

Abbey Together

The newsletter of Amesbury Abbey Group

July 2026



A Summer To Savour

As an extremely warm July draws to a close, we've been looking back on a magical month filled with memorable moments. From another glorious summer lunch & garden party to inspiring talks, music, art and outings, there has been plenty to keep everyone cool and smiling.

A huge thank you, as ever, goes to our incredible staff and volunteers, whose hard work, kindness and enthusiasm make every event so special!



Naam



Abbey Summer Lunch

Annnd... that's a wrap! The Summer Lunches this year have been absolutely brilliant.

For the first time ever, we didn't schedule the parties in back-to-back weeks – and thank goodness we didn't! We would almost certainly have had to cancel Amesbury Abbey's event in the sweltering heat of the week after Sutton's lunch. Instead, we were treated to a textbook English summer's day with a slight breeze.



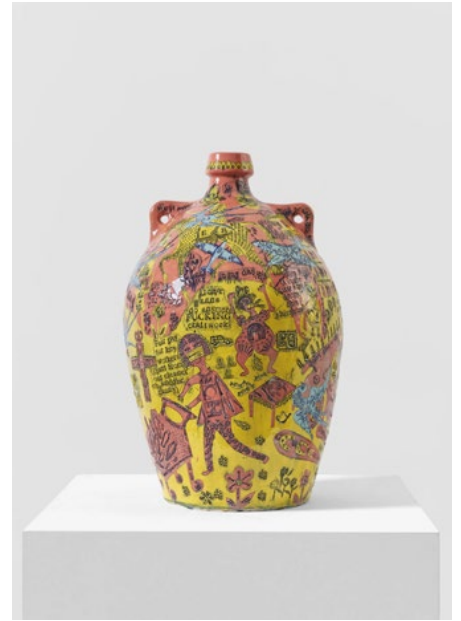


What a fantastic celebration it was. The fabulous food, the simply stunning flowers, impeccable service, a picture-perfect setting... pure perfection! Another show-stopping afternoon.



A huge thank you to the whole team who went above and beyond to help the residents create memories they and their families will treasure forever.

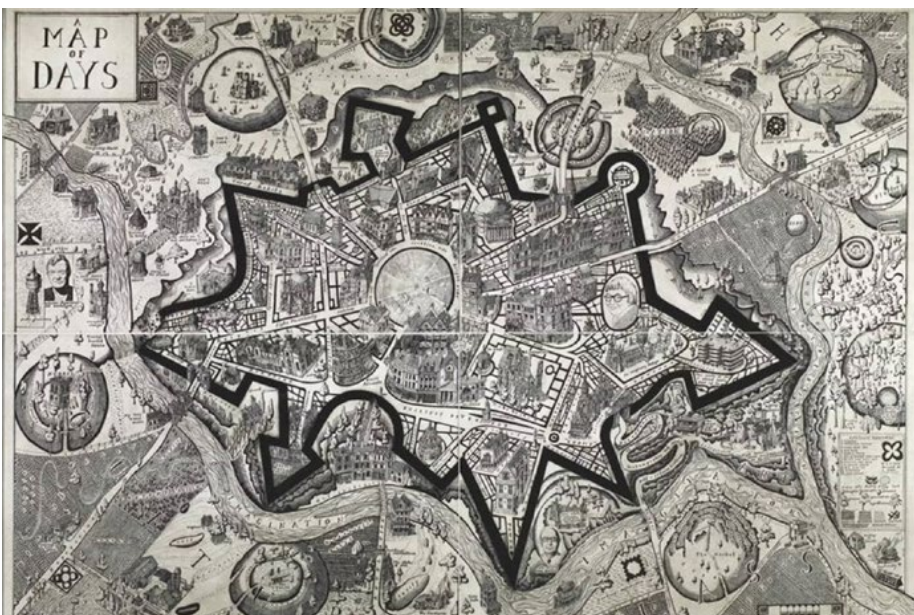




The World of Grayson Perry

We enjoyed another fascinating Richmond Arts Society lecture this month: Trannies, Taste and Teddy Bears: Uncovering the World of Grayson Perry, presented by Arts Society-accredited lecturer Jacky Klein.

Having worked closely with Perry for more than a decade, interviewing him numerous times and enjoying exclusive access to his archive, Jacky offered a fascinating insight into Perry's techniques, favourite themes and extraordinary body of work across ceramics, tapestry, printmaking, sculpture and architecture.





BBQ at the Mews

With sunshine you could bank on this month, we took the opportunity to fire up the BBQs. Abbey Mews residents thoroughly enjoyed a fantastic spread on the lawn. The staff did an amazing job of bringing the inside out, complete with plenty of shady spots to escape the heat. Who needs to go abroad when the weather is this glorious?!





Art & Tapestry

Everyone has been releasing their inner artist this month, and the creative juices have been flowing. Sutton Manor residents have been focusing on watercolour painting & tapestry in the conservatory. What a relaxing way to spend some lazy afternoons.



Flower Power

Abbey Nursing Home residents took delivery of armfuls of beautiful blooms for a relaxing afternoon of flower arranging on the lawn.

Absolute heaven.





Mottisfont House & Gardens

Abbey residents were delighted to hop on the minibus for the rescheduled visit to Mottisfont House and Gardens. The grounds might have been a bit parched, but they were still terribly impressive and there was much to take in and appreciate. Cool lollies and ice creams spurred us on and everyone agreed we'll be back again for a return visit.

What an absolute treat!





100 Club

Another week, another incredible 100th birthday milestone!

This time we raised our glasses to passionate bridge player and all-round charming gentleman, Mr Christopher Wells.

Many happy returns, Mr Wells – here's to your second century!

And thank you, as always, to Yvonne for another showstopping birthday cake. It looks like Mr Wells was dealt a winning hand!



Ladies Who Lunch

Sutton Manor residents enjoyed a shopping trip – and, of course, a delicious bite to eat – at everyone's favourite, Rosebourne Garden Centre, while others headed to Norton Park Hotel & Spa for a delightful afternoon tea. Darlings...it was delicious!

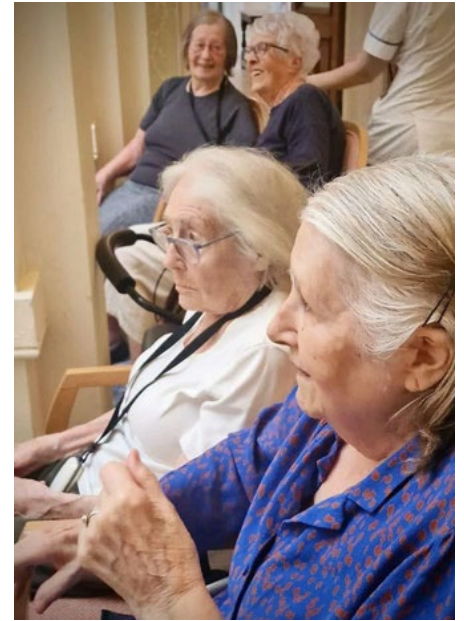




West End Boy

Residents at Amesbury Abbey were delighted to welcome former West End performer Jamie Golding back for another unforgettable morning of music.

His repertoire is vast, and his voice is simply phenomenal, especially with the fabulous acoustics on the staircase. It was a wonderful morning of song, with something for everyone to enjoy.



Buzzing with Excitement

Ready, set... GO! Sutton Manor residents always love watching the Busy Bees Nursery Sports Day, which we host each year on the lawn. It's such a joyful and heartwarming event.





An Amazing Feat

A huge congratulations to James Burland, Sutton Mews resident, Mike Stewart's son-in-law and Good Neighbours driver, who has recently completed an incredible charity cycle ride of 1,200 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats, raising funds for Winchester Hospice. The hospice provides specialist palliative and end-of-life care to adults with life-limiting illness living in Winchester and surrounding villages. It is a place of compassion, understanding, warmth and support at the most difficult times – a place where skilled staff are caring not only for patients, but their families, friends, carers and children too.

We couldn't think of a more deserving cause. If you'd like to add your support to James' fundraising efforts, please do visit his GoFundMe page, or make a donation through the Sutton Warden's Office.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/james-burland-2>

