal have one on 13 April (page 24), then Sailability on 27 April (page 21). Please book via the organisers, not the restaurant. Kavali again show their support of town organisations and deserve our thanks.

The Town Council is holding the Annual Town Meeting at the Town Hall on 14 April (page 3). All are welcome and the Annual Community Awards will be presented at the meeting.

Cricklade Cinema end their Spring Season on 28 April (page 28) with *The Choral*. I watched this on a streaming channel recently and can recommend it! Tickets from the Council Offices.

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The deadline for the May 2026 issue is Wednesday 1 April 2026

## CRICKLADE CHRONICLE CONTACTS

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### Community contacts

All 01793 unless stated or emergency. This section is intended to give quick access to emergency and community help phone numbers. If you spot something missing, please let us know: [RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com](mailto:RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com) or 01793 759123.

Churches .....	see centre pages	Dentist (104 High St) .....	750388
Cricklade Town Council .....	751394	Gas leak reporting .....	0800 111 999
Latton P/Council ...	<a href="mailto:clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk">clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk</a>	Library (113 High St) .....	750694
MP (South Cotswolds) .....	01285 300555	Link Scheme transport .....	07421 018 499
	<a href="mailto:roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk">roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk</a>	Open Door .....	07599 987 851
Wiltshire Councillor .....	752501	Optician (82 High St) .....	750415
Wiltshire Council hub .....	0300 456 0100	Purton Vets (Bath Rd) .....	751698
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Non-Emergency: NHS .....	111	Schools:	
Doctors: Purton Surgery .....	770207	St Sampson's Primary .....	750452
Green Gables Surgery .....	752633	Cricklade Manor Prep .....	750275
Cricklade (De Silva) .....	750645	Bradon Forest .....	770570
Boots Chemist (100 High St) .....	750226		

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

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

# Cricklade Town Council

## Town Council Meetings

**Tuesday 7 April** Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

**Tuesday 14 April** Annual Town Meeting at **Cricklade Town Hall** from 6.30pm

**Monday 27 April** Community and Leisure 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.

### **Annual Town Meeting – Tuesday 14 April 2026**

This year the Annual Town Meeting is on Tuesday 14 April 2026 at 7pm **in the Town Hall**. It is an opportunity for you to hear from Councillors who will give presentations on the Council's activities, and to let you know a bit about what is planned for the next 12 months. There will also an opportunity to meet and hear from community groups on matters that are of local importance, so please make a date in your diary now for this informative annual event.

### **The Annual Community Awards will be presented at this meeting.**

During the evening there will be plenty of opportunities for you to ask questions. These can be lodged in advance (by Tuesday 7 April 2026 please) if it is likely that your question would need research to answer fully.

Everyone is welcome to attend, and refreshments will be served from 6.30pm.

### **MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There are five large planning applications in the system at the moment which we summarise below. The full details including plans etc can be seen on the Wiltshire Council website under the reference numbers shown in brackets. Summary copies of the plans can be viewed in our front office.

- Land off Common Hill (next to Leisure Centre grounds) by Bloor Homes: outline application for 49 dwellings (2021/10404)
- Land south of The Forty by Hannick Homes: outline application for 49 dwellings and with cemetery space off Chelworth Road (2023/10331)
- Land north west of B4553 (next to Hitchings, opposite Godby's Farm) by Bellway Homes: full application for 43 dwellings (2025/07863)
- Land at Stones Farm (north of Reeds) by Newland Homes: reserved matters application for 140 dwellings. This site was granted outline planning permission on appeal in January 2025 and this latest application covers matters such as layout, design etc (2026/00647)
- Land north of Common Hill (between Common Hill and Stones Lane) by Mac Mic Group: up to 315 dwellings. A preliminary public consultation has been carried out

*continues overleaf*



(please refer to their website [www.landnorthofcommonhill.co.uk](http://www.landnorthofcommonhill.co.uk)) and an outline application to Wiltshire Council is expected shortly.

Cricklade Town Council objected to the first four listed above because the rate of housing delivery would be greater than you have told us that you want. However, the government now require much higher numbers of housing to be delivered in areas such as ours and the target for Wiltshire has increased by 84%. It is the policy of CTC to engage with developers during the planning process to try to ensure that any housing that does come forwards is the best it can be for the new occupants and nearby residents.

### **Cricklade Town Centre Phone Box**

The results have been counted, and the winner of what to use the telephone box for in future was too close to call between both being used as a Tourist Information Point and a book exchange. So there will be some leaflets and a Town map and also shelving that can be used for book exchange. If you have any suitable books you would like to donate then please bring them to the office during opening hours.

### **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 3rd and 7th April bank 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](http://www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil)



### **Cricklade Court Leet North Meadow information weekend**



The Manorial Court Leet will be hosting an Information Weekend on North Meadow over the weekend of 25 to 26 April.

### **Thames Hall (by Thames Bridge) 11am to 4pm on both days.**

Come and learn about the importance of North Meadow as our floodplain, its management and its amazing biodiversity.

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## Wiltshire Perspective

Nick Dye, Councillor for Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey

After a couple of months of biting nails (I couldn't be pulling my hair out!) Wiltshire Council managed to pass a budget. That said, it's great to get back to 'normal' work; specifically traffic. 'Traffic' primarily consists of two elements: potholes and speed.

### Potholes

To deal with the most obvious first, the potholes are as a result of the weather we've had this winter. There are four types of repair:

- A temporary patch until something long term can be done, (an example was the poor repair outside The Vale last summer, which was done properly a few months later).
- A small patch (longer term fill, examples being the High Street where they relaid the gas main).
- A Substantial Patch (using something called a bob cat, which Wiltshire has two machines, which was used on the Purton Road, but covered a much smaller area than we wanted).
- Complete resurfacing, as was done on Calcutt Street a few years ago.

This (*right*) is the total amount we have spent and plan to spend in Wiltshire maintaining our roads (this excludes things like the Chippenham bypass and motorways). I find charts easier to interpret than the raw numbers, but I can provide them to you if you wish.

Currently about three quarters of highways funding comes direct from the Department for Transport.



### Speed

Because of a serious accident on the dual carriageway at Water Eaton, traffic was forced off the A419 onto country lanes that the drivers weren't used to, and the serious accident led to a second fatal accident in the Cricklade area.

There was also a third incident where someone was recording drivers breaking the law and that led to them being assaulted.

The state of the roads wasn't the issue, the speed was. If we want to calm things down, I would like to propose a general reduction in traffic speed through both Latton and Cricklade down to 20mph. But before I do, I'd like to hear what your thoughts are. I'm aware that not everybody reads this in detail every time, but those that do and those who have a strong enough opinion please write to me at [nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk). I will then collate the results before I decide to start my lobbying. The town and parish councils may also have a view and they will be my first point to present any results.

Please let me know what you think. I need your opinions and feedback if I'm to represent you. Thank you.

If you think I might be able to help you, please contact me on 752501 or at [nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk).

# Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

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## **Easter Raffle**

Our delicious Easter Raffle (in aid of purchases for the patients at the surgeries) is now underway. Tickets are just 50p each and available from the receptionists. The draw will take place on 27 March. Good luck....

## **200 Club**

New members to the 200 Club are always very welcome. It costs just £15 a year, paid by standing order. Every month, we award two prizes – one of £100 and another of £15. All proceeds go toward buying equipment for the surgeries that the NHS does not supply. Please enquire at reception if you wish to join.

Our lucky March winners are: First prize of £100 Andrew Lawrence (winning number 55); Second prize of £15 Kylie Stent (number 85); the draw was made by receptionist Suzanne.

## **Tabletop /Book donations**

Please hand in any good quality books and items for sale at the surgeries. Again, funds raised through these donations provide all the 'extras' needed. Thank you for your donations to both!

## **Health /Information Talk about Kidneys – how to look after yours!**

We are delighted to invite you to our next 'Health/Information talk' at Purton Surgery on Thursday 16 April at 7.30pm. Melanie Philips and her team will be returning to lead the evening. Melanie is the Sepsis, Acute Kidney Injury Lead at the Great Western Hospital and provided a very well received and informative talk about Sepsis in October. There will be 40 free tickets available from 16 March. If you would like to join the evening, please pick a ticket up at the reception desks at either surgery and add your name to the list when you collect one. Please bring your ticket with you on the night.

## **We need you!**

Following the retirement of several of our committee members, and our thanks go to them for their sterling contributions over the years, the opportunity has arisen for new members to join the Purton Patient Group (PPG). More information about the work of the PPG will be given at the next Health Talk in April and will also be available as a leaflet from reception at the surgeries.

Anyone who is a registered patient at the surgery in Purton or Cricklade Green Gable and who would like to make a positive difference to the surgery is eligible to join, so please do give it some thought. We really would love to hear from you....

*Thank you!*

## **Roz Savage MP**

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

To book an appointment, 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.



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Parent feedback May 2024

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Parent feedback May 2024



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# Bath Road



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or telephone 07976 546 825



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For further details of all our facilities, courses, classes and events

Call 01793 750011 [www.crickladeleisure.com](http://www.crickladeleisure.com) [crickladeleisure](https://www.facebook.com/crickladeleisure)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

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

# Wayland Estates Charity

*Supporting Cricklade, Past and Present*



At their next meeting on **3 June 2026**, the Trustees to Wayland Estates Charity will consider grant applications from organisations and groups towards any project or activity which has commenced or is about to commence. Any project seeking a grant must be for the general benefit of the people of Cricklade and the local area.

Application forms are available from the Clerk: John Harman

Tel: 07962 116 526 Email: [jharman@btopenworld.com](mailto:jharman@btopenworld.com)

## **APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE 1 MAY 2026**

Wayland Estates Charity is regulated by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 31 March 1976 as amended by resolutions dated 8 July 2009 and 5 February 2020.

Copies of the Charity's annual report and investment policy can be obtained from the Clerk.

## **Cricklade Pre-School Playgroup**

Jumble Trail  
Saturday 9 May  
10 am - 3pm

Maps £1 on the day  
From Cricklade Pre-School Playgroup,  
Outside Tesco,  
or The Oaks, Thames Lane

To book a table, email:  
[fundraising.playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com](mailto:fundraising.playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com)  
Or QR Code (=email)  
or 07505 004 555



## **Cricklade Defibrillators**

Thanks are due to the Cricklade Defibrillator 'Community Heart Beat Trust' team, and all their supporters and friends.

The meat raffle at The Red Lion, held over several weeks around the Christmas period, raised a splendid £1,125.00. The team is very grateful to the Red Lion staff for making this possible. In similar vein, our thanks go to the Kavali team who hosted our Curry/Quiz event enabling us to raise a further £526.00.

All this hard work and effort means that the defibrillators stand ready on 24 hour call for a further 12 months.

Thank you to an amazing team and those who support us

**Cricklade Jumble Trail**  
**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May 10am - 3pm**

Book your spot on our map for only £10 to sell your goods, unwanted items, crafts ect.

Maps available on the day from Cricklade Pre-School Playgroup, outside Tesco and The Oaks, Thames Lane, SN66BH

To book email: [fundraising.playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com](mailto:fundraising.playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com) or call Karen on 07505004555 by the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Raising funds for Cricklade Pre-School Playgroup.  
Charity No: 1136703

**Cricklade Pre-School Playgroup**

If you're interested in a place for your child or more information please email: [playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com](mailto:playgroupcricklade@btinternet.com) or call on 01793 750817

## Cricklade W.I.

April - almost summer. I always associate April with Easter which we will all be enjoying in the first week. Hope the sun will be shining on the Easter baskets!



We enjoyed a fascinating talk from Cricklade local Mike Fawcett who gave us an insight into military life behind the scenes in the Guards. I can thoroughly recommend his talk to any other local groups.

I might also add that I am still enjoying my artwork from the Iris Folding workshop in February. See our Facebook page for examples of our efforts.

**On 16 April** we will welcome Wiltshire writer Ruth Derham who has a special interest in the changing attitudes to marriage and divorce in the Victorian era. 1883 saw the opening of the new Royal Courts of Justice, unleashing stories from dissatisfied spouses of all classes. So that should be very interesting.

Our Coffee and Chat mornings at the White Hart are proving very popular and we would love to see more ladies for good coffee (or tea!) and a good sociable chat.

### Upcoming Events

Coffee and Chat at the White Hart 11am on Tuesday 7 April & Tuesday 5 May.

Thursday 16 April 7.30pm - A Day in the Life of the Victorian Divorce Court. Speaker: Ruth Derham.

Thursday 21 May 7.30 pm - Saxon Riding for the Disabled. Speaker: Kady Chatman.

If you are interested in finding out more about Cricklade WI and our activities please contact our Secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or speak to one of our members.

So, ladies from Cricklade and surrounding areas, do give some thought to giving the WI a try – there is always tea and cake along with friendship and laughter. We also have other activities not related to the meetings such as craft sessions, outings and walks. Plenty to participate in and enjoy.

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

**Cricklade 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 Open Door

Spring is sprung,  
The grass is riz,  
I wonder where the birdies is?

This is a poem by Spike Milligan, with intentional grammatical errors, to celebrate the arrival of spring. Here is our version -

Spring is sprung,  
The grass is riz,  
I wonder where OPEN DOOR is?

It's at THE JENNER HALL, Bath Road, every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10.00 to 3.30 – where are YOU?

Come along and find company, chat and fun. It's a 'Drop In' group, so you can stay for half an hour or several hours.

**MONDAY MORNINGS** - Knitting/Crochet group and a Coffee and Chat group.

**AFTERNOONS** - Seated Exercise Group

**TUESDAY MORNINGS** - Coffee with conversations and chat. **AFTERNOONS** - Mixed bag of quizzes, games, speakers etc.

**THURSDAY MORNINGS** - Coffee with conversations and chat. **AFTERNOONS** - Fun Bingo

*Lunches can also be booked on all three days.*

So pop along, you will find a warm welcome and if you don't want to walk into the hall on your own, then give us a ring on: 07599 987 851 and a friendly face will meet you at the gate and walk in with you – or come with a friend. See you soon!

## Cricklade Historical Society

**Wednesday 15 April: Midland & South Western Junction Railway.**

Speaker – Nick Baxter.

Nick will talk to us about the Midland & South Western Junction Railway which had its Headquarters at Swindon Old Town Station. The line was a vital north-south route through the Cotswolds, Wiltshire and Hampshire. Until 1923, when it was taken over by the Great Western Railway, the M&SWJR was a serious rival. Its story is a fascinating one.

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

**NB – As from 1 April the Museum will be open on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm – 4pm as well as Saturday mornings 10am to noon – please come and visit us.**

## Wiltshire Sight

Wiltshire Sight have a local centre on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Cricklade Library between 10.15am and 12.30pm.

By appointment only. Please call 01380 723682 or e-mail [info@wiltshiresight.org](mailto:info@wiltshiresight.org)

Get information, advice and practical help from a sight loss advisor.



# Cricklade Bloomers

Once Again Cricklade Bloomers Will Be Hosting

The Fritillary Tea Rooms at The Thames Hall

Saturday and Sunday,

18 and 19 April – 11am to 4pm



To raise funds for maintaining and improving Cricklade's trees, flower beds, planters and future new projects.

Hot and cold beverages and savoury and sweet refreshments will be on sale including, locally home-made cream teas and cakes.

All the usual plants and produce you find on our cart outside The Walled Garden will be for sale - including pots of fritillaries.

Come and support the volunteers who keep Cricklade looking good.

For more information email: [crickladebloomers@gmail.com](mailto:crickladebloomers@gmail.com)



## Friends of St Mary's

Summer Garden Party at Mount House,

23 High Street, Sunday 21 June, 1pm to 5pm

Tickets £10 (adults), £5 (children 6-12 yrs), under 5s free: from Town Council office, St Mary's Church or Anita Barrett (07540 328 281).



in aid of Antony Williams and Toby Owen competing in European and world championships this year.

## Kavali Curry Night

Monday 27th April 2026 at 7pm

QUIZ, RAFFLE & LOTS MORE

£25\* per person

\*to include Quiz & Raffle. Drinks extra

PLEASE CONTACT  
Sue Williams tel/text 07776 075 327

## Sailability Curry Night

Kavali night on **Monday 27 April** to raise funds for Antony and Toby competing in European and world championships this year. Book £25 via from Sue Williams 07776 075 327.

# Churches Together

## Services for the Upper Thames Churches

**3 April**

**Good Friday**

2pm Final Hour service at St Sampson's

**5 April**

**Easter Day**

8am Holy Communion at St Sampson's

10am Easter Communion at St Sampson's

10am Easter Celebration with Communion + Egg Hunt  
at Holy Cross Ashton Keynes

11.15am Easter Communion at St John the Baptist, Latton

11.30am Easter Communion + Egg Hunt at All Saints, Leigh

6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

**12 April**

**Easter 2**

10am Worship Together Holy Communion at St Sampson's for the Benefice  
and farewell to Revd Sharon.

**19 April**

**Easter 3**

8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast at St Sampson's

10am Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Latton

10am Morning Worship at St Sampson's

10am Around the Table café-style worship at Holy Cross

3.30pm Messy Church at Holy Cross AK

6pm Evensong in Ashton Keynes (contact David Tarr)

6.30pm Evensong at St Sampson's

**26 April**

**Easter 4**

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*

## 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

# *er in Cricklade & Latton*

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

### Wedding

26 February Shelby Bevan and John Paul Varey at *St Sampson's*

### Funerals

3 February Audrey Mary Marley at *Kingsdown Crematorium*

5 February Keith Hoskins at *St Sampson's*

11 February Rudy (Loshin) Price at *St Sampson's and interment in Cricklade cemetery*

19 February Jean Whitbread at *St Sampson's*

20 February Joan Edwards: *Memorial service at Holy Cross*

28 February Raymond William Gibbs: *Holy Cross service and interment*

## 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*

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

## 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 April - all at 10.30am

5 April **Easter Sunday** Communion service led by Rev Roy Fowler

12 April David and Anne Pope

19 April Rev Sarah Simpson

26 April Worship Group - 2nd service in our series reflecting on our aspirations to fulfil our responsibilities as a Eco-church which cares for creation.

## Coffee Cafe

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

**3 April** Good Friday - Special Coffee Cafe with hot cross buns!

# St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future



Our quiz night in February was a great success! Many thanks to all who came and contributed to it.

Unfortunately our wine tasting event has had to be postponed until October.

Our next event will be our Kavali Curry night on 13 April. Please book via Adina (07592 916 966) or Helen (07976 546 825) *not* via Kavali. Price is £25.

## St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winners of the recent draws were:

January 2026 Dale Ford £33

February 2026 Barbara Smith £33

St Sampson's Church benefited by £66

To join the 100 Club, contact Sharon Smith: tel. 751375 or email [sharonsmith54@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonsmith54@hotmail.com)

SUPPORTING ST SAMPSON'S CHURCH APPEAL

## Kavali Curry Night

Monday 13th April 2026 at 7pm

£25 per person

Includes QUIZ & RAFFLE, Drinks extra

PLEASE CONTACT

Adina on 07592 916 966 or [janda.grace447@outlook.com](mailto:janda.grace447@outlook.com)  
Helen on 07976 546 825 or [helendixonmail@gmail.com](mailto:helendixonmail@gmail.com)

Photo: Sharon Smith

**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](http://donate.giveasyoulive.com).



## Sing Four Four Community Choir

Come and join us and have fun making music!

**Dates for your diaries:** - Summer concert 11 July at St Mary's Church, Purton 7pm-9pm. Christmas concert 6 December at St Sampsons Church (timings tbc)

We are a friendly and welcoming choir, always open to new members. You don't need to be able to read music and there are no auditions.

Come along and try us out. We meet at United Church, Calcutt Street, Cricklade, on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. You can expect a warm welcome, lots of fun and a wide variety of music.

See our website [singfourfour.org.uk](http://singfourfour.org.uk) for further information or contact our musical director, Jen Bamford on [jenloubamford@googlemail.com](mailto:jenloubamford@googlemail.com)



## In Our Broader Area

### ■ The Wessex (male choir)

For your diary: **Summer Concert at Christ Church, Swindon SN1 3HG** – Saturday 27 June at 7pm (doors open 6.15pm), with guests Great Western Chorus from Bristol.

**Tickets** will be available soon, price £15 (u-16s £6.00). Watch for more details.

## In Memoriam

■ LES OSBORN

Margaret Osborn, wife of the late Les Osborn, would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, cards and support.

Thank you also for those who came to pay their respect for the life of Les; it was appreciated.

The thanks extends to the Cricklade Branch of the Royal British Legion who made the service something Les would have loved and been very proud of.

£342.50 was donated to Alzheimer's Society.

The family made a donation to the Cricklade Branch of The Royal British Legion for their support.

*This item has been repeated as it was unfortunately truncated in the March issue. [Ed]*

## Thank You

■ AUDREY MARLEY

Tony, Paul and Clare would like to thank everyone for the cards and kind messages they have received, following the passing of Audrey on 22 December.

Our thanks also go to Russell Osman at Blackwells for his care and help in arranging the funeral, Celia at C & R for the beautiful flowers, the Revd Canon Debbie Dewes for conducting the lovely service at Kingsdown Crematorium and Sophie King for all her kindness and support given to Mum and the family. Last, but not least, our thanks to all those from Helping Hands who cared for Mum for so long, it was very much appreciated.

All donations received, £195.00, will be sent to the Prospect Hospice.

## Bounce and Rhyme

Bounce and Rhyme - a group for babies and toddlers plus their parents, grandparents and carers takes place every fortnight at the United Church Hall in Calcutt Street from 1.45 - 3pm on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

The date this month is **21 April**. (Only one meeting this month due to School Easter holidays)

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

## Cricklade Breastfeeding Friends

We run at the same time as Bounce and Rhyme alongside the free music group to offer friendly supportive infant feeding and parenting advice. We're non-judgemental and offer a safe space to talk about anything on your mind and signpost to other services and resources to help. A private space is available to talk in confidence.

## 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

## U.S.P.G. Elephants

Thank you again for your donations to the USPG Elephants. The October collection raised £361.00. Our donations help alleviate some of the hardships encountered by some of the most vulnerable in southern Malawi. Thank you again for your support.

I would like to "round up" the elephants on Sunday 12 April, so if you are able to bring yours to St Sampson's that day I'd appreciate it, or I'll arrange to pop round and collect,

Thanks

*Paul Fray 750740*

## Cricklade Foodbank

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

If you are in particular difficulty, please call the Helpline (01666 826982) and speak to a volunteer.



For those able to get there, please remember to ring ahead of your arrival, so they will be expecting you.

Our donation boxes are in their normal places: Tesco, pet shop, Culverhay Stores, Town Council Office, St Sampson's School (during term times) and the local churches.

We will have a Foodbank stand outside Tesco's on **Saturday 11 April** for information and donations relating to the foodbank!

*Happy Easter from the Foodbank team.*

## 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 in person 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 April**, at 7.30pm in Cricklade Town Hall Annexe, we have a presentation from visiting speaker Aleks Gjika entitled "In the search of Je ne sais quoi". Aleks says 'It is my belief that behind every successful image there is something special, something interesting, something that is sometimes obvious, but often we cannot quite put our finger on it! This is what they call in France (and not only!) "Je ne sais quoi!" and this is what I am in search of!!'

On **Tuesday 21 April** at 7.30pm we are hosting a Zoom meeting by Kevin Pigney entitled "Passion for scapes". This is a presentation where Kevin not only shows lots of his favourite land and sea scape images but also goes into details on in-camera techniques as to how they were achieved, including using filters, bracketing exposures and long exposure techniques.

For more information contact: [clubsecretary@crickladecameraclub.org](mailto:clubsecretary@crickladecameraclub.org)

## Cricklade Garden Club

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

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 14 April** when our speaker is Sally Morgan. Her talk is entitled:

### The Climate Change Garden

Sally is a botanist and garden writer. She is a distinguished speaker, having appeared at numerous festivals, including RHS Hampton Court, Toby Buckland's Flower Festival and as far afield as the NW Pacific Garden and Flower Festival in Seattle.

As we are now in spring after the driest summer followed by the wettest winter, our way of gardening is being challenged as never before. Sally will guide us in facing up to this new gardening world.

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 Bizzie 07876 347 973 or Janet 07765 276 534.

We look forward to seeing you!

## 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!

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## Thank you Cricklade

**From the Christmas Lights Team**

A big thank you to everyone who joined us and supported the **2025**

**Cricklade Christmas Lights.**

With special thanks to our **2025 sponsors**, without whom the event wouldn't be possible:

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CTC Groundsmen

Cricklade Fire & Rescue

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**See you again on 28 November 2026.**

## Cricklade Memory Café

Following our second birthday party in February we enjoyed another fun Café in March with our friend Cat Attewell from *Home Instead*. We are so lucky to have her regular support. Of course there was music, dancing and cake.



Sue Cann our Dementia Advisor for North Wilts and Louise Nantwell from WCC Wellbeing Team are also regular visitors who offer one to one support to our members who may need a little extra help. We find it so much easier for people to meet them in our regular Café's rather than having to make appointments or talk on the phone. Of course they are able to follow up any needs identified and provide more specialist advice and care. Their visits and support they both offer are so greatly appreciated not only by our members, but by our whole team.

Our AGM is being held on **Wednesday 25 March** at 5pm in the committee room at the Town Hall.

We are always happy to welcome new members just pop along on the first Wednesday of any month between 10.30 and 12.30 and see what we do, or for more information, please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.

## 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 CINEMA!

We end our Spring Season on Tuesday 28 April at 8pm in the Town Hall.



## The Choral (Cert 15, 113mins)

Set in 1916, a choral society in a small Yorkshire town prepares for a major production and is struggling to recruit new members as many of the men are enlisted to fight in the First World War. Ralph Fiennes heads a strong cast, in a film written by Alan Bennett.

*(contains: infrequent strong language, moderate sex)*

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

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

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

Check us out at Facebook Cricklade Cinema

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[admin@crickladeaestheticsclinic.co.uk](mailto:admin@crickladeaestheticsclinic.co.uk)



# INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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[www.blackwellssofswindon.com](http://www.blackwellssofswindon.com)



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- **Infected Insect Bites (Adults & Children aged 1 and over)**
- **Impetigo (Adults & Children aged 1 year and over)**
- **Shingles (Adults 18 years and over)**
- **Urinary Tract Infections (Women aged 16 to 64 years)**

So, if you or a family member have any of the above symptoms, please come in and speak to our Pharmacist. They will be there to offer help, advice and possible treatment. There is no need to make an appointment.

Our Pharmacy team can also offer NHS services for the following:



**NHS Blood Pressure Check:** For anyone over the age of 40 years, and with no previous high blood pressure history or diagnosis.



**NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service:** You can get your oral contraception medication without the need to visit the GP.

Boots in Cricklade is more than just a place to pick up medications. We are a community resource, committed to supporting your health and wellbeing. Whether you need a quick consultation or just friendly advice, we are always here to help.

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SJP APPROVED 08/03/2024

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# Wayland Estates Charity

Supporting Cricklade, Past & Present



## Leave a Legacy to Cricklade

Wayland Estates Charity would appreciate residents of Cricklade considering making a donation or leaving a gift in their will to the Charity.

**WHY?** Currently, Wayland Estates Charity gives approximately £10,000 per annum to community groups. The Charity has a limited amount of capital, providing a small amount of income, with little opportunity for growth. In future we would like to be able to increase our income allowing us to help more groups and support bigger projects.

**Who do we help?** Examples of projects that have been supported are for the Cricklade Development Foundation, the Memory Café, Cricket Club, Bowls Club, the Town Band, the Jenner Hall, the Clock at St Mary's, The Chronicle, the Leisure Centre's Dance Studio. Our grants, given for capital projects not for running costs, enable groups to provide a community facility that may otherwise be lost in the future without valuable support.

Would you like to donate now or leave a legacy in your will for the benefit of Cricklade and the future of Cricklade? The Charity is the perfect way to do this by adding to the Charity's capital ensuring a healthy future income to help groups supporting all of Cricklade.

### A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

For more information contact John Harman (clerk to Wayland Estates Charity)

Tel: 07962 116526 Email: [jharman@btopenworld.com](mailto:jharman@btopenworld.com)

or visit our Facebook page: [facebook.com/waylandestates](https://facebook.com/waylandestates)

or donate at: [donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/waylandestatescharity](https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/waylandestatescharity)

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[www.crickladepreschoolplaygroup.com](http://www.crickladepreschoolplaygroup.com)

**Register Now**



## Cricklade Bowls Club

April marks the start of the 2026 Bowling Season. We will be holding our Members' Open Day on 18 April, from 2 to 4pm. The Open Day will start with a spider competition at 2pm – make sure to have £1 handy! During the afternoon, members will be able to complete registration for the year and have a practice bowling session.

This, of course is subject to the weather and whether our magnificent Green Keeper and his team of helpers have managed to make the green playable after the wettest January and February on record.

We will be holding our regular Club Nights every Friday from 24 April. If you would like to try the game, come along any Friday evening during the season. We have social 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 £20. 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.

We hope to hold a public Open Day as part of Bowls England's Big Bowls Weekend in May but they haven't yet released the dates for their event. Details in the May issue.

For more information about the club, 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)

We hope to see you this coming season.

## Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

If you've ever wondered what the difference is between "pétanque" and "boules" ... there isn't one! In French, "boule" simply means "ball", and while people in France tend to call the game boules, the rest of us usually say pétanque (pronounced pay-tonk).

We'd love you to come and give pétanque a try. There's no pressure to join the club, just come along and have fun. We even have spare boules you can borrow to get started. We have players of all levels so, whether you're a complete beginner or a seasoned pro who is keen to play in competitions, you'll fit right in.

### **When and where to find Saxons Pétanque Club:**

We play on the gravel pistes right in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre.

- **Tuesdays and Thursdays** at 2pm
- **Saturdays** at 10am
- **Summer Wednesday evenings** (starting in May)

Just pop by 10 minutes before we start so we can get you settled. If you find you're hooked, annual membership is a bargain at just £25, and we have four qualified coaches ready to help you sharpen your aim and master your technique.

We're a friendly bunch, so come and say hello, check out our notice board inside Cricklade Leisure Centre, or visit us at [saxonspetanque.co.uk](http://saxonspetanque.co.uk).

and resilience. Senior men’s training is on Thursdays 19.00 – 20.30 at Fairview Fields, no experience necessary; contact Captain, Nick 07542 021 692, or Coach, Pixie 07728 399 759; all are welcome. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters. We are short of Senior men players, so we look forward to hearing from all you rugby supporters! The results for February are not yet available but we play at Home to Swindon College Old Boys on 11 April so do come along and support us!

Are you a grandparent? Would you like to support your grandchildren’s generation at your local rugby club? Then get in touch; we are looking for volunteers to help with our Minis, Juniors and Committee. We are a friendly crowd and welcome new volunteers who want to join in at our local club. We have a pressing need for new blood to serve on our Committee. Coincidentally a few Officers are retiring at the same time, after many years of hard work supporting Cricklade’s Rugby Club to thrive and grow. If you are interested and would like come along and support your local club, please do contact Danny Lloyd, our Chairman, on 07979 864 279, or any other members of the Committee.

Our Minis section 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 4 sessions are free). Please contact Chris Lennon on 07595 764 878, email [chris.lennon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris.lennon@hotmail.co.uk). We would also welcome any parents or grandparents who want to get involved and support the Juniors and Minis, so if you are interested please contact Chris.

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

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


1st Prize	Sharon Smith	£33.00
2nd Prize	Nicola Gooderham	£22.00
	Jenner Hall Funds:	£55.00



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.

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## Cricklade Pétanque Club

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

In January, over 400 people played on our pistes. If you would like to have a go at pétanque, we are having an Open Day on **Sunday 3 May**, from 10am to 4pm. We will have refreshments available and the hotel will also be open as usual. Do come and join us!

If you can't make the Open Day, don't forget that you are always welcome to have a go on any of our playing days as below. There will be someone around to show you the ropes and there are Pétanque England qualified coaches at our coaching sessions. These sessions are a combination of training and then playing a couple of games. Nothing too serious.

Our next Club Social will be on Friday 24 April.

**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 & District Probus Club

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

2 Apr The Mossad.

16 Apr *Nick Baxter:* Swindon's Other Railway – a History of the Midland South Western Junction Railway

30 Apr AGM



Meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday meeting at 10.00 am 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 and District Probus Club and our scheduled talks for the year visit our new website at [probus.org.uk/cricklade](http://probus.org.uk/cricklade)

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### Moon Phases

**April 2026**

2nd ○

10th ●

17th ●

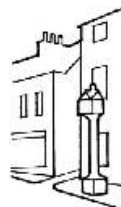
24th ●

# The Chronicle Diary – April 2026

- 1 W 10.30am to 12.30pm: Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe  
end of day Chronicle copy deadline, please
- 2 Th 10.20am Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
- 3 F **Good Friday** - bank holiday  
10am to 11.30am: Coffee Café at United Church hall, with hot cross buns
- 5 Su **Easter Sunday**
- 6 M 10am **Easter Monday** - bank holiday
- 7 Tu 7pm Town Council PC&T Committee, Council Chamber  
7.30pm Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
- 13 M Wiltshire schools resume (others may vary)  
10am to 12 noon: Computer Club at Leisure Centre  
7pm Kavali Curry Night for St Sampson's Church Appeal – see page 24
- 14 Tu 7pm Annual Town Meeting, Town Hall  
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  
7.30pm Purton Surgery: Health talk on kidneys. Free but ticketed, see page 6
- 21 Tu 1.45pm to 2.45pm: Coffee Café & Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street  
7.30pm Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
- 23 Th **St George's Day**
- 25 Sa 11am to 4pm: North Meadow Information weekend at Thames Hall, see page 4
- 26 Su 11am to 4pm: North Meadow Information weekend at Thames Hall, see page 4
- 27 M 7pm Kavali Curry Night for Sailability – see page 21  
7pm Town Council Community & Leisure Committee, Council Chamber
- 30 Th 10.20am Probus Club AGM at the White Hart Hotel

## Every Week

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10am-3.30pm: Open Door at Jenner Hall
- Wednesday (2-4pm), Saturday (10am-noon) Cricklade Museum open, Calcutt Street
- M 7.45-9pm St Sampson's Bellringers
- Tu 6.30pm Cricklade Walking Group - from Cricklade Leisure Centre  
7-8pm Rugby Mixed Tag 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



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## *The Final Word ...*

Those three words –

I wonder if your mind has immediately thought 'I love you'? For most people that would be the natural response if asked. Three words that say so much.

I would like to offer you another option, 'Christ is Risen', again three words and ones that have behind them a story unequalled before or since they were uttered on that first Easter Day.

Apart from the obvious fact that both contain three words, they are further linked by love.

We say 'I love you' to someone we have committed ourselves to; to say it is to make a declaration, to show intent, knowing such love is the most amazing, wonderful feeling ever.

So why do I think they are connected to 'Christ is Risen'?

The answer, quite simply is that when we speak those words on Easter Day we are acknowledging the power of life over death certainly, we are recognising God's power, but over and above everything else we are celebrating God's love for the world; that he gave his only Son, Jesus Christ to be born amongst humanity, to live and die for us and even though he was without sin, even though he was blameless, he took the place of the world and endured death on the cross, crucifixion – the most horrific of deaths. If that doesn't show love in its purest form, then what does?

Such love is meant to make us stop and think, such love, selfless and pure is unique, such love is for all people.

Such love is needed in our world right now. I write this just after the 4th anniversary of the start of the war in Ukraine, with the news as I write this morning of the strikes in the Middle East, amidst the uncertainty of ongoing political struggles largely but not exclusively centred around America and its President and closer to home, the sense of division and unrest in our country.

Such love seems far away.

Such love will come again. On Easter Day, millions of Christians will proclaim 'Christ is Risen, the message spreading from the walls of church buildings onto the streets and beyond, proof of the power of God, proof of the power of light over darkness, proof that love will always win.

That message needs to be heard, not just on Easter Day but always,

In the name of the Risen Lord.

*Sarah Simpson, Minister, Cricklade United Church*

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