

Village Life

John Driscoll

Easter has come and gone, and hopefully, many of us had the opportunity to meet up with family and friends over the weekend and holiday period. This always seems like a season for renewal as we emerge from winter hibernation, surrounded by the glories that spring brings forth. As I write this, the weather is still very changeable, as April will be, with spells of real warmth and sunny skies interspersed with showers and the occasional clap of thunder. Maybe this reflects life's ups and downs and reminds us there is a fair chance of sunny days to come. Speaking of which, I've just been reminded of the benefit we can all take from acting kindly to others. A recent supermarket trip – not necessarily the highlight of the day – was elevated by small acts of kindness, including telling a member of the emergency services how much they are valued, allowing a fellow shopper with just a few items to skip the queue ahead of a large basket-full and complimenting the sales assistant. All resulted in beaming smiles and appreciation that there are still people who care. Winners

all round as the dispenser of these compliments (not me) went home with a renewed spring in her step and refreshed optimism. Lesson: treat others as you wish to be treated – or indeed better – and we can all win. Such a shame this message seems to escape some of our current world leaders. So, it's onwards to May. Back in my full-time work days, this was the month with two Bank Holidays, so a few short working weeks and a chance to have some extended weekend adventures without eating into annual leave. There's less reason to celebrate these breaks now that full-time work is behind me, but still joining in these longer playtimes is very welcome. Just try to stay away from the motorways on the busiest days – maybe by being greedy and adding a further day each side, if only to avoid clogging the roads for those who have no choice. A great month, and one to look forward to in my book. Speaking of motorways and getting away, we had two trips 'out of county' during April. Once again, these served to remind us how lucky we are to



live in such lovely surroundings. One was to Suffolk, a county with much to offer, but where are the hills? The other was to the south Devon coast, with a walk on the beach and, if anything, too many hills! Both were very welcome breaks and a chance to spend time with family, but so good to see Crookbarrow Hill and junction 7 – 'One Tree Hill' as our kids called it – meaning home isn't far off. I'm pretty sure we've all had long journeys home when this sight has seemed so elusive for mile after mile, then ... phew! As for village life, nothing major to report and no big events promised. This time last year, we celebrated VE80 Day, and wouldn't it be amazing to think we could mount another event marking the end of current wars? At the time of writing, this seems

very unlikely, and we're destined to live through many more months of global conflict. We have the tangible impact of rising prices of fuel, food, mortgages and much more, but must keep in mind the far more severe suffering of those poor souls who are caught up in the fighting. Even more reason to value our surroundings and to remember that whatever impact the dreaded Wychavon Town development has in store for us, our lives are not directly at risk. So, I very nearly got to the end without mentioning the development! Enjoy the May holidays and all the delights that May has to offer. May Day is regarded by many as the halfway point between the spring equinox and summer solstice and as the start of summer – that's got my vote!



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Be curious

Angela Johns

Do you find it frustrating when you are asked for advice, which you sagely dispense, only to find it completely ignored? On the flip side, think about who you go to with a problem. Is it the person who tells you their version of the story and how they would do it? Or is it the one who listens fully, then asks you questions about it?

Most people don't want advice even if they are asking for it, that's why they don't follow it. What they really want is clarity on their feelings about the problem. Then they can figure it out for themselves. The trouble with dispensing advice when we only connect to the problem with our own feelings is that we are then invested in the outcome.

There is a process your brain goes through to put feelings into thoughts into words, written or spoken. In order to speak, a specific area in the brain uses your feelings to form thoughts. It must then interpret these often abstract thoughts and make sense of them by turning them into language. Articulating our problems can help us solve them. A clear understanding of the problem by naming it or explaining it lights up another part of the brain that starts the creative process of finding a solution. Naming problems this way reduces how strongly we are feeling, and the reduction in emotional intensity makes solving it more manageable. We can then have more available energy to put solutions into action. Equally importantly, we may feel less alone with it.



There is a reason we say a problem shared is a problem halved. Not because the other person deals with half of it or takes half the responsibility. It's because that other person's initial job is to let you get to the nub of the problem by helping you tease out the tangled wool ball of feelings into a recognisable pattern. You are there with them while they do it. That's half the job done! When we chat to our friends, amongst the stories we tell are the snippets of little problems and worries that have been turned into words. How these words are received helps those worries dissipate, be solved or simply just acknowledged. Be curious with your friends. Ask questions and really listen to the answers. You will be helping them more than you can ever know.

Angela is a qualified Emotional Therapeutic Counsellor registered with NCPS.

Also a Reflexologist and Reiki Practitioner, she is passionate about her therapies and spends quality time with her clients to facilitate their well-being.

You can find her at angelajohns.co.uk

The 2025 Employment Rights Act

Carol Draper



The Employment Rights Act (ERA) became law in December 2025, with the first changes being implemented from April 2026. The act supports the government initiative to "makework pay" and introduces various measures to extend employee rights. While there are numerous changes, I have highlighted just a few. From 6th April 2026, the right to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) has improved. The previous three-day waiting period and lower earnings limit have been removed, meaning all employees are entitled to SSP from the first day of absence. The rate payable is the lower of £123.25 per week or 80% of the employee's average weekly earnings. There have been suggestions that this will encourage employees to take more occasional days off sick, knowing they will be paid something. However, the change provides an opportunity for employers to review their absence policies to ensure they are fair and proportionate for all staff members and, if repeated short-term absence is a problem, to work out why this may be and perhaps consider introducing measures that recognise and reward attendance. Another major change is in relation to paternity leave and unpaid parental leave. Paternity leave is now available from day one of starting with a new employer. The right to paternity leave is not the same

as the right to statutory paternity pay, which is only available after having worked for an employer for at least twelve weeks. The right to unpaid parental leave is also available from day one of starting with a new employer. Each parent is entitled to eighteen weeks of unpaid leave per child, up to their eighteenth birthday. Leave must be taken in whole week blocks and is limited to a maximum of four weeks in a year for each parent, unless an employer agrees otherwise. Finally, employers are now legally required to keep adequate holiday pay records showing leave taken, how holiday pay has been calculated and the variable pay elements included for each employee. Records must be kept for six years.

For more details of the act, the changes introduced and if or how you may be affected visit cas.org.uk.

*Carol Draper FCCA
Clifton-Crick Sharp & Co Ltd*

'The secret of getting ahead is getting started.'

Mark Twain

Joe's Teenage Focus

Anti Far-right March:
My experience

On the 28th of March, many people from London and elsewhere gathered to protest the extremist right wing. The event organiser, 'Together Alliance', estimated that the number of people there to protest was roughly 500,000, whereas the Metropolitan Police estimated it was around 50,000. Based upon this, it's hard to formulate an idea of what the total was, however, it's safe to presume that the march had significant numbers. Along with this, multiple left-wing

politicians joined the march, such as Jeremy Corbyn and Zack Polanski. Polanski stated he'll "never back down when they blame Muslims".

In my opinion, this represents the motivation many protestors had going into the march, as I heard and saw many chants and slogans in support of immigration to the UK and defending asylum seekers' rights, whilst being strongly against populism. Far-right parties such as Reform UK all promise strict border control, which has sparked controversy among the left. Upon hearing about the march,

as a writer, I was intrigued to find out more, so I went south to London with my family. There were numerous left-wing groups with messages such as "Choose hope, not hate". The march went from Park Lane and ended at Whitehall. Once the march concluded, many activists and politicians made speeches in support of the march and spreading its message. Overall, I would say that, from my perspective, the event was triumphant, making several mainstream news channels, including the Guardian and the BBC. Also, part of the reasoning



behind the march was to attempt to compete with a far-right protest that had happened earlier and gain more protestors. Whilst the number of protestors remains unclear, I believe from seeing it first-hand that the march was successful and delivered an articulate message.

Joe Bowsher (15)

Jazz News

Peter Farrall



Alvar Tree Frogs

One of the most popular stars of the swing era in the nineteen thirties and forties was Mildred Bailey - so popular that she was called "The Queen of Swing". She recorded (sometimes uncredited) and appeared with most of the big swing bands of the time and became a great friend of Bing Crosby, whom she encouraged in his early career. Mildred married band leader Red Norvo, and they became known as Mr and Mrs Swing, with two number one hits in the late thirties. A stellar career indeed, but brought to an untimely end due to chronic diabetes. One lesser-known fact about her is that she came from Native American stock, her mother being a full tribal member of the Couer d'Alene people in Idaho, where she was brought

up on the local reservation. It may seem an unlikely combination, but there were and still are quite a number of Native Americans in jazz, proud of their lineage and consciously integrating their musical heritage into their playing. Saxophonist Jim Pepper was very proud of his Kaw/Muskogee roots and his blend of jazz and Native American chant learned from his grandfather in the song Witchi Tai-To even made it into the Billboard top 40 chart. His free jazz fusion band, The Free Spirits, performed and recorded a number of such pieces, encouraged by trumpeter Don Cherry, who himself was descended from a Choctaw Indian tribe. So many names of Native Americans can be found who

have had an ongoing influence on the development of jazz since the early days, and none more well-known than "Big Chief" Russell Moore. He was born on the Gila River Indian reservation, Arizona, as a member of the Pima tribe. He had a long and diverse career playing in the bands of Lionel Hampton, Papa Celestin and Sidney Bechet, amongst others and his own PowWow Jazz Band, but is

probably most remembered for his time with the Louis Armstrong All Stars. He was on the recording of the "Hello Dolly" album, where Louis can be heard prompting his solo with "take it big chief!" Always proud of his heritage and nickname, Moore flavoured his playing with remembered tribal musical influences. His composition "Chant for WoundedKnee" makes a good illustration of this integrity.

"All the credit's gone to the Africans for the wonderful rhythm in jazz, but I think a lot of it should go to the American Indian" - quote from Ruth Ellington, Duke Ellington's sister. No Native Americans at this month's club session, but a bunch of zany guys dedicated to recreating the street music of New Orleans in the 1920s, 30s and into the 40s. It took ten years to assemble this group of consummate and very experienced musicians into the band we have now.

Come along and hear them croak!

Alvar Tree Frogs

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Music Matters

Steve Ide

It's twenty-five years since The Strokes released "This Is It", arguably one of the best debut albums ever. The album is a banger from start to finish and launched the band's stratospheric career. Debut albums often catch the artists at their raw, intense best, on albums such as "Are you experienced" by Jimmi Hendrix, "What ever you say I am" by The Arctic Monkeys, and "Appetite for destruction" by Guns N' Roses, you can hear the artists experimenting and honing their craft.

The best debuts showcase the band's creative vision and can mold a musical genre to their will. "Unknown pleasures" by Joy Division was a deeply personal album that has become a timeless classic. "The Stone Roses" by The Stone Roses is an iconic album, not only for the stunning music but also for the album artwork.

Debut albums often catch a band at their naive best and can be crucial in establishing an identity and future direction.

Notable New Albums

Girlfriend

by Grace Ives

This is Grace's third album and is slickly produced with smart, witty lyrics. It feels like the warmest room in a happy home. Hooks you in instantly and you'll want to play it again and again, sure to be on heavy rotation.

Standout track - 'Fire 2'

Ambiguous Desire

by Arlo Parks

This is the follow-up to her award-winning 'Collapsed in Sunbeams' and was inspired by Arlo's new life in New York. This still has her calm, laid-back style, but with nightclub vibes running through it.

Standout track - 'Heaven'

Honora

by Flea

A jazz album with the bassist from Red Hot Chilli Peppers playing trumpet might sound a bit odd, but why not? He learnt to play the trumpet during RHCP tours and promised himself this album. Featuring collaborations with Thom Yorke and Nick Cave, the ideology here is freedom of expression.

Standout track - 'Morning Cry'

Add to playlist

Berghain

by Rosalia

Mercedes-Benz

by Janis Joplin

Whip It

by Devo

Wild Thing

by The Troggs

Do the Strand

by Roxy Music



The mysterious origin of drones

Martyn Cracknell



Drones (males), with their big eyes and blunt bodies, on the comb

As the season advances and daily temperatures creep up to shorts and t-shirt conditions, the desire to open up my hives becomes irresistible. I need to check whether the queen has survived the winter and resumed egg laying, or whether there is just a dwindling number of old bees without any young replacements to carry the colony into the new season. The bee grubs (or brood) require a temperature of 35°C,

so any inspection must be brief to avoid chilling them, but for a couple of sunny hours around midday, the conditions are fine. This has been a very tough year for overwinter losses, far exceeding the 10 – 15% which we have come to expect, but the survivors are very advanced in their preparations for making good the losses, by producing new queens and swarms. Firstly, I look to see if bees are

bringing pollen into the hive. This is an indication that there are grubs to be fed. Secondly, I inspect the frames to see how much brood is developing, then I look for eggs, which tells me that the queen is present and laying. I scan each frame in turn for the presence of thimble-shaped queen cells and, if there are several, I may leave one big one and remove the rest. Of course, if a new queen is raised, she will

need to be mated with some males, but all the drones were cast out of the hive last autumn and perished in the winter. There have been no drones in the hives since then, so where will they come from? Bees have a cunning strategy. When the queen lays an egg, she can allow it to be fertilised with sperm, which she stores in a sperm sac, and it will become a female worker or a queen, or she can withhold the sperm and lay it, unfertilised, in which case it develops as a male or drone. Drones have large eyes, a large body with a blunt abdomen, and they cannot sting. They do no work, they are fed by the workers, and they drift from hive to hive, and gather in drone congregation areas, awaiting the emergence of queens, which they pursue for mating. Some beekeepers are inclined to condemn this apparently dissipated lifestyle, but I think we should not be too harsh on them. After all, they have no father, and although they have a grandfather, he will have died before his mother was born. There is no male role model in their lives!

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From the Boundary

Peter Jewell



England cricket is upon us and I expect some changes, and there needs to be. It seems Lord McLaurin's view twenty years ago to limit the premier group of counties may be on the cards again. Worcestershire, a yo-yo team, may suffer. They are 2nd in the second division right now. The rugby season is near the end and the Worcester Warriors are lying fourth, with two games to go against Ealing and Coventry, both of whom are above them. So, third is probably the best this season, but well done. War continues in the Middle East, affecting us all. I had said ad nauseum this country must be independent. Pump oil, frack for gas and reopen the coal mines. Does Milliband have so much

investment in carbon neutral? Starmer, our erstwhile leader. First, it was U-turns. Now, he is - shall we say? - 'economic' with the truth. Anyone with half a brain knows that Mandelson has had a dubious track record. Starmer has to go and go now. The trouble is, who next? There is just no quality or competence. The Conservatives are dead for ten years, again for the same reason. However, I will say that Kemi Badenoch has improved, but of course she was shooting at an open goal. The Greens are now simply dangerous. The liberals flop along as normal. That leaves Reform, so far untested, but could they do worse? What's happening with the police these days? There is no proper

investigation of burglaries. The police, for example, had a report made by a 59-year-old Redditchman who said he was threatened by another man who is 77! Yet the complainant had also reported someone else for threatening to kill him. He was also struck off as a solicitor for fraudulently using clients' money to the tune of £137,000. The police say that they are short of money. On New Year's Eve at 23:00, four armed officers arrived at the house of this man to collect his guns. The man was unwell and in bed. There was no investigation, just hearsay from a person with dubious characteristics. Leaving that aside, is it the best usage of manpower to have four armed officers attending? Perhaps they

might be better used walking the streets of Droitwich, Pershore or Evesham, attending to crimes that some of the low life are committing. The police are not short of officers, just short of management. Furthermore, Ryan Smith of the Standard reports burglaries in Crowle and Hanbury. Of course, this is not much of an investigation, perhaps, three of the armed officers could be patrolling. Chief Constable, it is called resource management. Write in and tell us that the culprits have been caught, charged and sentenced. We try to be controversial and hope letters will be sent to the editor. Please do so, whatever your views. My next piece will cover supermarket price checking.



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Wine, trains, flowers and music

Brian Johnson-Thomas



The Three Choirs Vineyard



RHS Malvern

At about the same time that the Persian poet Omar Khayyam was musing: "I often wonder what the vinters buy one half so precious as the goods they sell", back in England, the Domesday Book authors were reckoning up how much tax the various vineyards here would owe to William the Conqueror. Indeed, we were drinking wine a lot earlier than that with the first vineyards apparently being planted here by the Romans (and excavations at various Welsh hill forts have turned up lots of broken amphorae – big wine bottles – which indicates that my forbears were importing the good stuff direct from the shores of the Med even before then). So the Three Choirs Vineyard, just down the road from us, outside Newent, certainly has a lot to live up to, a rich heritage which sets a certain standard. Because they're so near to us, we didn't stay the night in one of their apartments, but the folks we met on our tour told me how much they enjoyed the experience. We joined them mid-morning for a tour of the winery, led by a very knowledgeable guide, followed by a wine tasting and a cheeseboard lunch. Starting

with a glass of their sparkling wine apiece, the tour was quite fascinating in the detail, showing just how much care goes into making their wine. Then we adjourned to the Brasserie to be tutored in the finer points of the various wines - predominantly whites – which they produce. Finally, we enjoyed a sumptuous cheeseboard with an extra glass of the wine of our choice. The morning's experience costs a shade under £56 each, but if we had opted to upgrade to the full overnight experience, then dinner bed & breakfast costs around £260 a couple.

For more details, see www.three-choirs-vineyards.co.uk

Talking about wine reminds me that my favourite steam railway, what I call the Toddington Trains, properly known as the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway offer a wine and cheese evening, along with a plethora of other vaguely 'foodie' experiences, ranging from celebrating the asparagus season with the Asparagus Special last month via various Fish and Chip trains from Toddington, running on selected dates from now until September in the evenings

and also a lunchtime special on November 14th. There's also a Gin Train on Saturday 9th May, sampling Cotswolds Gin and eating a grazing platter en route. Finally, they have two wine and cheese evenings on two Thursdays, June 4th and September 10th, showcasing a selection of fine Italian wine and cheeses. I should also mention their own rail Ale festival, in association with CAMRA, which runs from 12th to the 14th of next month.

For complete details, see www.gwsr.com

There's a lot of food and drink on offer at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival next week as well.

This ever popular preview of Summer runs from Thursday 7th until Sunday at the Three Counties Showground and offers a scintillating gallimaufry of flowers, celebrities, gardens and shopping opportunities. There's lots to choose from – have you heard of 'Tablescaping'? No, nor had I, but apparently we need to look into it as it will enhance our dinner parties ...

Buy tickets via phone on 0344 338 5400

between 9:00 and 17:30, Monday to Friday.

Finally, the very end of this month sees the opening of the Longborough Festival Opera Season with Handel's "Orlando" running from the 30th until the 7th of June. This production is especially noteworthy because the music is being provided by the Academy of Ancient Music, featuring authentic period instruments, which I expect will add greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. That's followed by a revival of the 2017 production of Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde" which will be especially memorable because that veteran Wagnerian, Anthony Negus, will lay aside his baton after the concluding performance, the culmination of a stellar career. Performances run from 20th June to 18th July. At the time of writing, tickets were still available for these two, plus also Verdi's "Macbeth" (between 1st and 16th July) and Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel" sung in English and with the added bonus of the voices of the Longborough Youth Chorus – the opera stars of tomorrow – (runs 30th July to 8th August). See www.lfo.org.uk for details. We're lucky to live where we do – let's make the most of it ...

Thoughts from the Snug

Most of the Snug members are entirely proficient in their use of mobile phones, etc.

The exception is yours truly, (Buddy Bach) who's not using a mobile named after a readily available fruit. Instead, I use an ancient mobile that's slow, limited in adaptability and no longer technically supported or updated by the manufacturer. It was time to move on.

Easy for some, a real challenge for others. A new phone arrived, but learning the new jargon and rules of logging on, biometric security and then

selecting relevant Apps, plus transferring the useful stuff from the old phone, caused grief.

Seeking advice and assistance from friend and family brought some success, but acronyms abounded.

Here are a few:

"You've got a PICNIC here!"

Meaning, you've got a 'Problem In the Chair not in Computer'.

Very reassuring ... not!

"There's a PEBKAC going on"

Meaning, 'Problem Exists Between Keyboard and Chair'.

"Code 18 ERROR", meaning the issues lies 18 inches from

Don't Shun the Professionals

the screen. Charming.

I got the drift and came up with my own acronym and even an equation; IBM. This refers to the Idiot Behind Machine ID-10-T, short and simple; clearly translates to ... IDIOT! It was clear professional help was needed. So, baffled and confused, I made my way to the Computer Shop in Broad Street, Pershore. It's an Aladin's cave of IT equipment and mobile paraphernalia. The team behind the counter were splendid. Friendly, cheerful and amazingly tolerant without

referring to one of the disparaging (yet, totally accurate) acronyms suffered earlier.

They sorted me out and even invited me back if I faced other problems. Should have gone there first. Brilliant service.

I can report Butty is now enjoying his fruit flavoured mobile. The thing re-charges swiftly and lasts longer. A pity that doesn't apply to himself. Next task? Bluetooth connection, with not even a hint of contacting a dentist. Buddy very relieved, but he's still an IBM though.

Buddy Bach

Farming

Mike Page



I have complained before about having two seasons in a row where circumstances ended up giving us poor farmers a hard time: 2024, too wet, and 2025, too dry. But at the same time, I have hinted that this farmer (and perhaps all farmers) retains a spirit of optimism; operating with many key circumstances beyond our control and seeming to thwart our best efforts, we have to believe things can only get better; perhaps this is the year it will happen?

At the time I am writing this, the calendar is telling me that Spring is about to start, but mother nature seems to have fired the starting pistol announcing the beginning of spring early this year. Blossom and greenery with birds singing and actively nesting are in full swing, well ahead of the date on the calendar. With a start like that, the temptation is to think this is very much showing that this year just might be the year when everything goes right. We can but hope. Towards the end of last year, many grass fields were looking like they had died off in the drought conditions, but in the vast majority of cases the grass had gone into survival (dormant) mode, remaining very much alive and ready to go back into

normal growth mode when moisture conditions allowed. That is where we are now, and perhaps a sense of optimism is built into the DNA of even plants? Some recent Government actions seem to have been more favourable towards those of us engaged in rural life and agricultural production. This marks something of a change from the earlier attitude of the present Government when it came into power. World annual production of food and feed grains is well in excess of 2000 million tonnes – enough to potentially feed the World population comfortably – which makes annual production in the UK look like little more than a wheelbarrowful, although we are largely (but not fully) self-sufficient. The attitude, ‘but we can always get our basic foodstuffs from elsewhere’ seems to prevail. It is important that Government support for farm food production continues. The present conflict in the Middle East should be proof that other countries having control over basic items of human need, or production of basic needs, are prepared to use control over that need as a weapon of War. One means by which home

food production could be increased and even improved is by breeding both animals and crops that are better able to not only survive but thrive in our climate. This is ongoing, with advancement in many key areas including, for instance, the breeding of crops like Fava Beans (little grown in the UK presently) selected for a very low content of certain potentially harmful ingredients, as a protein crop, enabling us to reduce imports of Soya Beans. Imports of protein into the UK come as mostly Soya and in huge amounts, from the US. As President Trump has shown, he is quite prepared to use trade as a weapon to achieve his diplomatic goals, even with so-called close allies.

On the animal side, pigs and cattle are being bred to belch less methane than home breeds,

benefiting the environment, and wild species being re-introduced to improve the environment including possibly for food production.

Last year's drought meant much lower yielding crops of grass conserved as hay or silage. A good friend of mine reports mixing in straw with his silage when feeding his cattle last winter to bulk it up, satisfy their appetite needs, and make his supply of fodder last, even if not satisfying fully their nutritional needs. At least he has survived the winter with the feed he had available: cattle all a bit thinner than they were last year but alive and healthy and no big expenditure on bought-in feed. Given good grazing conditions this coming summer the cattle should all be back in A1 condition by the time we get to autumn. We can but hope so.



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Unfortunately, there has been a worrying trend of a reduction in the numbers of both pets and humans being vaccinated in recent years. This has led to regional outbreaks of serious diseases that have not been seen in large numbers for some time. Up to a third of pets are not kept up to date with their routine vaccinations. Vaccination, in part, works by 'herd immunity' – the more animals that are vaccinated the less likely those vulnerable to the disease will become infected. With fewer animals being vaccinated the more at risk our animals are, even those that are routinely vaccinated.

Recommended vaccinations:

Dogs

- Core vaccinations (those recommended for any domestic dog worldwide) are for canine parvovirus, canine adenovirus (hepatitis) and distemper, after the initial vaccination course these are needed every 3 years.
- In the UK countryside leptospirosis is not only a potentially fatal condition but can also be spread to humans, this vaccine is needed every 12 months.
- Kennel cough can lead to a debilitating cough and is very contagious, it is recommended for dogs in any setting where there are multiple dogs present e.g. kennelling or training classes, or for dogs that are particularly sociable and enjoy greeting every dog. It is a 12 monthly vaccine usually given up the nose.

Cats

- Core vaccinations are for feline enteritis, feline herpesvirus and feline calicivirus (cat flu). Enteritis is given 3 yearly and the flu viruses are needed yearly.
- Feline leukaemia virus vaccine is given 3 yearly and is recommended for any outdoor cats.

Rabbits

- Rabbits have a single combined vaccination yearly which covers for rabbit haemorrhagic disease 1 and 2 and myxomatosis.

Most vaccination appointments will include a general health check to catch other conditions early, such as dental disease and heart disease. Contact your vet to make sure your pet is up to date with their vaccinations.

Best wishes *Eliza*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
I would like to express my thanks for the interesting articles by your young reporters. They give an insight to us 'oldies' of the lives they lead whilst studying. All praise to Hughes & Co for giving them the opportunity to hone their journalistic skills. Well done! Sincerely yours,
Meg Allsopp (Powick)

Dear Sir,
Having enjoyed The Gentleman's Relish/Patum Peperium most of my life, I was appalled to learn that the reason I could no longer find it in shops was that its manufacturer had decided to stop making it. Its recipe has always been a secret. The ingredients listed on its distinctive tub are anchovies, butter, rusk and spices. That is all. However, borrowing from an Angela Hartnett recipe for savoury pastry straws, I have found that mixing two parts of anchovy paste (found in tubes) with one part of Dijon mustard produces a spread that looks like Patum and tastes very similar. With no 'rusk' or butter, it is looser but spread on hot buttered toast or a crumpet, it seems to do the trick. Fellow sufferers should try it.

Tim Hickson

Dear Editor,
Thank you very much for the marvellous magazine i.e. mine being the Kempsey Times. Congratulations and please keep up the good work, it is much appreciated!
Thanks to all involved,
H. Foster

Dear Sir,
Why would any country like Russia or China want to invade England? What have we got that they want? I can't think of anything, but maybe your readers can. If so, could they write to your excellent papers and enlighten me. It would be nice to know what your younger readers think about the future of this country and the world. Older people are also welcome to air their views. I will donate £20 to a charity for the person who gives the answer I consider the best.
Yours faithfully,
John L. Reynolds

Dear Editor,
In the "West", we live in a world where people have sleepwalked into a mindset where they take no responsibility for anything. They have outsourced every part of their lives to "the state"; a world where they can buy everything

and anything; a world where everything is supplied for us – food, water, energy, safety, health, entertainment - and the very infrastructure of modern day life can be accessed if you just flick a switch, go to a supermarket, turn on a tap, visit a doctor etc. People have largely forgotten how to grow, cook, look after, and butcher animals humanely, use plants as remedies, fix, build, deal with their own waste or even death, entertain themselves and even communicate face-to-face. They are easily "bored" and need to fill the hours of boredom, which in the past would have been filled with the business of self-sustainability ... and living their lives as nature intended. In a world where people are "lonely" and "depressed", they are encouraged to pursue ever more sedentary lives. Family units have been fractured. Friends are virtual instead of real. Television has become the drug of the nation, supplying entertainment and a source of what is going on in the world. Unfortunately, it just breeds ignorance, since it is now literally a propaganda tool, nudging and coercing the population into compliance through tried and tested techniques. As the older generations die and the inherent knowledge of self-sustainability

is lost more and more, to be replaced with artificial intelligence, what will be the point of humanity? Just to exist like animals in a digital "cage" of our own making? Western people in general don't seem to have the time or the inclination to seek the real truth about what is happening to humanity. They have been sold a lie about what life should be. A lie that life should be easy, comfortable and cosseted, where everything is provided with no effort – if you can afford it. Everyone climbs onto the hamster wheel and enters the system. Encouraged to "buy" everything with "money" they have "earned". All highly convenient and easy, but at what cost to humanity? Take time to enjoy face-to-face communication. Relish the joy of human love. Go outside and listen to the birds or look at the flowers. Cook from scratch. Read an actual physical book. Remember the sense of achievement when you complete a task without any technology. Live your life how you intend to and not according to the hedonistic, largely meaningless existence that you have been sold by those who do not have your best interests at heart.
Julie Reynolds

News



The Royal British Legion held their 95th Annual Dinner and Cadet Awards on the 18th April 2026 at The Bell in Eckington. Once again, it was a very enjoyable evening. We had Captain Jay Guthrie MBE (Local Army Cadet CO) as our Guest Speaker. Four Trophies/Shields were presented to our local cadet forces ie. Sea, Army, Air and St John Cadets forces. Mark Everitt was presented with a certificate in thanks for his continual support and photography to The Pershore & District Branch of the Royal British Legion. Glenda McKeown was presented with a certificate for outstanding contribution as

the local Poppy Appeal Coordinator. Last year's Poppy Appeal locally raised over £21,000 and, nationally, over £54 million. A big thank you to Glenda's Team, all the Cadet forces and of course the Pershore and surrounding village communities. The local branch is desperately looking for a committee member to help with our Public Relations. We would love to have someone join us to take this on. We are also looking for new members. (No need to have served in the forces.)
If anyone is interested, please contact the Chairman, Gerald Gregory on 07802 897088

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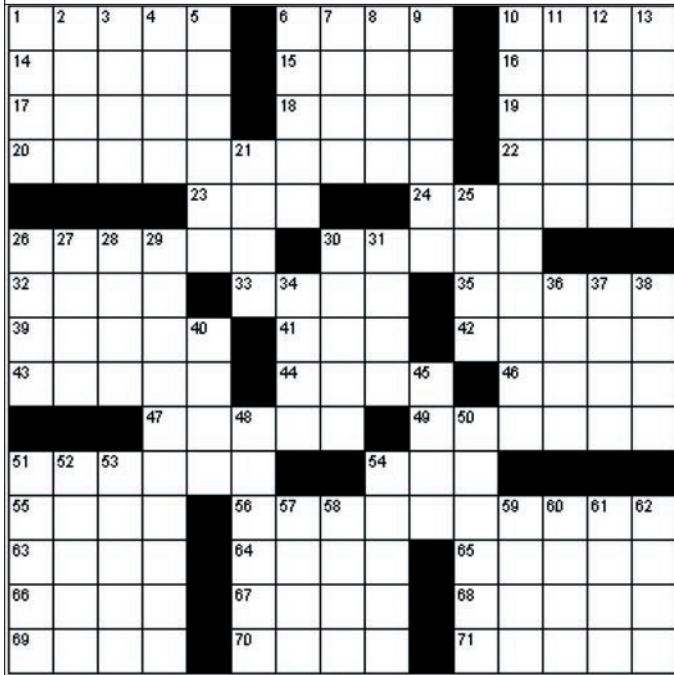
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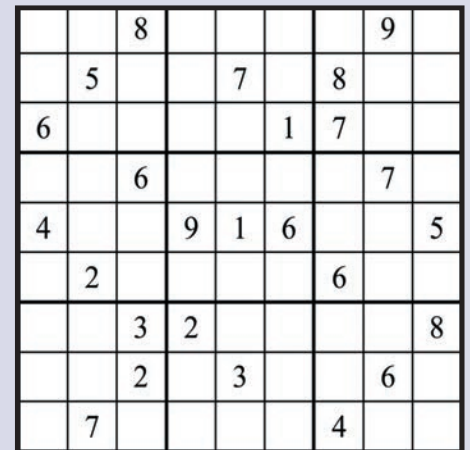
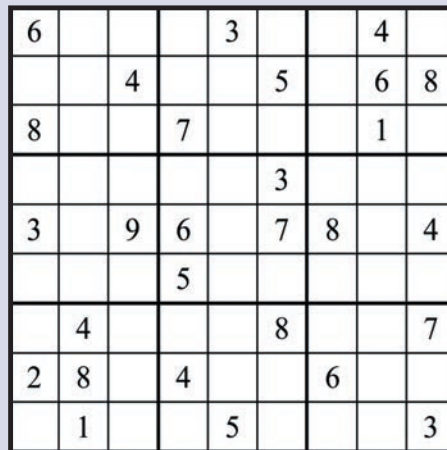
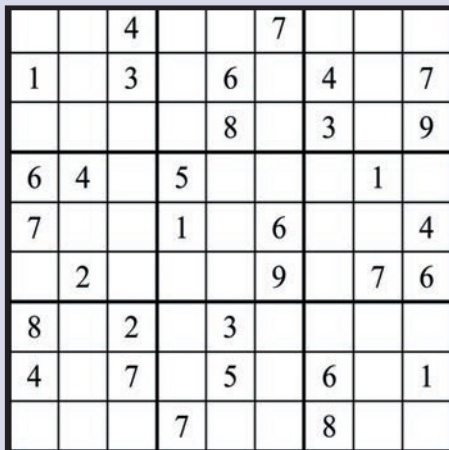

Coffee Break Crossword



- Across**
1. Proven information
 6. Wainscot
 10. City in Yemen
 14. Terminate before completion
 15. Dry or parched
 16. Single-channel sound
 17. Interior layout and furnishings
 18. Ploy
 19. Sculpture of head and shoulders
 20. Numerical data
 22. Shivering fit
 23. Hyrax
 24. Waistbands
 26. Avoids
 30. Ellipses
 32. Linoleum (abbrev.)
 33. Prefix indicating "Same"
 35. Artist's workstand
 39. Negatively-charged atom
 41. Friend
 42. A magistrate of the Roman Republic
 43. Parisian subway
 44. Uttered to attract attention
 46. Leaf of the talipot palm
 47. An Australian marsupial
 49. Overseas
 51. Express agreement
 54. Traverse over snow
 55. Hint
 56. Sobriety
 63. Waterproofed canvas
 64. Hebrew month
 65. Step
 66. Boundary
 67. Yield
- Down**
1. Temporary crazes
 2. Assist
 3. A source of cocaine
 4. Lope
 5. Pace
 6. Small narrow pointed missiles
 7. Wild African sheep
 8. A round flat object
 9. City in south central Ukraine
 10. A high-ranking diplomat
 11. "Kneaded" for bread
 12. Result
 13. Memos
 21. Girdle
 25. To windward side
 26. Ancient Middle-east kingdom
 27. Connects two points
 28. An assemblage regarded as a single entity
 29. Guard of an entrance
 30. Nebraskan city
 31. Field mouse
 34. Gemstone
 36. Grain storage building
 37. Singer _____ Fitzgerald
 38. Direct from the front
 40. Middy
 45. Construct
 48. Assail
 50. Deliveries
 51. Portrayed
 52. Anagram of "Deals"
 53. A sudden forceful flow
 54. Brief indulgence
 57. Biblical garden
 58. Created or built
 59. District
 60. Tongue of a wagon
 61. A lean-fleshed fish
 62. Ripple or current
- 68. Listened** **70. Leg joint**
69. Bambi was one **71. Goofy/foolish**

Sudoku

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



Spring Activities Wordsearch



- BASEBALL
- BIKE RIDING
- BIRD WATCHING
- CAMPING
- CLEANING
- EASTER
- EGG-AND-
SPOON-RACE
- EGG HUNT
- FARMERS-
MARKET
- FISHING
- FUN
- GARDENING
- GOLF
- HIKING
- KAYAKING
- KITE FLYING
- NATURE WALKS
- OUTDOOR
GAMES
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- PICNIC
- PLANTING
- RELAXING
- ROADTRIP
- SIGHTSEEING
- SOCCER
- SPRING BREAK
- SWIMMING
- TENNIS
- VACATION

Brainteasers

1) Turn me on my side, and I am everything. Cut me in half, and I am nothing. What am I?

2) There is a word in the English language in which the first two letters signify a male, the first three letters signify a female, the first four signify a great man, and the whole word, a great woman. What is the word?

2) Heroine

1) The number 8

Poets' Corner

A Shropshire Lad

LX

Now hollow fires burn out to black,
 And lights are guttering low:
 Square your shoulders, lift your pack,
 And leave your friends and go.
 Oh never fear, man, nought's to dread,
 Look not left nor right:
 In all the endless road you tread
 There's nothing but the night

LXI

The vane on Hughley steeple

The vane on Hughley steeple
 Veers bright, a far-known sign,
 And there lie Hughley people,
 And there lie friends of mine.
 Tall in their midst the tower
 Divides the shade and sun,
 And the clock strikes the hour
 And tells the time to none.
 To south the headstones cluster,
 The sunny mounds lie thick;
 The dead are more in muster
 At Hughley than the quick.
 North, for a soon-told number,
 Chill graves the sexton delves,
 And steeple-shadowed slumber
 The slayers of themselves.
 To north, to south, lie parted,
 With Hughley tower above,
 The kind, the single-hearted,
 The lads I used to love.
 And, south or north, 'tis only
 A choice of friends one knows,
 And I shall ne'er be lonely
 Asleep with these or those.

A. E. Housman 1859-1936

Quiz!

- Historically, what sort of dancing has been linked to May Day celebrations?
- The Mayflower left England for the Virginia Colony with which other ship on the 15th August, 1620?
- What was the name of Theresa May's constituency?
- In the annual cheese-rolling festival, competitors chase a giant wheel of what type of cheese down a steep hill: Brie, Double Gloucester or Jarlsberg?
- Which date in May is named "Star Wars Day"?
- What world famous horse race is usually held on the first Saturday in May?
- Towel Day, celebrated on 25th May each year, is a tribute to which popular British science fiction and comedy author who died in 2001?
- The Empire State building first opened on 1st May in which year, 1891, 1911 or 1931?
- The "Palme d'Or" ("Golden Palm") is the highest prize given out at which annual film festival awards held annually in May?
- In May 1707, the Act of Union joined which two kingdoms together?
- Roger Bannister was the first man to run the mile in under 4 minutes in May of which year?
- Hawaiians call May Day by what name?
- Who was the author of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, born on 28th May 1908?
- What creature has three hearts and blue blood?
- What's the only letter not used in any U.S. state name?
- Which French phrase inspired the "May day!" expression for pilots in trouble?

Answers: 1) Morris Dancing 2) Speedwell 3) Maidenhead 4) Double Gloucester 5) May 4th 6) The Kentucky Derby 7) Douglas Adams 8) 1931 9) Cannes Film Festival 10) England and Scotland 11) 1954 12) Let Day 13) Ian Fleming 14) Octopus 15) Q 16) "M'adze" ("Help me!")

Did You Know?

Earth's rotation is changing speed. It's actually slowing down. On average, the length of a day increases by around 1.8 seconds per century. 600 million years ago, a day lasted just 21 hours.

Famous May Birthdays!

- Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington (1st May 1769)
- Audrey Hepburn (4th May 1929)
- Florence Nightingale (12th May 1820)
- Queen Victoria (24th May 1819)

Word of the Month

'Imberbic'

Definition: a 17th century adjective describing someone without a beard

Flower of the Month

Lily of the Valley

symbolising sweetness, joy and happiness

April Answers



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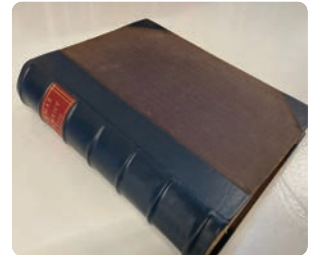
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Copy Deadline for

June Issue - 15th May 2026

Severn Stoke & Croome D'abitot News

Happenings in Severn Stoke and Environs

John Henderson

St. Denys' Church, Severn Stoke

Writing this in early April, we keep our fingers crossed that work really will begin on the Flood Bund this Spring to bring relief to those residents and businesses, so badly affected by the almost annual flooding, which has occurred over the last few years. As for Church life, it will obviously take away a terrific burden from us, with church services and events disrupted and the inevitable cost of clearing up after. We enjoyed a well-attended Easter Sunday service and we now look forward to making sure that the Church is open for visitors (between 9.00am and 5.00pm) and well cared for. The churchyard is beautifully

maintained and there was a fantastic show of Snowdrops followed by Daffodils. It is a haven of peace. Services are held at 10.30 a.m. on the first and third Sunday of each month.

Friends of St Denys' Severn Stoke - Raising funds to modernise the church!

Our forthcoming event will be the Worcester Male Voice Choir to entertain us in St Denys' Church on Saturday 16th May at 7.30 pm with toe-tapping verve and light refreshments included. Tickets are available at £10.00 each from Jane Hall, Sally Linsey and John Henderson (01905 371 218) and other committee members. We look forward to seeing you to make it a happy occasion.



Pershore Open Gardens



Pershore Open Gardens is a well-attended annual event where approximately fifteen to twenty gardens around Pershore open each year to the public. This year, it will be held on the weekend of the 6th/7th June, 1-5pm. It is enjoyed by many local residents. If you've never been before, I definitely recommend attending. It's a lovely day out, and you can enjoy what Pershore has to offer at the same time. People also come from far and wide to attend, bringing tourism and business to Pershore. This year, I hope the local shops will decorate their window displays in yellow to represent the colour of the National Garden Scheme, which the event donates to each year, which in turn donates millions to nursing and health charities like MacMillan's and Marie Curie. The gardens that open are all unique - for example, some are particularly nature-friendly, others quirky and

full of the owner's personality. They come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a joy of gardening, and they love to share that passion with others for a fantastic cause. So a big thank you to all of them. Without your dedication, there would be no event. I'm pleased to announce a number of new gardens opening this year, so please show your support. Tickets are available from the Town Hall, 19 Whitcroft Road and Number 8 (on the weekend of the event). If you are considering opening your garden next year (which plans to be bigger than ever, as it's the 100th year of the NGS), please feel free to get in touch. You can also find out more about this year's event (is it suitable for people with mobility issues? etc.) by contacting Laura, coordinator, on 07586 358799 or by email at joslines@live.co.uk

Spot & Shop April Winners

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Shirley Turner | 2) Dave Pritchard |
| 3) Anne Ludlow | 4) R. Andrews |
| 5) Sue Southwick | 6) Isabella & James Garland |
| 7) Maureen Bogaard | |

Last month's answer: G and C Travel Ltd

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

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This month's prizes!

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4th £10 Voucher

at Revills Farm Shop, Defford

5th £10 Voucher

at Craftypyro, Bakers Arcade, Pershore

6th Reg Moule Gardening Book

7th Pat's Pantry -

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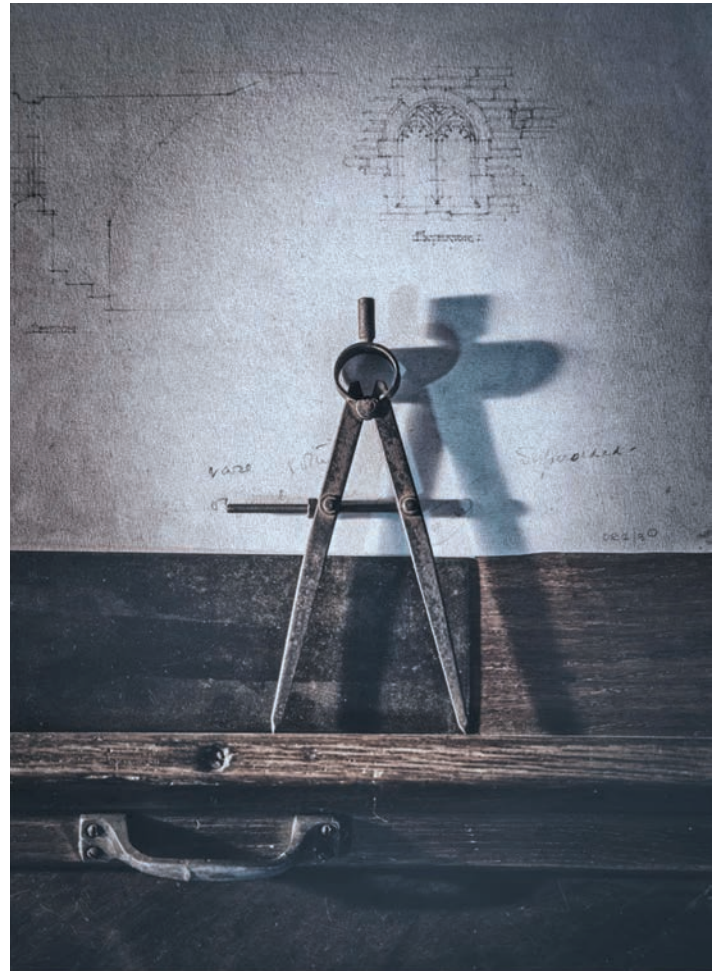
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Camera Club



Above: 'Looking Out'
by Charles Ashton
Right: 'Dividers'
by Julian Slaughter



As I mentioned in my article for the April issue, May is the month in which the Club makes the transition from the regular meetings of the formal season to the less regular (but just as interesting) meetings and other activities (some of them, at least, outside) of what was once a shutdown for the summer. The change is marked by both the Annual General Meeting, which this year will be held on Wednesday 13th, and our Annual Dinner, revived once the worst of Covid had passed and now likely to have its highest attendance ever, in the following

week. Towards the end of the month, we will also have a meeting to look at and discuss the groups of images which members have taken in response to the geometrical challenge of 'Squares'. In each of June, July and August, we will have one online meeting, each of which will have a subject of particular interest. We would be delighted to welcome anybody interested in the occasions listed above (bar the Annual Dinner). Please make contact via our website (www.kempseycameraclub.uk/),

where you will also find further details of our programme for the post-AGM 'summer' season hinted at above. In the meantime, we hope that you will find intrigue and interest in these two quite different images, 'Dividers' by Julian

Slaughter and 'Looking Out' by Charles Ashton, two of the five top-placed images in our second 'Open' projected image competition of the season, held in late February.

*Malcolm A Hay
Secretary*

Historic concert marks 250th anniversary

An unusual classical choral work, which seems to mimic birdsong in part of its accompaniment, is to be featured in an historic concert at Pershore Abbey this month which coincides with the 250th anniversary of its first ever performance. Leading local choir Pershore Choral, is to include Mozart's so-called "Sparrow Mass" in their concert in the Abbey on 9th May, together with two major works by the Venetian classical maestro, Antonio Vivaldi. The Sparrow Mass is believed to have been performed for the first time at Easter in 1776 in Salzburg Cathedral, and it was one of five short masses which Mozart wrote while he was Court Musician at the cathedral from 1775 to 1777. It was originally known only by its formal name of "Missa Brevis in C", but acquired its nickname in the 19th Century when musicians accompanying it

noticed how their instruments sounded like birds chirping in places just before the choir started singing the main themes. The two other choral works included in the concert are Vivaldi's "Magnificat" and his more well-known "Gloria", which is often featured on Classic FM and is a favourite of many of the station's listeners. Vivaldi was a priest and music teacher and he wrote both these works originally for performance by the girls of the orphanage in Venice, of which he was the choir master. Subsequently, he reworked them to include men's voices. "They are glorious, exciting examples of early baroque music which fill you with joy, and it promises to be an exciting evening's music making, ideally suited to the size and acoustics of the Abbey," said Paul Clarke, who chairs Pershore Choral. Although today Vivaldi is one of the most popular composers,



when he died, he was buried in a pauper's grave. For almost two centuries after his death, the "Gloria" lay undiscovered until the late 1920s when it was found among a pile of forgotten Vivaldi manuscripts.

"Rejoice" will be held in Pershore Abbey on 9th May, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are available through the Pershore Choral website at www.pershorechoral.co.uk or at Pershore Town Hall, High Street, Pershore (cash sales only).

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Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council

Work begins on Severn Stoke flood scheme

Construction has begun on the new flood defence scheme at Severn Stoke, delivered by Alun Griffiths Construction Ltd, expected to be complete by Christmas 2026. The Environment Agency is funding approximately £5 million of delivery costs, with Worcestershire County Council contributing a further £250,000. The scheme will consist of a flood bank that runs to the west of village, new drainage works to manage surface water, and a section of raised road to where Ham Lane will pass over the flood bank. Some imported fill material for the flood bank is already onsite and further material will be imported in the coming months. Vegetation clearance is planned to commence on 5th May 2026. A temporary access track will be provided for farmers. Works on Ham Lane and the associated temporary access arrangements will commence in May. Ham Lane itself is expected to be closed from 15th May 2026 and reopened 24th July 2026 (subject to no issues being encountered during construction activities). Thank you to everyone

who contributed and worked hard to get the project to this point. *A reminder to dog owners* Please remember to keep dogs on leads at all times on the permissive paths around the Knights Hill Ponds at Severn Stoke, as this area is home to vulnerable ground-nesting birds. Dogs should also be kept out of the water, in order to avoid interference with the local angling club, who are paying tenants of the land and to prevent disturbance and protect wildlife. The permissive path around the pool is on private land, and we are keen to avoid a situation where access is reconsidered by the owners. The Parish Council received reports of dog owners not clearing away after their dog has fouled and, in addition, would remind owners that dogs should not be allowed off the lead when passing through fields where crops are growing. Your cooperation ensures the parish remains safe and enjoyable for everyone and protects the businesses of our farmers. Finally, we have seen reports from farmers of dogs killing local livestock. It is a serious criminal offence for a dog to be permitted (inadvertently or not) to chase,

attack, or cause distress to livestock. Owners or anyone in charge of the dog can be prosecuted and the law in question (Dogs (Protection of Livestock) (Amendment) Act 2025) covers farmland, public rights of way, paths, and roads. Reports of loose dogs can be sent to the Parish Council, who will inform the Dog Warden at Regulatory Services. The Dog Warden investigates dogs that are permitted to roam and has powers to seize persistent strays. *Planning appeals to follow a new, streamlined process* The government has announced changes to the planning appeals process, aimed at making it faster and more focused on the evidence submitted during the original application. Applicants will no longer be able to introduce new evidence at the appeals stage. Instead, appeals will be determined based solely on the information provided as part of the initial application. Previously, applicants could strengthen their case during an appeal by submitting additional evidence. The updated process removes this step, placing greater emphasis on submitting a

complete and robust application from the outset. These changes will apply to all new planning applications submitted from 1st April 2026. From a parish council point of view, there will also be a requirement to make sure that agreed councillor responses to planning applications are as robust and informed as possible. We would encourage residents to regularly check the parish council website, which holds a list of the most recent planning applications and provide feedback, support, concerns or information to the parish council, so that it may be considered as part of the official parish council response. *Next meeting* Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 20th May 2026, 7.30pm SOQ meeting room, Croome National Trust Visitor Centre. *Parish Clerk, Lisa Stevens:* 07950 256363, parishclerk@severnstokeandcroomedabitot-pc.gov.uk Your councillors: Richard Hill (Chair), Simon Bott, Ian Daly, Laura McEwan-Hill, Pat Preston and Raymond Williams. We have six vacancies for immediate co-option.

Kempsey WI

Kempsey WI had been invited by the Parish Council to join the "Love Kempsey" committee, which was organising a daffodil weekend in the village in March 2026. The WI suggested a cascade of crafted daffodils to sit alongside artwork from the Lawns nursing home, and an art competition for village youngsters; it was hoped people would be drawn in to view arts and crafts whilst they enjoyed refreshments after a "daffodil" walk around the village. St Mary's church was chosen as the venue since it is the largest public building in the village. The WI team realised that it would take about five hundred knitted, crocheted or crafted daffodils to make a decent exhibit and so put out a call to its members and the village in general for crafters. As mentioned in a previous report, the response was incredible! Within days, there were requests for patterns and wool; after ten days, crafted blooms started to arrive. (A very wet February probably helped concentrate the crafters' efforts!) This fast became a real Community project - with

contributions from individuals, groups, friends and relatives. In the end, the total exceeded one thousand daffodils, made from wool, fabric or machine embroidered. Some contributors made one or two, others a lot more (one lady made one hundred and forty!). The WI Daffodil team set to work applying the blooms to a net background. The final exhibit was a riot of colour; daffodils/narcissi of all shades and sizes. There were enough flowers for a full-length cascade on the pulpit, plus drops of daffodils hanging from the choir stall ends and the font. Spring weather smiled on the weekend. A steady stream of people came into church for soup, cake and drinks. Many crafters came along to view the cascade. Some had photoshoots next to "their" bloom. Kempsey WI would like to say a huge "thank you" to everyone who contributed to their first attempt at a floral cascade. *The next meeting will be on Monday 18th May at 2pm in Kempsey Youth Centre, when Ray Sturdy will give a talk on Antarctica.*



Christian Aid Week

I hope you all saw our notice in the April Kempsey Times for our Big Brekkie event. This will be held in St. Mary's church on Wednesday 13th May from 9:30. There will be bacon and sausage butties plus tea or coffee. There will also be a raffle. This annual event is to support Christian Aid to reach out to people who have nothing due to famine, war and any other catastrophe.

This is open to anyone who would like to support Christian Aid. There will be a charge for breakfast and also envelopes available for you to donate. All the money we collect will go to the Fund. Envelopes will be in church or obtainable from Owain Bell and Julia Grant. *Contact:* Owain Bell 01905 820209 Julia Grant 01905 820138

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Kempsey Times



Easter at the Lawns!



For Easter, we had a wonderfully poignant holy communion service in our lounge with Canon Owain Bell. Plus, an Easter bonnet craft competition, with prizes of chocolate eggs for the winners. We also made our own chocolate eggs and decorated biscuits. More hat wearing too, when AG Magicians visited – residents threw themselves into the audience participation and were enthralled by the show. It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and one we shall definitely be repeating.

There were more winners too at our Grand National event. Plus, more song and dance with singer Ian Hardman and we have singer Vanessa Butcher entertaining us on 7th May. We are armchair travelling to Paris for our next themed event. We shall be looking at the sights, brushing up on our best Franglais and enjoying French patisserie. Then, in May, we are marking David Attenborough's Centenary with some awe-inspiring animal documentaries. Our Gardening Group projects are getting underway. Most recently, we all re-potted the miniature sunflowers that residents had grown from seed. And it was a lovely trip out for resident Terry and our lifestyle



and wellbeing lead, Kerry, to St Peter's Garden Centre, one of our favourite destinations for inspiration, shopping and a visit to their café.

We are continuing our seated Zumba classes every Monday. And we have the students from Kings School every Tuesday,

and the children from Kempsey Primary every Wednesday, through their summer terms. And we are having a coffee afternoon fundraiser for Dementia UK on 22nd May. This charity is very close to our hearts. We are welcoming new admissions for long stay or

respite care. Please give us a call for more information and see our new video on our website: www.heritagemanor.co.uk/our-homes/the-lawns
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