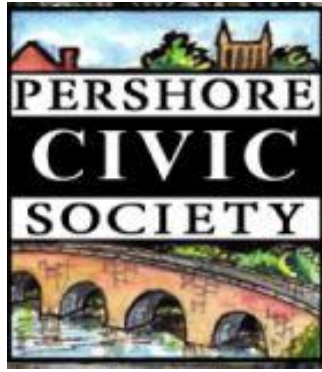




Pershore Civic Society Autumn 2024 Newsletter

Dear Civic Society Member,

The clocks have been turned back!! The “extra” hour reminds us that the seasons are changing. There is something special about Pershore when Winter draws on. There is much to look forward to.

By the time that you read this newsletter, our member Chris Liley (or the Venerable Christopher Frank Liley as he is known in ecclesiastical circles) will have addressed our latest Autumn Talk Series Meeting at St Andrews on Tuesday 29th October about his experiences when he was Archdeacon of Lichfield Cathedral.



The Georgian Christmas Fayre returns on 29th and 30th November. It was such a success in 2023. This year's event is promising to be even better. The website at <https://pershorechristmasfayre.co.uk/> sets out the programme including the switching on of the lights at 6.00pm.



A few days before this, and to help members get into the mood, the Persore Civic Society Annual Dinner will be taking place at the Angel Hotel on Monday 25th November at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Invitations have already gone out to members and menus have been circulated for consideration/temptation. This promises to be an evening when we can turn to our neighbours (so often not the case when we normally meet) and chat about the things that concern us and the things that we wish to celebrate. This is what Civic Society life is all about.





Speaking of which, for those members wishing to attend a Civic Voice regional event, look no further than the Banking Hall in Pershore on Saturday 9th November at 10.00am when all 39 West Midlands Civic Societies have been invited to convene for their semi-annual committee meeting. Several presentations are promised including one from Pershore Civic Society Chairman Michael Hodges on the ongoing work of the Pershore Place Board.

It is a great opportunity for members to attend and meet with members of other local Civic Societies. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Members wishing to attend should contact Pershore Civic Society Chairman Michael Hodges at michael@pershorecivicsociety.org



Back to School

2024 Pershore Civic Society and Avonreach Academy Awards

The 2024 Pershore Civic Society and Avonreach Academy Awards were presented on the 15th October by Dr Judy Dale and Michael Hodges of the Civic Society and Phil Hanson, CEO of the Avonreach Academy.

The awards are presented annually to students who have demonstrated outstanding civic service. This is a great way to encourage youngsters who may eventually become Pershore Civic Society members of the future.

Winners were as follows:

Pershore High School	Kayla Trapp, Noah Grimstedt, Charlotte Faizey
Orchard Primary School	Teddie Goddard
Flyford Flavell Primary School	Dulcie Leather, Henry Bugg, Ben Viljoen, William Hoxey, Georgia Walley, Rose Smith, Alice Smith, Lyla Daly, Theo Wood, Deon Viljoen, Otis Hoxey.

Congratulations to all the winners



Pershore High School Avonreach/Pershore Civic Society Citizenship Award Winners 2024

Photos of all winners are at www.pershorecivicsociety.org

Maurice Banbury Memorial Garden - Update

Since last year's re-dedication of the Maurice Banbury Memorial Garden at the Library in Church Street, Pershore Civic Society Committee member Paul Butler has been keeping an eye on the garden for all of us. He recently spotted an opportunity to further enhance the garden. On behalf of the Civic Society, Paul has recently delivered a bat box and bug hotel for library fans of a winged variety. Paul has promised to ensure that bugs and bats are just as welcome as readers at the Library – just in time for those long winter evenings when some users will be curling up with a book whilst others gently slip into torpor!!



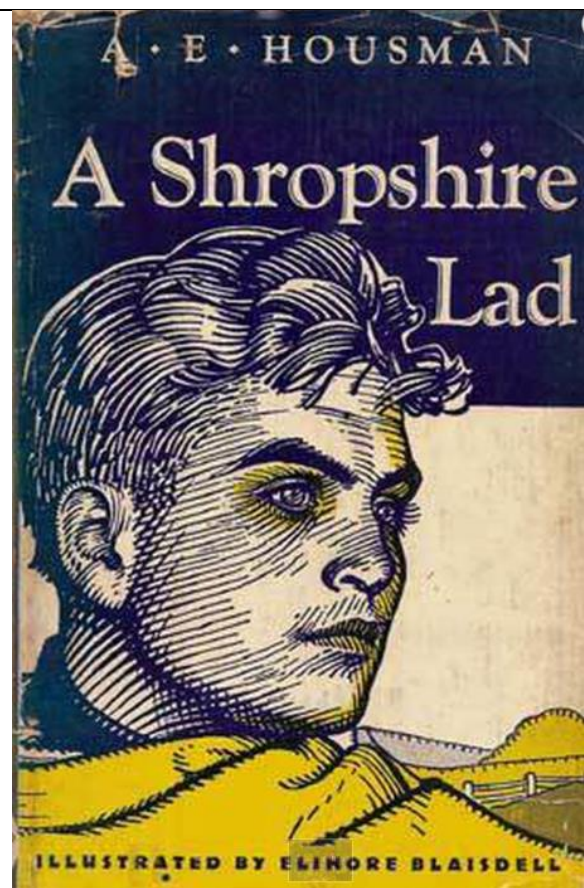
A E Housman – A Worcestershire Lad

On 24th September 2024, Max Hunt, Secretary of the Housman Society, jump-started the Pershore Civic Society's season of 2024/2025 Winter Talks with a fascinating insight into the life and times of AE Housman, who wrote the cycle of 63 poems that comprise "A Shropshire Lad".

Max is no stranger to the Pershore Civic Society – having welcomed us in September 2023 to the Shelsley Walsh Water Mill which he has adopted as one of his causes celebre.

On this occasion, Max spoke of Housman as if he were a very close acquaintance. Alfred Edward Housman was an English classical scholar and poet. After an initially poor performance while at university, he took employment as a clerk in London and established his academic reputation by first publishing as a private scholar.

Housman was born and educated in Bromsgrove in Worcestershire, giving the lie to the popular misconception that he himself was a Shropshire Lad. Copies of a newly published (in Pershore by Hughes & Co.!!) version of A Shropshire Lad were made available for purchase on the evening by Max's friend Linda Hart. We are very grateful to both for their visit.



Winter Talks 2024/2025

The following talks are planned in the run up to our AGM on 7th March 2025. Invitations will be circulated in due course by Debby Rowley

29th October – An Archdeacon’s Tale – Chris Liley

4th February 2025 – “Bredon Hill” – Deborah Overton

7th March 2025 – AGM Speaker: Edward Nash - Architect

All talks & AGM at St Andrews Centre, Church Walk

www.pershorecivicsociety.org