

The Minsterley Parish Magazine

with the Stiperstones church group:
Habberley, Hope & Shelve, Snailbeach



incorporating news from the Chirbury Hills benefice:
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Holy Trinity Church, Minsterley



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Church services this month

Sunday 4th	4.00pm	Tea-time service
Sunday 11th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 18th	10.30am	Minsterley Praise - incorporating the annual Methodist Covenant Service
Sunday 25th	10.30am	Holy Communion

Magazine Subscriptions 2026

Thank you to our regular subscribers who pay annually in advance; this helps our finances and makes life easier for those who deliver your copy each month. No increase from 2025, so £9 covers the year, and distributors will be asking for your money in the next couple of months.

If you are new and would like to subscribe please contact the editor (as below); alternatively, if you live in Chirbury area you can contact Kay Yeates (see page 17).

Thank you for your custom, and please support our advertisers where possible!

Other events this month

Thu 1st	Knitter Natter (EVERY Thursday) (p21)
Wed 7th	'One Church' prayer (EVERY Wed) (p4)
Mon 12th	Crafty Monday (p21)
Tues 13th	Oasis meeting (p21) Ichthus Bible study (p15) Parish Council meeting (p11) Spiritual Question Time (p13)
Mon 19th	Singing at Hillcrest (p3)
Tue 20th	The Gathering (p4)
Thu 22nd	Wildlife Group (p29)
Sat 24th	Burns Night supper (p34)
Tue 27th	Oasis (p21) Ichthus Bible study (p15)

The Minsterley Parish Magazine is published by Holy Trinity Church.

Copy date for the next issue is the 20th of the month

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To advertise: see details on page 23

Research suggests that we tend to get more anxious as we get older. I wonder why that might be? Those of us who lived through the threat of nuclear Armageddon during the Cold War might have learnt that things aren't always as bad as the newspaper headlines insist. And yet many find, as the years unfold, that the challenges they used to take in their stride are now a matter for deep breaths, and if possible handing over to children and grandchildren to sort. Perhaps it's because our computerised, artificially intelligent world is so impenetrable. Do you remember when the only thing you needed in a car park were a few coins (and it was only a few in those days) to put in the meter? Now many machines don't take coins at all and require you to download an app, and the app you downloaded last week isn't the right one for this car park.

In the same way phoning customer services for help entails a twenty minute wait to speak to someone (inputting the digits of your date of birth or your postcode which aren't then recognized) and a conversation with someone who tells you to go online to sort out your problem. And that's before you start worrying about what they're saying about you on Social Media. No doubt none of this helps, but I don't believe it gets to the root of the problem.

I suspect it is a combination of two things. First, the world is designed for young people; and second, as we increase in years, both our bodies and minds let us down. We lose confidence because we can no longer do the things we used to. I don't say, "I am 65 and can still run 5 miles" but instead lament how much more slowly I run 5 miles than I used to. By the same token Joe Biden was considered too old to stand again for office as American president.

And yet, if you read the Bible, you find that age is no barrier to God being willing to use someone. Noah, Abraham and Moses were all of great age when they were called into action. For example the challenge of leading the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt, defying the might of Pharaoh, was not entrusted to a strapping youth, still virile and able to win a duel with one of Pharaoh's champions. It was given to Moses, a man who had grown to know God through the wisdom of the years. Therefore let us prize old age in ourselves and others that we may not miss out on that wisdom.

Greg Smith



Do you enjoy writing? Is there a story buzzing around in your head, a poem perhaps, or do you love a limerick? Minsterley Eisteddfod has classes for all ages for stories, poems, creative writing, hymn words and limericks.

For full details phone 01743 791045 or see our website: minsterleyeisteddfod.com.

The closing date is 5th February; we would love to hear what you have to say!



Singing at Hillcrest

Several members of the church go to Hillcrest Manor nursing home most months to sing hymns with the residents for about an hour. It is a simple thing to do but brings some joy to the residents, most of whom do not leave the home. We would love you to join us whenever you are free to swell the numbers and the volume.

The next date is Monday 19th January. Please contact me for more details. Thank you.

Caroline Bowen

Do you have some spare time?

Mary Webb School in Pontesbury are looking for Exam Invigilators to help out during exam times. You can fit exams around your schedule and full training is provided.

More details and application form is available on the schools website

<https://marywebbschool.com/vacancies/>

Deanery of Pontesbury

Rural Dean: Rev Greg Smith

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Letter from the Bishop of Hereford



January 12th is designated as Blue Monday, the most miserable of the year. The festivities of Christmas are a distant memory and winter still holds us in its grip. A few valiant daffodils and snowdrops poking through the mud do little to elevate the mood. At least, that is the contemporary narrative.

However Christians, especially in the Diocese of Hereford, are entering into a year of celebration. We have had three years to explore our central values of Christlikeness, prayerfulness and engagement; and now we want to celebrate, not least because the diocese is 1350 years old this year.

As Bishop of Hereford, it is an extraordinary thing to walk into the cathedral for a service passing a board that shows you have 105 predecessors in an unbroken line back to 676! Our diocese predates England and was carved out of a corner of the ancient kingdom of Mercia and the Romano-British kingdom of Archenfield.

It is hard to see any connection between the wild, rural subsistence society of that time and the modern world. And yet our year will celebrate an unbroken thread of Christian faith, about the only thing that does link the ancient past to today. From the first Celtic saints like St. Dubricious who brought Christianity to this part of the world in the sixth century, to Putta our first Bishop - expelled from Rochester and finding a home here - to people like St. Aedfrith and St. Milburgha who linked this then-obscure part of the world to wider Christendom.

But not just our founders. Christians are described by the Apostle Paul as "saints." The witness of some remains through the centuries. For some there might be a stone memorial, but I doubt anyone will remember much about me as a bishop in 50 years time when they walk past my name on

the board. Over the last 1350 years the Gospel has advanced as much by ordinary people living it out in their homes, workplaces and communities as it has by the few preserved by history.

That remains the case today. We would not have the healthcare system, education, good working conditions in factories, the abolition of slavery and countless other benefits but for such Christian witness and activity. We may feel we are struggling as a church today, but - whether acknowledged or not - much that is good in the modern world owes its origin to the Gospel.

That is well worth celebrating.

+Richard

The Gathering
An evening of Praising & Worshipping God
Encourage one another and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.
(1 Thessalonians 5: 11)
Everyone welcome

Refreshments | **Tues 20th January,**
from 7.00 p.m. | 7.30 p.m. start

 Marton Village Hall

"One Church" prayer meeting

Worthen Methodist Chapel

4.30-5.30pm every Wednesday

to pray for the Rea Valley

All are welcome to come and join, or to pray with us from wherever you are at that time.

Domini Lucas

Deanery News editor: Ann Jones (annmorganjones456@gmail.com)
Copy to be submitted by 10th of previous month please.

World News . . .

....or “some more of the items you are not likely to see on the TV news”

Malaysia – Government ruled responsible for disappearance of Pastor Koh in 2017

After more than eight years, we can give thanks to God for a positive development in the case of a Malaysian Christian pastor who disappeared in suspicious circumstances. The Malaysian High Court has ruled that the government and police are responsible for the enforced disappearance of Pastor Raymond Koh in February 2017.

The court ordered more than RM37 million (£6.3 million) in compensation to Koh’s family. The sum is to be held in a trust until Pastor Koh’s whereabouts are ascertained.

The judge criticised the authorities for suppressing evidence and misdirecting investigations and instructed that the case be reopened under new oversight, with regular reporting to the Attorney General.

Pastor Koh was abducted in broad daylight on 13th February 2017 in Petaling Jaya, Selangor. CCTV footage showed multiple vehicles and men in tactical gear surrounding his car. His wife, Susanna Liew, has led a sustained effort for truth and accountability.

In August 2024, the High Court ordered the release of a previously classified investigative report relevant to her civil suit. Susanna Liew subsequently renewed calls for an independent investigation and a Royal Commission of Inquiry, expressing concern at the case’s continued lack of resolution.

The Attorney General’s Chambers has now announced plans to appeal the High Court’s rulings in the cases of both Pastor Koh and activist Amri Che Mat, despite the court’s direction that investigations be reopened.

Pastor Koh founded Harapan Komuniti, a Christian NGO supporting marginalised communities, including people living with HIV, former drug users and the homeless, work that often crossed ethnic and religious boundaries.

Myanmar – Food crisis worsens as military targets civilians in Kayah State

The deteriorating humanitarian crisis in Myanmar’s Kayah State cries out for prayers. Aid groups have warned of worsening food shortages as the Tatmadaw (Myanmar military) continues its campaign against civilians. Kayah (also known as Karenni State) is home to a large Christian community.

Among the worst-affected areas is Demoso Township, where many of those displaced by the violence now face severe hunger.

In September a church building in Demoso was severely damaged in a Tatmadaw strike. No casualties were reported in what a local leader described as “a deliberate attack on a civilian location.” Food prices in Kayah have increased by between 300 - 400% in recent months.

Since the military coup that brought the Tatmadaw to power in February 2021, at least 250,000 people in Kayah have been displaced from their homes. The Karenni Human Rights Group has accused the Tatmadaw of deliberately engineering food shortages as a method of warfare.

Christmas is weird – at what other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat sweets out of your socks?

New Year’s Eve . . .

The bagpipes are the missing link between music and noise. - E K Kruger

The inventor of the bagpipes was inspired when he saw a man carrying an indignant asthmatic pig under his arm. Unfortunately, the man-made sound never equalled the purity of the sound achieved by the pig.

- Alfred Hitchcock.

Bring not a bagpipe to a man in trouble. - Jonathan Swift.

A Scientific Enquiry into Santa Claus

This paper was first published in the 1970s. The editor apologises for any more recent research which may have update the conclusion.

We feel that to publish this hitherto little known research at or around Christmas time might be too stressful for some of our more sensitive readers. We therefore offer it for consideration with a suitable Health Warning attached.

No known species of reindeer can fly. BUT there are 300,000 species of living organisms yet to be classified, and while most of these are insects and germs, this does not completely rule out the possibility of Flying Reindeer which only Santa has ever seen.

There are 2 billion children (persons under 18) in the world. BUT since Santa doesn't (appear to) handle the Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist children, that reduces the workload to only 15% of the total, a modest 378 million children according to the Population Reference Bureau of the US. At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, that is 91.8 million homes. We take as a working assumption that there is at least one good child in each home.

Santa has 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the difference in time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming that he travels East to West (which seems logical). This works out at 822 visits per second. This is to say that for each Christian household with good children, Santa has 1/1000th of a second to park, hop out of the sleigh, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left, get back up the chimney, get back in the sleigh and move on to the next house. We assume that each of these 91.8 million stops are evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false but for the purposes of our calculations we will accept). We are now talking about 0.78 miles per household, a total trip of 75.5 million miles, not counting stops to do what most of us must do at least once every 31 hours, plus feeding time etc., etc. This means that Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per

second - or 3,000 times the speed of sound. For comparison purposes, the fastest man-made vehicle on earth, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a pedestrian 27.4 miles per second; a conventional reindeer can run, maximum, 30 miles per hour.

The payload on the sleigh aids another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized Lego set, weighing 2 pounds, the sleigh is carrying 321,300 tons, not counting Santa, who is invariably described as overweight. On land, conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even granting that "Flying Reindeer" (see item #1 above) could pull TEN times the normal amount, we cannot do the job with eight or even nine reindeer - we need 214,200 reindeer. This increases the payload - not counting the weight of the sleigh - to 353,200 tons. Again for comparison, this is four times the weight of the QE II.

353,000 tons travelling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance; this will heat up the reindeer in the same fashion as spacecraft re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead reindeer will absorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy. Per second. Each. In short, they will burst into flames almost instantly, exposing the reindeer behind them, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team will be vaporised within 4.26 thousandths of a second. Santa, meanwhile, will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500 times greater than gravity. A 250-pound Santa (a very conservative estimate) would be pinned to the back of the sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force.

CONCLUSION: If Santa ever did deliver presents on Christmas Eve, he's dead now.



What might people say of us?

Address given at the Parliamentary Carol Service
on Wednesday 3rd December 2025
Rt Rev Richard Jackson *Bishop of Hereford*

May I start by thanking you for the invitation to speak this afternoon. I consider it an honour and privilege. Can I also thank you on behalf of the nation (if I may dare to do so) for your dedicated public service, as fellow peer, members of the House of Commons, all the support staff who enable our work and the families and friends gathered here who help us with the long hours that such work often entails. I suspect such appreciation doesn't fill your inboxes on a regular basis. I observe across both houses a passion for justice, inclusion and care which is exemplary. That should be celebrated and appreciated much more than it is. If you remember nothing else about this address, I hope you will remember that.

You will, no doubt, remember Spike Milligan who is buried in Winchelsea in my former diocese. Apparently he requested his gravestone should carry the epitaph, 'I told you I was ill!' The diocesan chancellor was less than enthusiastic about this deviation from faculty rules and refused. However Spike had the last laugh. If you visit his grave today you will find the inscription there as requested; it's just written in Gaelic! In the end he got an appropriate legacy.

The danger for everyone involved in public life is an ego driven desire for legacy which may be more about self-aggrandisement than a public-spirited desire to leave the world a better place. We all need to guard against such hubris. Our reading this evening tells us of the legacy of a character with a bit-part in the Christmas story, namely Joseph. In Christ's life he appears infrequently and only in the first few years, disappearing after the incident where Jesus is left behind in the Temple by mistake. In our passage we hear the commentary on the legacy he leaves behind: "Joseph was a righteous man" (Matthew 1 v19). In the language of the Scriptures there could be no higher accolade.

He manifests this primarily in an act of profound kindness to Mary his betrothed. In the ancient near east of that time a strict code was observed. Couples were promised to each other from an early age by their families. Such betrothals were binding. If Mary had become pregnant in the

normal way of things it was an egregious breaking of social convention and moral probity. However, even before the angel's revelation of what had really happened, Joseph already responds to her vulnerability with kindness. To have exposed her to public disgrace would have been to cast her on the mercy of her family who would most likely cast her off to avoid family shame. The prospects for such a vulnerable, pregnant teenager cast adrift from family support were unthinkable. The same is true for many young women around the world today faced with a choice between starvation and sexual exploitation.

Joseph's proposed actions demonstrated a kindness well beyond what law and convention would have demanded of him. He demonstrated a humanity, grace and love that responded to a vulnerable young woman. Law and regulation are a poor substitute for such humanity. We spend a lot of our time on legislation – it's our job - but I wonder if, like me, you occasionally think some of what we are doing is codifying our human duty of care for one another. In our society it feels like we don't trust one another very much. In the absence of such trust, we have to fall back on rules and regulations to protect both the vulnerable and ourselves.

To describe Joseph as “righteous” is to say he felt an accountability to a higher authority than mere social convention. The greatest of our statesmen and women have had a similar sense. There are more important sources of authority than political expediency, public opinion and social media mobs. But in the complexities of modern life, doing the right thing is not always straight-forward.

For Christians, such wisdom is a divine gift. Jesus is described as Emmanuel: God with us. We dare to believe that a framework which leaves God out of the equation can't give a reliable account of reality. There is a prideful streak in all of us that seeks to do just that. The scriptures call it "sin": a turning from God; a "collapsing in on ourselves," as St. Augustine described it. This is the condition from which we need saving and for which God sent Jesus – in a sense part of the fruit of Joseph's kindness and Joseph and Mary's preparedness to live with the whispers and accusations of illegitimacy. This salvation, the gift of forgiveness and the restoration of relationship with God opens the channel to the divine wisdom we so desperately need in the midst of the complexities of modern life.

Joseph's epitaph was "Joseph the righteous man." What might people say of us?

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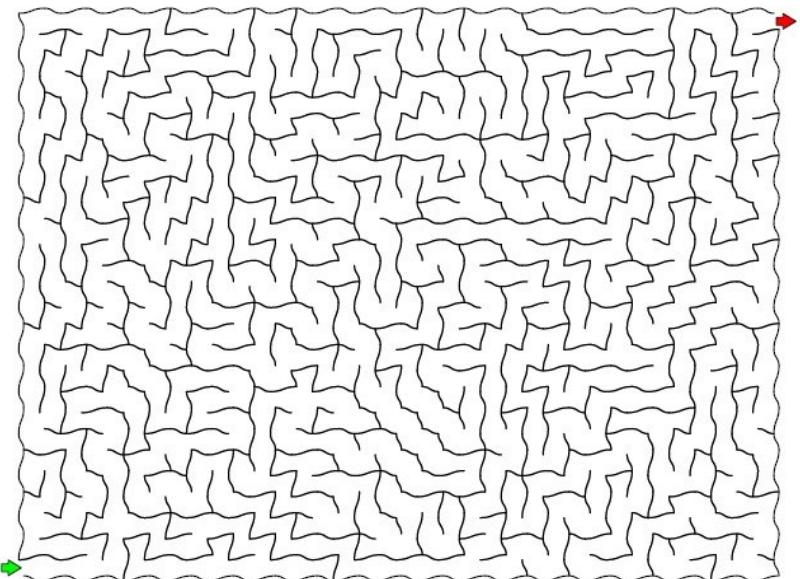
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Puzzle Page

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Wordsearch clues & answers - Epiphany

6th January brings Epiphany - the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus.

Matthew calls them 'Magi', the name of an ancient priestly caste from Persia. Early church tradition says there were three: Balthasar, Caspar, Melchior.

As for their gifts? Gold is a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense is a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh is a symbol of healing - and even embalming. Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things.

Epiphany	Melchior	Healing
Visit	Gold	Embalming
Wise	Wealth	Ancient
Men	Wisdom	Gifts
Magi	Incense	Tradition
Priestly	Worship	Challenged
Persia	Sacrifice	World
Balthasar	Myrrh	
Caspar	Symbol	

Many people will stop everything at 3pm on Christmas Day to listen to His Majesty's annual address to the nation. But do you ever wonder what the King calls his Christmas Broadcast?

Could it possibly be 'The One Show'?



There is a living God. He has spoken in the Bible. He means what He says and will do all He has promised.

- J Hudson Taylor

You can't build a church with stumbling blocks.

- Fred Beck

Be united with other Christians. A wall with loose bricks is not good. The bricks must be cemented together.

- Corrie ten Boom

The church is a workshop, not a dormitory.

- Alexander MacLaren

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Minsterley Parish Council

A grant of £3,000 would be allocated from CIL Funds to the Hall Committee (Minsterley Parish Hall) to help with the cost of floor repairs in the Main Hall.

Following complaints residents are reminded not to cause obstructions by parking their vehicles on the pavements in the village.

The Precept requested for the next financial year will need to rise by £2,000.

Chester University will be carrying out a Study on the Minsterley Brook, to understand flow patterns and levels on the tributaries coming from the Stiperstones, and how they contribute to flooding events within Hope Valley and Minsterley.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Tuesday 13th January in Minsterley Parish Hall.

Geoff Rogers
Chairman, Minsterley Parish Council
www.minsterley.org.uk

To contact the parish council, e-mail:
clerk@minsterley.org.uk

MINSTERLEY 59 CLUB WINNERS

Draw No.	Date	No.
47	19 th November	10
48	26 th November	40
49	3 rd December	1
50	10 th December	38

To Join – Telephone 791508 or 791466.

£1 per week – 50% paid out in Prize Money.

50% helps to run the Parish Church.

59 CLUB

A big thank you to all members of the 59 Club for your support during 2025. This fundraiser has raised £1,500 again for church funds, which means that £1,500 has also been paid out in prize money.

The new membership will begin on the first Wednesday of 2026 and if anyone is interested in joining please have a word with Geoff (01743 791466) or Marie (01743 791508).

Thank you.

Marie Edwards

PENSION FRAUD

Fraudsters will use many avenues to defraud potential victims and one of these is to promise high returns with low risks with Pension Schemes. Thus pension savers may be left with nothing, having lost all their life savings. So stay vigilant and protect any pensions and investments from fraudsters trying to trick you out of your lifetime savings, as millions of pounds are lost each year with these scams

How can you protect yourself?

Unsolicited communication about your pension: If you get a call out of the blue (a cold call) about your pension the safest thing to do is hang up. It's illegal and probably a fraudster. If you get offers via email or text, you should simply ignore them.

Seek advice first: if you're thinking about changing your pension arrangements you should get financial advice beforehand. If you want to find an adviser, make sure they're authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. Never take advice from the company that contacted you, this may be part of the scam.

Investment opportunities: do not be rushed into making an investment. Remember legitimate organisations will never pressure you into investing on the spot.

You should treat investment opportunities with extreme caution if there is:

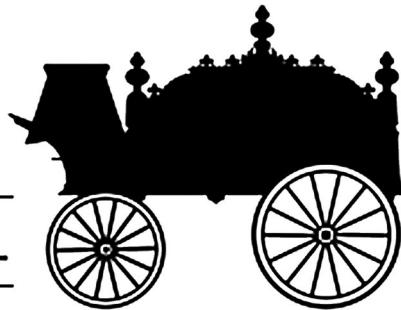
- pressure to invest (e.g. time-limited offers).
- downplayed risk of losing your money
- promised or guaranteed returns that sound too good to be true.
- high risk investments such as property, energy bonds, forestry some of which may be overseas so not trackable

Be mindful of tax implications: you could pay tax on payments from your pension provider if they make an 'unauthorised payment', especially if you release cash before you are 55 years old.

If you have been a victim then report it: if you're worried about a potential scam, or you think you may have been contacted by a fraudster, report it to Action Fraud online at actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.



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The first in the 2026 series

“Recipe of the month”

Beef Ragout.

1 1/2 lb/675g stewing steak,
cut into bitesize pieces

2 oz. butter or marge.

2 large onion, sliced.

1 large clove of garlic, crushed.

1 med. orange for peel. To prepare the orange rind, lay flat and carefully scrape off the pith and cut the rind into thin strips

1 tbsp. of plain flour.

4 fl.oz. of beef stock.

1 cup of red wine.

12 oz. roughly chopped carrots.

Method

Melt butter in a heavy-bottomed pan; add the beef and fry quickly until browned on all sides.

Using a slotted spoon, transfer the beef to a casserole dish, and keep it hot.

Add the onions to the fat remaining in the pan, and fry until lightly browned, then stir in the garlic and fry over gentle heat for one minute.

Pour off any excess fat from the pan, leaving about one tbsp. Add the flour to onions and garlic and cook, stirring constantly, until lightly brown.

Stir in half the beef stock, with salt and pepper to taste. Bring to boil, and add the cup of red wine. Simmer until wine has evaporated. Add the rest of beef stock, bring to the boil, and pour over beef in the casserole. Add carrots and orange rind. Cover and bake for 1 1/2 to 2 hours, or until beef is tender. Oven Temp. 325f /160c.

Serves 6 persons

Margaret Wainwright

A young couple began to assemble a special Christmas gift they had bought for their children. They had bought a kit for a tree house, but it didn't make sense. Then they realised that the materials were for a sailboat, so they wrote to the company to complain. The company's reply was brief: "While we regret the inconvenience this mistake must have caused you, we are more concerned about the man who is out on a lake somewhere, trying to sail your tree house."

Here is the LOST CHAPTER IN GENESIS

So God asked him, "What is wrong with you?" Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to. God said that He was going to make Adam a companion and that it would be woman.

He said, "This person will gather food for you, cook for you, and when you discover clothing she'll wash it for you. She will always agree with every decision you make. She will bear your children and never ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them. She will not nag you and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement. She will never have a headache and will freely give you love and passion whenever you need it."

Adam asked God, "What will a woman like this cost?" God replied, "An arm and a leg."

Then Adam asked, "What can I get for a rib?"

The rest is history.

Get ready for a mind-expanding, soul-searching evening where we'll dive into life's big questions at our next

Spiritual Question Time

As part of our Year of Celebration 2026, celebrating 1350 years of Hereford Diocese, join us for an enlightening evening of deep conversations and soul-searching at our next Spiritual Question Time. We'll explore life's big mysteries and discuss various spiritual topics.

This event is a great opportunity to bring your burning questions and an open mind to hear Bishop Richard answer on the hot topics of faith affecting Christians today. Prepare to be inspired, and challenged, and leave with a renewed sense of wonder about life and our place within creation. Don't miss out on this thought-provoking event.

Spiritual Question Time - Marton Village Hall

Marton Village Hall

7pm - 8.30pm, Tuesday 13th January,

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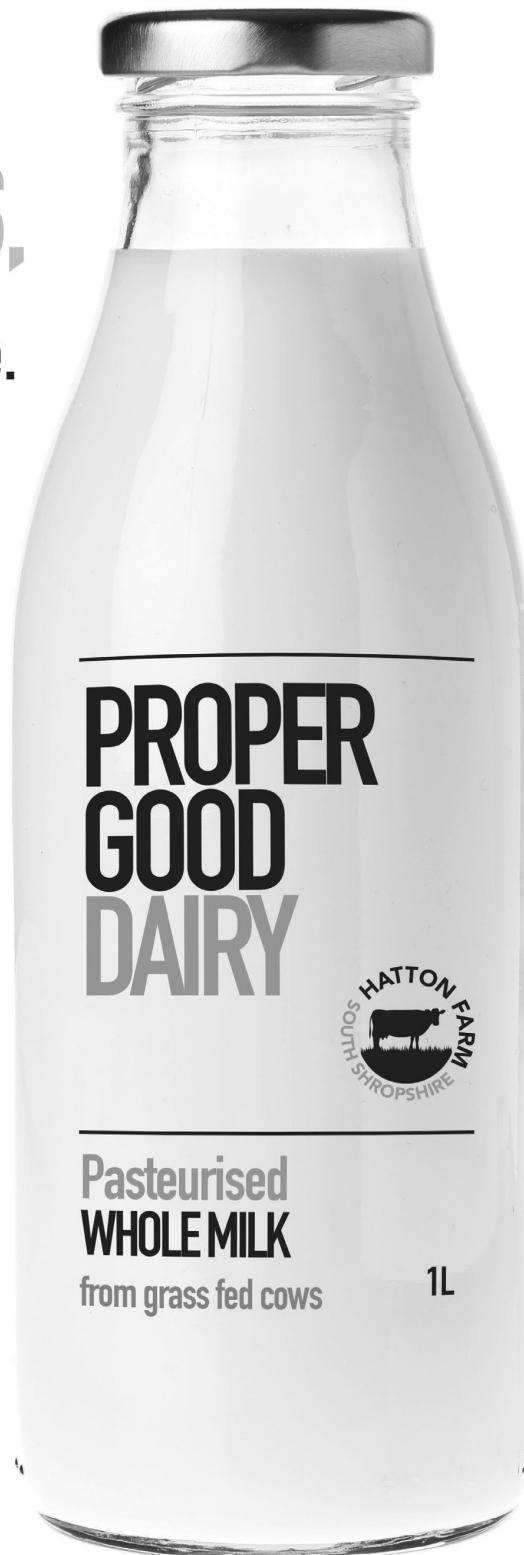
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The Autobiography of Portia Nelson

Chapter one

I walk down a street
There's a deep hole in the pavement
I fall in
I'm lost
I'm helpless
It isn't my fault
It takes forever to find a way out.

Chapter two

I walk down the same street
There's a deep hole in the pavement
I pretend it isn't there
I fall in again
I can't believe I'm in the same place
but it's not my fault.

Chapter three

I walk down the same street
There's a deep hole in the pavement
I see it's there
I still fall in
It's a habit
My eyes are open
I know where I am
I know it's my fault
I get out immediately

Chapter four

I walk down the same street
There's a deep hole in the pavement
I walk around it.

Chapter five

I walk down another street.

Are you taking a mid-winter break?

If you are preparing to take off for foreign climes, do keep an eye out for signs that have English words... but perhaps not an English meaning!

In hotels and train stations and airports all over the world there are polite little signs that will bring a smile to the lips of even an exhausted traveller. For instance, how about these:

Switzerland: We have nice bath and are very good in bed.

Romania: The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret you will be unbearable.

Russia: If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it.

Italy: If service is required, give two strokes to the maid and three to the waiter.

Spain: Our wine list leaves you with nothing to hope for.

Denmark: In the event of fire, open a window and announce your presence in a seemly manner.

Canary Islands: If you telephone for room service you will get the answer you deserve.

With thanks to 'Lost in Translation: Misadventures in English Abroad' by Charlie Croker (Michael O'Mara Books, £9.99)

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119 : 105

ICHTHUS



The Autumn session of 'Ichthus' meetings concludes this month. Anyone with a desire to study the Bible with others is welcome to come. Meetings start at 2.30pm on Tuesday afternoons.

Liz Jackson 01743 791352

January 13th	Brookfield Waterwheel	John 1:29-42 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Isaiah 49:1-7
January 27th	The Blessing Snailbeach	Mark 5:1-20 Psalm 3 2 Samuel 15:13-14,16:5-13

Bible Readings in church this month

4th January	1 John 3v22-4v6; Psalm 2v7-end;	Matthew 4v12-17, v23-end
11th January	Isaiah 42v1-9 ; Psalm 29v 34-43;	Matthew 3v 13-end
18th January	Isaiah 49v 1-7; 1 Corinthians 1v 1-9; John 1v 29-42	
25th January	Jeremiah 1v 4019; Galatians 1 v 11-16a; Matthew 19 v27 - end	

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January 2026

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	Holy Trinity Leighton	St Mary's Trelystan	St Michael's Chirbury	St Mark's Marton-in-Chirbury	Holy Trinity Middleton-in-Chirbury	Corndon Marsh Chapel
Sunday 4 th	10.00 am Morning Worship Kay Yeates		11.15 am Holy Communion			6.00 pm Evensong Prayer Fran Brealey
Sunday 11 th	4.00pm Evensong Aster Meyer			9.00 am Holy Communion Graham Phillips	11.15 am Family Worship with Baptism Fran Brealey	
Sunday 18 th		3.00 pm Holy Communion Maxine Neal	11.15 am Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale		10.00 am Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale	
Sunday 25 th	11.15 am Holy Communion Freddie Strong			9.00 am Holy Communion Freddie Strong		

You are warmly invited
to join us at any of our
churches!



Chirbury Hills Benefice contacts

Local Lay Minister: Kay Yeates
01938 561 640
km_yeates@yahoo.co.uk

Lay Worship Leader: Aster Meyer
aster.meyer@pm.me

Safeguarding Officers:
 Kay Yeates (as above)
 Chris Jerman
chrisjerman@yahoo.co.uk

Churchwardens:

St. Michael's Chirbury
 Tony Sheppard 01938 561821

St. Mark's Marton
 Maureen Jenkins 01938 561645

Holy Trinity Middleton and The Marsh
 Kay Yeates 01938 561640
 Emma Bailey-Beech 01686 669971

Holy Trinity Leighton
 John Markwick 01938 555043
 Sally Beech 01938 554942

St. Mary's Trelystan
 Janet Jones 07967 312460

Thinking about Carbon



It seems fitting as we start a new year to focus on larger issues, trying to make positive changes to tackle the global crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. For those of you who care for our churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries there is much you can do for wildlife and hopefully these monthly articles have already inspired you to take some steps already. But how climate change and carbon? Is there anything we can do about that on a local level?

Well, yes there is, for those of us who manage a piece of land, whether it's our own garden or the local burial ground there is a great deal that we can do.

Firstly, care for your trees. Trees and shrubs store carbon in wood, be it the trunk, branches or roots. Trees store more carbon than other plants owing to their size and long lifespan. Hedges too can store carbon for a long time. Many churchyards and cemeteries contain ancient trees as well as trees planted in Victorian times, often conifers with a shorter lifespan as well as the longer lived native broadleaves. These conifers may be coming toward the end of their life so keep an eye on them and carry out an annual inspection as well as having professional surveys by a skilled arborist. The life of a tree can be prolonged by care and prompt action as problems arise (which can save money too). Perhaps you can think about planting young trees to replace those nearing the end of their lives. Is there room for a sapling now? Young trees grow quickly, laying down carbon-based wood as they do so.

Secondly, think about your grassland. Rather surprisingly grassland is actually great at storing carbon with most of it out of sight. Whilst carbon is stored in the visible, above ground, plants it is within the soil that most is held. In fact it is estimated that up to 30% of the earth's carbon is stored in grassland soil.

Soil carbon comes from decomposing plants, animals and fungi. When things die, they are broken down and used as food by insects, worms and other invertebrates, fungi, bacteria and other microbes. Whilst some carbon dioxide is released most carbon is incorporated into the soil. The

more mature the soil, the better for carbon storage. A mature, complex, undisturbed soil has a wide range of life within its soil, all of which contain carbon. Churchyard, chapel yard and cemetery grassland are usually mature and full of different grasses, flowering plants, fungi and lichens. This richness above ground leads to a corresponding richness below the surface.

What about the length of the grass, does that have an effect? Yes it does, taller grassland rather than short lawn has a deeper zone of active soil due to deeper plant roots. This active soil is full of carbon-based life.

So look at your local churchyard with new eyes, seeing it as a carbon store and seeing if you can improve this. Care for your trees, plant replacements and when trees need to be felled try to leave some deadwood on site or maybe keep the carbon locked away by using the wood for timber or wood-turning. Is there scope to increase the grass length in some areas to increase the depth of active, carbon-rich soil? Finally, can you reduce the use of petrol machines such as lawn mowers and strimmers replacing with electric ones or maybe using them less often.

All of these actions will benefit wildlife too so it really is doubly worthwhile.

All the best,

Harriet Carty
Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor

New Year Quotes

I find that distance lends enchantment to bagpipes. *- William Blezard*

With New Year's Resolutions in mind, here is John Wesley's rule of conduct:

Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.



WEST MERCIA POLICE

Criminals still make use of phone calls, both to landlines and mobiles, to defraud people out of their money.

Older persons may be particularly vulnerable as they rely on their phones for contact and companionship, so it is helpful to make elderly relatives aware of the dangers of cold callers.

These calls involve fraudsters trying to gain your personal and financial information and are often referred to as "Vishing" – an amalgamation of "Voice" and "Phishing".

Very often the fraudster has disguised their call identity by using an apparently legitimate number so appearing genuine; this is known as "Spoofing." If you do receive a call from a company which is not expected then just hang up, and do not engage with that caller.

What are the common types of phone call scams?

- Bank Scams – Criminals may call you about "fraudulent" use of your bank account or cards. Remember banks will never ask you for your PIN or tell you to hand over your bank cards to a so-called "courier."
- Technical Support scams - They may impersonate a company such as Microsoft or BT, and tell you there is a fault on your computer or Broadband. They then probably will ask you to download remote access software to gain access to your computer, or else install Malware on your computer.
- Impersonation Scams - Typically these may claim to come from your "Bank Fraud Department" telling you that your account or bank cards have been compromised and you need to transfer money to another so-called Safe Account, from where it vanishes! Similarly, calls may come from fraudsters masquerading as a Police Officer, Utility Provider, HMRC or DVLA.
- Prize Draw Scams – "You have won the Lottery or a Prize Draw!" Sounds good, but is it? You may think you never entered the competition, but they will convince you that

you have, then ask for your bank details so you can "receive" the prize

- Financial Scams – you are called with tempting offers for investing your money in funds, schemes or perhaps in Bitcoins with the promise of huge returns. Since 2019 it has been illegal to make cold calls to sell pension schemes, so any calls about pension schemes will be scams. This scheme may be extended in the future to ban any unsolicited financial cold calls.

How can you stay safe?

- Never give out your financial information over the phone, and just hang up if you are unsure about the caller's identity
- Register for "TPS" - Telephone Preference Service. This prevents bona fide companies cold-calling you, so you will then know that any cold call is a fake.
- Many modern landline handsets have a "Call Blocking" feature so unwanted numbers can be added to the list of Blocked Callers. Separate programmable Call Blocker units are also available to protect users.
- Similarly, many phone service providers can offer other call blocking services such as BT Call Guardian
- Scammers will often keep the phone line open after the call so even when you think you are calling a legitimate number you are still speaking to the fraudster. Wait for up to 15 minutes or make the call using a different phone line or mobile.

If you have fallen for fraud

Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via actionfraud.police.uk

Scam Text messages can be forwarded to 7726 to help phone providers take prompt action and block numbers that generate spam on their networks.

You can also report fraudulent mobile calls by texting 7726 with the word "Call" followed by the fraudster's phone number.

Scam calls received on WhatsApp can be blocked by opening the chat with the suspect phone number and tap on "Block".

Forward fake emails received to report@phishing.gov.uk

If you think your bank account or personal banking details have been used fraudulently, then use the short phone number - 159 - to contact the Fraud Prevention Department of most major UK banks.

Healthwatch Shropshire, the county's independent public feedback service for health and social care, has launched a new campaign to understand more about people's experiences of spinal injury services across the county.

The initiative follows a recent visit by Healthwatch Shropshire volunteers to The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital's Spinal Injuries Inpatient Ward in Oswestry, where staff and patients shared valuable insights into local health and social care services.

The campaign aims not only to gather feedback from people who have experienced spinal injury services - whether directly or as family members or carers - but also to raise awareness of the [Spinal Injuries Association's \(SIA\) Strategy 2030](#), which focuses on improving the lives of people with spinal cord injuries.

Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer of Healthwatch Shropshire, emphasised the importance of listening to the spinal injuries community: "We want to give a voice to people in Shropshire who have experience of spinal injury services. Their stories matter, and they deserve to be heard. By gathering people's feedback, we can shine a spotlight on what is working well and where improvements can be made.

We also want to highlight the importance of the SIA strategy and ensure it is supported locally. We encourage anyone with any experience - good or bad - to get involved and share their views with us, whether online, by phone or email."

Brendan Fitzgerald, Regional Representative and Support Coordinator for the Spinal Injuries Association in the West Midlands, welcomed the campaign: "As someone with a spinal cord injury myself I'm delighted that Healthwatch Shropshire are taking steps to highlight and raise awareness of spinal injury services in the county, as well as the SIA's 2030 strategy. This work is vital in ensuring that people with spinal cord injuries and their families receive the support, care, and opportunities they need to live fulfilling lives."

Healthwatch Shropshire is urging anyone who has used spinal injury services in Shropshire - either as a patient or a carer - to get in touch and share their experiences.

You can share your views in the following ways:

Online: www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/share-your-views

Call: 01743 237884 (09:00–17:00 Mon - Thurs)

Email: enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk

Post: Healthwatch Shropshire
4 The Creative Quarter
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
SY2 6LG

Your feedback will help shape the future of spinal injury services in Shropshire and ensure that voices from the spinal injuries community are heard.

Healthwatch Shropshire:

Healthwatch Shropshire is one of a network of 148 Local Healthwatch in England. It is supported by a national organisation, Healthwatch England.

It has a team working in community engagement, plus a volunteer programme, a visit programme to health and social care premises and an associate membership scheme to involve the public in its work. It also has a signposting service to help people access health and social care services and support.

Healthwatch Shropshire also provides the Independent Health Complaints Advocacy Service (IHCAS) for Shropshire. The IHCAS service provides information, advice and, if necessary, can support people through the NHS complaints process.

Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer



CRAFTY MONDAYS

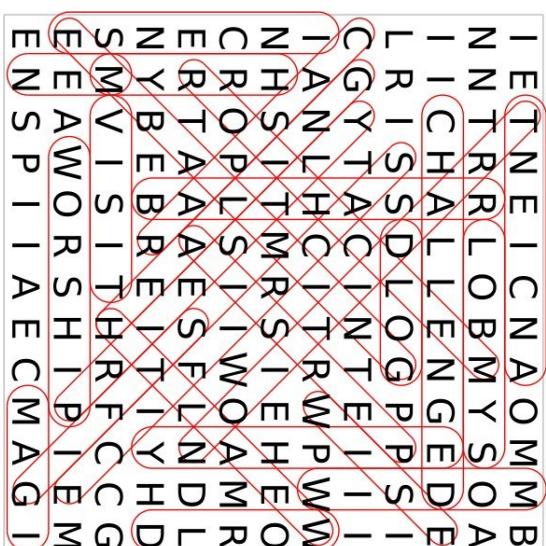
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8	1	5	3	9	7	6	4	2
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Email: shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED

CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE

16th November 2025 – 14th December 2025

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault		Chirbury	
Owner / person in charge of a dog dangerously out of control - no injury	Dog on dog incident	Worthen	
Wounding with intent so as to cause grievous bodily harm	Historic report		
Threats to kill		Brockton	
Owner / person in charge of a dog allowed to be dangerously out of control causing injury	3 dogs have attacked a person walking their dog causing an injury	Brockton	

Christmas - and New Year Sales - scams

The festive season is the time of year consumers are most likely to be scammed and it's even more important that people think carefully before they click on those websites offering goods which seem too good to be true – surprise, they invariably are!

Scammers often set up fake websites that appear to be legitimate online stores or mimic well-known brands. Shoppers who purchase from these sites end up with either counterfeit items, severely delayed shipments or no products at all.

Some scammers are more proactive and send emails or texts urging users to click on links for “exclusive deals,” account updates or shipping confirmations. These links often lead to fake login pages designed to steal account credentials or install malware on devices. Look up deals directly on a brand's official website rather than clicking on links.

Track your packages through official retailer sites or directly with delivery companies such as Royal Mail, DPD or UPS by manually entering the

tracking number. Be wary of any messages that request sensitive information or payment to resolve a delivery issue.

The methods of fraud remain the same, but sometimes with a festive twist: Fraudsters may pose as friends or family members and request gift cards for popular stores as a quick and easy present solution. They ask for the card numbers and pins, gaining access to the victim's money.

If you think you may have been taken in by a bogus website, you should first take a note of the website's address, then close down your internet browser. Report the details to Action Fraud and contact your bank to seek advice.

Whether you've been a victim of fraud will depend on how much information you've provided to the website. So, keep an eye on bank transactions and contact your bank immediately about any that you don't recognise - even small amounts.

To report a suspected crime, or if you have fallen victim to fraud or cyber-crime, contact [Action Fraud](#) via its website or by calling 0300 123 2040.

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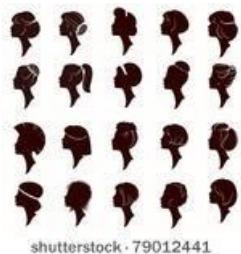
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Local organisations offering help and support

Here are some contact details you might find useful. This page was updated in January 2022, but if you find anything to be out of date, incorrect or not relevant please let the editor know. Likewise please share details of any other group which can offer support to local residents. Thank you.

Rea Valley Foodbank 07902 794653

Food parcels available locally in Minsterley and Pontesbury. Referral needed.

Rea Valley Transport Scheme 07468 115939

Enabling residents to access medical appointments. Please give a minimum of a week's notice.

Community Good Neighbours, Rea Valley 07944 891953

Get in touch with a local Good Neighbour for a friendly chat, small errands and support to stay active and connected within the community.

Pontesbury Community and Care Co-ordinator 01743 790325

Helen Tazewell can give assistance to patients of all ages in need of help, support and advice by signposting to other useful services. She works Monday and Wednesday locally.

Healthy Shropshire 0345 678 9025

Shropshire Council telephone line for information and advice on a healthy lifestyle, including smoking, alcohol, weight, exercise and other matters.

Shrewsbury Food Hub Shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk

Surplus food share tables across Shrewsbury. See Facebook page for venue details.

Shrewsbury "foodbank PLUS" 07421 745857

Food parcels, debt advice, returning to work, digital Inclusion, life skills. Referral needed.

Citizens Advice Shropshire 0344 499 1100

Confidential advice and help to solve problems with debt, benefits, housing, legal matters & employment.

Need help claiming Universal Credit? Call their dedicated Help to Claim helpline, 0800 144 8444

Keep Shropshire Warm 0800 112 3743

Advice and grants for people struggling with heating and energy bills.

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin 01743 233123

Confidential advice for older people, their families and carers.

Shropshire Council Housing Support 0345 678 9005

Support on all housing matters particularly rentals and homelessness.

Shropshire Mental Health Support 01743 368647

Mental health support.

Shropshire Recovery Partnership 01743 294700

Drugs and alcohol support.

Shropshire Rural Support 0300 123 2825

Confidential support during periods of anxiety and stress, and with problems relating to family and business. Website: shropshireruralsupport.org.uk.

Samaritans 116 123

Free 24/7 confidential support whatever you are going through.

Shropshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 0300 303 1191

Support for anyone suffering domestic violence.

West Mercia Women's Aid 0800 783 1359

24hr helpline for women and children suffering from domestic violence.

Shropshire Carers' Support Service 01743 341995

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Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund

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scan the QR code or call 01743-254740 for more details



applications are invited for projects to start in spring 2026



Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund - open until mid-February

The Fund is a small grant pot, administered by the Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust, to support projects which help to:

- Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, landscape, wildlife or heritage of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape.
- Deliver educational and awareness-raising activities relating to the area and its conservation, especially involving young people.

The Fund is open for applications. It is aimed at community groups, and grants range from £500 up to £2,000. If you have an idea for a project please complete the short project idea form on our website. We will then contact you and recommend whether your project should progress to full application. The deadline is 13th February 2026.

Visit our website for more information or contact Steph Hayes from the Shropshire Hills National Landscape team (01743 254746) or email stephanie.hayes@shropshire.gov.uk.

Questions you might ask

Question - My operation was cancelled at the last minute by a phone call on the morning I was supposed to attend. What are my rights around such a cancellation?

Answer - If the hospital or service cancels your operation at the last minute and for non-clinical reasons, (e.g. lack of staff, beds, admin error, etc.) they should offer another binding date within 28 days or fund your treatment at a date and hospital of your choice. If you're not offered an appointment within 28 days, you should complain to your local ICB. (Integrated Care Board).

If your operation is cancelled before the day of admission, the hospital or service is not obliged to provide an alternative option within 28 days. However, your right to start consultant-led treatment within a maximum waiting time still stands. If cancelling your appointment results in you having to wait longer, you have the right to ask the hospital or ICB to move you to a different provider.

Angela Gifford
www.ablecommunitycare.com



REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

Annual Public Meeting

Thursday 22nd January 2026



Habberley Village Hall
7-9pm (Doors open 6:45pm)
Refreshments provided.



Join us in a celebration of our wildlife discoveries in 2025 in the Rea Valley area and see our plans for 2026

Incorporates a short session on RVCWG official business.

**Including a Swift talk
by Julie Cowley, SOS Swift Species Champion**



Everyone welcome - you don't need to be a member of the RVCWG to attend

More information email: reavalleycwg@gmail.com

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WEEKLY EVENTS

	<h2>MONDAY</h2> <p>YOUTH CAFE (term time) 3.30 - 5pm Years 7 - 10 activities snacks free Wi-Fi music Contact Joe on 07387 578230 for more information</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY 7 - 8pm Group meets every two weeks. For information contact Greg Smith 07902 794653</p>
	<h2>TUESDAY</h2> <p>REA VALLEY FOODBANK 10am - 12pm For information contact Greg Smith 07902 794653 or go to www.reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk</p> <p>ICTHUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP 2.30 - 4.30pm 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. For information contact PApontstip@outlook.com</p>
	<h2>WEDNESDAY</h2> <p>COFFEE HUB 10am - 12pm</p> <p>A drop-in community cafe where everyone is welcome. FREE tea and coffee cake and biscuits chat and companionship</p>
	<h2>THURSDAY</h2> <p>TRINITY TOTS (term time) 10am - 11.30pm</p> <p>A pre-school drop-in group for under 5s with their parents or carers. Activities crafts toys stories songs snacks</p>

ALL OUR WEEKLY GROUPS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE

For more details about these events please visit
www.stiperstoneschurch.org.uk or follow us on **Facebook** (scan the QR code)





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Notes (SCH - School Days Only)	Monday to Friday							Saturday																				
								SCH																				
BUS STATION, Stand N	07:35	08:10	08:50	09:05	10:25	11:00	12:00	12:30	13:30	14:00	14:35	15:45	16:25	17:00	17:40	18:10	08:00	08:35	10:05	10:45	12:30	13:45	14:45	15:40	17:00	17:40		
Copthorne Rd, opp Barracks	07:42	08:17	08:57	10:12	10:32	11:07	12:07	12:37	13:37	14:07	14:42	15:52	16:32	16:32	17:07	17:47	18:17	08:07	08:42	10:12	10:52	12:37	13:52	14:52	15:47	17:07	17:47	
Shrewsbury Hospital			09:02	10:17	10:37	12:12	12:42	13:42	14:12	15:57	16:37	17:12	17:52		08:12	08:47	10:17	10:57	12:42	13:57	14:57	15:52	17:12	17:52				
Radbrook, Oakfield Rd Jct	07:47	08:22			11:12				14:47		16:37		18:22															
Hanwood, Canadoc View Jct	07:52	08:27	09:07	10:22	10:42	11:17	12:17	12:47	13:47	14:17	14:52	16:02	16:42	16:42	17:17	17:57	18:27	08:17	08:52	10:22	11:02	12:47	14:02	15:02	15:57	17:17	17:57	
Hanwood, Cock Inn	07:54	08:29	09:09	10:24	10:44	11:19	12:19	12:49	13:49	14:19	14:54	16:04	16:44	16:44	17:19	17:59	18:29	08:19	08:54	10:24	11:04	12:49	14:04	15:04	15:59	17:19	17:59	
Lea Cross, adj Jct	07:57	08:32	09:12	10:27	10:47	11:22	12:22	12:52	13:52	14:22	14:57	16:07	16:47	16:47	17:22	18:02	18:32	08:22	08:57	10:27	11:07	12:47	14:02	15:02	15:57	17:17	17:57	
Mary Webb SH	08:38																											
Pontesbury, opp Shop	08:03	08:38	09:18	10:33	10:53	11:28	12:28	12:58	13:58	14:28	15:03	16:13	16:53	16:53	17:28	18:08	18:38	08:28	09:03	10:33	11:13	12:53	14:13	15:13	16:08	17:28	18:08	
Minsterley, adj crown & sceptre	08:07	08:42	09:22	10:37	10:57	11:32	12:32	13:02	14:02	14:32	15:07	16:17	16:57	16:57	17:32	18:12	18:42	08:32	09:07	10:37	11:17	13:02	14:17	15:17	16:12	17:32	18:12	
Plax Green, Crossroads	08:09				10:39	10:59	11:34	12:34	13:04	14:04	14:34	16:19	16:59	16:59	18:14	18:44	08:34	09:09	10:39	11:21	13:04	14:19	15:19	16:16	17:38	18:14		
Shalcombe, Village Hall					11:01				14:05		16:21		17:01		18:46		09:12				14:21				17:40			
Stiperstones, adj Pub					11:05				14:10		16:26		17:05		18:50		09:15				14:25				17:45			
Hope	08:15		10:45		12:40		14:40		17:05		18:20		18:20		08:40		10:45			15:25				18:20				
Graves	08:19		10:49		12:44		14:44		17:09		18:24		08:44		10:49			15:29				18:24						
White Grit, Jct	08:23		10:53		12:48		14:48		17:13		18:28		08:48		10:53			15:33				18:28						
Llan Tum Jct	08:27		10:57		12:52		14:52		17:17		18:32		08:52		10:57			15:37				18:32						
Lydbham Glebe Meadow Jct	08:31		11:01		12:56		14:56		17:21		18:36		08:56		11:01			15:41				18:36						
Bishops Castle Salop Street, [pt]	08:33		11:03		12:58		14:58		17:23		18:38		08:58		11:03			15:43				18:38						
Bishops Castle, adj Boars Head	08:35		11:05		13:00		15:00		17:25		18:40		09:00		11:05			15:45				18:40						

From September 2024



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Burns Night

Traditional two course haggis meal with music, quiz, verse and dancing

Saturday 24th January 2026

Hope Village Hall SY5 0JB

7:00 pm



Tickets available on the website below, from Alistair on 07532 685368 (leave a message) and at Hope Village Hall on selected Wednesday lunchtimes.



**£12 per person - Children £5
Vegetarian Haggis Option
Bring your own drinks**

For more information visit <https://hthope.church/store>



Minsterley Methodist Church



10am Sunday services in January

4 th January	Service will be led by members of the congregation
11 th January	Preacher – Rev Sheila MacInalley
18 th January	<u>10.30am</u> , Minsterley Praise at Holy Trinity Church including the annual Methodist Covenant Service. A wonderful service for those of all denominations and none to come together for praise, worship and companionship.
25 th January	Preacher – Mr Wes Morris

A warm welcome is extended to everyone who would like to come and join us at any of our services and for refreshments afterwards.

Sandra Lewis

St Lukes' church Snailbeach

Services for 2026

Book the dates now for the occasional services in Snailbeach:

15th March	9.00am	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion
5th April	9.00am	Easter Sunday Holy communion
3rd May	3.00pm	
12th July	3.00pm	(welcoming the new curate)
13th Sept	9.00am	Holy Communion
4th Oct	10.30am	Harvest joint service with Holy Trinity Minsterley followed by refreshments in the village hall
8th Nov	3.00pm	Remembrance service
25th Dec	9.00am	Christmas Day communion

Snailbeach Methodist Chapel

2.45pm Sunday services

4th January Rev Richard Hall
(with Holy Communion)

18th January Sheila MacInally

We meet in the schoolroom adjacent to the chapel. All are welcome to come.

Sue Priddey (01743 790913)

St George's Pontesbury and St Ruthen's Longden have been working in partnership over the last year to offer a service of meditation on the second Sunday of each month. This is just an hour to stop and reflect.

We listen to Taize music, keep silent and meditate, with nothing asked of you.

The next service is:

St George's Pontesbury
4pm Sunday 11th January

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