

Kempsey Times

D-DAY SUPPLEMENT 6TH JUNE 2024



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ALLIED INVASION TROOPS SEVERAL MILES INTO FRANCE

FIGHTING IN CAEN: 10,000 TONS OF BOMBS BLASTED WAY PILOTS WATCH BATTLE, SAY "BEACHES OURS" MASSES FIGHTERS HUNT IN VAIN FOR LUFTWAFFE

ALLIED ARMIES BEGAN THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE EARLY YESTERDAY MORNING WHEN THE GREATEST INVASION OF ALL TIME WAS LAUNCHED WITH LANDINGS FROM SEA AND AIR AT SEVERAL POINTS ON THE COAST OF NORMANDY. LATE LAST NIGHT FIGHTING WAS GOING ON IN THE STREETS OF CAEN, AN IMPORTANT ROAD JUNCTION 10 MILES INLAND AT THE BASE OF THE CHERBOURG PENINSULA.

Communiqué No. 2, issued from Gen. Eisenhower's H.Q. at midnight, stated that "reports of operations so far show that our forces succeeded in their initial landings. Fighting continues."

Pilots returning from the front last night reported Allied troops moving inland, with the "beaches completely in our hands." They said soldiers could be seen standing up on the beaches, where convoys were already assembling, while Allied tanks were moving towards Caen. Concentrations of German armour were seen moving towards the battlefield from the back areas.

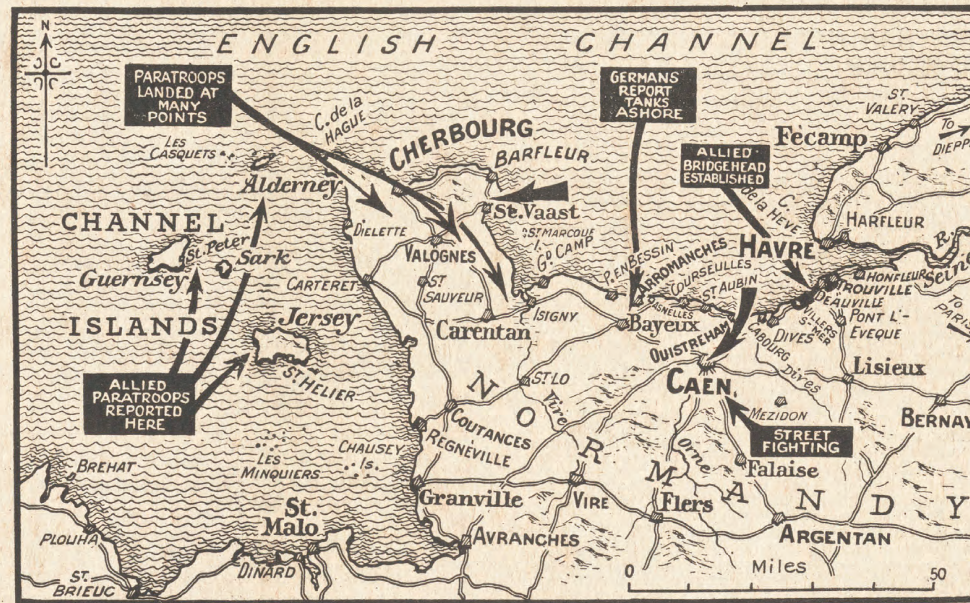
Mr. Churchill made two statements to the House of Commons yesterday. In his first announcement of the invasion he said there were hopes that tactical surprise had been attained.

In the second statement later in the day he stated that operations were continuing in a "thoroughly satisfactory manner," with effective landings on a wide front and with penetrations in

The invading armies have successfully surmounted the first four or five hurdles of the operation, and it was felt at S.H.A.E.F. that there was "definitely no cause for pessimism."

It was stressed, however, that it was too early yet to assess the position in Normandy, but opposition so far had been much less severe than expected, both on the sea passage and to the actual landing operations. The Germans had not yet disclosed themselves in strength.

There is as yet no official news from Allied sources as to the



Midnight Communique FIRST LANDINGS SUCCESSFUL

NAVAL CASUALTIES VERY LIGHT

Communiqué No. 2 from Supreme H.Q. Allied Expeditionary Forces, issued just after midnight, said:

Shortly before midnight on June 5, 1944, Allied night bombers opened the assault. Their attack in very great strength continued until dawn. Between 06.30 and 07.30 hours

The map shows the area of the Allied invasion of Normandy. Fighting is raging inside Caen, and German reports last night stated that fresh landings were being made. All reports naming the landing areas are from German sources.

"MANY DIFFICULTIES AND DANGERS BEHIND US"

Mr. CHURCHILL REPORTS INITIAL PROGRESS 'SATISFACTORY'

BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE
WESTMINSTER, Tuesday.

Mr. Churchill, after giving an earlier com-

WATCHED NAVY POUND FRENCH COAST

NO NAZI FIGHTERS OR HEAVY FLAK

From CORNELIUS RYAN, Daily Telegraph Special Correspondent AT A UNITED STATES 9th AIR FORCE MARAUDER BASE, Tuesday. I was the last correspondent to fly over the Allied beachhead this evening. We took off from this base to bomb gun emplacements on the French coast. The attack was led by the Commanding Officer of this base, Col. Joe W.

NAVY'S FIRST INVASION TASK COMPLETED

4,000 Ships Taken Across Channel MINE-SWEEPING BY 10,000 MEN

Coastal Batteries Silenced

From Cmdr. KENNETH EDWARDS, R.N. Daily Telegraph Naval Correspondent

SUPREME H.Q., ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Tuesday. "You must continually bear in mind the fact that the Army are helpless and entirely dependent on us until we establish them on shore."

Those words were used in Adml. Sir Bertram Ramsay's special Order of the Day on the eve of the invasion of Sicily.

Under Adml. Ramsay, Allied Naval Commander, the British and American naval forces have successfully discharged their initial tasks in effecting the landings in Normandy as they did in Sicily.

The first four fences of invasion have already been surmounted:

- 1.—The collected convoys were not bombed before leaving British ports;
- 2.—The mine-sweeping was successfully carried out;
- 3.—The convoys were not attacked on any serious scale while on passage;
- 4.—The assault forces were put ashore under naval covering-fire with less opposition from the enemy coastal batteries than had been expected.

COLLECTING CONVOYS

The collection of the convoys under conditions of secrecy was a stupendous task, involving as it did some 4,000 ships and many thousands of smaller craft.

The weather caused great anxiety and made it necessary for the operation to be postponed for 24 hours. The invasion should have been opened on Monday, but, the

some cases several miles inland. Losses were very much less than had been expected. [Full report on this page.]

According to German accounts, the landings were made at about 12 points along 135 miles of coast from west of Cherbourg to Le Havre.

Late reports from Berlin stated that the Allied beachhead was 13 miles long and several miles deep across the River Orne, about midway between Cherbourg and Le Havre. Heavy fighting was raging in the whole area, especially along the Cherbourg-Carentan-Caen road, where Allied paratroops had gained a firm grip on both sides of the road.

Paris radio reported heavy battles against new landings by airborne troops north of Rouen. Algiers radio quoted a German report which stated landings had taken place near Calais and Boulogne and that an airfield near Calais had been captured by paratroops.

THE FIRST COMMUNIQUE

First official news of the invasion came at 9.01 a.m. in Communique No. 1 from Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, which said:

"Under the command of Gen. Eisenhower, Allied naval forces, supported by strong air forces, began landing Allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France."

The landings, which involved the use of 4,000 ships, with several thousand smaller craft, were made under cover of the most gigantic air umbrella yet seen. Between midnight and dawn over 1,000 R.A.F. heavy bombers dropped 5,000 tons of bombs on 10 coastal battery targets—the greatest single night bombing attack on record.

They were followed at dawn by 1,300 American heavy bombers supported by hundreds of medium and fighter-bombers, which hammered coast defences, roads, railway bridges and attacked troop concentrations. R.A.F. Bostons laid smoke screens to conceal the movement of the transports and their escorts.

More than 10,000 tons of bombs were dropped in 7,500 sorties, with no opposition from enemy fighters, in weather which compelled the pilots to fly low to locate their targets. Between midnight and eight a.m. 31,000 Allied airmen were over France.

200 MINESWEEPERS LED WAY

Opposition from the coast defences was not so serious as had been expected, it was learned at S.H.A.E.F. (Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force) last night. The invasion armadas were led by 200 minesweepers which swept channels and marked them for miles against great difficulties.

The air preparation was described as "a magnificent job," which resulted in opposition from the coastal batteries being spasmodic. The bombing was supported by a bombardment from 640 naval guns, ranging from 16in. to 4in. Battleships, cruisers, monitors, destroyers and specially designed close-support vessels were engaged.

The first landings were made during the night when airborne troops of both British and American formations from the Army group commanded by Gen. Montgomery flew in well over 1,000 troop-carrying aircraft and gliders to descend at many points said by the Germans to be from west of Cherbourg to Le Havre.

The air armada went out with navigation lights ablaze and stretched across 200 miles of sky. They landed their troops with great precision and suffered slight loss in the biggest airborne landing yet carried out.

A remarkable feature of the day's operations was the absence of effective opposition by the Luftwaffe despite Goering's special order which said the invasion must be stopped "even if the Luftwaffe perishes in the attempt."

It was stressed at S.H.A.E.F. that this did not mean that the Luftwaffe would not fight. There are between 1,500 and 2,000 fighters in Germany and the West, in addition to production and reserves. Goering is also believed to have about 500 heavy bombers, some of them specially equipped for attacks on shipping.

Despite the weight of the air support of the invasion, the attacks on Germany itself will not be stopped, and it is obvious that Hitler must reinforce his air forces in the West at the expense of the air defences of the Reich itself.

points at which the Allies have landed. Zero hour for the seaborne forces was between six and eight o'clock yesterday morning. It varied at different points because of the different depth of the defences.

The engineers and naval parties worked as far as possible at low tide to deal with the under-water obstacles dryshod instead of having to destroy them in deep water. The tidal rise is some 20ft on parts of the coast.

Swiss radio reported last night that the German Overseas News Agency stated that fierce fighting was going on between Caen and Carentan, and that late yesterday afternoon about 200 vessels had assembled off Etretat, north of Le Havre, and had been attempting to land troops.

R.A.F. FLY OUT AS U.S. RETURN

"GREATEST AIR FLEET" As American four-engine bombers flew over the East Coast back to their bases last night, the R.A.F. heavy bombers were outward bound. Searchlights pointed a route to the south-east.

The American force, described as the greatest air armada of the war, was crossing the East Coast for two hours. Bombers and fighters were seen simultaneously in a down stream.

One observer said it was "like all the heavy day and night attacks of the past few weeks in one."

Both R.A.F. and American forces were showing their red, green and white navigation lights. The roar of their engines brought people from their beds.

'SHUTTLE' PLANES HIT GALATZ

RETURN TO RUSSIA UNITED STATES AIR BASE IN RUSSIA, Tuesday.

In their first attack from Russian bases, United States heavy bombers today blasted Galatz, the key German base in Rumania behind the front lines. The attack was carried out by units of the 15th Air Force with an escort of Mustangs.

The time the planes did not "shuttle" out here back to their bases in Russia. Galatz airfield is one of the main German bases being used by the Red Army on the Rumanian front.

Six German fighters were shot down. Two Mustangs are missing. The Allied crews reported 10 German fighters and flak was light and scattered.

As they were crossing the German front, the pilots heard by radio that the Allied invasion armies were landing in France—Reuter and B.U.P.

"Ploesti Bombed" A Rumanian communiqué said that United States bombers also raided Ploesti, the oil centre, and Brasov yesterday.

War News On Other Pages

Invasion Pétain's fear of French action. (P2) World bears relief, hope, satisfaction. (P2) Sirens greet news in U.S. (P2) "Our terrific Allied team"—Gen. Montgomery. (P2) Gen. de Gaulle in London; tells France, "Obey leaders." (P2) U.S. joins Mr. Roosevelt in prayer. (P2) More troops await zero hour. (P5) Nazis say Allies hold several bridgeheads; main area 13 miles long. (P5) R.A.F. smashed coastal guns at night; Nazis shut up by day. (P5) Gen. Eisenhower's dawn decision. (P4) Room for 25 divisions on beaches. (P2) Parliament Mr. Churchill's statements on invasion. (Pp 1 & 2); English test for sea school; Big East test-war plans for Colonies. (P2) Italy Germans falling back in disorder. (P6)

this morning two naval task forces commanded by Rear-Admiral Sir Philip Vian, K.B.E., D.S.O., flying his flag in H.M.S. Seylla (Capt. T. M. Browning, C.B.E., R.N.), and Rear-Admiral Alan Goodrich Kirk, U.S.N., in U.S.S. Augusta (Capt. E. H. Jones, U.S.N.), launched their assault forces at enemy beaches.

The naval forces, which had previously assembled under the overall command of Admiral Sir George Ramsay, made their dash in fine, fresh weather, and were joined during the night by bombardment forces which had previously left northern waters. Channels had to be swept through the large enemy minefields. This work was completed shortly before dawn, and while mine-sweeping flotillas continued to sweep towards the enemy coast, the enemy was allowed down the swept channels behind them towards their objectives.

NAVAL CLASH

Shortly before the assault three enemy torpedo-boat armed trawlers in company attempted to interfere with the operations and were promptly driven off. One enemy trawler was sunk and another severely damaged.

The assault forces moved towards the beaches late last night, and the bombardment from destroyers and other support craft, while heavier ships engaged enemy batteries which had already been subjected to bombardment from the air. Some of these were silenced. Allied forces continued to engage other batteries.

Landings were effected under cover of the air and naval bombardment and airborne troops, including troops-carrying aircraft and gliders carrying large forces of troops, were also made successfully at a number of points.

DAY-LONG BOMBING

Reports of operations so far show that our forces succeeded in their initial landings. Fighting continues. Allied heavy, medium, light and fighter-bombers continued the air bombardment in very great strength throughout the day with attack on gun emplacements, defensive works, and communications.

Continuous fighter cover was maintained over the beaches and over some distance inland and over naval operations in the Channel. Allied night fighters played an equally important rôle in protecting shipping and troop-carriers from the enemy's night operations. Allied reconnaissance aircraft maintained continuous watch by day and night over shipping and ground forces. Our aircraft, with little enemy fighter opposition or anti-aircraft gunfire.

Naval operations were being very light, especially when the magnitude of the operation is taken into account.

LATE NEWS

WEAKER NAZI ATTACKS AT JASSY

Soviet communiqué supplement this and cleared the harbour of Ostia at the river's mouth. It was estimated that since the Allied offensive began on May 11 Kesselring had lost between 20 and 30 per cent. of his effectives.

FIRST GERMAN PRISONERS LANDED

First German prisoners from French beachhead and first casualties to reach port landed late yesterday afternoon. First wounded disembarked were soldiers brought back in minesweeper.

11 MILES FROM BIAK AIRFIELD

Gen. MacArthur's communiqué said U.S. forces on Biak Island have now fought to within one and a half miles of Mooker airfield.

ment [given in full on P.5], in the House of Commons on the progress of the invasion, made a special appearance at the end of business today to give the latest news.

He said: "I promised to report to the House later on in the sitting and I have been at the centre where the latest information is received, and I can state to the House that this operation is proceeding in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. (Cheers.)"

"Many dangers and difficulties which this time last night appeared extremely formidable are behind us. (Cheers.)"

The passage of the sea has been made with far less loss than we apprehended. The resistance of the batteries has been greatly weakened by the bombing of the Air Force and the superior bombardment of our ships quickly reduced the fire to dimensions which do not affect the problem.

"The landing of the troops on a broad front, both British and American and Allied troops—I will not give the list of what different nationalities they represented—but the landings along the whole front have been effective and our troops have penetrated in some cases several miles inland.

"Lodgments exist on a broad front. AIRBORNE TROOPS SUCCESSFUL The outstanding feature has been the landings of the airborne troops which were, of course, on a scale far larger than anything that has been seen so far in the world. These landings took place with extremely little loss and with great accuracy.

"Particular anxiety attached to them because the conditions of light prevailing in the very limited period just before the dawn—the conditions of visibility—made all the difference. It might easily have been that something might have happened at the last minute which would not enable the airborne troops to play their part."

"A very great degree of risk had to be taken in respect of the weather, but Gen. Eisenhower's courage is equal to all the necessary decisions that had to be taken in all these extremely difficult and uncontrollable matters. (Cheers.)"

"The air-borne troops are well established, and the landings and follow-ups are all proceeding with (Continued on P. 6, Col. 3.)"

BRITISH CAPTURE OSTIA

FRENCH TAKE TIVOLI A B.U.P. message from Italy H.Q. received in London at midnight said that British troops operating in the sector south-west of Rome have advanced beyond the Tiber at all points and cleared the harbour of Ostia at the river's mouth.

It was estimated that since the Allied offensive began on May 11 Kesselring had lost between 20 and 30 per cent. of his effectives.

Earlier news was that Allied armour and infantry, crossing the Tiber at many points, were pressing the pursuit of the Germans falling back "in some disorder" north and north-west of Rome.

Fourteen miles north-east of Rome French troops by capturing Tivoli cut the main road to the Adriatic at Pescara.

Details—P5

DE GAULLE TO LAND

Gen. de Gaulle is expected to land on French soil very soon, it was stated in official French news in Algiers yesterday, said a B.U.P. message.

Gen. de Gaulle in London—P3

Black-out (London) 10.58-4.59

Moon rises 10.58 p.m.; sets 7.17 a.m. to-morrow.

KING & PREMIER VISIT H.Q.

REPORTS DIRECT FROM BEACHES

The King visited Gen. Eisenhower at Supreme H.Q. Allied Expeditionary Forces yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by Mr. Churchill, and Gen. Smuts was also a member of the party.

A visit was also made to Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory, C-in-C, at his H.Q. of the Allied Air Force.

Mr. Churchill had taken luncheon with the King, and they left Buckingham Palace immediately afterwards. They talked to high officers directing the operations in the field, and saw reports coming in from the beachheads. At Air H.Q. they went to the operations rooms to follow the progress of the battle.

British troops now fighting in France were inspected by the King in this country only a short time before they left for the invasion.

In recent weeks His Majesty has spent a total of 13 full days visiting Army units and formations scattered all over Britain.

Two of his visits were to airborne units. Presumably the men who yesterday formed the spearhead of our invading armies had one of the last practices in a very big-scale glider landing. This was also watched by the Queen and Princess Elizabeth.

KING VISITS EISENHOWER

His Majesty also met for the first time the new R.A.F. beach squadrons during his long tour.

It can now be disclosed that a short time before invasion day the King visited Gen. Eisenhower at the Supreme H.Q. He made a short impromptu address to the Supreme Commander and his generals, wishing them God-speed.

PREMIER WILL SPEAK TO-DAY

PROGRESS REPORT

By Our Political Correspondent Mr. Churchill will make another statement in the House to-day on over-night developments.

The Prime Minister's visit to Supreme H.Q. yesterday was made in the six hours' interval between his two statements in the House of Commons.

He flew to the motor caravan from which Gen. Eisenhower is directing the invasion, somewhere in rural England, in a plane which had been specially ordered at short notice.

It was this secret H.Q. that Mr. Churchill was referring to when he told M.P.s that he had been during the afternoon "at a centre where the latest information is received."

War Cabinet Session

Since Monday afternoon the War Cabinet has been in almost unbroken session. Throughout yesterday special arrangements were made to send a running news service to the King and to members of the Cabinet.

STRAITS SEA SMOOTH

"Rain fell in the Straits of Dover at dusk last night, and with the barometer falling the outlook was unsettled. The sky had become overcast with heavy cloud during the afternoon; the French coast had been seen at one time, but visibility deteriorated.

It was my second attempt in eight hours to fly over the Allied beachhead. My first proved abortive because our plane had to return when we were about five miles off the French coast because of a mechanical failure.

After entering formation over the field here this evening we flew towards the English coast, and set our course for the Allied beachhead.

Unlike the earlier missions, we had excellent visibility and could see up and down the Channel for many miles. After we had left the coast I suddenly became aware of hundreds of aircraft which thundered over us, forming a dense fighter cover.

MASS OF AIRCRAFT

The whole sky as far as one could see in any direction was just one mass of aircraft of every type. Below us their wings glinting in the sunlight, I could see fighters only a few feet from the water returning to England.

Down below, the Channel looked cold and choppy. Away to the west I saw a sight I shall never forget. Hundreds of craft of every kind were moving towards France. From our height they were only distinguishable by the white wash which churned from their sterns. They were all headed the same way—towards the Allied beachhead.

After some time I could just make out in the distance the coast line between Le Havre and the tip of the Cherbourg Peninsula.

(Continued on P. 6, Col. 6)

CHANNEL ISLES LANDING

GERMAN REPORT

The German Overseas News Agency yesterday reported Allied landings in the Channel Islands.

Quoting the German High Command's spokesman, it said: "Early to-day Allied airborne formations landed on Guernsey and Jersey. They were at once engaged in extremely costly battles."

"Allied attempts at camouflaging their air and seaborne landings failed to induce the German High Command. The Channel Islands have been occupied by the Germans for four consecutive June days. They lie only 15 to 30 miles off the Cherbourg peninsula."

STALIN HAILS FALL OF ROME

MESSAGE TO PREMIER

The Prime Minister yesterday received the following message from Marshal Stalin:

"I congratulate you on the great victory of the Allied Anglo-American forces in the taking of Rome. This news has been greeted in the Soviet Union with great satisfaction."

HITLER REPORTED IN COMMAND

Algiers Radio-France stated yesterday that Hitler had personally taken over command of the German anti-invasion forces.

With a staff of four marshals and many generals, he is believed to have moved his H.Q. to Northern France, where they are:

Meeting With Service Chiefs

Mr. Roosevelt summoned the chiefs of the High Command of the United States Army and Navy to the White House this morning for a personal conference. Admiral Ernest King, Chief of the Army Air Forces, also attended.

When he left, Adm. King, C-in-C, United States Fleet, stated: "It's doing all right so far."

4 Years Ago To-day

"Victory in France will save the world, but we, the French of June, 1940, have only one thought—to save France. And all the world watches breathlessly the development of this battle."

meteo-logical experts forecast a sunny weather. At midnight on Sunday it was blowing very hard from the west and north-west.

Monday night was clear and fairly calm. Better weather was expected, and the invasion was therefore decided on for yesterday morning.

The weather did not improve as much as had been hoped, and there was still a strong easterly breeze. This made the crossing uncomfortable in the smaller craft.

Only four of the small landing craft were able to drop from the pier from reaching their destination. These had their engines swamped.

300 MINESWEEPERS

The invasion has already involved the biggest, most difficult and most responsible mine-sweeping operation ever carried out. A force of 300 mine-sweepers was used, with 10,000 officers and men.

Over 2,800 tons of mine-sweeping gear was used, and the length of mine-sweeping wire needed amounted to nearly 70 miles.

There is the water between the British coast and the French coast which is not capable of being mined, and preliminary investigations to (Continued on P. 6, Col. 4)

KING'S CALL TO PRAYER

The message appears in full in the Leader columns on P.4

U.S. NAVY LOST ONLY 3 SHIPS

1 P.C. AIR CASUALTIES From Our Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. President Roosevelt stated at his press conference that the great operations were "up to schedule."

He stated that American naval losses were only two destroyers and one S.T. Landing ship (LST), and that American air losses had been only one per cent.

Mr. Roosevelt said that his information was based on a noon despatch from Gen. Eisenhower.

The President was in his shirt-sleeves and when some 50 correspondents crowded into his oval study, His pet Scottie, Fala, played behind the President's desk.

Roosevelt commented that what was going to be a very happy conference. News was coming in continuously, and the President's manner indicated that it was thoroughly satisfactory.

He disclosed that the invasion had been planned at the Tcherane Conference in December, where it was decided to launch it some time at the end of May or during the first days of June. The exact time was determined only in the last few days.

Marshal Stalin was entirely satisfied with the plans.

The reason for fixing the invasion for this time was that one of the essentials of cross-Channel attack was to arrive at the beach at small-boat weather, and that did not usually begin until May. The fall of Rome had nothing to do with the invasion plans.

Two Thousand German Tanks

Had during the day made an onslaught on the Wehrmacht line on a 120-mile front from the Somme at Abbeville to the Aisne.

Aspects of Operation Overlord

Tim Hickson

If you can find your grandparents old photograph albums and, turning the pages, you notice empty spaces, it is just possible you have a link to D-Day.

On June the 6th, 1944, the event occurred that changed the world. The Allies invaded Nazi-occupied France and so started our contribution to ending World War 2. Whilst we must not forget the huge part played by Russia in defeating Hitler, what happened in Normandy was also vital. In 1940, the Germans had overrun The Netherlands, Belgium, most of France as well as Poland and the other countries between it and Russia and then they had invaded Russia and almost reached Moscow. They had kicked out the British Army even though much of that escaped at Dunkerque. Britain was then about to be invaded. However, the Battle of Britain in the air and the strong Royal Navy at sea made Hitler change his mind - for the time being. That gave us time to rebuild and to be joined by the United States and Canada. As a consequence, we knew we would be 'going back' and needed to prepare for the difficult task. Hitler, realising this, produced a formidable wall of fortification along the

French coast. We needed information about that coast in as much detail as possible. That is why the word went out to British people, who had holidayed in France, Belgium or The Netherlands to send in any photos they might have of the coastal area. I know my wife's family albums have these pictures missing.

It was important that Hitler would not know where we would attack so that he could not concentrate his tanks and his best troops in that area. Thus we set out to convince him that we were going to use the obvious crossing point near Calais. Not only was this the shortest route but it would bring our forces nearer to Germany. To do this, a 'spoof' invasion fleet was made to appear on German radar. Physicist Joan Curran, working at Malvern, had developed 'Window', the code name for bunches of short strips of aluminium foil which dropped from aircraft confused enemy radar. On D-Day, RAF bombers flew in carefully designed patterns towards Calais and towards Boulogne. These were each accompanied by a few launches fitted with a device codenamed 'Moonshine' and together, to German radar these looked like two huge invasion fleets.

The U.S. troops assaulted the two beaches code-named Utah and Omaha whilst The British and Canadians took Gold, Juno and Sword. In spite of Hitler keeping his armour and elite troops near Calais, the Allies had a difficult time with many casualties but they persisted and succeeded. However we should not fail to acknowledge to contributions made by the other nationalities who fought with us. There were soldiers, sailors and airmen from France, Poland, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Netherlands and Norway as well as Australians, New Zealanders, Rhodesians and even Greeks. Truly Allies.

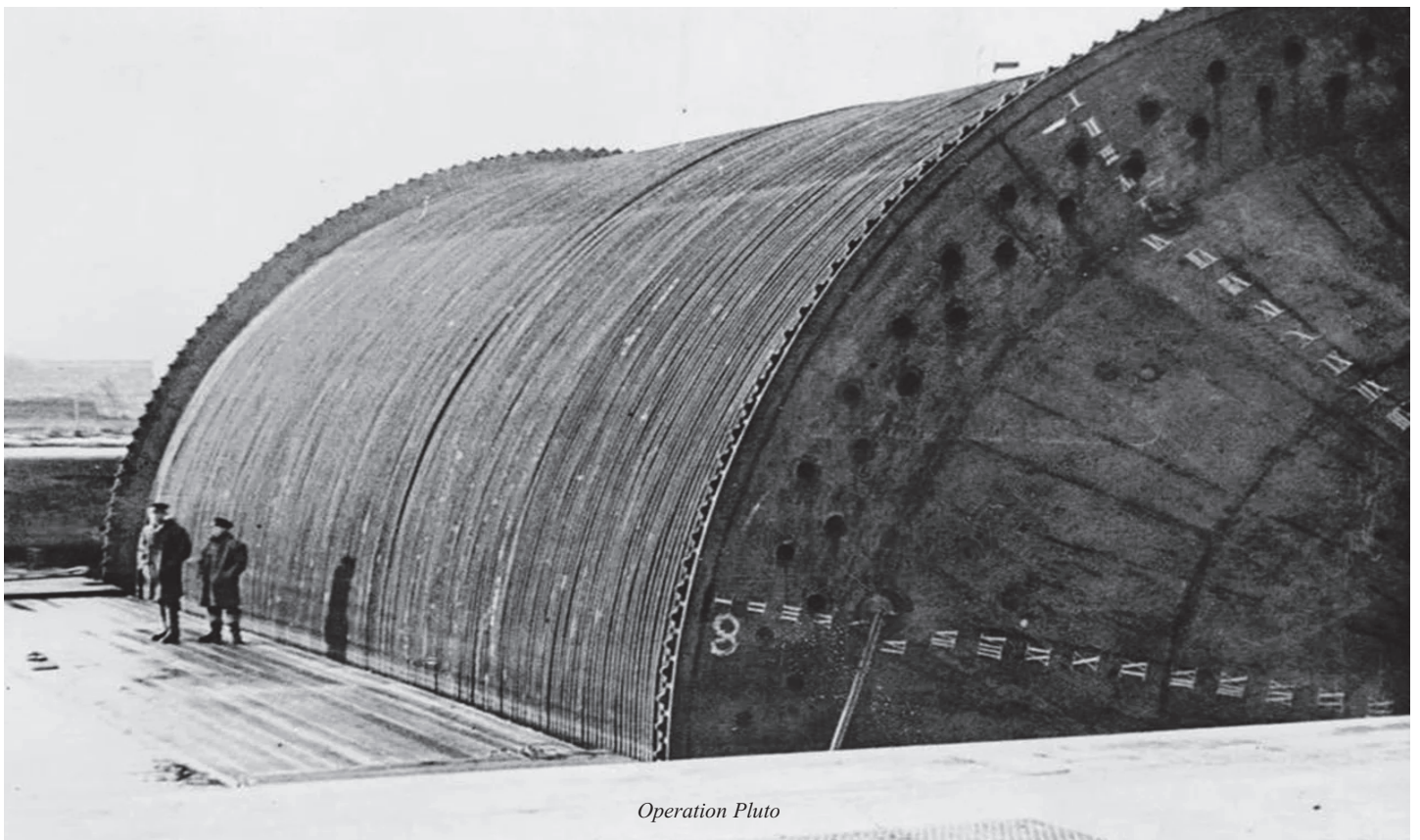
It will not surprise readers that the scientists and engineers based in Malvern College and RAF Defford made many other contributions to the success of the invasion and to the days that followed. Twenty-two different inventions were involved helping to ensure that Paratroops were landed accurately and sent supplies when needed; radar located enemy tanks and radars and helped to protect the Allies from air, mortar and artillery attacks.

Once the troops had been landed and had secured the beaches, they needed to be



Joan Curran

supplied with vehicles and fuel for these. Upton upon Severn's Rear Admiral William Tennant had been put in charge of the Royal Navy's part in the transport, assembly and management of the two artificial harbours named Mulberry to be placed just off the Normandy beaches. Then he was in charge of the Navy's part in the laying of the fuel pipeline across the Channel from England to France, Operation Pluto. To reach the English coast the fuel had to travel through pipes from the Liverpool refinery. The pipeline passing through Worcester, Upton and Gloucester is still classified.



Operation Pluto

D-Day Local Events



Mulberry harbour

80 D-DAY 1944-2024

D-Day Remembrance June 6th 2024

Where will you be at 9.15pm to celebrate?
Join us from 7pm on Kempsey Common to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day & Battle of Normandy.

Entertainment includes:

- Vintage Singer performing wartime songs
 - The Malvern Brass Band
- Pop Up Museum from the Defford Museum at Croome Court (providing information about what was happening in this area during WW2)
- Food and drink will be available including Fish & Chips and a Licensed Bar
 - Bouncy Castle for the youngsters

The Beacon will be lit at 9.15pm, bring your loved ones, picnic blanket or chairs and lets make this special evening one to remember honouring the Heroes of D-Day - Never Forget, Always Honour.

Follow our facebook page:
www.facebook.com/kempseyDDay80

D-DAY 80 BEACON EVENT
Kempsey Common
6th June 2024 from 7.00pm
Free Admission



Kempsey Times



A free monthly newspaper for Kempsey, Norton, Severn Stoke and surrounding village.

Issue 5

June 2024

FREE



Campsites near Kempsey

Time certainly flies by very fast, and this month we pass the longest day of the year! Spring has been and gone and now we hope for some good sunny weather. We have to be optimistic; the countryside looks magnificent and all we need now is some nice weather so we can enjoy our lovely surroundings.

We have received a report advising the stress the farming community is under due to the wet winter and the uncertainty this has caused with crops. Buy local is the call, and so we should! By supporting local businesses we can help farmers and growers. It is also important, particularly after the awful Covid pandemic,

when all businesses were under immense pressure just to survive. Many didn't, and lots have still not got back to where they were prior to the Covid outbreak, and maybe they never will. Lots of areas of business have been affected by the pandemic and buying habits is one of them. On-line buying is a big factor of

course but there can be some frustrations with this form of shopping. Nothing beats 'seeing' what you are buying but generally on-line sales are efficient and competitive. It's a fact of business life, no good wingeing, one has to be competitive and try to offer better alternatives. Buying locally produced goods, wherever possible, is important to maintain the welfare of our community and local industry. This month we celebrate eighty years since D-Day, when we began the liberation of Europe from the Nazi

Regime. This was an incredible event in terms of planning, military genius and bravery. We have included a special supplement and pay tribute to all those who did not survive, innocent civilians, as well as military personnel. This was the 'beginning of the end' of a horrific period in the history of Europe, which we never want to see again. There are many events in the area commemorating this special day.

**Happy Father's Day
Sunday 16th June**


**Royal
Oak**
FREE HOUSE

Now Showing



Food now being served!

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County & District Report

Councillor Martin Allen

I often look with wonder at how everything changes so quickly, especially in my garden. You turn your head for one second and twenty weeds pop up to say hello! In Upton things are also popping up, namely the festivals, one a month over the summer months. Whether you live in Upton or Kempsey, Severn Stoke or High Green, I urge you, if you can, to go and support a great little town,

which always punches far above its weight. Our festivals are special, just like where we live. With the Worcestershire on Demand now up and running, why not leave the car at home and have an Uber experience at the fraction of the cost? Details can be found on the County Council website, or just search on your smart device for Worcestershire on Demand and download the free app.

Upton's folk festival a triumph!



Early in May the Upton Folk Festival was held; it was its normal, abnormal fantastic event organised by charming Festival Director and Chair, Ceri James, who is backed by so many willing volunteers. The parade was a sea of colour and action. I was very lucky to meet Ceri and had this quick

snap taken. Walking around Upton I could see the Upton in Bloom team had been especially busy making Upton a welcoming floral delight. I am always amazed how many people give up their precious time for free. I want to publicly acknowledge each and every one of them: thank you!

Carparking charges increased: First rise in 12 years

I cannot think of anything I have purchased that hasn't increased in price during the last 12 years, with the cost of a pint often seemingly leading the charge! For over a decade, and then some, Upton's carparking charges have remained the same. Clearly the cost of the ongoing maintenance and lighting have increased over that period, and now the price of parking has modestly risen. I am very pleased to see that the most

popular tickets, such as the £1 charge for two-hours' parking, will remain the same. Did you know these are some of the lowest charges in Worcestershire? Far cheaper than in Worcester. Also, there is an increase from a couple of hours to three hours for vehicles displaying a valid disabled person's blue badge across all sites; I feel this change is a positive result for those who need a blue badge.

HS2 money to the County Council for 2025/2026 onwards

Following the Government's announcement that part of HS2 is now partially cancelled, WCC are going to receive £209 million pounds over seven years. I understand that it must be spent on transport projects.

Personally, I believe a quarter should go into the council's reserves; however, we will have to wait and see how the current administration intend to use this unexpected windfall.

The Limes pavements refurbished at last!



It's been a long time coming; in fact, I took up the mantle just over two years ago to persuade WCC that the pavements in the Limes needed a complete refurbishment. Finally, this May, the work commenced, and not before time. What you will not know is that the cost

for the work is more than £96,000. I popped up to talk to grateful residents when the work started. I was intrigued by the many markings in different colours that appeared, like some dystopian hopscotch.

Puffin Crossing north end of Kempsey by The Community Centre



Hopefully, as you read this, the Puffin Crossing construction, long since needed, will be on its way. Unfortunately, there will need to be two-night closures of the A38 to all traffic to complete certain operations, such as the installation of a High Friction Surface, which helps with

braking. Once the work has been completed, pedestrians, especially the young and elderly, going to the Community Centre will be able to cross the road with greater confidence. I am pleased to see this three-year project has come to fruition.

Finally

With the weather now sailing in the right direction and a fair breeze behind me, I am looking forward to a break in Edinburgh and maybe trying a haggis and a pint of 'heavy'. If

it's urgent, you can still contact me by phone or email. I will, of course, help if I can. Enjoy the sun and keep the sunscreen close.

Martin Allen

Residents celebrating 200 Years of Cadbury



Sheila & Maureen

Staff and residents at Barchester's Elgar Court Care Home in Malvern were treated to an afternoon of nostalgia and delicious memories when they were joined by Cadbury archivist Sarah Foden and Brand Manager Connor Gould for a talk from the nation's favourite chocolate brand. Since the opening of its first shop in Birmingham in 1824, Cadbury has delighted the nation with its confectionary and drinking chocolate. It has been with us throughout everyday and seasonal moments, even popping out of our 99 ice cream cones on the beach. It's the brand behind our favourite selection boxes, as well as the Cadbury Dairy Milk we unwind with on the sofa. Tastes we've known

for generations – these have long been a part of Britain's rich cultural history and the lives of Brits across generations. Sarah and Connor walked the Barchester residents through the story of the brand's great success from the very first shop to how Cadbury is celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2024. They shared photos from down the years, examples of old packaging and ad campaigns from the Cadbury archive in Bournville. The carefully selected archive material tells the story of an iconic British brand, this year celebrating its 200th anniversary, that has been part of people's lives through generations, in moments big and small.

Malvern Hills District Council elects new chairman



Cllr McVey and Cllr Wells have been re-elected in their deputy leader and leader roles

Malvern Hills District Council has officially elected a chairman and leader. At the Annual Council meeting on 14th May, Cllr Daniel Walton was elected as chairman, the former chairman Cllr Barbara Jones-Williams, passed over her chains during the meeting. Cllr John Raine was elected as the vice chairman. Cllr Tom Wells was re-elected as the council's leader and Cllr Natalie McVey was re-elected as deputy leader. Cllr Daniel Walton, Chairman of Malvern Hills District Council, said: "I would like to thank everyone that has supported me over the years. I really value this opportunity to represent the people of our wonderful district and to work

with our communities. I want to oversee a council that is progressive and moving policies that make Malvern Hills a continually better place to live for all". Cllr Walton's chosen charity for the year is Bonterre who offer educational and therapeutic support for young people, as well as workshops and events for schools, adults, and community groups.

For more information about the councillors at Malvern Hills District Council, visit www.malvernhills.gov.uk/about-your-council



Feeling good - The tonic of volunteering and the great outdoors



When we think about volunteering, the high street charity shop is probably first and foremost in the mind. We rarely think of volunteering as an opportunity to be active, to

garden, cultivate, nurture and 'be' in the great outdoors. We know that volunteering supports our mental health and well-being. Did you know it meets three of the five ways to

well-being outlined by NHS. These include be present, learn and get active, connect and give. We need to feel connected to others; social connection is hard-wired into human behaviour. The benefits of positive contact are so great that they can even boost life expectancy. A further boost of the feel-good factor comes from giving and not receiving. We can trace this idea back to biblical texts; the act of giving is rewarding to the brain and makes us feel good. Getting active is more important now than ever. We are spending less time being active now, than we did during Covid. Volunteering in the great outdoors could be the tonic we are looking for; to feel good,

be connected and be active at the same time. With Summer on the horizon, why not choose to improve your own well-being with volunteering: Whether it is pig petting, fence netting, seed raking, hay making, guide walking, small talking or simply being a helping hand, contact your local volunteer centre, or community group and ask: how can I help?

Samantha Palmer
Volunteer Manager,
Malvern Hills Volunteering



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Travelling light

I went away on a retreat for a few days recently. As I was getting ready to pack my suitcase, I was faced with the usual dilemma of what to take with me. My family will tell you that this is always something I dither about! As much as my family laughs at me – it's true that I don't like to be unprepared or caught out – and so, prior to any trip, you will find me scrutinising the weather app on my phone, planning outfits and footwear to a tee, and making sure that essentials such as my contact lenses and deodorant are not left behind.

All of that is fine, understandable even, but it's what happens next that makes it all rather more painful. The what-ifs... What if the weather forecast is wrong? What if I need my walking boots? What if it's a cold house? What if we need to dress up for dinner? The uncertainty throws me into repacking my bag with yet more stuff, until there's practically everything but the kitchen sink rammed into it, 'just in case.' Yes, I feel more peaceful that I have every eventuality covered, but then I have to pick up my case... which is – unsurprisingly – very heavy!

And, as usual, when I returned from my trip, I put back into my wardrobe the numerous outfits which I had not worn. Every time I travel, I surprise myself at how little I need; and this last trip was no different. I took four coats and wore one! During this trip, I visited the Island of Lindisfarne, also known as Holy Island, in Northumbria. It was here in 635AD, that St Aiden, an Irish monk and missionary, travelled from Iona to establish Lindisfarne Monastery, and becoming its first Abbot and Bishop, he converted Northumbria to Christianity. Whilst there, I was interested to read that Aiden 'never sought for or cared for worldly possessions, he always travelled on foot [and] he and his followers lived as they taught... ever praying as [they] journeyed... He was a good man, who in his day, pleased God.' As I read, it struck me that Aiden – and likely all early pilgrim travellers – would bring with them only what they could carry: a cloak for warmth, a satchel in which to store a few necessities, maybe a walking stick to offer support, and perhaps a book of prayers. Food and

lodging would probably have been provided by the hospitality of strangers.

But in addition, an early pilgrim's emotional journey would be light as well; before any arduous journey – all debts had to be settled, disputes resolved and sins confessed, allowing the travellers, uninhibited, to be fully present to the journey and whatever it presented. What a far cry from our modern world with our large bags on wheels and the ease with which we can make a quick call or message about something left unsaid before our departure. Travelling light is no longer a requirement to reach our destination.

Yet, one thing remains true, a truth I know all too well: the greater the baggage, the heavier the load – whether it's on an actual journey – or the journey of life itself. We probably all recognise that as we travel through life, we can accumulate plenty of baggage – as we desperately try to be all things to all people, and maintain our busy schedules and hectic social lives; as we battle the enticement of the sale rail, the desire for a faster car and our general appetite for more stuff, 'just in case;' and as we resist the ongoing pressure to maintain our perfect external appearance and optimum level of fitness. It might also be that some relationships and commitments weigh heavily on us; expectations and demands can be burdensome and all too soon we can find that our 'excess' baggage accompanies us every day of our lives, taking its toll on us physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

So, what can we do? How can we live with only what we need? How can we rid ourselves of our unnecessary baggage in order to fully engage with our journey? How can we travel more lightly? Maybe we need to recognise our capacity and determine what space is available to us. Just as when we pack a case, what we put in is determined by the size of the bag, so in life – what we have capacity for can be determined by both how much time and energy we have available to us, remembering that just because we have space, doesn't mean we need to fill it. Perhaps, like the early pilgrims, we need to 'take only what we



Severnside Parishes

Contact Information

Curate in Charge: Rachel Colthurst -
email: rachel.colthurst@motov8.org.uk

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Funerals: email: rachel.colthurst@motov8.org.uk

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email: weddings@severnsideparishes.co.uk

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can carry;' we need to discern what is essential in life. What or who is most important to us? And what are the tools, practices or postures that will support us along the way? Maybe we might need to learn to say 'no' sometimes or perhaps we might need to be more curious and questioning, or even more open-minded in deciding what is really necessary in a situation. And then, having worked out what we have capacity for and are able to carry, maybe there are some decisions to make about what to leave behind. This can be very challenging as we battle the 'what-ifs' of life, but if we are wanting to enjoy and remain present to all the things in life which give us meaning and a sense of fulfilment, we need to consciously choose to decipher what habits, distractions, relationships or draining commitments we need to change or put an end to so that they cause no further hindrance to our ongoing journey. As Christians, we believe that God wants to be very much a part of this process of packing our metaphorical suitcases of life and travelling lightly. Jesus himself reminds us, 'Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28). He is wanting us to

share with him all the stuff that feels weighty, to give it to him in prayer, and to allow ourselves to be held and carried by him – whatever load we're carrying. Travelling lightly with Jesus means we can trust that he is with us and will provide what we truly need, so that we don't have to hold on to things 'just in case,' and so that we will focus less on the heaviness of our baggage and be more present to the life we have the privilege of living.

The prayers of the early pilgrims show they knew this to be true – and so I close with one I spotted in one of the churches on Lindisfarne. Perhaps, whatever you're carrying you can make it your own – so that today you may travel just that little bit more lightly.

Be by my side Creator God,
Every step I take.

Be before me Saviour God,
Every step I take.

Be behind me Merciful God,
Every step I take.

Be within me Strengthening
God,

Every step I take.

Rachel Colthurst, Curate
Severnside Parishes

Cornflower Club

We had a wonderful talk with photographs by Ray Sturdy about travelling from Kathmandu to Everest which he did several years ago. At our meeting on the 8th May, David Withey entertained us with Quips, Quotes and Anecdotes, a very funny man who had us all laughing and brightened up the afternoon. We have three more meetings before we go on our trip to Weston in July.

We meet on June 5th and 19th, then July 3rd for our last meeting in the Parish Hall. We would love to welcome ladies and gentlemen over 60 years of age to join us every other Wednesday in Kempsey Parish Hall 2-30 - 4-30 and enjoy a cup of tea with biscuits and chat with friends.

Sally Linsey 01905 820476

Julia Grant 01905 820138

New Conductor for the WPO

On Saturday 15th June, the new WPO (Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra) musical director, Dan Watson, will give his debut performance in a popular programme featuring the iconic Brahms Violin Concerto; soloist Eleanor Percy. Dan completed a Masters in orchestral conducting at Birmingham Conservatoire, where he was awarded the Conducting Prize. He also won an Emerging Excellence Award from the Musicians Benevolent Fund. Currently, Dan holds principal and guest conductorships with a number of orchestras in the Midlands, and has also worked with youth orchestras, aiming to enthuse young musicians to pursue a lifelong passion in creating and performing. Dan is passionate about bringing music into the community and as principal conductor of The People's Orchestra, he featured in the BBC series All Together Now:

The Great Orchestra Challenge. The program was designed to inspire and promote amateur music making. Eleanor was born in Malvern and attended the Chase School. After graduating from Trinity College of Music, she was awarded a scholarship to study with Nona Liddell. Eleanor won numerous awards and prizes including the Pushman Award and the Langdon and Barbirolli Prizes. She also won 1st Prize and the Audience Prize at the Zumaia International Festival of Music in Spain with Trio Delora.

The concert starts at 2.30 in Pershore Abbey. Tickets £15 (free for accompanied under 16s) online at ticketsource.co.uk or phone 07805 077279

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Severn Stoke & Croome D'abitot News

Happenings in Severn Stoke and Environs

St. Denys' Church, Severn Stoke

We are hoping that repairs to the Church building will start soon. All the January flood damage repairs inside have been completed. We are looking for funding and donations to pay for the re-printing of the eight booklets researched and written by the late Bob Cross on such diverse subjects as 'Crime in Severn Stoke' (19th century!), 'The Parish in Wartime' and we need a re-run of the Church Guide, so that visitors can learn a little of the history of our beautiful church. Please contact John Henderson on 01905 371 218.

Friends of St. Denys, Severn Stoke

Planning for the Artisans and Crafts Event in St Denys' on Saturday, 13th July is ongoing. If you are interested in booking a stall, please contact Jane Hall on 07927 822 608. Please see the advertisement for fuller details. The Severn Stoke and Kinnersley 100 Club Draw winner of £30.00 for May was Rod Brown of Bricklehampton.

JB Henderson

Help for Ukraine



Following a presentation to Pershore Rotary and associated Clubs at the Queen Elizabeth Inn at Elmley Castle (as reported in Pershore Times, March Issue 91), Ukraine Freedom Company (UFC) are pleased to announce that Malvern Rotary has funded a second-hand ambulance, and individuals in Upton Snodsbury, Norton, Elmley Castle, Worcester, Tewkesbury, and as far away as Solihull, have donated a range of foodstuffs and medical supplies, including two wheelchairs, to the UFC Ukraine Appeal. Food and first aid items go towards filling individual 'comfort' boxes for the Ukrainian troops fighting at the front, both men and women. Other medical supplies are delivered directly to hospitals or front line dressing stations within Ukraine.

UFC is a not-for-profit organisation set up by a group of retired and reserve UK servicemen following the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The initial aim was to supply Ukrainian troops with non-lethal support, such as warm clothing, food, medical items, anything which would make their lives a little easier. However, over the months since, a range of other support,

including 4 x 4 vehicles, ambulances, generators, hospital beds and much more, has been provided. Locally, UFC representatives in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, working closely with Hereford Elgar Rotary, have sent out approximately one lorry load of aid every month. Hereford Rotary has funded nearly 30 ambulances to date, each sent out full of medical supplies collected by UFC. Now, UFC are aiming to expand provision of aid with support from Worcestershire-based Rotary Clubs. Of greatest need are medical and first-aid supplies, everything from bandages, tourniquets, wound dressings, to mobility aids such as wheelchairs, crutches etc. 'Comfort' boxes as mentioned above are particularly appreciated by soldiers - tinned and dried foods, sweets, chocolate, personal hygiene items, first-aid kit, socks, candles etc. are packed in biscuit tins, shoe-boxes and similar, and delivered directly to front-line units. UFC are committed to continue providing aid to Ukraine for the long-term, and appreciate the kind support of Pershore Rotary Club, in helping promote the Appeal locally. *Anyone wishing to contribute/donate, or wanting further information, can contact local UFC representative Brian Watkins, email lovelacewatkins@uwclub.net*

A few words from...

Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

Target for Extra Services at Worcestershire Parkway



Dame Harriett Baldwin MP has welcomed confirmation that rail chiefs can deliver on her requests for extra train services at the popular Worcestershire Parkway train station.

Dame Harriett questioned the Department for Transport on progress delivering the changes and Rail Minister Huw Merriman confirmed that the plans are advanced to add extra train services which could come to fruition through timetable changes next May.

The station was opened to customers in 2019 and despite a reduced demand during the pandemic, the new facility is

operating well ahead of projections, with extra car parking capacity on the way. Dame Harriett recently met with representatives from Cross Country Trains to ask for an update on proposals to add extra services stopping at the station including the much-needed service to and from Manchester.

The rail operator has been working with the Department as part of planning to roll out an additional 60 carriages in its fleet. Dame Harriett said:

“One of my key priorities for this year is to make the case for more services stopping at the

very popular Worcestershire Parkway station and I met with the Secretary of State for Transport to make the case one-to-one.

“It is clearly already a high-performing station and I know from my postbag that there is strong demand for additional services – especially the service to Manchester where a lot of our local companies do business. I am told that the arguments for the extra service have been made but it now needs to fit into the national timetable changes. I am therefore delighted to hear from the Rail Minister that this could

happen as early as May next year. This forms part of my pledge to local rail users to improve local connectivity by also adding extra car park capacity at Pershore station and the further dualling of the train line between Worcester and Pershore. I will continue to keep pressing for the Cross Country train timetable additions as we seek to offer many more commuting options for local people and local businesses.”

Deer Park Wines - Bredon Wine Fayre, 29th June 2024



The first ever Bredon Wine Fayre is being launched on Saturday 29th June. Five amazing British Vineyards from the region, including Woodchester Valley and Three Choirs, as well as an international award winning sparkling Cider – On Point. Guests will be able to sample over 30 premium wines, both sparkling and still, as well as learning everything from growing, making, and analysing wine, in our expert talks tent. With multiple vineyard tours running throughout the day, guests will be able to take in the best views in the county. For the intrigued guest, there will be Masterclasses running, where one of our experts will give you a tutored tasting of a selection of the days wines, and

for the turophile’s there are also cheese masterclasses. Amazing local food from The Beefy Boys and Wood Fired Pizza from The Brisket Bros. Deer Park Wines is a creation of Mark Steele, a third generation farmer of Woollas Hall Farm on Bredon Hill. Mark has always had a passion for wine, being an active member of three local wine clubs, one of which he founded himself. With a degree in biology from Oxford, and an unrivalled knowledge of his land, the first vines were planted here in 2016. At first, an experiment and a hobby. However, when the first grapes were harvested in 2018 and the wines were drunk in 2019, it was clear something special was in store.

After the knock of Covid, the first entries of Sparkling Rose, Bacchus, and Special Reserve 2019, went into the 2022 Decanter World Wine Awards, and all won a bronze medal. This spurred an increase in the number of vines, with a total of eight acres now in production. Producing 20,000 bottles a year, Deer Park Wines has gone from strength to strength. With the exciting launch of a truly stunning 2022 Pinot Noir, a variety that in a normal year, struggles to fully ripen in the English climate. Mark holds firm that he will not make a wine that needs additives to bulk it up, so this Pinot Noir 2022, is rare as well as exciting! None of Deer Park’s wines are chaptalized, the process of adding sugar to the

unfermented grapes to increase alcohol levels, and every bottle is made entirely from our own grapes. Blessed with limestone over a bed of clay, our wines are given a strong backbone, and a finish that leaves you wanting more. We are always happy to host people for a tour of our vineyards, and a tasting of our wines, as we love to surprise people when they realise they can find quality wine, produced on their doorstep. We have live music, a craft village and amazing scenery to relax and enjoy a glass... or bottle!

For more information and tickets visit:
www.deerparkwines.co.uk/bredonwinefayre



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Saturday June 29th 2024

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Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council

Become a parish councillor!

Would you like to have more of a say in what goes on in your local area?

Do you believe that sections of the community need more representation?

Whatever your motivation, stand for what you believe in - be a parish councillor. Vacancies often arise as a result of changing job and family commitments and this is the situation at Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council. We are a great group of people who enjoyably tread

that line between adhering to the legal stuff, keeping things as informal and friendly as possible and achieving the best we can for everyone. We have five vacancies available for immediate co-option (where the parish councillors meet you and vote you in, rather than hold an election). In particular we need representatives for the Croome and Defford areas please, but anyone is welcome. (Age/address criteria apply). Current Chair for Parish Council said: "Councillors make an enormous difference in the areas that they represent. Becoming a councillor allows you to influence change for the better. It gives the enormous satisfaction of knowing that, through your work, smaller

voices are heard, be they minority voices or voices that previously were simply ignored." Lisa Stevens, Parish Clerk, said "You don't need any special qualifications or expertise to become a parish councillor... work experience, life experience, volunteering, all are extremely valuable to a Parish Council. A Councillor with business acumen is just as valuable as a Councillor with a family background. Everyone has something to bring and everyone has something to contribute". Previous Parish Councillor, said "How much time you spend on your duties as a councillor is largely up to you and will depend on the particular commitments you take on. Joining a committee increases your workload as there are

more meetings to attend. As with most things in life, what you get back will depend on how much you put in."

If you think you could be a voice for your community please get in touch.

Mrs Lisa Stevens - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Address: 9 The Limes, Kempsey, Worcester, WR5 3LG
Phone: 01905 820956 / 07950 256363
Email: severnstokeandcda@gmail.com
Website: <http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish> (click S for Severn Stoke)

Kempsey Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Kempsey Parish Council hosted the Annual Parish Meeting at the Community Centre on the evening of 15th May. Nick Hubble, Chair of the Defford Airfield Heritage Group, gave an excellent and highly informative presentation on the role of RAF Defford during World War II and its then top-secret role in the development of radar systems in conjunction with the Telecommunications Research Establishment (now QinetiQ) at Malvern. Nick will be at the D-Day Commemorations on Kempsey Common on Thursday 6th June manning a pop-up booth so if you are interested in the important role that the Malvern area played during the war, join us there.

Neighbourhood Plan

Also speaking at the meeting, Rob Gardener, Chair of KPC's Planning Committee, explained that the advice from the District Council on the timing of a review of Kempsey's Neighbourhood Plan has been modified. Previously it was felt that the review should await the ratification of the revised South Worcester Development Plan. However, as completion of the SWDPR may not occur until the end of 2025 and Kempsey has already fulfilled its SWDPR housing allocation, consideration is being given to bringing forward the review of our Neighbourhood Plan. However, no decision has yet been taken.

Community Builder

At the Annual Parish Meeting Cathy Garner explained the role of the Community Builder being hosted by KPC and in particular the series of events in progress and planned to help parishioners who would like to improve their skill with the internet. The advert below gives the details of the ongoing sessions.

Crime figures

PC Jon Hand supplied the following statistics for incidents that affect the community for the twelve months from 13th May 2023.

Crime type	Number
Assault (with and without injury) . . .	13
Public order	5
Theft	2
Drugs	3
Attempted burglary	1
Burglary (dwelling and business)	5
Criminal damage	4
Robbery	1
Theft from motor vehicle	2

In relation to anti-social behaviour, only eight reports were logged since January this year. Increased patrols will be operating at Plover's Rise, Squire's Walk / The Rocky and Morrisons amongst other areas during the summer. As of 7th May, an additional PCSO (Ash Smith) has joined the area replacing PCSO Knight. Local policing surgeries were poorly



Digital Skills Upgrade
Monthly Mondays

- 17 June: Saving Energy & Household Support Fund
- 19 August: Video calling family & friends
- 16 September: Kempsey Dr online triage form
- 21 October: Online banking & benefits
- 18 November: Spotted Kempsey & online safety
- 16 December: Last-minute Christmas shopping!

All Welcome
4.30-5.30 at the Youth Centre, Plovers Rise

attended and will be replaced by an additional period of dedicated foot/bike patrols which will mean that officers are still visible to members of the community for engagement. Two KPC councillors are taking forward regular liaison meetings with our local police officers.

Main Road

Following the wonderful display of daffodils along Main Road and other areas this spring, it is now time to let the bulbs die down naturally if another great display is to be seen next year. Please therefore do not walk on or break down the still green daffodil leaves. KPC will be putting signs in the daffodil plantings requesting pedestrians to

refrain from walking on the planted areas for the next few weeks. Summer bedding plants have been purchased from Pershore College and used to plant up the various tubs and planters along Main Road for the summer season.

For more information regarding the activities of the Parish Council, please refer to our website: www.kempseyhub.co.uk

For all enquiries, please contact Sharon Baxter, Parish Council Clerk and Financial Officer on 01905 828183 or by email at kempseyparishcouncil@gmail.com



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Venturing out at The Lawns



Following our visit to St Peters Garden Centre, we headed to Worcester Museum and Art Gallery, again with the help of Worcester Wheels and our fantastic volunteers. So much fun trying on military uniforms - residents pretended to be part of the staged displays! Some of them certainly have a cheeky mischievous side! We are off on a narrowboat adventure next.

For residents who can't venture out or prefer to stay at home, we bring the destinations to them. Each month we do armchair travel, exploring the history and culture of different countries; their food and drink and national costumes and often incorporate a quiz. In May, we are going down under to Australia - we already have a fair idea which residents

would be first to have a go on a didgeridoo! For June, we're off to Holland.

We are trying to encourage reticent residents out for short walks to promote mobility and sensory stimulation. We are creating small fun fairy gardens to provide destination points in our garden. To help with this, does anyone have any grasses or ferns, alpines, sempervivians or herbs you would be willing to split and share with our residents? One lovely family have given us some beautiful hostas. We really appreciate anything you could share, including faded or unwanted fairy homes etc. We have residents ready with paintbrushes to brighten them up and give them new life.

In June, we are commemorating D-Day with a church service followed by a street party. A date further ahead for your diaries - our Country Fair and Scarecrow Event will be on

Saturday 6 th July. We are welcoming new admissions for long stay or respite care. Please do contact our home manager, Melanie Dawson and see the brochure on our website.

With best wishes from
 Joy Hoskins
 Lifestyle & Well-being and Team Lawns.
 The Lawns



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www.heritagemanor.co.uk/locations/the-lawns/

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11.00am Living Communion at POWICK

Both services with Archdeacon Nikki Groarke

Sunday 9th June

The Second Sunday After Trinity - D Day 80

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END

10.45am Parishes' Commemoration for D-Day 80 at CALLOW END WAR MEMORIAL

with The Royal British Legion

11.00am Living Communion at MADRESFIELD

Sunday 16th June

The Third Sunday After Trinity

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at POWICK

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Morning Praise at POWICK

5.30pm BCP Evening Prayer via ZOOM

Sunday 23rd June

The Fourth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Trinity Sunday Communion at CALLOW END

11.00am Trinity Sunday Communion at MADRESFIELD

Sunday 30th June

The Fifth Sunday After Trinity

St Peter's Day

11.00am St Peter's Patronal Festival at MADRESFIELD

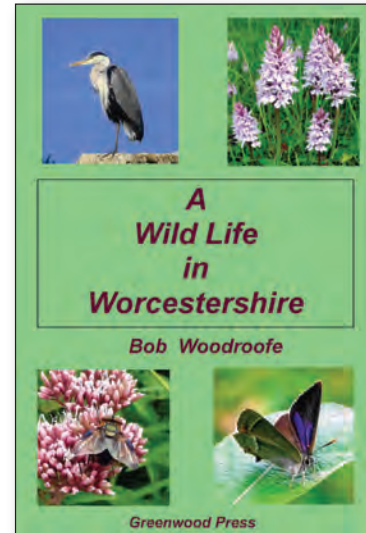
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 All proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust.
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Camera Club



With May and our Annual General Meeting and subsequent Annual Dinner past, the Club is now adopting its more recently adopted summer mode, with a greater proportion of events and meet-ups in the open air and fewer indoors (whether in person or on-line) during what used to be a closed season in the summer. We intend that all of these occasions should be of interest to potential, as well as current, members, so it is definitely worth looking to see what is happening between mid-May and the end of August - and making contact with us - via our website:

(<https://www.kempseycameraclub.uk/>) or our Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/kempseycameraclub/). We would be delighted to see you! In the meantime we hope that you will enjoy these two images - 'Sanderlings At The Ready' by Scott Jackson and 'Floods At Sunset' by Rose Finch - one of four top placed and one of seven commended images, respectively, in our recent projected image competition on the theme of 'Reflections'.

Malcolm A Hay
Secretary



Bell Tower Open Day

St Mary's Church, Kempsey, WR5 3JH
13th July, 9.30am-12.30pm



Heard the bells ringing and always wanted to have a go? Now is your chance to try it for free!

Our open tower day will include:

- Free 20 minute taster lessons of church bellringing (advance sign up required)
- A free exhibition on bellringing in Kempsey
- A chance for anyone to have a go at handbell ringing
- Teas and coffees (raising funds for bell maintenance)

To sign up for the taster sessions scan the QR code or contact us on 07927411582.




SCAN ME

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Kempsey WI

The importance of trees was the subject of Kempsey WI's most recent speaker. Woodland Trust supporter Roger Tolman was giving his last talk before retiring, after 32 years of raising money for the Trust. He explained how half of England's ancient woodlands have been lost or damaged since 1930 and continue to be under threat due to climate change, pests and diseases, infrastructure and housing development and intensive agriculture. Overall tree coverage is the lowest in Europe, at between 13% and 14%, although ancient trees (more than 400 years old) rank better in comparison with Europe. Often, pests and diseases affecting British trees have been brought in from other countries. Worcestershire has just one ancient elm left after the ravages of Dutch elm disease, but there is hope for future resistant species. The Woodland Trust, founded in 1872, aims to protect existing native woods and create new ones for the benefit and health of people and wildlife. Its campaigning has

helped to reduce the number of trees cut down by developers and local authorities, including along Evesham High Street. Working with bodies such as the Forestry Commission has resulted in many pine forests being replaced with mixed broadleaf planting, which is better for the atmosphere. Projects have included the National Forest in the Midlands and encouraging local authorities to work together to create corridors of planting alongside major roads or joining up other woods. The Woodland Trust now manages more than 1000 woods across the UK and nearly all are open to the public. Whenever it acquires a new site, local schools and communities are invited to get involved. The competition for a small wooden household object was won by Denise White with a 17th century Dutch wooden figurine used as a pipe holder.

The June gathering of Kempsey WI will be the Annual Meeting, with social time. From 2pm - 4pm, Kempsey Youth Centre, on Monday 17th June.

Colour came to Kempsey Youth Centre when a hanging basket was created in front of WI members at their May meeting. Villager Susan Bott, who is one of those involved in planting public displays that brighten up Kempsey streets, demonstrated how to fill a hanging basket for a long-lasting show of summer colour. She started off by recommending coir or sheep's wool lining for the baskets, to avoid damaging the environment by using sphagnum moss. As she worked, she gave tips on ways to lighten the compost, reduce water loss, keep the flowers blooming for weeks and the pollinators happy. Susan donated her completed basket to be raffled among WI members. As a result, £20 was sent to Kempsey WI's chosen charity, the Midlands Air Ambulance. The competition for a garden ornament was won by Denise White with her Garden Angel statue.



June the Annual Meeting is taking place and July there is due to be an outing to tour Kempsey's Parish Church, St Mary's.

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Women's Hour! Food Fayre

Susan Catford



One of the pleasures of going abroad for holidays is sampling different kinds of foods. Since package holidays made it easier and cheaper for more people to enjoy visiting different countries, there have been many dishes which have appeared in supermarkets and on menus here, influenced by foods we have tasted on these holidays. We take it for granted now to see Italian, Spanish, French, Mexican, Chinese, Indian, Japanese and so many more 'foreign' dishes readily available in this country. On our pub and restaurant menus lasagne, moussaka, paella, antipasti, calamari, pizzas and a whole range of pasta dishes appear alongside our traditional British favourites. There is also a whole range of breads from French sticks to foccaccia to choose from as well as our many favourite loaves. The advertisement on television showing a man who has

attempted to take a case full of baked beans on holiday because he can't be without them, is laughable but not typical! I do plead guilty to taking biscuits with me sometimes as I do prefer particular brands/ flavours (they do arrive as crumbs on occasions though!). Airport shops tempt us to bring home our favourite holiday foods – cheeses, meats, chocolate, pastries, olives, sauces etc. They may not be cheap but they allow us to bring back a bit of our holiday eating experiences. One of my favourite holiday foods (the Spanish version is best) is garlic prawns swimming in sizzling olive oil. You can't bring this one home and it is too sinful for me to cook- I can feel my cholesterol levels rising!! HOWEVER, what I do miss when we are away are many of those foods we grow and produce in this country and that we take for granted. We have a wonderful

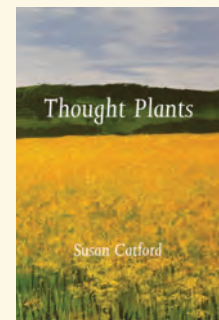
range of vegetables, a variety of fantastic cheeses, locally reared meats, freshly caught fish and seasonal fruits grown in our fields and orchards. These have not been on aeroplanes and are usually fresher and tastier than the imported varieties. Admittedly imported foods may be cheaper but it is good to support our British growers and farmers when we can. Asparagus from the Vale of Evesham when in season is very different from the imported varieties that you can buy year round in our supermarkets. Apples, pears, strawberries, tomatoes, lettuces, spring onions and root vegetables (I could go on!) mostly taste better than their counterparts flown into this country. Admittedly we aren't good for exotic fruits as we just don't have the right climate. Supermarkets are undoubtedly able to offer cheaper produce but we have lovely farm shops, local greengrocers, fishmongers bakers and butchers selling good quality produce which really tastes different! Even beer, cider, spirits and wines produced here can often equal or even surpass those we import. Move over Champagne, we have our own top quality sparkling wines (see article on Deer Park Vineyard). Cheers! We are very lucky to have so much choice on our own

doorstep. Our menus offer the best British dishes together with our favourites from abroad. We may be famous for our fish and chips but we also offer so much more. With the up and coming Pershore Plum Festival, there is always the chance to buy local produce and, of course, lots of plums!! Enjoy your strawberries and cream too, but check they are British strawberries because ours really are the tastiest! An afterthought! Nothing to do with food but having actually been on our postponed holiday, I had forgotten how much I dislike unpacking on our return! Having to do washing, re-iron crumpled and unworn clothes, then return suncreams and holiday bits to cupboards and drawers is a pain. Last year one of our son's suitcases went missing on the return trip. After a couple of months we asked if it had turned up. Apparently it hadn't but he wasn't too worried as it had contained all their dirty washing! That's one way of getting round the problem!

Motorway

Motorways –
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catch our eye
As we make sense of reordered
letters.
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At last, SPEED LIMIT ENDS.
Foot on the accelerator,
Into top gear
And off we go.
Life in the fast lane now!



'Thought Plants' is Susan's first book and is a new collection of writing and poems exploring ideas, events and everyday life. At times serious and thoughtful, at others enjoying the whimsical, lighter side of things. It has grown surprisingly well from early seeds and a fertile imagination.

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SUPPLEMENT

Memories of a Country Village: Part 4

Kempsey *Worcestershire* 1911 – 1995

By Cyril Weaver

The Old Bank House

After the war, when things returned to normal, the motor traffic along the A38 was ever increasing. The building of the M5 motorway was called for during the 1960s to relieve traffic congestion on the trunk-road. That meant the end of the Kempsey transport café. All my work was destroyed. That lovely old house was demolished in the early 1970s, and new houses replaced it, so what we have today is the very pleasant neighbourhood, Byfields.

Yes, that dear old Bank House holds quite a lot of memories for me. That small field on the side opposite to where I lived is no more. Between the Bank House and the Old Rectory, where the Reverend De Jersey lived, was also built on and is now known as Vicarage Close. Kempsey's population grew rapidly post war, but it still remains a nice place to live, and I still have my memories of these newly developed areas being my playground all those years ago.

After leaving Kempsey School at the age of nine in 1920 to start a new school in Worcester, I rode my little bike through what I call 'the motor car revolution', as cars and lorries took over from the horse and cart. Riding along I used to get my legs badly splashed, but the state of the roads was gradually beginning to improve. What you needed was what I had: a cap with a long poke to pull down over your eyes when one of those steam lorries passed by throwing out their red hot sparks. Of course being young and reckless like most of the other lads, we thought it great fun hanging on the back of a steam lorry and getting towed along. No, they did not go so fast in those days.

In the early 1920s, I well remember that when passing by the Ketch Hotel, I would see the fishermen on the far side of the river netting for salmon. Something else long since gone. This was around that same time the Midland Red Double Decker, with its open top and solid tyres, appeared on the road, and at five pence, single fare seemed rather dear. Walking or cycling was the main mode of transport for the vast majority of ordinary folk.

As more and more cars came on the road, we lads took a great interest in name spotting, like Ford, Morris, Buick, and if lucky Rolls Royce not forgetting that Morgan Three Wheeler made over at Malvern Link. One of the first to own a car in Kempsey was Lord Dudley who lived at that house near the Croome turning, with the rows of Poplar trees down the driveway. He employed his own chauffeur, Harry Mounford, who lived in the village near the sewage pumping station. Harry drove that car to Worcester passing through the village each day except Sunday. Then later, when he returned, always calling back to see Mrs Barnes at the Crown on their way home. It was as regular as clockwork. The one thing I must admit, is never ever seeing Lady Dudley, who was a charming person, having a ride in that car. There must have been a reason why. Another childhood memory before the 1920s involves a fellow called Billy Box coming to live opposite the butcher's shop. He got my father to knock a part of his high wall down so that he

could park his canvas topped Charabanc on what was once the lawn. That was really something for the village to be proud of, not only a bus of our own but one that took people as far as Weston-Super-Mare. By goodness, was Kempsey looking up. It was not long after that Mr Tynall Bland opened up a small repair garage at the village end of Olde Road South, and where I saw my first petrol pump, turned by a handle on the side. Being a young lad the price did not interest me, but would have been much less than two bob a gallon which would be twenty pence today.

Mr Henry Whittaker

To my mind the best character of Kempsey before the war was our dear old friend the Quaker, the one and only Mr Henry Whittaker. Of all the characters that came to live in the village, Henry Whittaker was the best. He bought Kempsey House, a nice place in the centre of the village which had been vacant for quite a while, and he started up his own private school. Just to say that dear old Henry was an eccentric would be an understatement, but he was always most kind and very jovial. His pupils always seemed very happy, as well they may, because he did everything he could to please them.

One most memorable story involved the purchase of an old steam boat. Henry installed it in a yard in Church Street, behind those big double doors, to use as a project for the lads woodworking skills and other practical classes. They spent a very long time making it into a very fine craft; in fact, we began to wonder if it would every get finished. But, low and behold, that great day did arrive, and that ship, in all its glory, was ready for the launch. With much excitement it was loaded onto a large trailer and towed by a steam tractor, hired from Messrs Darke's the Timber Merchants.

With the flags flying, and the locals cheering, it went up Church Street then through the village, just like a Summer Carnival, then down Pixham Lane to the Lower Ham, and to the river at the ferry. That launching was watched by quite a large crowd, which would have been a credit to any shipyard, but that was

where it nearly all ended.

Although the workmanship had been first class, that of the design of the craft certainly was not. Unfortunately, the hole for the water intake, to feed the boiler, was above the water line instead of below. Not to be upset or dismayed good old Henry soon collected a party of willing volunteers off the river bank to board the vessel and stand all together on the back end. With all the weight at the rear end, the back went down, the tank was filled, the fire lit and after a long, long wait, the engine was started. So with another great cheer from the onlookers, that fine craft went on her maiden voyage upstream to her moorings on the River Severn just below Kempsey Church.

Remember, I did say her maiden trip, I could have said her final (and only) trip, because that is what it was. Something had to be done regarding that water intake problem. There was not always going to be a lot of people available to stand on the back whenever he wanted to cruise the river. So Henry developed a plan. One day, a lorry arrived with a load of pig iron in short sturdy lengths that he thought would solve his problem. These were carried down the bank and placed very carefully, criss-cross fashion at the back of the boat. Now although that boat was strong and well built, no one had allowed for all that iron to be placed in one place and, I'm sorry to say, there was a horrible noise and it all disappeared into the river through a rather large hole at the back of that poor boat.

So you see, although the water intake was now well below the water line, three parts of that boat were as well. No attempt was ever made to salvage her, or the iron, due (so I was told) to shortage of funds. So there she lay and slowly rotted away. Many years later, when having a trip on the river myself, I saw all that was left of that lovely boat. Visible were parts of the ribs lying there on the side, just like the skeleton of a big fish. Tragic, but at the same time a funny memory!

to be continued

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Gregory's World! *Gregory Sidaway Exeter College, Oxford*

Taking a Punt

C'mon, fellow reader, you've got this. I know this punt wobbles when you first get on, but I've been safely assured it's impossible to capsize. Lend me your hand. That's it. One bold, decisive step and ... the punt rocks ... the water laps ... you're in! Welcome aboard HMS Gregory's World. Exits are to the left, right, front, back – doesn't matter, but you might want a pair of trunks or a rubber ring. We'll be travelling at a speed of about 0.037797 knots, or however many knots I end up tying myself into when we hit a reedy bank. I'm standing at the stern, equipped with a punting pole. Held widthways, it makes me look like a very uneasy tightrope walker, and – lengthways – like I'm stirring a large murky soup, easing us onward beneath overhanging trees and across the spangled water. There are wooden dividers at intervals along the punt for you to rest against. It's as if you're drifting in a long, open matchbox. Make yourself comfy, there's a picnic in my rucksack – though if I do start huffing and puffing on the way upstream, please pass me a Pringle.

Six terms in, I'm finally ticking off some sorely-unticked Oxford traditions. Punting on the Cherwell! I got my first chance to practise a few weeks ago. There are two main launching points that I know of: one at the foot of Magdalen Bridge, the other further upriver at the Cherwell Boathouse. Each college owns a handful of punts for student use, although I'm glad I got to practice up by the Cherwell Boathouse before upgrading to Exeter's punts at Magdalen Bridge; trying to launch from Magdalen (on a warm Saturday afternoon, thronging with overheating tourists, all gravitating towards cool things like cold drinks, ice creams and rivers) was like navigating a gondola through 16th Century Venice. The Cherwell launching point was more relaxed, the river quietly skirting around the backs of colleges and the frayed edges of green fields. Here, when I made a mistake and our punt swung out across the river – a bit like that time the tanker, Ever Given, blocked the Suez Canal in 2021 – I was, at best, annoying a family of ducks. The riverbed got particularly gloopy in places

and initiated a tug-of-war for control of the punting pole. There were points nearer Magdalen Bridge when the riverbed seemed to sink out of reach entirely, and I was stooping to keep hold of the pole, flicking us towards shallower waters. I had actually visited Magdalen Bridge at the beginning of the month to mark another Oxford tradition: May Day. Before any Romans or Celtic Druids start writing to me with letters of complaint, I am aware May Day predates Oxford. It marks the half way point between the spring equinox and the summer solstice. Oxford has put its own spin on it, though. At dawn, thousands gather on the bridge to listen to the choir singing from Magdalen tower. Traditionally, students will stay up all night keeping ambulances busy outside night clubs, before staggering down to Magdalen Bridge for six o'clock to celebrate May Day, then rocking up to their morning tutorials with the cognitive capability of an amoeba. I managed step two and three, but passed the early hours watching back-to-back films instead. As I weaved



through the crowds to get home, I passed maypole dancers, jangling as they walked, steaming doughnut vans – and I had a crisis of faith after coming seriously close to stopping by a Methodist church for one of their free hot dogs. In any case, punting allowed me to see more of Magdalen Bridge in a fresher, less amoeba-fied state. Well, on that note, I should start steering us around. You've probably got lots of exciting things on your to-do list – mine is now two Oxford traditions shorter! I'll take us back to the boathouse, but I might need a Pringle first.



Introducing your Pershore Carnival 2024 "best motorised float" winners 2024. A huge congratulations to our youth groups who have spent the last three months consulting, creating and performing for this years @pershore_carnival. Our youth groups have had the wonderful opportunity to work alongside Clik Clik Collective for the 11th year to design this years float. With this years theme "musicals" - The young people were inspired by the Barbie film and the music involved, and then.... many ideas came to mind! The young people loved the music in Barbie, which created the idea "Youthie". Each young

person came as a different character to celebrate the Diversity elements in the recent Barbie movie. This also merged with our philosophy to youth work we deliver to young people by celebrating and embracing each young person being unique in their social and emotion development. There were also boards on the float to show how we create a 'Positive community' through diversity. We were proud yesterday to shout this message throughout Pershore at this wonderful event. From the planning process to implementing their idea to a reality - Young people are always at the centre of our work, with the gentle help from youth workers! We are so proud of everyone who took part this year. It wouldn't be carnival without members of the community



pulling together. We also need to say a huge thank you to Pershore Motor Group who once again provided us with a tractor to pull our float. The team at Pershore Motor group have been super helpful for another year helping us to source getting our float to parade in the carnival! Wick Care Farm kindly lent us their trailer, and gave us time to transform it into a big pink creation during the week! Another huge thanks to Diverse Dreams who supported our young people getting into character and inspiring them with confidence on Carnival day! The Barbies

also collected for this years Pershore Carnival 2024 with buckets, so thank you to everybody who threw their coins in! Thank you so much for supporting your local Youth charity Pershore Riverside Centre, and thank you Pershore Carnival 2024 for such a great event!



A Swarm of bees in May, is worth a load of hay. . .



A swarm in a cherry tree. Picture by courtesy of R.Toft

Just a few warm and sunny days have transformed our hives. They had been running very low on winter stores of honey and the National bee unit* had issued a warning to beekeepers to be alert to the risk of starvation. I had noticed that many honeybees were drinking water at the edge of my pond, and that is a sign that they are having to dilute stored honey to feed on. Despite the fact that there was an abundance of blossom, it was just too cold to yield any nectar. Then, at last, it warmed up, and the hives have gone into overdrive. A queen can lay up to 2000 eggs per day when there is a steady income of nectar and

pollen and plenty of young bees to feed her, so the population climbs dramatically, from 15,000 or so, at the end of winter to around 60,000 or more. Plenty of food, and a strong growth in numbers prompts the colony into reproduction and so new queens are raised in special thimble shaped cells, and fed on special food, the so called Royal Jelly. When these are midway through their development, the old queen leaves the hive with perhaps 20,000 workers to seek a new home. This is a swarm. At first they form a swirling airborne mass, accompanied by a roaring noise, and then they

settle somewhere and form a giant cluster like a dark brown carrier bag hanging in a tree, a bush or on some other structure. From this quiet phase, worker bee scouts go out to seek a suitable site. Modern research has shown that they need a hollow chamber of about 40litres, with a small entrance, preferably at the bottom, ideally located 2m or more above ground, and at least 200m from the original site. When they find somewhere they return and inform other scouts and these then go to investigate. Eventually, it may take a few days, the scouts reach a consensus and then the whole swarm wakes up and follows the scouts to the new site, with the directness of a cartoon.

Beekeepers do not like to lose all their workers, so they undertake regular inspections through May and June to see if queen cells are being made, but one queen cell can easily be missed in a large colony.

150 years ago, when bees were kept in straw basket hives called skeps, they were not kept overwinter and every spring new swarms had to be caught to repopulate the skeps. If they

were caught in May, a prime swarm, there was a good chance that they would build a strong colony and gather a surplus of honey. If it was caught a little later in June, it still had good potential. Hence; A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon..... But a late swarm in July will have missed most of the flowers, and is unlikely to provide any harvest so... it isn't worth a fly.

The emergence of a swarm, with the noise and the number of insects filling the sky is one of nature's greatest spectacles, and when encountered in an urban area often causes consternation. Problems may occur if they get caught in curly hair, or if people flap their arms about. The best policy is to calmly go into a shop until they pass. During the resting phase bees are extraordinarily calm and can easily be shaken or brushed into a box.

* The National bee unit is a government department concerned with bee welfare. It is part of DEFRA.

Martyn Cracknell
Worcestershire
Beekeepers' Association



VETERINARY ADVICE ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!



Summer Fun with your Dog - There is nothing better as a dog owner than seeing the end of the dark days and the start of the summer sun. Those rainy cold walks which feel like a chore soon turn in to the best parts of our days. For me exploring novel places and watching my dogs enjoying sunny summer walks is one of my favourite things to do. However, whether it is on the beach, in woods or just having fun in the local park there are a few things to be aware of to ensure your furry friends have a fun filled and safe summer.

Never leave your dog alone in the car - It is amazing how quickly cars heat up. Opening windows or leaving water will not make a difference so even if you are only getting out the car for a brief period your pet should come with you.

Avoid heat stroke - On extremely hot days sadly walks may have to be postponed to avoid heat stroke, which can be life threatening. If the temperature allows, then early morning or late-night short strolls when the air is coolest are best. Heat stroke can affect dogs even without walking so always ensure your pet has access to shade. Frozen treats, cooling mats and paddling pools can all help keep things cool. If you are worried your dog is overheating phone your vets for advice, never throw cold water on them as sudden cooling can be dangerous.

Don't let your pet get sunburnt - Dogs and cats can get sunburnt too! Animals with white or very thin fur are most at risk. Access to shade is important and the use of pet sun cream is vital on any risky areas. If you are worried chat to your vet about whether your dog needs some protection.

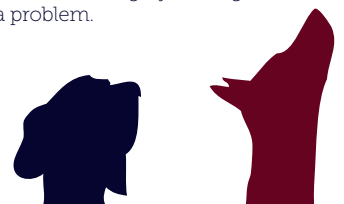
Watch out for grass seeds - Grass seeds (or Awns) can be a nightmare for your pet at this time of year. They can get into ears, eyes, paws or just about anywhere! Check through your dogs coat after a walk and remove any loose seeds before they can become a problem.

Wishing you all a fun filled summer with your pets!

Best wishes

Amy

info@martinandcarrvets.co.uk
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Cooking for fun!

Ailsa Craddock

June – already half way through the year! Longer days and lighter evenings make June the beginning of Summer and (hopefully!) its promise of sunshine and picnics and bbq's and spending outdoor time with friends. The elderflower is out now in full bloom but it won't last too long if it's hot, so time to make two lovely drinks to put in the cupboard for you to taste the sunshine when it may not be there! Try and pick your flowers in the morning as the aroma fades with the day.

Elderflower Cordial

1 kg granulated sugar
1 litre boiling water
50g citric acid (from a chemist)
or juice of 2 large lemons
zest of 2 large lemons
15 elderflower heads

Put the sugar and water in a bucket and stir to dissolve. Add the citric acid or lemon juice and zest. Add the flower heads to the sugar syrup and leave 1 -2 days, stirring regularly. Strain through some muslin into sterilised bottles and store in a cool place. To use, put a little in a glass and top with still or sparkling water – or your gin/vodka tonic. You can also freeze it in bags for sunshine in the winter!

It's also the beginning of gooseberry season – which is lucky as cooking gooseberries with elderflower heads – or, indeed, the cordial – is a marriage made in heaven. Fresh from the bush in pies, chutneys and sauces, they also freeze beautifully without any effort - just put them in a bag and freeze, topping and tailing when you need them.

Elderflower Champagne

7 heads of elderflowers
560 grams of sugar
7 pints boiling water
2 lemons
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar

Put the flowers into a big bucket and add sugar, water and lemons. Give it a good stir and add the vinegar when cold. Bottle into clean plastic bottles (glass ones have been known to explode - and you can help save the planet using up the plastic!). Leave for a minimum of 2 weeks to go fizzy. Serve with lots of ice and sliced lemon

Gooseberry Chutney – enjoy with favourite cheese and crackers

2 red onions, thinly sliced
1 ½kg gooseberries
2 fresh bay leaves
2 tsp mustard seeds
1 heaped tbsp coriander seeds,
crushed
2 heaped tsp salt
650g soft brown sugar
300ml cider vinegar



Put all the ingredients in a large, heavy-based saucepan, holding back 500g of the gooseberries. Cook over a medium heat until the sugar has dissolved, then bring the mixture to the simmer and cook, uncovered, for 30 mins.

Add the remaining gooseberries and cook for a further 10-15 mins or until thickened. Spoon the chutney into five sterilised jars. Will keep for up to one month. Once opened, store in the fridge.



Thoughts from the Snug . . .

Adjusting to life in the countryside

Our village (and our pub) has always welcomed newcomers .They are often escapees from an urban sprawl somewhere and swiftly adjust to rural life, appreciating the lack of street lighting, no pavements, etc.They enthuse on the experience of a countryside dawn chorus with its multitude of birds and buzzing insects; it's a joy to have new neighbours like this. However, some newcomers do all they can to emulate the urban normality they have recently left. Grass and hedges are trimmed to military precision, verges are stripped of their long grass and foaming cow parsley-food to insects that have lived in harmony with nature for millennia. Front gardens are block-paved or tarmacked, preventing a natural percolation of rain into the soil. Flooding of lanes becomes more prevalent. Other changes might include the introduction of non-native species such as bamboo, balsam even tropical palms at the expense of more traditional rural flora. We need to strike a balance because the distinction between town and country is being eroded.

A story was told of an urban migrant who, on arriving to his new country seat, created a water feature and fountain in his garden. It did, to be fair, look lovely, plus it attracted a variety of birds and wild life. Unfortunately for him it attracted bees. He knew their source. A neighbour close by had several bee-hives, so he sent her an email complaining about their intrusion! He trusted that she would do something to rectify the situation.

It took her no time to respond via email:

“Dear neighbour,

I am so sorry my bees are visiting your new, lovely water feature and trespassing on your property. If you would take their names I will have a word with them and hope the situation is resolved.”
Magic!

Will such tolerance stem the mania for urbanising the countryside?
We hope so.

Buddy Bach







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How to create a stumpery with fantastic ferns

Ferns, with their delicate fronds and ancient lineage, add a touch of magic and mystery to our landscapes.

There are so many to choose from, including evergreen and deciduous varieties so here's a selection of small, medium and large ferns which are suitable for any shady/part shady garden which are ideal for a stumpery or container garden.

Woodwardia fimbriata –



commonly known as a Giant Chain Fern. It's a deciduous variety that will grow to around 1m tall and has arching serrated fronds. They are suitable for most locations but prefer damp with shade and can be grown in a border or container.

Coniogramme emeiensis –



commonly known as the Bamboo Fern. It's an evergreen variety that grows to around 50-60cm tall. They produce new lance shaped fronds that form in late April that are dark green with yellow stripes. Their preference is part to full shade and a sheltered position, they may need protection from hard winters and slugs when young. Suitable for borders, rockeries or containers.

Athyrium niponicum "Silver Falls" –



commonly known as Japanese Painted lady. This is one of my favourite ferns as it's really pretty. It has gorgeous silver fronds, with a 'painted' red/maroon stem. It grows to around 30-50cm tall and is deciduous but will grow back in the spring.

If you have a shady and damp area in your garden, a stumpery can turn it into a haven for wildlife and can also provide a unique and attractive garden feature.

Turn any dead tree parts such as stumps, logs, branches, and other debris into a fantastic feature with just a few shade loving plants and a bit of elbow grease.

You will need:

Spade

Tree stumps and logs

Peat free compost, grit and leaf mould

Shade loving plants such as ferns, hosta's and primulas.

Method:

1. Clear away any grasses, weeds etc from the area.
2. Dig a pit, approximately 30-50cm deep and wide enough to accommodate the stumps.
3. Arrange the stumps and logs in a formation that's pleasing on the eye.



Nikki Hollier

nikki@borderinbox.com

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4. Firm down the stump and logs – standing on it or use a mallet.
5. Fill any gaps with a mixture of peat free compost, leaf mould and grit.
6. Add ferns and water in. Stumperies require minimal maintenance and over time, moss, lichen, and fungi will grow on the wood, which adds to its natural charm. King Charles has an amazing stumpery at his Highgrove home in Gloucestershire, it's well worth a visit to see it, although there are photos available online for inspiration.

June gardening tips

Early June

Mulches help to conserve water but the soil must be moist before they are applied.

Sow quick growing hardy annuals e.g. clarkia, Virginia stocks for late colour in dull spots. When watering concentrate on climbers on walls, container and basket plants, newly planted items, dahlias, sweet peas, leafy veg. crops, celery and fruit bushes.

Dig up bare centred alpine plants and divide them, re-planting the young pieces from around the edge.

If you use nematodes to control vine weevil grubs, buy them on line or mail order.

June is one of the worst months for pest and disease attacks, so check plants regularly. If using a trigger spray product, remember to shake it first and there are lots of safer "organic" treatments available now.

Mid June

Make sure plants in tubs and baskets are fed regularly, as well as watered. Many climbing

plants can be increased by layering at this time of year. Mow the lawn to leave the grass 2.5cm (1in) tall. Makes grass more drought resistant. Treat established lawns with a lawn weed killer but not if there is a drought. Dead head rhododendrons after flowering to encourage new growth.

If you need more fish in your pond this is an ideal time to introduce them but goldfish can be detrimental in a wildlife pond. When picking strawberries always remove any rotting fruit, otherwise problems increase.

Watch out for cabbage white butterflies around your brassica plants. If you do not like to use chemical sprays try Grazers G3 organic caterpillar repellent. They also make good repellents for slugs and lily beetles too. Sow radicchio now for winter salads. Choose a good coloured variety like pallo rossa.

Sow salad crops regularly, in small amounts, sowing the second row as the first emerges.

Reg Moule *BBC Hereford & Worcester*

Tomatoes can be planted outdoors. Select a sheltered site and support the plants. Take cuttings from dianthus (pinks). They root easily now in a shady spot.

Lettuce will not germinate in hot weather. Sowing in moist drills in late evening helps. Shade the greenhouse, ventilate it well and spray water over the floor to raise humidity.

Take softwood cuttings from shrubs. Remove 7.5 cm (3in) of shoot tips. Root in pots of gritty compost, placed in polythene bags, in a shady spot.

Late June

Lift and divide flag iris after flowering. Re-plant young growths, keeping rhizomes above soil level.

Prune back side shoots on cyttissus (broom) after flowering to keep plants neat.

Deadhead roses regularly to prolong flowering. Remove any 'suckers' as soon as they appear. Watch out for algae and blanketweed in pools. The introduction of a product based



on barley straw can provide an organic control measure. Feed tomato plants regularly from when first fruits begin to form, using tomato food. Take out one third of the older branches on deciduous shrubs, like Philadelphus, Weigela and Deutzia after flowering. Put cymbidium orchids outside in a sheltered, shady spot until late autumn. Keep them well watered and fed over this period. If pollen beetles infest your cut sweet peas, put them in water in a shed for a while. The beetles will fly into the window attracted by the light.

National Insurance

Carol Draper

National Insurance (NI) was originally set up to enable contributions to be made to the welfare state. Contributions all go into a separate fund from which some state benefits such as pensions, statutory sick pay, maternity and paternity pay, and some unemployment benefits are paid. Unlike tax which can be paid at any age, NI is only paid between sixteen and state retirement age.

There are four classes of NI. Class 1 is paid by employees on earnings that exceed £242 a week. The most recent budget reduced the rate of employees NI from 10% to 8% for those earning between £242 to £967 a week. Earnings above that level are still charged at a rate of 2%.

As an employer you are required to pay Class 1 NI at the rate of 13.8% on all employees' earnings that exceed £175 per week. There is a concession for employees who are under twenty-one and who earn less than £481 per week but there is no upper age limit.

Class 2 NI is for the self-employed with profits of more than £12,570 per year. It is charged at a flat rate of £3.45 per week and provides entitlement towards state pension and some other contribution-based benefits.

Up until April 2024 Class 2 NI was collected by Self-



Assessment though from April 24 onwards it will be included with other NI payments and will effectively disappear for those earning above £12,570. Class 2 will still exist for those on low earnings. Those with earnings between £6725 and £12570 benefit from a NI credit and those with earnings below £6725 have the option to make a voluntary NI contribution to build entitlement to State Pension.

Class 3 are voluntary contributions paid by those wanting to top up their NI record. Class 4 is paid by the self-employed at a rate of 6%, reduced from 8% in the budget, on profits between £12570 and £50,270 per year and 2% on profits over £50,270.

The easiest way to check your NI record is to sign into your Personal Tax Account or if you have any questions speak to your accountant.

Carol Draper FCCA
Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co Ltd

"Treat the earth well -
We do not inherit the earth from our
ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

Native American proverb

Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co

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Make Room!

Angela Johns



I've had a few endings in my life just lately. The flip side to that coin is the several beginnings. They moved straight in to the space that was made because they were waiting just outside the door. Some pushed their way in so some things had to go to make room! It's just a matter of perspective I suppose. What I do know is that by looking at the beginnings I can get a feeling of choice and of abundance. And if I deal with the endings with the love, care and grace they deserve, my mind can have room to welcome the new even if I'm not sure how it will unfold. I'm trying to embrace the endings and beginnings that are happening in Pershore that have affected me directly lately. I have had plenty of time for my initial resistance to subside and other opportunities have already opened up for me that I couldn't have imagined before. And I am enjoying dwelling in the other parts of my life in the meantime. It's a bit like this:

Imagine a corridor before you. Each door has a sign on it for each part of your life (job, friends, responsibility, time for yourself, fun stuff, family, personal growth etc). When you open the door to each room, they are each filled with everything that makes that particular room safe and fulfilling, so that you enjoy spending time in there. Each room gives you what you want, what you need and you can change them about whenever you like. When in a room, you are 100% present and give it 100% of your best self so you can create the best version of the room for yourself. Sometimes, general maintenance is required in one or more rooms and the door is locked while the general maintenance technician does what they need to do. Thankfully, any of your other

rooms are such a joy to be in (because you made them that way), that you can bear to be locked out until the time is right. And thank goodness for the spare room as it can be made into whatever you like! Imagine if you only ever gave love, time and attention to one room and the general maintenance technician locked you out of it! Where could you go for comfort or joy? And where, oh where, was that safe place where you keep the spare room key?

When we feel so busy it's hard to imagine keeping every room up straight but as long as we give 100% when we're in each one then you can't do better than that. It's never too late to spruce up the different rooms in your life.

Currently training as an Emotional Therapeutic Counsellor with the AETC, Angela is a qualified Reflexologist, Aromareflex Practitioner and Reiki Teacher/Practitioner. She is passionate about her therapies and spends quality time with her clients to facilitate their wellbeing. You can find her at angelahjohns.co.uk

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Another great exercise for staying aligned

Karen Harris

Air bench; also known as air chair or wall sit. Whatever you call it - like the squat position I wrote about last month - it is an essential exercise that is used primarily as a quadriceps (thigh) strengthening exercise, and it does have that effect. Runners who do it have less shaky legs in those later miles, skiers who use it can ski for longer.

Many trainers use the air bench as an exercise to 'isolate' the quads, but there is no such thing as isolating a single muscle for any purpose, including strengthening and conditioning. The body just doesn't work that way. It is a unit of various parts working together in a multitude of ways, and to use any one muscle for any activity, must necessarily involve other muscles, not to mention bones, ligaments, joints, tendons. But in the alignment world, the air bench accomplishes far more. Want to try it?

You are essentially sitting against a wall - as the picture - *lower back fully pressed against the wall but upper body relaxed, knees bent at ninety degrees (or as close to ninety as you able), feet 4-6" apart, pointing straight ahead, *ankles slightly ahead of knees, weight in your heels. This properly loaded neutral position allows the back muscles, to communicate properly with your abdominal muscles. They're working the way they were intended, establishing symmetry and proper alignment. As a result, the muscles around the hips are properly engaged. The femur (thigh bone) is moved to a

neutral position, so it's working right where it's supposed to be working. The knees, being bent, allow the load joints of the knees and ankles to line up, which subsequently compels the patella tendon into its proper position. The ultimate effect of this, is that the feet can now support the weight of the body properly; and of course, the knees being in their proper position better enables them to carry the load of our bodies, reducing knee pain and potential knee problems. Remain in position until the isolation feeling in both quads is the same, usually a minimum of one minute. Then stay in it as long as you can; the better for your joints and your body, it will be. If, after one week of air benches at a minimum of one minute, you don't feel a simultaneous isolation in your quads, then you have imbalance issues that will not be corrected by putting yourself in this posture. The importance of this foundational work, with the alignment of the body, is the basis of my new book 'Staying Aligned'. Exploring such topics as sciatica, foot issues, neck and hip pain and much more; combined with inspirational stories and valuable hints and tips. Illustrated with nine alignment routines, it is an easy to read, common sense guide to being proactive not reactive, there is something for everyone. More details below.

*Important

Reconnecting with Nature:

Emily Papirnik

A Path to Inner Peace

In a world filled with constant chaos and division, finding a sense of peace can seem daunting. However, a solution lies closer than we might think – within the natural world around us. By reconnecting with nature, we can regain a sense of balance and perspective.



Here's how:

Disconnect from Negativity

It is so easy to get caught up in the negativity and conflict often portrayed in the media. By choosing to step away from these sources of stress and judgment, we can start to feel better almost immediately.

Self-Reflection

Take a moment to look within yourself. Ask if your actions and behaviours align with your true desires and values. Trust your feelings as a guide to what is right for you.

Appreciate our Shared Humanity

Despite our differences in values and lifestyles, we all share the same basic human experience. We breathe the same air and live on the same beautiful planet. Recognising this commonality can help bridge the divide between us.

Practise Gratitude and Kindness

Focus on what you have and how you can make a positive impact on others. Whether it's a smile or a small act of kindness, these gestures can improve your mood and brighten someone else's day.

Engage in Mindful Observation

Spend a few moments each day observing nature. Watch a bee in flight, gaze at the clouds or take in the scent of a flower. These simple acts of mindfulness can help you realise the incredible beauty and resilience of our planet.

Embrace the Phenomenal Planet

By connecting with nature, we can shift our focus from the chaos around us to the extraordinary world we live in. Even the most common aspects of nature hold wonders that we often take for granted.

In the midst of overwhelming stress and division, turning our attention to the natural world can offer a profound sense of peace. By appreciating the beauty around us and reflecting on our own actions, we can find balance and connection. So, take a moment and let nature remind you of the extraordinary planet we call home.



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Calling all knitters and Crocheters!
 Can you help us to share some Christmas Joy around the Communities of Severnside Parishes for December 2024?
 We are asking for your help to knit or crochet as many Angels as we can before December 2024.
 So in December we can Angel Bomb the communities in Norton, Kempsey and Severn Stoke with a host of yarn Angels!

Join us on Fridays
 at Create and join in with other creatives, knitting at St Marys Church, Kempsey from 9.30 to 12pm during term time.

There will be yarn and patterns available for you to use in the church. If you prefer to make the Angels at home, please contact us for the pattern.

St Marys Church, Church Street, Kempsey, Worcester WR5 3JH
 Email: kay.mason@motov8.org.uk or Call: 07921 122802



Wedding



Wedding at St. Mary's on Saturday 11th May between Nathan Wheeler and Chloe Ashby-Davies

British, yes.....sort of French too

Brian Johnson-Thomas



We're on the island of Guernsey this month, in fact staying at the Cobo Bay Hotel – which, quite coincidentally was named recently as in the top ten percent of hotels worldwide by subscribers to the well known website Trip Advisor. I can quite see why, from bed to beach is less than a three minute hop, the service is speedy and pleasant and the food is well cooked and well presented. Yet the prices are surprisingly modest, our room (in the last week of May) costs just under £70 a night per person, two sharing, for bed and breakfast. And yes, it's en suite, coffee and tea making facilities, even an iron and ironing board. Within minutes of arriving we

felt that we were at home – a feeling compounded because we arrived at the ungodly hour of 6.45, straight off the overnight ferry, and were able to go immediately to our room. *For details of the hotel see: www.cobobayhotel.com* Condor Ferries in fact offer two routes from the UK to Guernsey, the longer one from Portsmouth and the shorter three hours fast catamaran from Poole in Dorset. We chose to travel out overnight from Portsmouth and enjoyed a spacious en suite cabin plus adequate supper and breakfast in the adjacent Brasserie. I popped in to the duty free shop – as one does – and discovered that the offer of the week was

six bottles of table wine for just £20 (post- Brexit we can each import two dozen bottles duty free every time we return to the UK). Since we've taken the car there's no problem with carrying all our shopping (which is a good thing as there's no VAT on Guernsey so that the Marks and Sparks dress you craved is around twenty percent cheaper here..Oh, yes, all the British high street brands are here..). Condor Ferries offer travel to the Channel Islands from £85 per person including a car – for details see:

www.condorferries.com

Yet there's a lot more to the island than just shopping and beaches. Yesterday, for example, we visited a Stone Age tomb that dates back over 5,000 years, while from my hotel window I can see a concrete bunker constructed by the German Army who occupied these islands from 1940 to 1945 – the only parts of the British Isles to suffer such a fate. Indeed Hitler was so concerned to hang on to the Channel Islands that he ordered them to be defended in great strength, so that even today the islands are littered with massive concrete structures that, for the most part, are as useless as they are ugly - although I'm told that they make good mushroom farms.

As one might expect from somewhere 75 miles from the English shore and only 25 miles from France, the cuisine also reflects both the proximity of the sea and the proximity of the neighbours – so lots of sea food served with pzazz.

One example is today's lunch – a seafood salad served in the cafe at Saumarez gardens (a lovely verdant estate a couple of miles for here) which included lashings of crab and prawns, with copious amounts of smoked salmon, on a bed of succulent salad served for just under £20 a head.

As I write this, friends on the phone tell me that it's raining back in Pershore – well, the sun's going to set here soon after a lovely sunny day, so I think that we'll just take a stroll in the gathering dusk along one of the many coastal paths through the abundant wild flowers – making the most of the moment because, by the time you read this, I'll be home cutting the grass and trimming the hedge all over again!. Oh, and don't forget the D-Day 'do' on Kempsey Common on the evening of the 6th and the Royal Three Counties Show starting on the 14th at the Malvern Showground – maybe see you there ?

Cohabitation Breakdown – What are your rights?



If you are amongst the rising population of couples who have been living together for many years but remain unmarried, this information is for you in the event your relationship has broken down and you are unsure how to proceed. Where you own a property jointly, you have the right to remain living in that property until such time as the property is sold or an adjustment is made to transfer or sell the property. It is not advisable to move out

until you have a written agreement in place. There is no such thing in law as a 'common law' wife or husband. The court treat you differently to married couples. The fact that you have paid the deposit for the property will not be factored into any settlement unless you have it evidenced in writing that these funds will be paid back to you or that you will receive a greater share of the sale proceeds. We recommend putting in place

a Declaration of Trust at the time of purchase or during your relationship to record the agreement. We can draw up such a document for you. If you are in a situation of relationship breakdown, you are entitled to receive your share of the property and if there is dispute about that, you might be able to enforce a sale of the property by way of court order. We can help you to do this whether by negotiation or by an application to court for

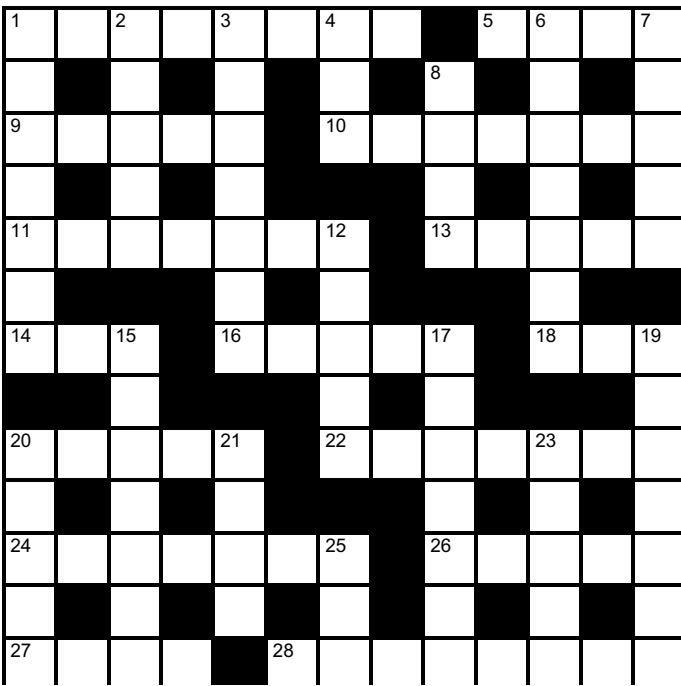
an order for sale. Please come and talk to us about your situation and we can help you to navigate the way forward to achieve your financial settlement.

*Contact our Family Law Team at Bradley Haynes Law
Head of Family Law,
Veronica Beard
Email: veronica@bradleyhayneslaw.co.uk
Tel: 01905 900919*



Coffee Break

Crossword



Across

- 1 Roomy (8)
- 5 Image of a deity (4)
- 9 Borders (5)
- 10 Cushion for kneeling (7)
- 11 Dog of mixed breed (7)
- 13 Shouts (5)
- 14 17th letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
- 16 Overzealous (5)
- 18 Little drink (3)
- 20 Science of logic, quantity, shape and arrangement (Abbr.) (5)
- 22 Loss of memory (7)
- 24 Makes journeys (7)
- 26 Young hooter (5)
- 27 A great deal (4)
- 28 Frenzied rush (8)

Down

- 1 Cooking vessel (7)
- 2 Inert elemental gas (5)
- 3 Underwriter (7)
- 4 Exclamation of disgust (3)
- 6 Draws aimlessly (7)
- 7 Finds pleasing (5)
- 8 Wan (4)
- 12 North African oil state (5)
- 15 Survive (7)
- 17 "Raiders of the Lost Ark" actor --- Elliott (7)
- 19 Chatter (7)
- 20 Broken rock for road repairs (5)
- 21 Killed (4)
- 23 Find the answer (5)
- 25 Posed (3)

Sudoku

Each row and column must contain the numbers from one to nine, without repetitions.

		4	8			2	9	
	1							3
8				3	9			
6		3	4				2	
		5	3	8				
1						3		6
2			6			1		4
	3				8		5	
	8	1		2	5			

6						2	9	
9				8	6			3
	5				2			
				2		4		1
			8		1		6	
	6	8	3					5
8		3		9				
			4			5	3	
	1					8		

Crosswords

Sudoku

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Wordsearch

S	F	L	S	P	E	N	L	O	W	N
S	A	H	G	U	S	T	E	R	X	O
A	N	E	R	W	Q	U	I	L	P	S
R	G	E	I	O	R	N	A	G	T	D
B	B	P	P	E	A	C	I	O	L	O
K	D	U	V	N	R	R	O	U	J	D
R	O	I	C	E	P	T	O	I	N	P
O	L	Y	E	K	F	M	N	J	I	J
O	L	V	B	I	E	G	O	P	G	U
K	Y	U	P	R	L	T	O	C	A	P
E	D	S	L	E	A	R	Y	M	F	E

- Brass
- Bucket
- Bud
- Dodson
- Dolly
- Fagin
- Fang
- Fips
- Grip
- Guster
- Heep
- Jingle
- Jo
- Jupe
- Krook
- La Creevy
- Mould
- Nancy
- Oliver
- Omer
- Pip
- Prig
- Quilp
- Sleary
- Spenlow
- Toots
- Wren

May Answers

1	P	2	T	3	R	4	T	5	E	6	N
7	E	V	A	D	E	8	R	O	M	A	N
9	R	I	L	E	E	I	E	A			
10	N	O	W	H	E	R	E	11	T	O	W
	O	A	A	E	A	S		L	L	E	E
12	D	A	N	I	S	H	13	P	14	A	Y
								O			
15	D	E	R	I	D	E	17	E	V	I	C
	O	A					20	S		A	H
21	C	A	B	E	22	R	23	T	O	D	D
	T	A	O	E				O	I	I	
24	U	T	C	O	M	E	25	N	I	C	H
	R		K	L				E	O	K	

Poets' Corner

A Shropshire Lad

Reveille v

Oh see how thick the goldcup flowers
 Are lying in field and lane,
 With dandelions to tell the hours
 That never are told again.
 Oh may I squire you round the meads
 And pick you posies gay?
 -'Twill do no harm to take my arm.
 "You may, young man, you may."
 Ah, spring was sent for lass and lad,
 'Tis now the blood runs gold,
 And man and maid had best be glad
 Before the world is old.
 What flowers to-day may flower to-morrow,
 But never as good as new.
 -Suppose I wound my arm right round-
 "'Tis true, young man, 'tis true."
 Some lads there are, 'tis shame to say,
 That only court to thieve,
 And once they bear the bloom away
 'Tis little enough they leave.
 Then keep your heart for men like me
 And safe from trustless chaps.
 My love is true and all for you.
 "Perhaps, young man, perhaps."
 Oh, look in my eyes, then, can you doubt?
 -Why, 'tis a mile from town.
 How green the grass is all about!
 We might as well sit down.
 -Ah, life, what is it but a flower?
 Why must true lovers sigh?
 Be kind, have pity, my own, my pretty,-
 "Good-bye, young man, good-bye."

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Spot & Shop - May Winners

- 1) Gordon Ferguson
- 2) Tim Crowley
- 3) Alison Borton
- 4) J Phelps

Last month's answer:
Jo Goodwin Physiotherapist

Fun Quiz!



1. What do climbers call a peak higher than 3000 feet (914 metres)?
2. Which country did Baseball originate from?
3. In poker, which hand is more valuable, flush or full house?
4. Which snooker player was nicknamed 'The Whirlwind'?
5. What is the most powerful piece in a game of chess?
6. How many pockets does a snooker table have?
7. Which football player was the captain of the England team after Martin Keown?
8. Who won the 2003 British Open golf tournament?
9. What is a bet on numbers 1-18 in a game of roulette called?
10. Did Stirling Moss ever win the World Championship?
11. What is the name given to a jockey's uniform?
12. How many periods is an ice hockey game divided into?
13. What colours are the five Olympic rings?
14. How many holes are there in a standard ten pin bowling ball?
15. How many motorbikes take place in a speedway race?
16. What is the height and width of a football goal?
17. What Year did Nigel Mansell become world champion?
18. Which country hosted the Football World Cup in 2006?
19. What is the white target ball known as in bowls?
20. Which footballer has an autobiography called Addicted?

Answers: 1. A munnro 2. England 3. Full house 4. Jimmy White 5. The Queen 6. Six (6) 7. David Beckham 8. Ben Curtis 9. Manque 10. No 11. Silks 12. Three 13. Red, blue, black, yellow and green 14. Three 15. Four 16. Height = 2.4m / Width = 7.3m 17. 1992 18. Germany 19. Jack 20. Tony Adams



COMPETITION TIME!

Take a look at the anagram
The answer is the name of a business that is advertising in the Kempsey Times this month



- This month's prizes!**
- 1st - £25 cash
 Donated by Royal Oak, Kinnersley
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 Value £20
 - 3rd - Reg Moule's Gardening Diary
 Value £10
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Kempsey Times closing date: 30th June 2024

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Telephone/email: _____

Return to: Kempsey Times, Hughes & Company
 8 Church Street, Pershore Worcestershire WR10 1DT

Health Hub – June

June is a busy month where the hope of warmer weather is finally becoming a reality. The ability to top up your Vitamin D direct from sunlight on the skin makes everyone feel happier. However, with reported cases of skin cancer on the rise you should:

- *Limit your time in the sun (especially between 10am and 4pm)*
- *Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher every day.*
- *Avoid tanning beds*
- *Cover up with clothing, including a broad brimmed hat and UV blocking sunglasses.*

Despite stepping out into the day with the best of intentions, forgetting to apply enough sunscreen or failing to cover up can easily result in sunburn. By using an aftersun lotion, it will help moisturise the skin and can have a cooling effect (if it contains aloe vera extracts) which will help calm the skin after burning and reduce redness.

However, preventing sun damage is by far the best course of action.

10th – 16th June is Men's Health Awareness Week

Taking the lead from King Charles, we are encouraging you to share your health thoughts and concerns with a loved one or your friends. The NHS has a section on men's health and Orchid Cancer (Orchid-cancer.org.uk) has a wealth of information and support if you have been diagnosed with penile, testicular or prostate cancer. Pershore Medical Practice is hosting a free PSA Testing Clinic on Thursday 4th July 2024 from 5pm to 8pm. Online booking is available via www.mypsatests.org.uk

There is also a Prostate Cancer Support Group Meeting on Wednesday 12th June 2024 6.30pm for 7pm start. This will take place in the side entrance to Pershore Town Hall.

For more information, please go to www.kwpcsg.co.uk

17th – 23rd June is Cervical Screening Awareness Week



Going for your cervical screening isn't always easy, and everyone's experience is different. We're encouraging people to share their tips, experiences and positive messages with their loved ones and friends. Cervical screening is a free health test that helps prevent cervical cancer. Everyone with a cervix between 25 and 64 has a right to go for cervical screening. It is your choice whether you want to go.

More information can be found on the NHS website under *Women's Health*.



14th June is World Blood Donor Day



which seeks to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank voluntary, unpaid donors for the life-saving gifts of blood. You can give blood from the age of 17 - If you would like to find out more or book a slot to donate.

Please visit www.blood.co.uk We hope that, if possible, you will follow Pershore Medical Practice and Abbotswood Surgery on Facebook and Instagram for more frequent messaging and sign up to our regular Newsletters which you will find on our websites.



TOOLS WITH A MISSION

This charity collects and refurbishes gardening, carpentry, building tools, sewing machines and bicycles for distribution in Africa.

We collect them here in Kempsey and send them to a national centre to be shipped to needy families.

Please telephone Joy Clee 01905 820317

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Hot on the heels of our May concert we are delighted to invite singers and audience to our

Come & Sing, and Concert Haydn's Creation

Conductor Jonathan Brown
with soloists from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Saturday 29 June from 12.30pm
Great Malvern Priory

Come & Sing - £20 for visiting singers
(includes music hire, programme and tea between the rehearsal and concert)

Evening concert at 7pm - £15

Drinks will be available in the interval
Come & Sing, and Concert - Free for under 21s

For more details about the Come & Sing visit:
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or contact Barbara Moss on 01684 564366
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WORCESTER**

Saturday 8th June, 2.30pm .

TICKETS £10 to inc.refreshments
In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Contact: Jan Venables
Tel: 07928 316080

**Summer
Garden Party**

**Sunday 21st July 2024
from 2 – 4 p.m.**

at The Tynings,
(A National Garden Scheme participant)
Church Lane, Stoulton.

Entrance £8 (children £4)

To include homemade cake and tea/coffee
(to be served in Stoulton Village Hall)

Live Folk Band, Plants for sale
(Church will be open with flowers in the church)

All proceeds will go to St Edmund's Church Fabric Fund



Useful numbers

Worcester Fire Station 01905 725030
 Kempsey Mobile Library
 Second Tuesday in the month 01905 822722
 Kempsey Police Station 101
 (In an emergency always call 999)
 CrimeStoppers 0800 555 111
 Kempsey Post Office 01905 828469
 Kempsey Doctors Surgery 01905 820466
 Kempsey Parish Council 01905 828183

MHDC Council
 Out of hours Emergency hotline - In an event of
 an emergency call: 0300 003 5367

To report faulty traffic lights or urgent Highways
 issues call: 07875 033759
 Please note: This number should not be used for 'day-to-day' enquiries.

- Waste Services 01684 862490
 - Planning Dept 01684 862221
 - Pot Holes 01905 765765

Severn Stoke Parish Council 07950 256363

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Copy Deadline
July Issue - 20th June 2024



- Green recycling bin
- Black waste bin

JUNE						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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SEPTEMBER						
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Kempsey Times



Local man takes on charity cycling challenge!



For the third year running, staff from Barchester Healthcare's care homes and hospitals are taking on a gruelling 200 mile cycling challenge this time from Johnstown in Carmarthen to Wallingford in Oxfordshire. Their aim is to raise money for Barchester's Charitable Foundation which supports older people and other adults living with a disability or mental health problems by helping them to connect or re-connect with others in their local communities.

Over four days, from 18th June - 21st June, a team of Barchester staff will cycle a mammoth 200 miles from Carmarthen to Oxfordshire, stopping at fourteen care homes across Barchester's Central division to meet well-wishers, have a well-earned break and

refuel before continuing on their way. Taking on this epic cycling challenge is Paul Patchett from Malvern, Elgar Court's Head of Maintenance. Paul said, "I have been training really hard and looking forward to raising funds for this amazing charity.

Residents, staff and local well-wishers will be waving off Paul on Thursday 20 June at 9.30 from Elgar Court Care Home on St Andrews Road, Malvern, where the home will be offering refreshments to help raise funds.

We are inviting everyone locally (and from afar) to come along and show their support - whether this is on foot or by bike!

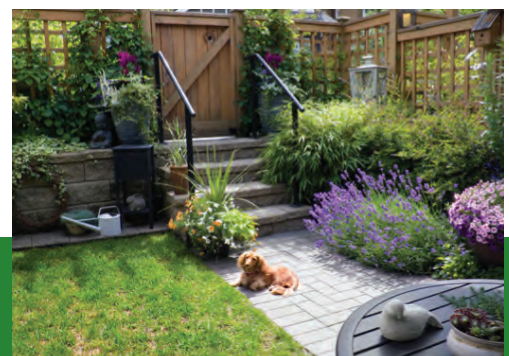
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