

The
PORT SUNLIGHT
Gazette

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SUMMER
2025

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**An update from Paul Harris,
Chief Executive of Port Sunlight Village Trust**

Hello and welcome to this summer 2025 issue of the Port Sunlight Gazette, your quarterly magazine filled with the latest news, updates and events in the village.

This time of year brings the familiar scent of roses in bloom along the Diamond and plenty of residents and visitors alike enjoying our village's wonderful green spaces. But this year, PSVT also welcomes something extra special – our new Strategic Plan 2025-28. This important document has been in the works for several months and sets out everything we will be doing over the next three years to create an even better place to live, work and visit in Port Sunlight. You will have received a summarised version of the Strategic Plan in your recent Residents' Update. A big thank you to everyone who attended our recent residents meeting at Hulme Hall to hear more about it and other updates on our work. You can explore the plan in full at portsunlightvillage.com/strategic-plan, and please do get in touch if you have any feedback or questions.

Once again, our summer begins with one of the largest events in Port Sunlight's calendar: the Road Race, presented by BTR Liverpool and sponsored by Unilever. It kicks off a whole season of exciting events, from new exhibitions as part of the Independents Biennial to village markets and everything in between. A particular highlight is our annual Community Get Together on Saturday 21st June, which is supported by our burgeoning Community Development Advisory Group – I hope you can join us.

Finally, this summer in Port Sunlight is even more special to me, as it will be my last as CEO. Alongside announcing our new Strategic Plan, I have also shared my plans to step down in March 2026. It's been an honour to be at the helm of such an inspiring organisation over the past ten years, working with a range of stakeholders and village residents in particular. Between now and March 2026, I will be ensuring the first year of our new Strategic Plan is delivered successfully and the new CEO is recruited over the coming months.

Thank you for reading our latest issue of the Port Sunlight Gazette, I hope you enjoy it.

Paul Harris, Chief Executive, Port Sunlight Village Trust

THE PORT SUNLIGHT LOTTERY

BE IN WITH A CHANCE TO WIN £5,000 IN JUNE'S SUPERDRAW AND SUPPORT PORT SUNLIGHT'S PRECIOUS MONUMENTS

Are you a Port Sunlight Lottery player? If not and you're passionate about this special village, then now is the time to join. The Port Sunlight Lottery is an easy and fun way to directly support our work to care for the village's important monuments, including our important project to repair the Boating Pond.

For just £2 per week you could be entered into the weekly draw, with a chance to win weekly cash prizes, plus entry into quarterly superdraws where you can win £5,000 or £10,000. Sign up now to make sure you're in with a chance of winning June's superdraw of £5,000.

Sign up at giantcashbonanza.online/portsunlight or complete a leaflet which can be picked up at the Port Sunlight Museum.

The Port Sunlight Lottery is administered by Giant Cash Bonanza. All money raised will, after the deduction of prize money and reasonable administration expenses, be donated solely to PSVT to support our monuments conservation work. Have a question? Email admin@portsunlightvillage.com



Calling all residents – your special Wirral Spend Independent membership awaits

PSVT has partnered with Wirral Spend Independent, a fantastic membership scheme which offers discounts and offers with over 75 local businesses and makers across the borough, from coffee shops to music and entertainment venues.

Port Sunlight residents can sign up for a heavily discounted price of just £5 (normally £12) for the year and receive a special Port Sunlight edition of the card featuring a design by village resident Liam Hartzenberg.

What do you get with a Wirral Spend Independent card?

As a Port Sunlight resident cardholder, you will enjoy:





DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO BE OUR 2025 PORT SUNLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

After last year's inaugural competition, the Port Sunlight Photographer of the Year competition is back and our 2025 theme is 'your favourite view' – whether it's the iconic view of the Dell Bridge and Lyceum or something a bit more unusual, here's your chance to capture your unique perspective on Port Sunlight.

The competition is aimed at photographers of all abilities, and this year there is a separate Young Photographer of the Year category for those aged under 18.

There is an entry fee of £15, with all money raised directly supporting our work to protect Port Sunlight's monuments including the Boating Pond project. What's the prize? The winning photograph will be featured on the cover of the Port Sunlight 2026 calendar, which will be available to purchase online and at Port Sunlight Museum.

There will also be runner-up prizes.

The competition is open until 11am on Wednesday 6th August, so get snapping and enter now!

Go to portsunlightvillage.com/poty for the full terms & conditions and how to enter.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Painting and maintaining your front door

It's that time of year when you might be thinking of sprucing up the front of your property, which often means giving your front door some TLC.

Port Sunlight's front doors are vital to the character of the village, and the original doors, if carefully maintained, could last for hundreds of years. It's for this reason that replacing an exterior door, whether at the front, side or back of your house, will require Listed Building Consent from Wirral Council and permission from PSVT.

If there is a problem, we would always recommend repairing an original door rather than replacing it. To keep your doors in tip-top condition:

- ◆ Prevent wood rot in your doors by checking them regularly. Signs to watch out for are soft, brittle or crumbly wood; insects in the wood; cracked or flaking paint. In case of wood rot, contact a joiner. If there is any standing water around the door, you will need to deal with the problem to prevent further damage.
- ◆ If your door is draughty or sticking, a qualified joiner will be able to fit draught-proofing to an original door, or adjust it if it has warped.

Is your front door the correct colour?

One of the many weird and wonderful quirks of living in Port Sunlight is that every front door should be painted a certain colour, following a schedule agreed by Historic England, Wirral Council and PSVT in 2008. It is every homeowner's responsibility to adhere to the correct colour, as one of the important conditions of living in our Conservation Area. Without these protections, Port Sunlight would lose much of what it makes it special. To make sure your front door is the right colour, go to our website:

portsunlightvillage.com/caring-for-your-house/front-door

For free advice, please email conservation@portsunlightvillage.com or call PSVT's Reception on 0151 644 4800, or alternatively you will find plenty of information at portsunlightvillage.com/caring-for-your-house



- ◆ 10% off in Nettle, Port Sunlight's new café and bookshop opening in early summer (find out more on page 12)
- ◆ Exclusive offers and discounts at dozens of independents across Wirral, with local partners including Blooming Skull Coffee, Wylde Bakery, Snips Movies, Indigo Café, Beau's Kitchen and Well Fit Active

Download the Wirral Spend Independent App to explore all local businesses taking part.

To sign up and collect your residents' Wirral Spend Independent card, visit Port Sunlight Museum's gift shop (open daily, 10am–4.30pm). One card available per household, proof of address will be required to sign up.



Runners, assemble!

The Road Race is back! Returning to the village's leafy streets on Sunday 8th June is one of the country's most picturesque running events. Runners will be invited to follow 5k and 10k routes or try the 15k 'dual race' challenge.

All spaces for the 5k, 10k and 15k races have now been allocated - you can find out more at btrriverpool.com/port-sunlight-event

Registration for the 1k Fun Run is on the day at BTR's tent on Museum Green. And if you are not running, please cheer on those who are – it really does make a difference and creates a great atmosphere. There will be food and drink concessions to keep both supporters and runners fuelled up.

Car parking and access requirements

As in previous years, road closures will be in effect from 7:30am to 2pm on race day. See the map and accompanying information on page 5 for details. We encourage all those attending the event to travel via public transport although there will be some car parks open around the edge of the village on the day.

If you are a village resident or business and have questions about road closures, please email admin@portsunlightvillage.com or call

0151 644 4800. We are particularly anxious to hear from and assist residents with carers (or their

neighbours) who will need to gain access to their homes on the day.



PARKING INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

	IF YOU USUALLY PARK HERE...	...PLEASE PARK HERE IF YOU ARE REMAINING IN PORT SUNLIGHT
A	Lady Lever Art Gallery and perimeter area in front of gallery and toward fountain.	NO PARKING AT ANY TIME
B	11-48 Greendale Road. 23-50 Queen Mary's Drive. 2-18 Windy Bank. 13-22 The Causeway. 1-9 Causeway Close.	Please use rear service roads in Block B. Greendale Road is accessible from The Causeway junction (Garden Centre side) toward Wood Street with through traffic to A41.
C	3-10 Greendale Road (inc 6a + 6k). 1-5 Windy Bank. 10-22 Queen Mary's Drive. 47-57 Primrose Hill. Duke of York Cottages on Greendale Road, Primrose Hill and Brook Street.	Please use Bebington Road or rear service roads in Blocks C, I + J.
D	1-13 Lancaster Close. 11-45 Primrose Hill. 1-59 Lower Road. 2-72 Central Road.	Please use rear service roads in Blocks D, E + J.
E	Osborne Court. Philip Leverhulme Lodge. Manor Lodge. 1-27 Central Road. 1-9 Primrose Hill. 18-26 Circular Drive. 2-34 Pool Bank. 11-59 Corniche Road.	Please use rear service roads in Blocks D, E or Car Park 1 (Osborne Court/Central Road) and Car Park 3 (Knox Close/Lodge Lane)
F	1-22 King Georges Drive. 5-12 The Causeway. 1-16 Church Drive. 19-27 Windy Bank.	Please use rear service roads in Block F or Car Park 1 (Osborne Court/Central Road) and Car Park 2 (Riverside/Bolton Road)
G	1-15 Jubilee Crescent.	Please use rear service road in Block G or Car Park 2 (Riverside/Bolton Road)
H	49-70 Greendale Road. 1-4 The Causeway. 1-21 Bolton Road.	Please use rear service road in Block H or Gladstone Theatre car park. Greendale Road is accessible from The Causeway junction (Garden Centre side) toward Wood Street with through traffic to A41.
I	3-10 Brook Street. 81-109 Bebington Road. Railway Inn. 30-56 Primrose Hill.	Please use rear service road in Blocks I + J or Bebington Road. Access available at all times.
J	2-16 Circular Drive. 2-8 Boundary Road. 2-30 Primrose Hill. 45-79 Bebington Road.	Please use rear service road + Block J or Bebington Road. Access available at all times.
K	8-16 Bolton Road. 71-88 Greendale Road. 1-23 Park Road. 8-14 Bridge Street.	Please use rear service road and car park in Block K or Gladstone Theatre car park. Greendale Road is accessible from The Causeway junction (Garden Centre side) toward Wood Street with through traffic to A41 from service road.
L	89-100 Greendale Road.	Greendale Road is accessible from The Causeway junction (Garden Centre side) toward Wood Street with through traffic to A41 from service road.
M	1-25 Wood Street. 19-22 Bridge Street. 2-22 Park Road	Please use service road in Block M. Greendale Road is accessible from The Causeway junction (Garden Centre side) toward Wood Street with through traffic to A41 from service road.
N	1-5 Bridge Street. 26-52 Park Road. 2-8 Poets Corner. 27-55 Wood Street.	Please use rear service road in Block N. Access at all times to A41 from service road.

PLEASE REMOVE YOUR VEHICLE FROM THE EVENT AREA PRIOR TO 7.30AM ON SUNDAY 8th JUNE.

Should you require access in and out of the village during the event, please park in areas outside of the course or use car parks 2 or 3 (labelled on the map).

Village map showing extent of Port Sunlight Road Race 2025



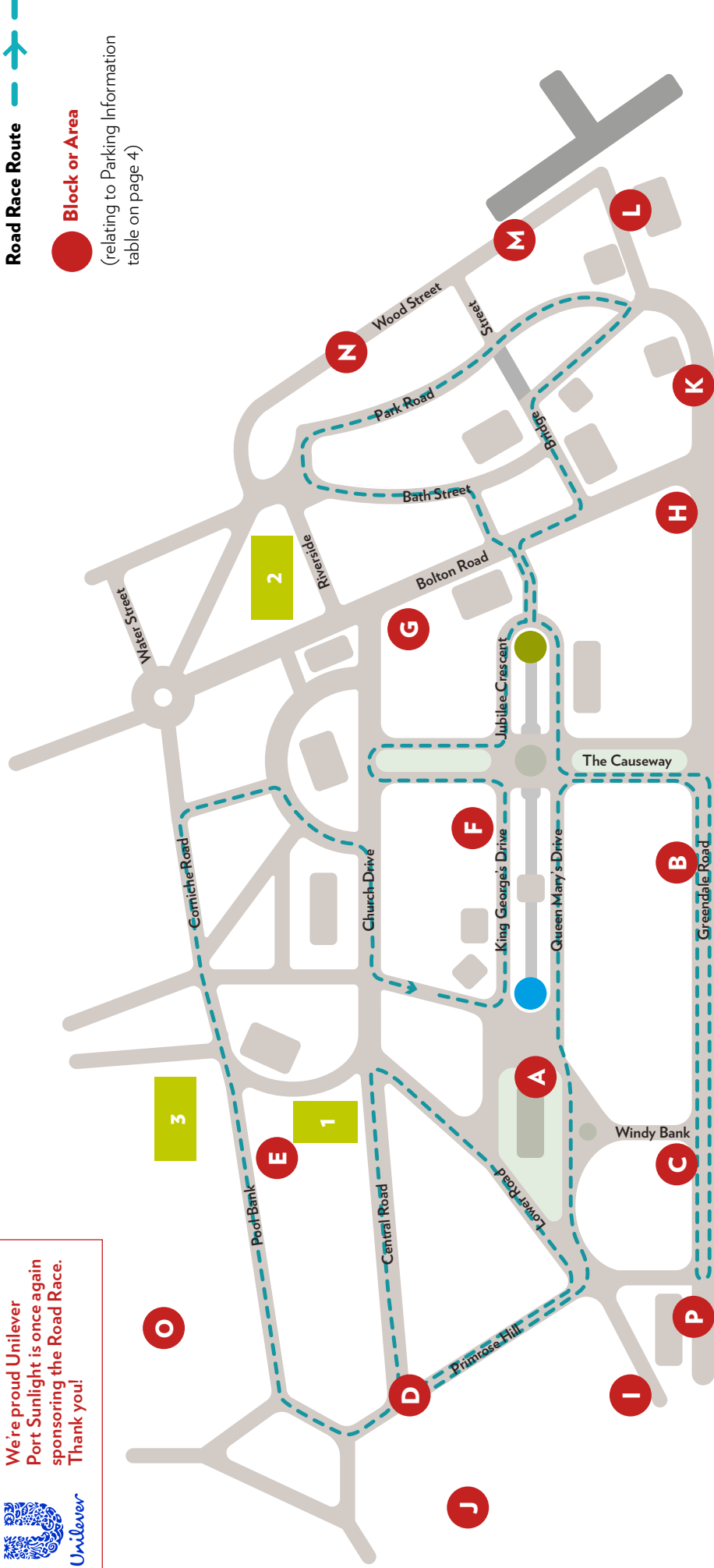
We're proud Unilever Port Sunlight is once again sponsoring the Road Race. Thank you!

Additional resident car parking

Road Race Route

Block or Area

(relating to Parking Information table on page 4)



Bebington Station

Port Sunlight Station

RESIDENT INFORMATION

There will be an extensive traffic management plan in place on race day to ensure minimum disruption for residents and maximum safety for runners. Be advised that all runners have been directed to park outside of the village and we would request that all residents familiarise themselves with and adhere to the following arrangements within the village.

Significant road closures will be in effect across the village from 7:30am-2pm which have been authorised by Wirral Council and local services. There can be no movement of vehicles on the road race route (marked in yellow on the map) during these times, except in the case of an emergency.

PLEASE REMOVE YOUR VEHICLE FROM THE EVENT AREA PRIOR TO 7:30AM ON 8th JUNE.

Should you require access in and out of the village during the event, please park in areas outside of the course or use car parks 2 or 3 (labelled on the map).

If you do not wish to move your vehicle during the event, please use the table to identify suitable parking areas. Please note, you may still use rear service roads.

ALL ROADS AFFECTED WILL REOPEN AT APPROXIMATELY 2PM



SUMMER DRAWING COMPETITION

We recently challenged pupils at Church Drive Primary School to capture what summer in Port Sunlight looks like, and we hope you will agree they did an excellent job.

While the entry by 6W's Sophie Quick – featured on the front cover – really stood out to us, there were over 30 other entries who really showed off the artistic talent we have in the village.

A big well done to everyone who entered.

YOUR Port Sunlight

Your Port Sunlight is a chance to celebrate the varied and wonderful things Port Sunlight's community do to make the village an inspiring place to live, work and visit.

If you would like to be featured in the next issue or know someone who might, we'd love to hear from you. Please email admin@portsunlightvillage.com

JOHN SHEDDEN...

on Chris Tattersall, also known as 'Chris the Artist'

During the spring and summer months, when walking through our wonderful village, you may have seen a quiet man standing by an easel with (if it's not raining), several of his drawings leaning against a nearby wall.

If the easel and his drawings are there, but he is nowhere to be seen, he is kind enough and trusting enough to leave them whilst he goes for a cup of coffee. Decaffeinated cappuccino is his favourite.

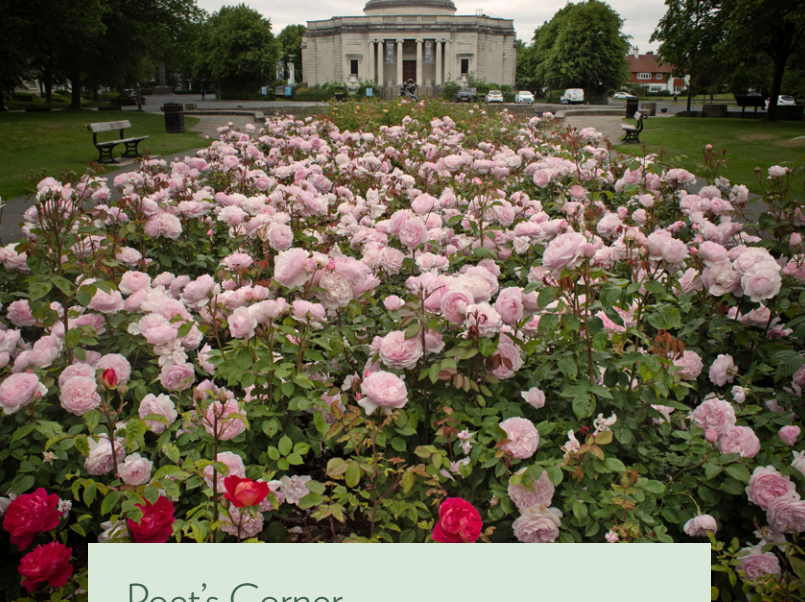
A regular visitor to the village during the past 15 years, Chris originally came from near William Lever's birthplace and like Lord Leverhulme, his love of art flourished in Port Sunlight. His professional life was as a NHS dentist. He worked in hospitals in Manchester, Glasgow and Cheltenham and for the Nigerian Government and The Ministry of Overseas Development during the Biafran War.

After he retired, he bought his first easel when he was just 66 years young after developing an interest in life drawing which he studied in Preston and Blackburn Museums. He began with pen and ink drawing before venturing into colour painting. He has recently won 1st prize from Wallasey Art Society for one of his paintings, but his passion is drawing the statues in Port Sunlight on black paper with white chalk or pastels, purchases from nearby Tapleys.

On cold or rainy days he may be found inside the Lady Lever Art Gallery, where he is affectionately known as 'Chris the Artist'. On dry days, he is often seen either on the War Memorial, or in Windy Bank drawing the four figures at the base of Inspiration, (the Leverhulme Memorial) or, as in the last couple of weeks, more usually around the Boating Pond drawing the mermen and dolphins of the bronze fountain.

He draws for the simple pleasure of it and is very happy to chat with anyone who approaches him. He sometimes has a small collection of them in the boot of his car which is always parked nearby and he is often asked if his drawings are for sale, but he always says "no". However, after being questioned by interested children, I have seen him give one away with encouraging words.

Not a fixture like the statues he draws, but a frequent attraction for many villagers and visitors who spot him working at his easel. Next time you see him, do say hello!



Poet's Corner

While we're on the subject of capturing what makes summer in Port Sunlight so magical, here's a special poem written by Fliss Bardwell, village resident and our new poet-in-residence for the Gazette.

Expect more lovely poetry about the village from Fliss in future issues.

DAVE MOFFAT...

on curating the displays at Lady Lever Art Gallery

I am currently Assistant Curator of Decorative Art at Lady Lever Art Gallery. I started working for National Museums Liverpool 26 years ago and have been focused on the gallery since 2015 when the re-development of the south-end of the gallery took place. My job involves looking after the collections, selecting which items we display and the interpretation for those individual objects and the narrative in which they sit within the gallery.

I also work on our temporary exhibitions, which give our regular visitors something new and hopefully attract new audiences to the gallery and the village as a whole. I'm currently working on Dawn to Dusk: Birds by Jim Moir, which opens in June.

I used to be a chef and then an archaeologist, so at least one part of my background relates to what I do now! Coming from Wallasey, I knew that Port Sunlight was here, but I don't remember visiting it prior to working for the museums, which is a shame. It is a very special setting. Calming, contemplative, inspiring and happy – you can see it on people's faces in the village and gallery. It's something of a privilege working in both and I look forward to it every day.



Chris the Artist



Dave Moffat

Sunlight and Roses

*It's a fact little known- we're sharing our life
With Eustacia Vye and The Poet's Wife!
That the Queen of Sweden, the Rambling Rector
Lend fragrance and beauty; enhance each sector.
These are some names of Port Sunlight's lush roses
Giving delight to our eyes - and our noses!
Whether apricot, lemon or blush, these flowers
Are looked after by Nicky - she devotes hours
To ensure they bring rapture, the task's her joy
And she deserves thanks, she should never be coy.
Perfection does not come without many tests-
Apart from aphids, greenfly and suchlike pests
Then there are sharp thorns, they will pierce and cause pain
Some roses are ravaged in gales and hard rain.
But here there's a flipside, a positive thing,
Thorns are protective and can help roses cling
While breezes and showers refresh the tired plants
Give leaves a green gleam and fine blooms their life chance.
What's shamefully sad is that some folks don't care
They trample, they cut, let their dogs everywhere!
As well as hymning our roses' great glory
A plea for more thought is part of my story-
Now I know of Nicky, her toil and her time,
Respect for our roses is meshed with this rhyme.
Nicky so wishes that the terrible few
Will take from real lovers of roses their cue:
The elderly lady, transported by bliss,
Who touched a bloom gently and blew it a kiss
With its perfumed nostalgia, sweet whiffs of musk
She was right back to childhood, there in the dusk.
And the small boy of five whose passion is clear
Who talks all things roses - for him a career!
Bushes and ramblers grow all over our place
With tightly clasped buds or a fully frilled face
From Bath Street's Icebergs to the glowing bright spread
Displayed as you walk - Lady Lever ahead!
They show us that art can exist beyond walls
Can vie with Rossetti - and when the heart calls
For an inexplicably wonderful sight
The very best spot for a rose - is Sunlight!!*

About Fliss Bardwell

Fliss Bardwell has lived in Port Sunlight for two years, with her cat Teddy. She has worked as a writer in PR and journalism, and has been commissioned to write poetry for companies including Waitrose and Penhaligons. As well as working part time for a charity, she now specialises in writing personalised poems for pet owners and is working on a novel to help those grieving after pet loss.

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT PORT SUNLIGHT'S ROSES

- ◆ There are approximately 3,500 rose bushes in the village's green spaces.
- ◆ Did you know there is even a rose named 'Port Sunlight'? Apricot in colour, with a paler frill, she has a tea like fragrance and can be found in the central beds along the Diamond
- ◆ Almost all roses in Port Sunlight's parks were bred by David Austin, the prestigious company based in Shropshire, where our expert rose gardener Nicky Evans trained.





Obituary – Zack Sim

On the 30th April 2025, a well-loved local young boy passed away tragically just days before his 17th Birthday.

Zack grew up in Port Sunlight with his mum Claire, they had a beautiful life here and Zack loved being part of village life.

Zack competed in the 1k run and came in first! He enjoyed trick or treating, birthday parties and bouncy castles on Primrose Hill, playing out on bikes, scooters and go-carts with his many friends, and taking part in Easter trails and many other events and activities around the village.

In his younger years Zack was a much-loved pupil at Church Drive Primary School. The headteacher Mrs Joanna Jones and staff described Zack as “a boy with a golden heart, a zest for life and a caring nature”.

He brought laughter and joy. In his honour, a trophy has been dedicated to Zack to ensure his memory lives on at Church Drive.

There has been a huge outpouring of love and support for Zack’s mum Claire from friends, family and the local community. Zack will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

A fundraiser has been set up by Zack’s good friend Scarlett Holden to help with funeral costs and a memorial bench. To donate, go to:



gofundme.com/ff/in-memory-of-the-lovely-zack-sim

Community Get Together – 21st June

It’s time for Port Sunlight’s annual summer Community Get Together. Join us on the Village Green opposite Port Sunlight Museum for an opportunity to meet your neighbours and enjoy a day of family fun. Watch performances by Sing the Musicals’ choir (12pm & 1pm), enjoy children’s craft stalls and face painting, and take part in lawn games, gardening workshops, and books & reading circle. It’s free and you don’t need a ticket – please just turn up and drop in anytime.



This year’s Community Get Together is supported by PSVT’s Community Development Advisory Group, who will also be there to engage with residents and share what they are working on alongside other advisory groups.

THE HESKETH HUB’S AFTERNOON TEA & TEA DANCE

Residents from Hesketh Hall have formed a new social group called ‘The Hesketh Hub’. They are hosting monthly quizzes, games and activities for all Port Sunlight residents and encourage others to lead their own. The group are passionate about creating a warm environment that is easily accessible, and PSVT is supporting them to build this.

On 9th June, the Hesketh Hub are hosting an afternoon tea and tea dance at the Church Hall on Bridge Street. Entry is £5 each. To purchase a ticket, call 0151 644 4800.

To register your interest in getting involved with the Hesketh Hub, email community@portsunlightvillage.com

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP

Have you ever fancied learning to speak Spanish? You can join a friendly group that meets on Sunday mornings at Lady Lever Art Gallery’s café, 10–11.30am.

This is a relaxed environment with no judgement, providing the opportunity to meet new people and learn together. Please note this is not a class and simply gives attendees the opportunity to practise.

Ready, set... garden!

Get your green space ready for the 2025 Garden Competition

It's that time of year again when we celebrate the incredible floral displays residents of Port Sunlight create outside their homes. Every year this village institution gives us the opportunity to applaud the dedicated members of our community who help make Port Sunlight so beautiful. It's particularly nice to see so many new faces winning prizes over the last few years, and we strongly encourage everyone to take part.

How to take part

All residents are automatically entered into the competition, you don't have to formally enter. This year's judging will take place in July and our judge will be Vicky Smith, who is part of Port Sunlight Village Trust's team of gardeners and is responsible for many of the stunning bedding plant displays you see across the village.

This year's categories

First, second and highly commended places are selected for each category, which are:

- ◆ Best front border/container
- ◆ Best hanging basket
- ◆ Best allotment
- ◆ Best overall display
- ◆ Best community garden (includes groups of neighbours)

All winners and runners up will be invited to a special ceremony at the Gladstone Theatre on Wednesday 24th September. Everyone will be welcome to attend. Good luck!



Singing Café

*First and third Wednesdays of the month,
10.30am – 12pm: Bridge Inn*

The Singing Café is a musical event hosted in collaboration with Home Instead and Involve Northwest for members of the community to come together, sing and enjoy lovely homemade refreshments.

We have been overjoyed with the response from our residents, with over 40 enjoying each event... and it's only going to get bigger! These local partnerships have also ensured this is a free event for all to attend.

SUMMER AT CHRIST CHURCH

The church is open to everyone Monday to Friday, 11am–4pm. The community and visitors can also enjoy a treat at the café, open Wednesday to Friday, 11am–4pm. On 25th August, Cornish Cream Teas will be served for £4.50.

Did you know Christ Church offers weddings (including same-sex weddings) and vow renewal ceremonies all year round? Whether it is spring, summer, autumn or winter, the church boasts a long Italian marble aisle, robed choir and peal of church bells.

Their Wedding Administrator will be happy to help you and answer all your questions – please email weddings@ccpsurc.info



WHAT'S ON IN PORT SUNLIGHT THIS SUMMER



INDEPENDENTS BIENNIAL

7th June – 14th September

Discover contemporary art across Port Sunlight as part of the Independents Biennial, the sister festival to the Liverpool Biennial that brings art to all six local authority areas of Liverpool City Region.

Artists will present works at several spaces across the village, including Bridge Cottage, the Stables and the old Fire Engine Station. That means the Firing Up Bridge Cottage has now closed earlier than previously advertised, though some works are remaining on display when Bridge Cottage reopens on 7th June.

For more information about the exhibitions and to plan your visit, go to independentsbiennial.com

A SUMMER AFTERNOON WITH LYCEUM BRASS BAND

6th July, 2–4pm

Soak up a special free performance by the village's own brass band in the magical surroundings of the beautiful Dell. Take part in free themed family crafts hosted by Port Sunlight Village Trust, enjoy a tasty treat and refreshing beverage from Copa Coffee or simply a pack a picnic and relax on the grass.

SUMMER EVENING TOURS: LOST BUILDINGS OF PORT SUNLIGHT

8th July, 6pm

£12 adult, £10 concessions, £6 child. Starts at Port Sunlight Museum.

Discover the lost buildings of Port Sunlight this summer. From the village's very own replica of Shakespeare's Birthplace to outdoor recreational spaces including an auditorium and swimming pool, join us on this hour-long tour to hear their fascinating stories and find out why they are no longer here. Tickets available at portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on

TIME TRAVEL TOUR

Friday 8th August

£8 adult, £6 child, under 3s free

Travel back in time to the early 1900s on a fun, family-friendly walking tour of the amazing village built on soap. Join our Edwardian costumed character Miss Slater on a journey across Port Sunlight to learn about its history. In this immersive experience, you'll have the opportunity to meet costumed characters along the way, hold objects from the past and even get stuck into helping Mrs Richardson with her weekly wash day tasks! Tickets available at portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on

INTERNATIONAL BEATLEWEEK – PS I LOVE YOU

Saturday 23rd August, 12–6pm

International Beatleweek, organised by the Cavern Club, brings fans and artists from all over the world to Port Sunlight for a day of live music celebrating the Fab Four. As the place where Ringo Starr first performed as part of the band on 18th August 1962, this spectacular festival returns to Port Sunlight.

International Beatleweek ticketholders will be able to enjoy performances at Hulme Hall, Gladstone Theatre and Lyceum Club, while general public can watch free performances in the Dell and the Bridge Inn. Find out more at internationalbeatleweek.com

SUMMER EVENING TOURS: A BRIEF HISTORY OF PORT SUNLIGHT

Saturday 23rd August

£12 adult, £10 concessions, £6 child. Starts at Port Sunlight Museum.

Join us on our Summer Evening Tours series with our friendly and knowledgeable guides for a special 90-minute walking tour around Port Sunlight and discover the fascinating story of a village built on soap. Unlock the meaning behind the diverse architecture, and hear the stories of village life past and present. Tickets available at portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on

SUMMER ADVENTURE ACTIVITY TRAIL

£2 per trail

Go on a summer adventure with our self-led activity trail around the village. Enjoy summer-themed challenges around the village. Trails are available to purchase from Port Sunlight Museum, open daily.

SUMMER FUN ON THE GREEN

Throughout August

Enjoy summer on the green with our Summer Family Play Packs of lawn games available to hire on the Village Green opposite Port Sunlight Museum throughout August. Check portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on for more information.



FOLKSY THEATRE PRESENT TWELFTH NIGHT

Thursday 12th August, 7pm

£12 child, £15 adult. The Dell

Pack a picnic and enjoy Folksy Theatre's larger-than-life performance of Twelfth Night, a whirlwind of mistaken identities and joyful endings in the beautiful surroundings of one of Port Sunlight's most picturesque green spaces.

Tickets available at portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on



GLADSTONE THEATRE

Lee Mead – The Best of Me (Fri 6th June, 7.30pm)

Star of TV and award-winning West End leading man, Lee Mead rose to fame in 2007 by winning BBC's Any Dream Will Do, landing the role of Joseph in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. He's since starred in major shows like Wicked, Legally Blonde, Chicago, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, and We Will Rock You at the London Coliseum. Join Lee and his outstanding live band for a night of musical theatre classics, contemporary hits, and songs from his new EP.

Tommy Blaize – The Voice of Strictly (Sat 21st June, 7.30pm)

Known as the powerhouse voice of Strictly Come Dancing for 20 years, Tommy Blaize has performed to millions weekly. With a five-decade career working alongside legends like Diana Ross, Queen, Stevie Wonder, and Amy Winehouse, Tommy steps into the spotlight with his first major solo tour. Expect iconic songs, legendary stories, and a night of incredible music.

Club 80s Live (Fri 27th June, 7.30pm)

Travel back in time with Club 80s Live - a non-stop celebration of the decade that brought neon lights, big hair, and unforgettable hits. Dance to classics from Bon Jovi, Cyndi Lauper, Wham, and more in this high-energy tribute featuring a live band, dancers, and dazzling costume changes.

Oasis (Fri 18th July, 7.30pm)

After going viral in 2023, Oasis returns with a 2025 tour marking 30 years of What's the Story) Morning Glory? Relive the magic with anthems from the album and Oasis classics performed with raw, authentic energy.

Enchanted - The Candlelight Concert (Sat 19th July, 2.30pm)

Step into a magical, candlelit world as a talented ensemble performs songs from Frozen, Tangled, Moana, Wicked, Beauty and the Beast, and more. With sing-alongs and fairy tale charm, this concert is perfect for the whole family.

A Country Night In Nashville (Fri 25th July, 7.30pm)

Experience the heart of country music with a tribute to Nashville's iconic honky tonk scene. Hear hits from legends like Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Alan Jackson, and Kacey Musgraves in a lively celebration of country's greatest stars.

Ahh...Freak Out! (Sat 26th July, 7.30pm)

Disco lovers rejoice! Get down to hits from the Bee Gees, Donna Summer, Earth, Wind & Fire, and more. With a live band and dazzling production, it's your ticket to the golden era of funk and disco.

The Counterfeit Sixties (Fri 1st August, 7.30pm)

Britain's No.1 60s tribute band returns with a new show celebrating iconic music and pop culture. Relive the swinging sixties with songs from The Beatles, The Who, The Kinks, and more.

So Cher (Sat 30th August, 7.30pm)

A global hit, So Cher stars Starstruck winner Rachael Hawnt in a fabulous tribute to Cher. With stories, humour, and hits from every era, it's a spectacular homage to one of pop's greatest icons.



Port Sunlight Village Market

First Sunday of every month

The Stables (by the Gladstone Theatre). 9am–1pm. Free entry. Discover dozens of artisan stalls in the new monthly Port Sunlight Village Market, which has quickly become a firm favourite for residents and visitors. Explore the finest fresh produce, including farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, high-quality meats from the butcher, jams, honey and chutneys, as well as breads, pies and cakes. You can pick up a few locally made crafts and gifts too.

Birds take flight at Lady Lever Art Gallery this summer

This summer, Lady Lever Art Gallery is hosting Dawn to Dusk: Birds by Jim Moir, a new exhibition that brings together around 45 paintings inspired by British birdlife.

Jim Moir, who many will remember as comedian Vic Reeves, is also a talented artist and dedicated birdwatcher. His work captures the charm and character of familiar species with warmth, precision and a touch of humour. Entry is free, and all artworks are available to purchase. The exhibition runs from 14 June to 2 November 2025.

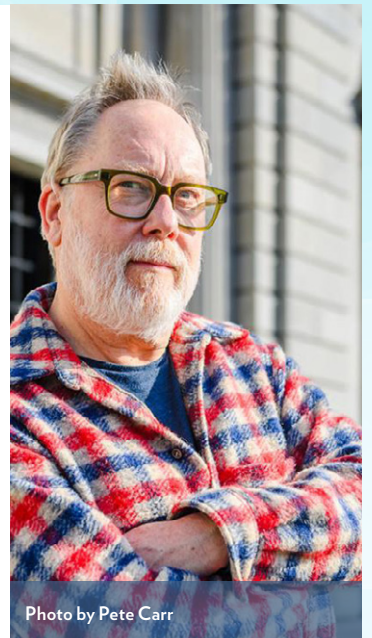


Photo by Pete Carr

Hulme Hall

Hulme Hall's popular programme of markets and fairs continues this summer with an antique & vintage fair on 15th June and 17th August, flea market on 6th July and 3rd August, and craft & gift fair on 22nd June and 24th August. You can also visit a book fair on 13th July and food market on 19th July, both free entry, plus a curry night on 13th September.

Don't forget to try their lovely café too, open daily. For more information about what's on at Hulme Hall, go to hulmehall.com

DON'T MISS OUT!

To stay up to date with events in the village, why not check out the events calendar on our website?

portsunlightvillage.com/whats-on

Book tickets via The Gladstone Theatre Box Office on 0151 643 8757 or at gladstonetheatre.org.uk



Village News

Welcoming Nettle Café and Bookshop,

The next chapter of one of Port Sunlight's special buildings

This June, a new café and bookshop opens its doors in Port Sunlight. Nettle is an independent café focusing on health, wellbeing and community, and is moving to the village from Birkenhead where it began life at Make CIC.

Over the past few months, the team at Nettle – led by owner Julia Strelczuk – have been carefully restoring and preserving as much as they can of the Grade II-listed building, including the old bank vault, while blending in elements of their forest-inspired brand to create a unique and inviting space. There is even a rock feature wall!

A building of many uses

While Nettle's transformation has been taking place, PSVT has taken the opportunity to create a detailed research report bringing together the history of 93-96 Greendale Road, and it's fair to say the building has quite the story to tell. It was arguably a significant building before its foundations had even been laid thanks to the architects who designed it: Maxwell and Tuke, the same architects responsible for the iconic Blackpool Tower.

Our Project Officer Heather Alcock's research explores how it has been transformed and remodelled many times from a girls' hostel for female factory employees, to a tea room, to

Port Sunlight Savings Bank, to the Lever Free Library, to Natwest Bank, to a heritage centre, to an accountants and PSVT offices.

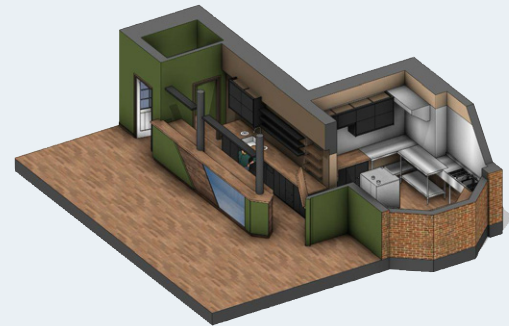
Nettle have been working with our Conservation and Maintenance Manager Gareth Dean to expose and showcase traces of the building's past, including the original wood floor, beams and beautifully tiled bathrooms which had been covered up for many years.

What's on the menu?

The new menu features delicious breakfasts, brunches, afternoon teas, specialty coffee and (soon) cocktails and mocktails. There is also a second-hand bookshop filled with unique reads, as well as a retail section showcasing locally made goodies.

You will also be able to take part in workshops and events including foraging walks, woodcarving, chess and board game nights, mindful mixers, live music, pub quiz socials, plus buzzing collaborations with Port Sunlight's beekeepers.

To plan your visit, follow Nettle Café on Facebook and Instagram (@Nettle_Wirral).



Scan this QR code to watch a video with Nettle's owner Julia and popular Instagram & TikTok historian *The History Magpie* exploring the new space

Main Image: 93-96 Greendale Road when it housed the Savings Bank and Lever Free Library

© Port Sunlight Museum Collection

Have you got a story for a forthcoming issue of the Port Sunlight Gazette?

Contact the PSVT office by phone on 0151 644 4800 or email feedback@portsunlightvillage.com

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