

Persnore Civic Society September 2023 Newsletter

Dear Civic Society Member,

With Summer 2023 disappearing in our rear-view mirrors, Persnore's Civic Society is now turning its attention to our Autumn Programme. There is much to savour. But before we dismiss the warmer months completely from our thoughts let's review the Civic Society's most recent activities as they unfolded:

Arley Arboretum – 12th July 2023



Arley Arboretum, Upper Arley, Worcestershire

Arley Arboretum, just north of Kidderminster is home to over 300 species of trees, it features Britain's longest Laburnum arch, and is popular with nature lovers, families and walkers. It is located on the banks of the Severn in a truly stunning village. Our visitors were given a guided tour from the head gardener. The arboretum is in a state of constant change as new plans are implemented. Unlike annual or seasonal plans which most gardeners are used to making, this garden is being planned over decades. The fruits of today's labours will benefit future generations – how ambitious

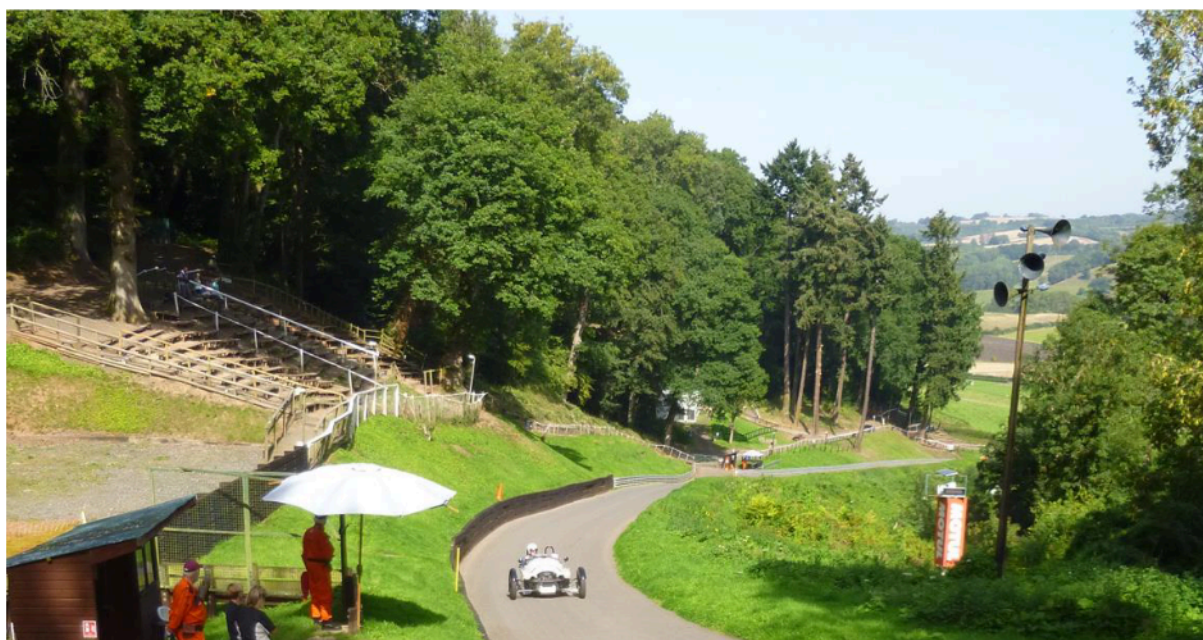
is that!!



Arley, Worcestershire

Shelsley Walsh Mill and Hill Climb Visit – 5th September 2023

On a cloudless late Summer's morning, sixteen members of the Pershore Civic Society mustered in the village of Shelsley Walsh to visit its recently restored fourteenth century watermill, the tiny Norman Church of St Andrews with a Rood Screen described by John Betjemen as the best in Worcestershire and the World's oldest continually operating motorsport course. This was a memorable visit – made special by the warmth of our welcome. Pershore Civic Society member Chris Perks acted as host – having previously served as Course Doctor. Backstreet mechanics ("the Dibnahs") took great pride in showing us round the mill which can also be visited at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=10155270637809761>.



In addition to our visits over the Summer, your committee has been active in many other ways including:

Pershore Civic Society with Avonreach Academy Trust Citizenship Awards – 14th September 2023: Six local schools were visited by Phil Hanson (Headmaster and CEO of the Avonreach Academy Trust) and Pershore Civic Society Chairman Michael Hodges. Book Tokens and Certificates were presented to students nominated by their teachers for outstanding citizenship.

Maurice Banbury Garden – Proposed Restoration The Pershore Civic Society have been approached by the Town Council with a request for support to restore the Library Garden - first opened in 1987 in memory of town Dentist Maurice Banbury. The re-opening is scheduled for Spring 2024.

Our programme for the balance of the year and the start of 2024 has now been confirmed and looks like this:

Talks 2023/2024	
26 th September	7 Towns in Worcestershire – Graham Gooderham
31 st October	The Conservation of Churches – Lianne Beattie (Churches Conservation Trust)
24 th November	Annual Dinner
6 th February 2024	Moats, Mills and Fish Ponds – Deborah Overton
1 st March 2024	AGM with refreshments. A talk will be given after the AGM by Darren Eden, Chair of the Pershore Place Board.

We look forward to seeing members at these events. Please bring friends – we would be delighted to join them up as members too!!

Your committee is already working hard on the 2024 programme. Full details and a new programme card will be made available at the 2024 AGM.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Michael Hodges
Chairman
Pershore Civic Society