



## What an honour

***John Gibbons of St Helens has been awarded the People's Choice RHS 2024 Harlow Carr medal in recognition of his significant contribution to horticulture in the North of England.***

He was awarded the medal through length of service, commitment to projects and his unique capabilities combined with his reliability and professionalism.

John started working at Pilkington at the age of 21, after completing three years' service in the RAF. He worked in St Helens in Rolled Plate. He then became a Training Officer in glass manufacture and then a Foreman before retiring at the age of 58.

His father in law, Edgar Chisnall, who also worked for Pilkington as a chemist in Head Office, introduced John to growing and showing geraniums (pelargoniums).

John showed his plants at National Shows, winning many prizes, but his main interest became hybridisation. John has created over 100 new varieties with 60 of them forming part of the National Pelargonium collection which is now held by the Royal Horticultural Society over various sites. Whilst most of his plants were given the prefix

'Bold' after the parish he lives in, he named several after his family, including his father in law Edgar. He named one after Lady Mavis Pilkington who visited him on several occasions accompanied by her gardener. He also named one Willowbrook after the Hospice in St Helens.

This was never a business to John, he never gained financially, what was a hobby became a passion.

As treasurer of the Geranium Society he arranged two National Shows in St Helens. He travelled around the North West giving lectures on hybridisation.

John's plants have featured in geranium displays at the Chelsea Flower Show.

John's family are incredibly proud of the award. John was unfortunately unable to attend the award ceremony in Westminster due to illness. But his daughter Carol and granddaughter Katie attended on his behalf and they presented him with his medal on his 90th birthday.

**Congratulations go to John for this incredible achievement.**



*John holding his medal.*



*Bold Apple blossom.*



*Harlow Carr Medal.*



**2&3** SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS  
and anniversaries



**4/5** BYE TO DIANE & HI TO JAYNE  
Meet trekker Sally & runner Paul



**7** FEEDBACK & WINNERS  
From Prism Autumn 2023



**8** YOUNG AT HEART?  
Then the Lord Ferrister Books are for you



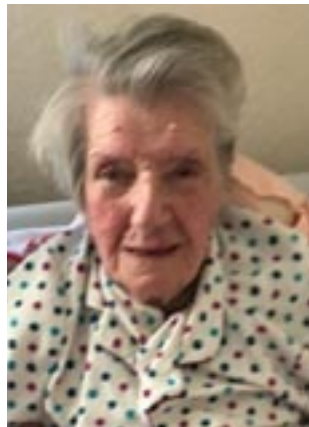
Rose Hill, Stourbridge, on 1 June 2024.



Freda C Fox, Doncaster, 103 on 24th December 2023.



Gerald Anders, Toll Bar, St Helens, 102 on 1 June 2024.



Elizabeth Fossett, Northway, Tewkesbury 102 on 10 December 2023.

# Special birthdays

**Congratulations to those who celebrated extra special birthdays in 2023/2024.**

## Not pictured...

- Daphne Youdale, Tamworth, 100 on 26 October 2023.
- Mary Thallon, Glasgow, 100 on 20 January 2024.
- Edith Thompson, Droitwich, 101 on 7 July 2024.
- Dorothy Prescott, St Helens, 101 on 28 July 2024.
- Arthur Gee, Skelmersdale, 102 on 15 August 2024.
- Dorothy Pierce, St Helens, 103 on 31 July 2024.



Above: Olive Amos, West Bromwich, 101 on 7 April 2024.

Below: Isabel McKay, Glasgow, 100 on 26 May 2024.



Above: Sheila Michael, Glasgow, 100 on 14 April 2024.

# Anniversaries



**Congratulations to the following couples who have celebrated or who are about to celebrate their special anniversaries.**

## Platinum Wedding (70 years)

Kenneth and Brenda Lamb, Eccleston Park, Prescot, 16 July 2024

## Blue Sapphire Wedding (65 years)

Joseph and Brenda Carney, St Helens, 13 December 2023

David and Valerie Everitt, Welford on Avon, Stratford on Avon, 12 December 2024

Michael and Christine Jinman, Church Lench, Evesham, 28 February 2024 (sadly Michael passed away in March 2024)

Derek and Mary Martin, Haydock, St Helens, 10 January 2024 (sadly Mary passed away in May 2024)

Bernard and Dorothy Moore, St Helens, 15 August 2024

Frank and Beryl Owen, Great Sankey, Warrington, 29 August 2024

## Diamond Wedding (60 years)

John and Maureen Cunliffe, St Annes on Sea, Blackpool, 23 March 2023

John and Ann Fisher, Eccleston, St Helens, 7 September 2023

Ronald and Angela Gee, Penketh, Warrington, 30 March 2024

John and Sheila Hill, Eccleston Hill, St Helens, 14 March 2024

Thomas and Sheila Hogan, Rainhill, St Helens, 17 October 2024

Malcolm and Kay Lane, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster, 4 April 2024

Margaret and David Leivesley, Haydock, St Helens, 21 March 2024

Howard and Ann McKenzie, Easingwold, York, 21 October 2023

Glen and Margaret Nightingale, Over Peover, Knutsford, 4 April 2024

Donald and Judith Russell, Kings Heath, Birmingham, 28 March 2024

Alan and Joyce Sharrock, Eccleston, St Helens, 7 July 2024

John and Kathleen Spurr, Aughton, Ormskirk, 29 August 2024

## Golden Wedding (50 years)

Barry and Julie Calladine, Thorne, Doncaster, 16 March 2024

William and Marian Cockayne, Bedminster, Bristol, 31 March 2023 (Incorrectly noted under Diamond Wedding in the last issue)

Terence and Dorothy Collins, Rainford, St Helens, 5 January 2024

Gordon and Ann Ellis, Rhyl, 20 July 2024

Roger and Fay Moyden, Kings Norton, Birmingham, 2 March 2024



Picture...



...perfect!

David and Valerie Everitt are pictured left in 1959 at their wedding in St Stephens Church, Selly Park, Birmingham and at home 65 years later.

The couple's grand-daughter Louise advises that whilst working for Pilkington her grandad was instrumental in reducing the manufacturing time of fabric components in aircraft windshields, down from 10 hours to 10 minutes! At the time he was given a small sum of money as a thank-you and he bought his first radio with it!

Louise says he always talks fondly about his 21 years with Pilkington in Kings Norton.

Thank you to Louise for forwarding these lovely pictures, and congratulations to David and Valerie.

## Staff Changes

Since the last issue we have said goodbye to the following members of staff

- Julie McCluskey, Admin Assistant, St Helens;
- Chelsea Greenall, Team Leader, Ruskin Lodge;
- Michelle Dixon, Hairdresser, St Helens;
- Elaine Moran, Care Assistant, Ruskin Lodge;
- Maralyn Devlin, Dementia Support, St Helens;
- Katey Lynch, Welfare Officer, St Helens;
- Diane Swift, Welfare Programme Manager, St Helens.

And welcome to our new colleagues.

- Natalie Hough, Hairdresser, St Helens,
- Michelle Dean, Administrator, St Helens and
- Claire Boulton, Hairdresser, St Helens.

# North Wales Carer's group

Eight people attended the morning support group in June at the local Garden Centre with the North Wales welfare officer, Catherine Ainsworth.

The group consists of people who care for someone who has Dementia, and people who are experiencing isolation or loneliness.

Everyone enjoyed spending time in the company of others and felt welcome and supported. They enjoyed a breakfast, a hot drink, and a chat.

The group meets up every couple of months or so. This enables them to share stories, photographs, ideas, telephone numbers, offer advice and most importantly, laugh with each other. Everyone enjoyed their time and left with big smiles on their faces!



# North Wales Rhuddlan club

The Rhuddlan Club was held in June when 17 beneficiaries enjoyed a buffet lunch together.

Members, who meet up in Rhuddlan Community Centre, take part in a quiz, raffle and play Dominoes. They all enjoy lunch, a hot drink and a chat together and arrange to meet up and have meals on other days throughout the month.

The Club is always eager to welcome any new members to the group and a lovely gentleman is always on hand to greet you with a cup of tea! Their view is 'the more the merrier!'

If you feel that you would like to be part of a group, meet new people or just see what the

Club is all about then please come along and experience it for yourselves. You will most certainly be met with a friendly face.

If anyone would like to visit the Monday Club, it is held on the 1st & 3rd Monday of every month. The Tuesday Club is held on the 1st Tuesday of every month.

If anyone would like further details, then please contact Catherine Ainsworth, Regional Welfare Officer on 07927 133709 and she will ask the group organiser to give you a call.

We hope to see you soon.



# The Wonderful World of Glass

The World of Glass in St Helens was the destination for 30 beneficiaries from North Wales, accompanied by Lynsey Woodhouse the Regional Welfare Officer.

It was a wonderful day out. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the tours and the glass blowing demonstration and had a lovely buffet lunch. It brought back many memories for some of the beneficiaries and everyone took something away with them – including purchasing some glass goodies from the gift shop!

The pictures in the left hand panel are from previous celebratory occasions.

# Meet Sally - a seasoned fundraiser...

*Sally Beckett, wife of beneficiary Derek (Alan) Beckett, from Birmingham is a seasoned fundraiser.*

When her grandson Charlie Dawes was only two weeks old, he was given a life-saving heart operation at the Birmingham Children's Hospital. The operation was obviously successful as you can see from the photograph below, Charlie (on the left) is a picture of health.

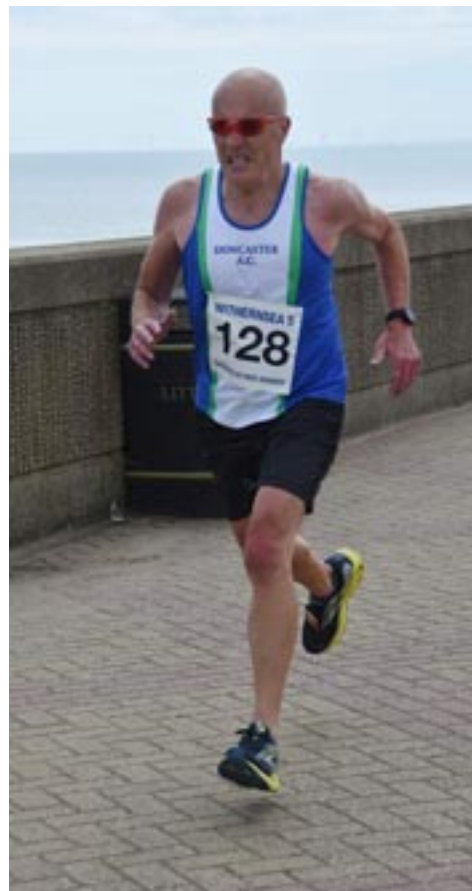
Previously Sally has walked the Coast-to-Coast path for the Hospital in thanks for the treatment her grandson received and is now going to walk up Ben Nevis, accompanied by Charlie and his brother Sam (also pictured), to raise as much as they can to support the amazing work carried out at the Birmingham Children's Hospital. Sally has also trekked to Iceland to raise money for the Marie Curie Trust.

We wish the family well with all the fundraising they are doing now and in the future.



# ...and long distance runner Paul

*Paul Bond, beneficiary from Doncaster, followed his father John Bond into the Pilkington Factory in Kirk Sandall, Doncaster, and worked there from 1977 until 1999. He was employed on the production line in what was known as No 9.*



Paul was never really interested in long distance running at school or in his younger days, saying that he preferred football.

It was in the late 1980s whilst working at Pilkington, that Paul started to run for enjoyment. Initially he ran alone as it was never his intention to race competitively.

However, Paul's first competitive run was in the early 1990s, where he took part in a local nine-mile race in Doncaster after being convinced to take part by a work colleague, Keith Temperton.

Paul says that he completed that run in 63 minutes. This is where he got the bug for competitive running after he realised that he was running at a decent standard and producing good race times. Paul then joined his local Athletics club at Askern before joining Doncaster & Stainforth Athletics Club in 1999. The

club later re-allocated to the sports complex at the Keepmoat Stadium (now called the Eco Power Stadium, the current home of Doncaster Rovers FC). It was this facility that allowed Paul to improve, as he now had access to a state-of-the-art running track.

Fellow members of this running club were Pilkington employees Keith Temperton and Andy Hall. Paul still attends his athletic club for track sessions and group runs, twice a week, but runs on his own almost every day, covering

distances between six and 15 miles per session.

Another school friend and ex-Pilkington work colleague, Dale Collins, then inspired Paul to compete in marathons.

Paul has competed and finished the London Marathon three times and has also competed in the Paris, Prague, Cyprus, Ireland, Spain and the Channel Islands marathons plus the great North Run in Newcastle.

Paul picks and chooses the races in which he decides to run. They are usually every six to eight weeks. He now competes in the Veteran's 60 – 64-year-old category.

In 2022, Paul won his category in the Withernsea 5-mile event, the Epworth 10K and has also won the Bridlington 5k event.

In 2023 he won Silver in the South Yorkshire Road league - a five-mile event, which takes place between March and June. He has also finished 2nd in the Hardwick (Nottinghamshire) 5-mile event and in September won the Cleethorpes 60 – 64-year-old event. He came 2nd in the Scarborough 10k in October.

After Paul left Pilkington, he became a police officer, joining the British Transport Police in 2002 and serving until 2014. Ironically Paul worked alongside Wayne Pikett who is now the Regional Welfare Officer for the Family Trust in Yorkshire and Humberside!



# A fond farewell to Diane Swift

**Welfare Programme Manager, Diane Swift, retired in June this year. Before she left, we asked her about her career and plans for her future.**

**Q. When you left school what did you want to do?**

**A.** I didn't know what I wanted to do. Originally my plan was to teach but I didn't enjoy secondary school and left before completing my A levels. My first job at Pilkington was at Triplex Ecclestone, I was a Production Control Administrator.

**Q. You have worked in many different roles within the Trust but what has been your favourite?**

**A.** I can't say I have a favourite; I have done very

different job roles. I enjoyed my time working at Ruskin Lodge, there I got to meet more beneficiaries and had that interaction with them. Equally I have enjoyed being able to develop the services. I loved working for the Trust in every role I have done. I am very proud of the work the Trust does and what it stands for.

**Q. What has been your greatest achievement?**

**A.** I would have to say the job I am doing today. As a 17-year-old I was shy and not very confident, I would never have imagined that I would be in senior

management. I am grateful for the opportunities that I have been given and the support of my colleagues.

**Q. The Trust has been a massive part of your working life, what will you miss about work?**

**A.** The people, colleagues and the support of staff. I will miss the feeling that you are achieving something and making a difference in people's lives for the better.

**Q. What has been your biggest challenge in your work?**

**A.** Ruskin Lodge. I was told



that the position would be on a temporary basis for six months and 14 years later I was still there! Ruskin Lodge was a total new area for me, I learned so much whilst I was there, and it was definitely a worthwhile challenge.

**Q. Do you have any words of wisdom that you'd like to share?**

**A.** I would ask the whole organisation to keep supporting each other. Never lose sight of what we are here to do.

**Q. What are your plans for retirement?**

**A.** My plans for retirement are to volunteer at an animal charity and spend more time with my mum who is turning 90! Also, to enjoy life.

*Diane retired at the end of June 2024 and everyone at the Trust would like to wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.*



# A message from our new Head of Welfare and Communities

**Hello,**

I am delighted to join The Pilkington Family Trust, an organisation whose values and ethos align perfectly with my own.

Throughout my career, I have dedicated myself to working with communities across the North West to enhance and develop local services. I am excited to continue this journey in my new role with the Trust.

My career began in housing associations, where I delivered housing management and tenant engagement services. For the past 20 years, I have worked as a consultant, focusing on community development, health and well-being, and community safety. While I have enjoyed my time as a consultant, I am eager to return to working as part of a team here at the Pilkington Family Trust.

Outside of work, I love spending time with my family. We love camping and hill walking.

I will be out and about meeting beneficiaries, so if you see me, please do come and say hello!

**Jayne Boote**

**Deaths**

*It is with regret that we report the deaths of the following pensioners:*

- AFTERMARKET**  
Allen, Martin
- AGR REDDITCH**  
Smith, Colin
- ANDREWARTHA**  
Healey, Terence
- ARCHITECTURAL**  
Waterfall, Thomas
- AUTOMOTIVE ECCLESTON**  
Armstrong, Alan  
Jones, William  
Mather, Ronald  
Mcconaghy, Brian  
Smith, George Eric
- AUTOMOTIVE KINGS NORTON**  
Hastings-Spaine, Victor  
Lacey, Malcolm  
Mercier, Gordon  
Robinson, John  
Whitby, Keith
- BP R&D**  
Kirby, Graham  
Lowndes, Keith
- BUILDING PRODUCTS UK**  
Potter, Charles
- CAPS MICROFILM**  
Hall, James Edward
- CHANCE BROTHERS**  
Hick, Donald  
Nixon, Arthur
- CITY ROAD**  
Jenkinson, Frank  
Sherer, Albert  
Wolten, Alan
- COWLEY HILL**  
Barry, George  
Burrows, David  
Foster, Eric  
Hughes, Trevor  
Johnson, Marguerita  
Kay, Stanley George  
Lea, Robert  
Leonard, Ronald  
Mather, John  
Moore, Alan  
Roberts, Robert  
Sharples, Roy  
Simpson, David  
Wilde, Terry
- DONCASTER**  
Machin, Ronald  
Mitchell, Nigel  
Sanderson, Patricia  
Simpson, Brian  
Squires, Archie
- GREENGATE**  
Boardman, Bernard
- Greenall, Raymond  
Grundy, James  
Hamlet, Grattan Thomas  
Hunter, Alan  
Kay, Leslie  
Molyneux, Enest Ann  
Rigby, James  
Turner, John Brian  
Wellens, Brian
- GROUP FUNCTIONS**  
Knowles, Donald
- HEAD OFFICE**  
Critchely, James  
Eckley, Maureen  
Gillon, Arthur Peter  
Hewitt, Kenneth Gerald  
Joynson, David  
Moore, Joseph G  
Norman, Derek  
Thomas, Keith  
Urmston, Eric  
Vallet, Gail  
Webster, James
- KINGS NORTON**  
Rainey, Ronald W
- LATHOM**  
Ashcroft, Melvyn  
Bickerstaff, Kenneth  
Carney, James  
Duncan, Angus  
Grundy, Kenneth  
Holcroft, Roy Vincent  
Jones, Kevin  
Knowles, Albert  
Shillito, Elsie
- PGP NORTHAMPTON**  
Spicer, Ronald
- PIL PONTYFELIN**  
Coakham, Ronald
- PILKINGTON GROUP LIMITED**  
Anders, Austin  
Appleton, Jean Sandra  
Ayers-Hunt, Edward  
Ball, Graham  
Barr, Ronald  
Barrow, Roy  
Barton, David  
Bourne, Eric  
Bradburn, Peter  
Brayford, Gerard  
Bristow, Frank  
Carney, Joan  
Clarke, John Graham  
Clayton, Constance  
Clisham, Brian  
Colliton, John  
Cox, Robert  
Crosbie, Marjorie  
Darlington, William Frederick
- Derbyshire, Bernard  
Doran, Thomas  
Douglas, Phillip  
Dove, Michael  
Drew, Peter  
Evans, Paul  
Foster, Dorothy  
Foster, Kenneth  
Gadsby, David  
Garner, Thomas  
Gerrad, Gerald  
Hagan, George  
Halford, Ronald  
Hamilton, Gordon  
Handley, Roger  
Harper, Donald  
Harris, James  
Haunch, John  
Helsby, George  
Henshall, Kenneth  
Hickling, Dennis  
Hicks, Jack  
Hill, James  
Hilton, John Kenneth  
Hitchen, Dave  
Holden, Margaret  
Hughes, John  
Hughes, Steven  
Hughes, Robert  
Hughes, John Cyril  
Iley, Geoffrey  
Jackson, Paul  
Jinman, Michael  
Johnson, Thomas  
Jones, Raymond  
Jones, Edward  
Kinder, Alan  
Langley, John  
Legge, Raymond  
Mackenzie, Hector  
Marsh, Thomas  
Marshall, John  
McDonagh, Elizabeth  
Metcalf, Doris  
Mitchell, William  
Barr, Ronald  
Moore, Brian  
Morgan, William Henry  
Murphy, Janet  
Newton, Keith  
Owen, Norman  
Parchment L, Louise  
Park, Derek  
Parr, Roy  
Rashaidi, Salam Awad  
Rawsthorne, Margaret  
Reynolds, David  
Rickards, William  
Roberts, Gordon F A  
Sephton, Jean
- Shilton, Colin  
Simms, Terence  
Sinnott, June  
Skett, Eric James  
Slater, Lesley  
Smith, William  
Smith, James  
Somerville, James  
Sorrow, Reginald Charles  
Speed, John Trevor  
Stansfield, Rodney  
Stephens, Royston  
Taylor, Kenneth  
Thomas, Glyn Hughes  
Thornber, James Joseph  
Turbutt, George  
Wallinton, Margret  
Walsh, Brian  
Watling, Geoffrey  
Wilcock, Madeline Patricia  
Woollard, Kathleen
- PILKINGTON OPTRONICS**  
Hotchkiss, Gerard
- PILKINGTON PLYMOUTH**  
Clarke, Peter
- PILKINGTON RETIREMENT SERVICES**  
Coy, Margaret
- PILKINGTON SPECIAL GLASS**  
Williams, Robert  
Iley, Geoffrey  
Wilmot, Bernard
- PONTYFELIN**  
Guppy, Richard AJ
- PPE ST ASAPH**  
Baker, Stanley  
Solomon, Morwena
- PRL**  
Tickle, Bertram  
Meredith, Dennis
- PUKL**  
Bright, James  
Douglas, Peter
- PUKL HO**  
Barrett, Albert  
Blunn, Michael  
Charles, Terrence  
Darlington, Alan  
Derbyshire, James  
Houghton, George  
Inman, Clifford  
Jones, Ernest  
Kay, Maurice  
Manley, Phillip  
Pope, Richard  
Potter, Keith  
Roddis, Thomas Harry  
Southworth, Thomas  
Whisker, James
- PUKL LIVERPOOL**  
Fitzmaurice, Peter
- PUKL P&M DOWNSTREAM SITES**  
Donohoe, Hugh  
Jarvis, Albert  
Pearson, Brian
- PUKL SHEFFIELD**  
Scott, Robert
- QUEENBOROUGH**  
Anderson, Barry  
King, Peter
- QUEENSFERRY**  
Bradshaw, William  
Sandford, Graham
- R&D**  
Chamberlain, Mark
- RAVENHEAD**  
Dorsi, Espedito  
Halsall, Mary  
Jones, David  
Nolan, Edith
- ST ASAPH**  
Hughes, Ivor John  
Prytherch, Thomas  
Twist, William Richard  
Vernon, Joan Christine  
Whittaker, Norman
- TRANSPORT**  
Cain, Geoffrey
- TRIPLEX AIRCRAFT & SPECIAL PRODUCTS**  
Weaver, David
- TRIPLEX ECCLESTON**  
Flood, Thomas Henry  
Jameson, Barry  
Parr, William  
Rigby, David  
Robinson, Alan  
Sykes, David
- TRIPLEX KINGS NORTON**  
Barnes, Jeffrey  
Hughes, William John  
Jenks, Anthony William  
McAnerney, Terry James
- WATSON STREET**  
Cook, John  
Dean, Thomas  
Dixon, Joseph  
Grimley, Joan  
Johnson, Barbara  
Johnson, Hubert  
McCulley, Kenneth  
Tyson, Brian
- WREXHAM**  
Herling, Gwidon

**Retirements** Below is a list of retirements since the last issue

- BP ENGINEERING**  
Brogan, John  
Crompton, Neil
- FLOAT SUPPORT**  
Brown, Steven David
- GROUP FUNCTIONS**  
Brown, Julie Ann
- IS GROUP SERVICES**  
Green, Sandra
- PILKINGTON RETIREMENT SERVICES**  
Dixon, Michele Sara
- R & D**  
Kirk, David
- WATSON STREET**  
Jones, Darren

**Rolls Royce article - Autumn 2023 edition**

Thank you for all your feedback regarding the Rolls Royce on the front page of the last *PRISM* magazine.

Following on from the article Kathryn Shirley got in touch and kindly supplied us with quite a few photographs including the black and white one on the right. Kathryn is the daughter of one of the chauffeurs, Gordon Rimmer, who is also pictured in the photograph. She advised that her dad absolutely 'adored' the Rolls Royce.

Kathryn was lucky enough to accompany her dad in her teenage years, along with her brother Michael, to quite a few shows. They had to work though! Polishing the car and explaining the history of the car to anyone who asked about it.

The car always attracted a large crowd wherever it went. As you can see from the black and white photograph on the right, it attracted a few famous stars as well!

Anthony Rickards remembers driving the car at the wedding of his manager's son. He also remembered that even though the car didn't need an MOT, because of its age, it was always given an MOT as they were carrying passengers.

Andy Tither advised that the driver on the front page of *PRISM* Autumn edition was Bill Johnson and not Gordon Rimmer, who was in the passenger seat.



*With the Rolls Royce providing the perfect backdrop, Iush Bricknell forwarded this beautiful photograph of her daughter Tiffany marrying Alex Whitter in 1997.*

Thank you all again for your comments regarding this beautiful car, we had too many to include in this section.



*From left to right Gordon Rimmer, Sue Johnston, Lady Mavis Pilkington and Ken Dodd.*

**PRISM 2023: feedback and winners**

Thank you to everyone who responded with the name of the pattern on the Pilkington glass plate owned by Frederick Bradshaw. It was Fiestaware and the pattern is called Anemone.

Particular thanks to Margaret Thompson from Lathom who also added that the pattern was designed by Michael Harris, introduced in 1965 and was hand painted.



**PRISM Autumn 2023 Wordsearch Competition**

The winner of the Wordsearch competition was Mrs M. L. Jones from St Asaph who received a £20 M+S voucher. Thank you to everyone who entered we had a very good response to this competition.

**PRISM January 2023 Caption Competition**

Congratulations to Mrs Featherstone from Rhyl who entered the caption competition and won the £20 M+S voucher with her entry:



*"Tested... the Safety Glass Boss!"*

**Contact us...**

- By telephone: 01744 742 516
- In writing: Pilkington Family Trust  
The Enterprise Centre  
Salisbury Street  
ST HELENS, WA10 1FY
- e-mail: enquiries@pilkingtonfamilytrust.com

If you prefer you may wish to complete the slip and return it to the above address, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Name, address and telephone number of sender:

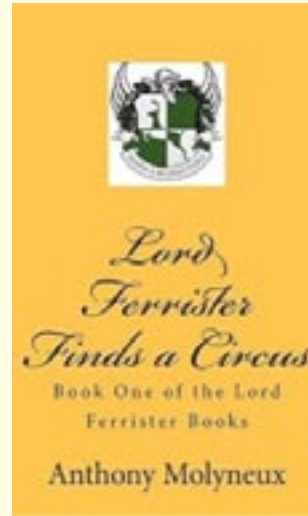
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 .....  
 Nature of enquiry:.....  
 .....  
 .....

Every effort is made to ensure that details and information in the magazine are correct at the time of going to press.

# Are you Young at Heart...?



"If so, the Lord Ferrister Books are for you," says former Pilkington man Anthony Molyneux.



Beneficiary Anthony Molyneux (Tony), from Porthywaen, Oswestry worked for Pilkington for 40 years. He started at Canal Street, then worked in Head Office and Ravenhead, before finally retiring at 73 when he started to write.

Tony has completed six, 35,000 word books and has another four completed manuscripts. Plus 'waiting in the wings' as he puts it, is a gritty novel about the working class in the North.

Tony is an established author of publications for business and has written for children for many years. He believes there is room for more traditional stories for young people and young at heart adults.

Book 1 in a series of 6 is 'Lord Ferrister Finds a Circus'. This will be on sale later in the summer in Waterstones.

Congratulations must go to Tony for this fantastic achievement.


Besides being an author, Tony, now 89, divides his time between looking after his nine acres of Shropshire countryside and writing books.

## Handy advice guides

Independent Age have a great many useful booklets and factsheets on various issues including, Pension Credit, Council Tax, Help with Housing Costs, Paying for Care at Home, Dealing with Depression, Anxiety, Hoarding and many, many more.

These handy guides are free and can be ordered or downloaded from their website: [Independentage.org](http://Independentage.org)

Alternatively you can telephone them on: 0800 319 6789.



### Mini strokes not just 'funny turn'

Those who ignore symptoms of a TIA (transient ischaemic attack) or mini-stroke, are running the risk of having a major stroke, the Stroke Association warns.

TIA causes similar symptoms to a stroke, such as speech problems, but may last only a few minutes. A survey of TIA patients found more than one in three had dismissed their symptoms as just a 'funny turn'.

About 10,000 strokes could be prevented if TIAs were treated, said the charity.

## Omega...

ENDING ISOLATION | ENDING LONELINESS

Omega is a registered charity dedicated to reducing social isolation and loneliness.

Offering **Chatterbox** and **Letterbox**, Omega carefully matches you to its volunteer befrienders with whom you can exchange friendly letters or calls. **Chatterbox** is a free telephone befriending service, though currently fully subscribed; **Letterbox** is a free pen pal befriending service.

Omega can be contacted at: Letterbox, Omega, London House, Town Walls, Shrewsbury, SY1 1TX, 01743 245088. Or to download a referral form please visit [omega.uk.net/letterbox/referral-form/](http://omega.uk.net/letterbox/referral-form/)

Please note that this company is not connected in anyway to the Pilkington Family Trust.

## Proposal for a new Day Centre and Dementia Hub

The Trust currently operates a day centre at Ruskin Lodge, catering for adults, including those diagnosed with dementia. This centre plays a crucial role for beneficiaries by offering meaningful activities, promoting independence, and providing essential respite for caregivers.

Due to growing demand, the Trust is considering the establishment of a Day Centre/Dementia Hub. This new facility would be located on the Ruskin Welfare Leisure Centre site in Dentons Green (pictured) approximately one mile northwest of St Helens town centre. The area boasts a mix of residential and commercial spaces, with various local amenities nearby.

### What we are hoping to achieve:

**Expanded Services:** The proposed Day Centre/Dementia Hub would offer comprehensive services. It would operate three days a week, providing full-day attendance for service users. Additionally, on the remaining two days, there would be day trips and specialised dementia groups.

**An Holistic Approach:** The Hub aims to enhance the well-being of attendees. It will provide a wide range of activities, information, and support. Here's how:

- **Early Identification:** By offering information and resources, the Hub will empower individuals to extend their "living well" years.
- **Lifestyle Advice:** Health-related guidance will promote overall well-being.
- **Physical Activity:** Exercise programmes will contribute to better health.
- **Social and Mental Activities:** Engaging activities will enhance quality of life for both individuals and their caregivers.

**Collaboration:** The Hub will work closely with partner agencies, including health organisations, community groups, and voluntary sectors. Welfare Advisors will also be involved. This collaboration will create a rich variety of benefits for service users and their families.

**Dementia-Friendly Environment:** The physical space will be thoughtfully designed for maximum accessibility and comfort. A modern facility, it will prioritise safety and relaxation, minimizing stress and anxiety often experienced by those seeking dementia support.

**Social Space Café:** The Hub will include a welcoming café, a place for people to connect, share experiences, and build relationships. Peer support will play a vital role, allowing attendees to help one another.

**Community Options:** Beyond the structured programmes, the Hub will offer various community options. Individuals who are more independent can participate in additional activities tailored to their preferences.

The proposed Day Centre represents a significant step toward enhancing the lives of individuals living with dementia and their caregivers. By creating a supportive, inclusive environment, we aim to foster independence, reduce isolation, and promote overall well-being. We will keep you updated on our plans.

