

# The Minsterley Parish Magazine

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



incorporating news from the Chirbury Hills benefice:  
**Marston, Corndon Marsh,  
Trellystan, Chirbury, Middleton, Leighton**





# Holy Trinity Church, Minsterley



**Rector:** Rev. Greg Smith  
(day off - Friday)  
The Deanery, Pontesbury  
07902 794653  
rectorpontstip@gmail.com

**Associate Minister:** Rev. Fran Brealey  
(days off - Mon, Fri, Sat)  
07982 324760  
revfran@btinternet.com

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(day off - Tuesday)  
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07922 830488  
richardlonsdale1@gmail.com

**Church Wardens**  
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Sarah Edwards 07971 984925

**Treasurer**  
Mike Bowen 07826 061054  
mintreasure@btinternet.com

## Church services this month

Sunday 1st	4.00pm	Tea-time service
Sunday 8th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	<b>10.00am</b>	Minsterley Praise - at Minsterley Methodist Church
Sunday 22nd	10.30am	Holy Communion

## Other events this month

Thu 5th	Knitter Natter (EVERY Thursday) (p21) Book talk "12 Churches" (p6) Eisteddfod closing date (p3)
Sat 7th	Coffee Morning (p11) Marvellous Mosses (p13)
Mon 9th	Crafty Monday (p21) Singing at Hillcrest
Tues 10th	Oasis meeting (p21) Ichthus Bible study (p15) Parish Council meeting (p11)
Tue 17th	The Gathering (p6)
Wed 18th	u3a open meeting (p18)
Sat 21st	Snowdrop Walk (p6)
Sun 22nd	Snowdrop Walk (p6)
Tue 24th	Oasis (p21) Ichthus Bible study (p15)

## 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!

The Minsterley Parish Magazine is published by Holy Trinity Church.

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

**Editor:** David Young      **Tel:** 01743 537081

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**To advertise:** see details on page 23

The year 2026 has been named a Year of Celebration in the Diocese of Hereford. It is 1350 years since the Diocese was founded in 676AD, under the leadership of Bishop Putta. The Diocese was then part of the ancient Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia, whose king had converted to Christianity 20 years previously.

So how might we celebrate this year, and what exactly are we celebrating? You can find plenty of events listed on the Diocesan website, including Celebration services at Hereford Cathedral and at St Laurence's Church, Ludlow. There will also be the opportunity to take part in pilgrimages in and around Leominster, Much Wenlock and the Golden Valley in Herefordshire, as we remember local saints Eadfrith, Milburga and Dyfrig. And at Hereford Cathedral from March to September there will be an exhibition of the Hereford Gospels, the oldest book in the Cathedral library, which dates from 800AD.

But the hope is that we will also find ways to mark the year locally, celebrating the people, places and faith of our own area. If someone came into our church, for a service or just to have a look round, what would they learn about its past and about the faith of the people who worship there today? How can we find ways to tell our story and the story of the people who have gone before us? Each church will have different answers to these questions, but each of our individual stories is worth telling, and forms part of the whole story of the Diocese, and of God's work in his world.

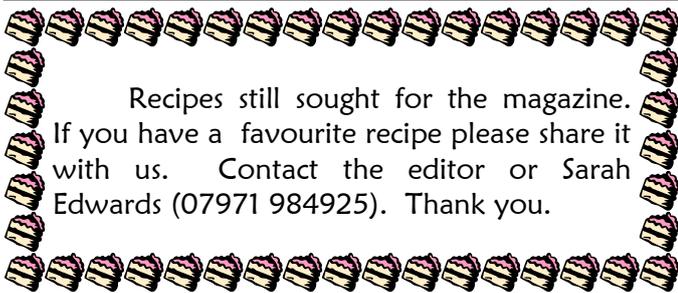
Celebrations – birthdays, anniversaries - are often a time both to look back and also to look forward. But we live in uncertain times, and it may be much easier to look back with thankfulness to the past, than to look forward with hope to the future.

The prophet Isaiah who lived in the most troubled of circumstances, wrote these words: 'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.'

I hesitate to disagree with the great prophet, yet I am fascinated by history and think that it is definitely something worth spending time studying (and often celebrating). Even so it is possible to become so nostalgic for what is past (perhaps especially the more recent past), that we fail to think about where God might be wanting us to go in the future. The prophet encouraged his people to notice what was going on around them, and to be attentive to God's actions in the here and now.

If we do the same in 2026, it will be different than it was for Bishop Putta or Saint Milburga, but it will be no less exciting!

**Rev Fran Brealey**



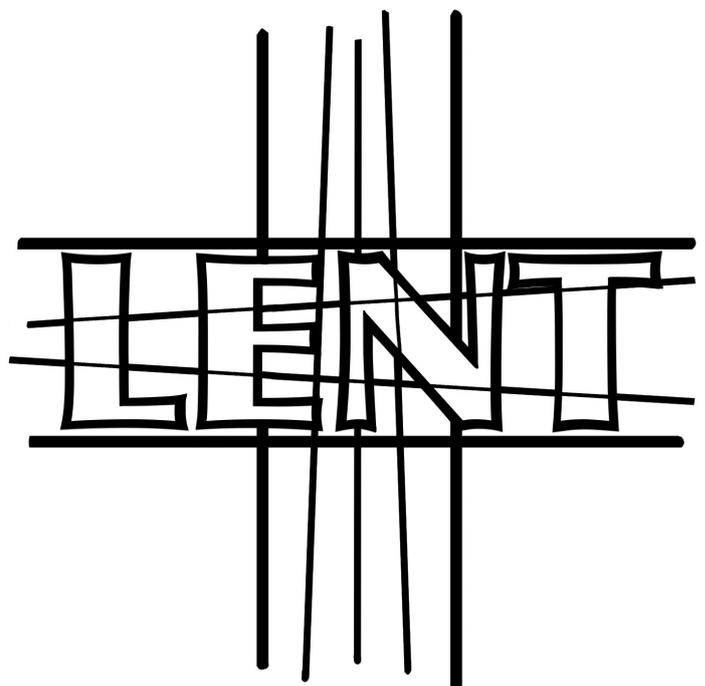
Recipes still sought for the magazine. If you have a favourite recipe please share it with us. Contact the editor or Sarah Edwards (07971 984925). Thank you.



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](http://minsterleyeisteddfod.com).

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



# Deanery of Pontesbury

Rural Dean: Rev Greg Smith

telephone: 07902 794653 • email: rectorpontstip@gmail.com

## So it's Lent; what's that all about then?

Stillness? Abstinence? Temptation? Exploring doubt? Well, yes, all of these – possibly. Certainly the last one - doubt; we should never think this is backsliding or sinful. Doubt is healthy. It broadens one's mind, it enables us to explore different perspectives which ultimately strengthens our faith. In doubt, we try to understand what we say we believe. Whereas fundamentalism comes from unhealthily closed mind sets, where there is no room for learning.

But what is Lent for? The Bible doesn't really tell us clearly, we all rely on the account of the 'forty day' period of Jesus in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil. And this is useful for us because we are introduced to a 'clever' devil who knows his scripture:

Shakespeare's Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice" famously quotes:  
*Mark you this, Bassanio, The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose. An evil soul producing holy witness is like a villain with a smiling cheek, a goodly apple rotten at the heart. Oh, what a goodly outside falsehood hath!*

We all know that both Lent and Advent are periods, provided for us, in which we can take spiritual refreshment, rather than earthly refreshment; take time out, reflect, anticipate and explore. Jesus reminded the devil that man needs more than just physical food to survive, quoting Scripture back to the devil.

So what if the temptation recorded in the Gospels is the Spirit of God leading and challenging Jesus (the fully human Jesus) to face the reality of his calling? In other words to go out into the chaos and bring man back to the garden of Eden.

What is clear from the account however, is that Jesus' temptations and struggles in the wilderness were about clarifying and deepening his life; the subsequent temptations and trials were for a beneficial purpose – not simply giving up wine or

food for the challenge of a dry month or a detox.

This life discipline becomes a pattern for Jesus, before or after every significant event throughout the gospel narrative he 'withdraws' to a lonely place, often described as a mountain. He even takes leave of his trusted friends and goes alone, simply to be; not to do anything.

God loves it when we withdraw and spend time in his presence; he loves the times when we don't fill the silence with words of prayer. In his poem 'Emerging', the Welsh poet R. S. Thomas wrestles with this thought:

*I would have knelt long, wrestling with you,  
wearing you down.  
Hear my prayer Lord, hear my prayer.*

*It begins to appear this is not what prayer is about.*

*It is the annihilation of difference,  
the consciousness of myself in you,  
of you in me...*

So Lent... what is it about? Well for everyone maybe it is something different. But why not try to 'withdraw', even for a short moment in our long journey through Golgotha towards Easter Sunday? Do you know, for me in my younger Christian walk I never really understood the 'Stations of the Cross' that one sees in Roman churches; but how I would love them around one of our churches, simply to help us focus and reflect on this incredible journey, to sit and ponder; not to try and explain or understand but simply just 'be'.

*Blessed are You, LORD of all. Through Your Goodness You bless us in so many ways and your Word reminds us of your marvellous deeds. It is in our spending time in prayerful reflection that we begin to know you and the calling you have given us. As we make our journey into the wilderness of Lent over the course of the next weeks, help us to dedicate ourselves to deepening this relationship which you have offered through Jesus' death and resurrection.*

Rev David Moss  
Westbury

Deanery News editor: Ann Jones ([annmorganjones456@gmail.com](mailto:annmorganjones456@gmail.com))  
Copy to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> of previous month please.

## *World News . . . .*

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

### **Afghanistan – Church continues to grow despite persecution**

Even in the darkest corners of the earth, there is cause for praising our Saviour and prayer that His light will shine ever brighter. A Barnabas Aid contact has reported that the Gospel is continuing to spread in Afghanistan, despite fierce persecution.

In 2025, “more than 50 people were baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”, said Pastor “Ali”, a church leader working in great secrecy. “Remarkably, every one of them is under 30 years old,” he added, “and more than 70% are in their early 20s or younger. This rising generation is desperate for truth, for hope, for a God who is living and real.”

Followers of Jesus are at constant risk in Afghanistan, both from the Taliban authorities and from extremists within the Muslim-majority population.

Sharia (Islamic law) is strictly enforced by the Taliban who, on their return to power in 2021, warned Christians that they had three choices: leave, reconvert to Islam or face death. The overwhelming majority of believers were first - or second - generation converts from Islam, viewed under sharia as apostates who should be executed.

“Despite the risks, small groups of believers are gathering regularly for prayer, worship and Bible study,” Ali said. “These fellowships are lifelines of hope, where men and women are encouraged in their faith, equipped in the Word, and reminded that they are not alone. Each new gathering is a testimony that Christ’s Church is alive and growing, even in the hardest soil.”

### **Mozambique – More Christians killed as insurgency spreads in northern provinces**

Islamic State Mozambique (IS-M) claimed the killing of at least 25 Christians in November 2025 as the insurgency waged by the group since 2017 continued. At the time of writing there is no indication of an end to these killings.

In one social media post at the end of November, IS-M boasted that “the soldiers of the caliphate” had “captured three Christians” in Ancuabe District, Cabo Delgado Province, “and slaughtered them, praise be to God.”

In October the group shared videos of its fighters preaching in mosques as part of a raid into Mocímboa da Praia, a port town in the north-east of the province that was held by IS-M from August 2020 until August 2021. The fighters raised an Islamic State (IS, ISIS, ISIL, Daesh) flag in the mosque. They denied being “criminals” but declared that they were fighting to set up an Islamic state.

The violence has now increasingly spread southwards into the neighbouring province of Nampula. In late November at least six Christians were killed in four IS-M attacks in Nampula. In a fifth no casualties were reported, but the Islamists claimed to have burned down two church buildings and 63 homes.

In labelling the attack as “one of the most destructive IS-M operations in recent months”, a researcher from the Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium said, “For a rural community in Nampula Province, the loss of two churches and so many homes represents not only immediate displacement, but the collapse of social cohesion and long-term economic survival.”

Marriage is like twirling a baton, turning handsprings, or eating with chopsticks; it looks so easy till you try it.

- *Helen Rowland*

What woman, however old, has not the bridal favours and raiment stowed away, and packed in lavender, in the inmost cupboards of her heart?

- *William M Thackeray*

Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction.

- *Antoine De Saint-Exupery*

Oh, if it be to choose and call thee mine,  
Love, thou art every day my Valentine!

- *Thomas Hood*

# Snowdrop Walk



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2026

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# 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 from 7.00 p.m.** | **Tues 17th February, 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



**Rev Fergus Butler-Gallie**  
talking on his new book

With his trademark reverence and revelry, The Revd. Fergus Butler-Gallie travels through time and place to get to the heart of the religion he is so passionate about.

Twelve Churches is a quest for a new people's history of Christianity, told through the stories of twelve churches scattered across the globe. Through a patchwork of interlinking and varied human stories, Butler-Gallie takes us on a physical and historical journey, exploring the role of hope, faith and beauty in Christianity, but also its fraught relationships with sex, violence and power.

The story of Christianity is, he shows, the story of our modern world: it's a story of who we should be, as well who we sometimes are.

FREE ENTRY - BOOK SIGNING - LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

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 **5 February, 2026**  
7:00 PM

 **St George's Church**  
Pontesbury SY5 0PP

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[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10689](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10689)



Holy Trinity Church

HTM

# FEBRUARY SERVICES

10.30am

1st February	Tea Time Church (4pm)
8th February	Holy Communion
15th February	Minsterley Praise (10am)
	at Minsterley Methodist Church
22nd February	Holy Communion

Contact Rev'd Greg Smith  
rectorpontstip@gmail.com  
07902794653  
[www.stiperstoneschurches.org.uk](http://www.stiperstoneschurches.org.uk)



SCAN ME

## Twelve Churches: an unlikely history of the buildings that made Christianity

Rev Butler-Gallie will be at St George's Church, Pontesbury on Thursday 5th February at 7pm to give a talk about his book, *Twelve Churches: an unlikely history of the buildings that made Christianity*, and the thoughts behind it.

With his trademark reverence and revelry, Fergus Butler-Gallie travels through time and place to get to the heart of the religion he is so passionate about. In this book, *Twelve Churches*, he takes us from Bethlehem and the birth of Christ some 2000 years ago to the immediate present and future of Christianity. He brings together a Baptist Church in the segregationist American South with a medieval monastery in the heart of the Greek countryside; the Vatican - beautiful, imposing, vainglorious, the seat of Catholicism - with a sparse, tiny private church above the rocky coastline of Southern Japan.

It is a quest for a new people's history of Christianity, told through the stories of twelve churches scattered across the globe. Through a patchwork of interlinking and varied human stories, Butler-Gallie takes us on a physical and historical journey, exploring the role of hope, faith and beauty in Christianity, but also its fraught relationships with sex, violence and power. The story of Christianity is, he shows, the story of our modern world: it's a story of who we should be, as well who we sometimes are.

[see advert on previous page]



...er... apart from this little hiccup... it was an excellent church pancake supper...



### Thank you for bringing some Christmas cheer

Thanks to all the local support the Foodbank has received we were able to bring some Christmas cheer to local people in need. We really appreciate all those who donated items and Christmas Extras, and local groups giving us their collections and raffle proceeds. It is very generous and does make such a difference. This year the Foodbank ran Christmas Extra sessions where people could choose what they needed, rather than a prepared parcel. 41 households benefitted, with 32 receiving vouchers for use at Smith's Butchers, The Flower Shop and Hignett's. We also had some new people referred, and we hope they will return during the year.

**Word of mouth** has proved one of the most successful ways of people knowing about our service. Please do tell others about Foodbank and encourage them to come. You can contact us on their behalf and come along with them on their Foodbank visit. Our volunteers are friendly and non-judgmental, and people are welcome to stay for a hot drink and a chat. Taking the first step is often the hardest so please do try us as we know there are more people out there who could benefit from some basics.

**Please keep donating** in-date tinned and packaged food, toiletries, and cleaning products. All donations are very welcome, it is especially helpful if you can check our "Items in Need" on our website <https://reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk/donating/>. Drop them off at Pontesbury Co-op, Longden Village Stores or your local church.

**To use the Foodbank or find out more** call for a chat with Rev Greg Smith (07902 794653) or Rev Richard Lonsdale (07922 830488), or ask your local clergy, GP, school, nursery, social/health worker, housing provider or other support agency. See our website: <https://reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk/> or Facebook



Jean Garner

# Snailbeach WI

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(2pm Dec, & Jan)

For more information contact Sue:  
tel: 07375 463536  
e-mail: [suexjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:suexjohnson@gmail.com)



*...and yet the Church Mice still put it about  
that they were poor*

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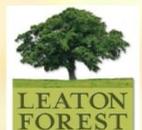
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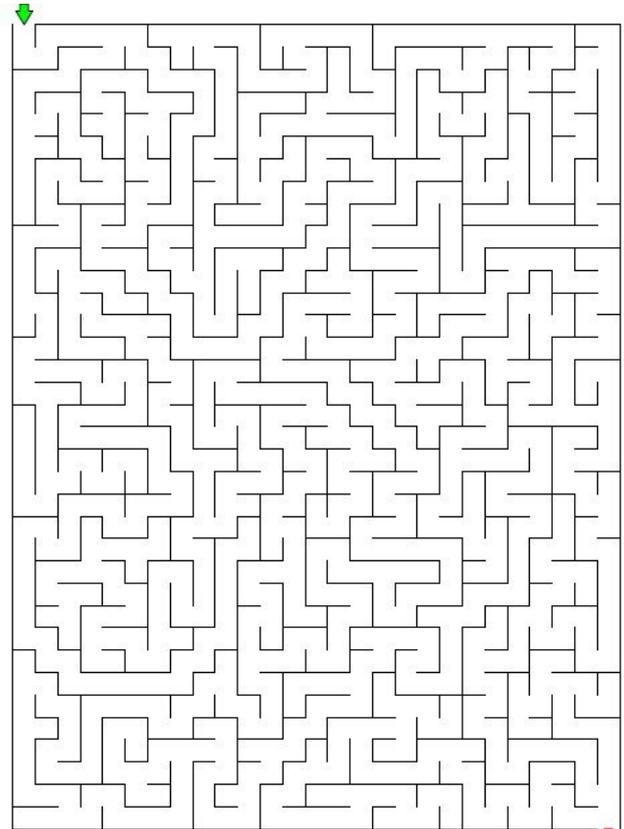
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# Puzzle Page

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4	1	6				7	9	5
				6				1
		3	1	8			4	6
2		7	4					
8	4							

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Adam was out walking with his sons Cain and Abel. As they passed by the ruins of the Garden of Eden, one of the boys asked, "Father, what's that place."

Adam replied, "Boys, that's where your mother ate us out of house and home."

- |           |            |              |
|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Candlemas | Baby       | Presentation |
| Forty     | Boy        | Described    |
| Days      | First      | Light        |
| After     | Public     | World        |
| Christmas | Appearance | Candles      |
| New       | Mary       | Lighting     |
| Testament | Jewish     | Early        |
| Important | Temple     |              |
| Age       | Festival   |              |

## The Presentation of Christ in the Temple; or Candlemas

Candlemas, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, comes exactly 40 days after Christmas. In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Luke 2: 22-40).

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day.



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## Minsterley Parish Council

The three parishes of the Rea Valley – Hanwood, Pontesbury and Minsterley - have agreed to work together as one Cluster Group to discuss and help deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for the area.

The bench seat, next to the bus shelter outside the village stores, has been removed for repairs.

Severn Trent's new Community Flooding Officer for Shropshire visited the parish to discuss his role during times of flooding.

The problems with storm water around The Park turn corner are still logged into the repair programme of Highways, Shropshire Council.

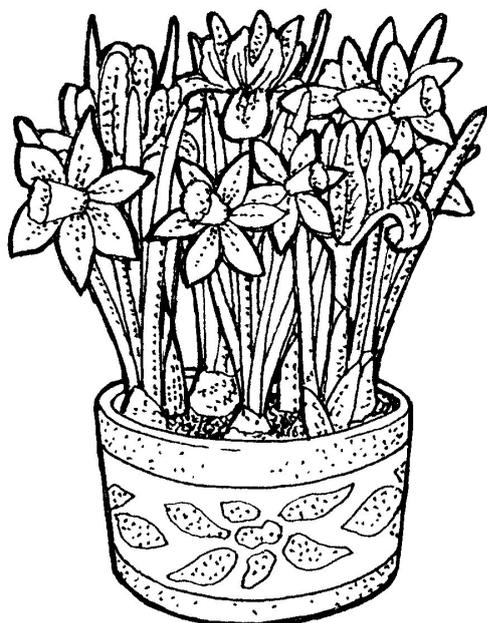
The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February in Minsterley Parish Hall.

**Geoff Rogers**  
**Chairman, Minsterley Parish Council**  
[www.minsterley.org.uk](http://www.minsterley.org.uk)

To contact the parish council, e-mail:  
[clerk@minsterley.org.uk](mailto:clerk@minsterley.org.uk)

### MINSTERLEY 59 CLUB WINNERS

Draw 51	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	No.36	Jean Courbet
Draw 52	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	No.49	Colin Edwards
Draw 53	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	No.14	Erin Hawkin
Draw 1	7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	No.12	Lynn Evans
Draw 2	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	No.23	Roy Jackson





everyone welcome

# COFFEE MORNING

## Saturday 7th February

10pm - 12pm  
at Holy Trinity  
Minsterley



coffee • cakes • raffle • prize quiz sheet

### Are you a quizzer?

Do you enjoy general knowledge quizzes?  
 Are you free on Friday evenings?

Minsterley Parish Hall has a team entered in the Shropshire Village Hall quiz league which takes place on Friday evenings from October to April every year. It is teams of 4 but due to circumstances we now only have 3 regular players so we are looking for another individual to make up the team.

There are three quizzes left this winter, on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February (in Minsterley) and then on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The March and April quizzes are further afield but we can provide transport. The evening with travel usually runs from about 6.30 to 10.00pm in the evening.

If you are free on all or any of these dates and would like more information or to take part please contact me on 01743 891985 or come along on the 6<sup>th</sup> February and see what the quiz is like. If we have more than one applicant we shall organise a rota of players.

Thank you,

**Alistair Bates**



# W·R·R Pugh & Son

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# WORLD DAY of PRAYER

prepared by  
Christian women in  
**NIGERIA**

*“I will give you rest”*

Matthew 11:28-30

**2.30pm Friday 6th March**  
**Pontesbury Congregational**  
**church**

Followed by refreshments

*Everyone is very welcome!*

**REA VALLEY  
COMMUNITY  
WILDLIFE  
GROUP**

**EVENTS : 2026**



Join other friendly members at one of our fantastic specialist events. Experts will be on hand to help us identify and understand what we are seeing.  
Free to attend but booking essential. Book via [reavalleycwg@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleycwg@gmail.com)  
Donations welcome.



**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Marvellous Mosses**  
(with Dan Wrench)  
**10am-1pm**  
Meet: Pontesford Hill Car Park



**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Wildflower Walk -**  
**Beechfield Dingle**  
**10am-1pm**  
Meet: Brockton



**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May**  
**Birdsong for**  
**Beginners- Nature's**  
**free concert**  
**9:30am-12:30**  
Meet: Pontesford Hill Car Park



**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May**  
**A morning with Great**  
**Crested Newts & Moths**  
**07:30am-09:30am**  
Meet: Habberley



**Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Evening Bat Walk**  
**9:15pm - dusk**  
Meet: Poles Coppice Car Park



**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Dragonfly Picnic (with**  
**Sue Rees Evans)**  
**10:30am-2pm**  
Meet: Habberley Village Hall



**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July**  
**Swift Talk & Walk**  
(with Julie Cowley)  
**8pm - dusk**  
Meet: Minsterley Village Hall



**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July**  
**Swift Walk**  
**9pm - dusk**  
Meet: Brockton



**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Bat & Moth Night**  
**8.30pm - dusk**  
Meet: Snailbeach Car Park



**Sun 25<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Fantastic Fungi (with**  
**Rob Rowe)**  
**10-1pm**  
Poles Coppice Car Park

**JOIN US TODAY!**

More Information  
[www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/](http://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/)



Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg](https://www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg)



## REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

**MARVELLOUS MOSSES - SATURDAY**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**



Join us as we shrink into the wonderful world of bryophytes!

Discover the intricate world of mosses and liverworts at an upcoming bryology event featuring expert bryologist **Dan Wrench**. This session offers a unique opportunity to explore the biodiversity of an often-overlooked species in their natural habitat.

**Meet: Pontesford Hill Car Park**  
**10am - 1pm**

This event is free, but donations are welcome

**Pre-booking is essential as spaces limited. email:**  
[reavalleycwg@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleycwg@gmail.com)



Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg](https://www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg)



More Information  
[www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/](http://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/)



**JOIN US TODAY!**

Email: [reavalleycwg@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleycwg@gmail.com)

Active and vibrant Whatsapp group also available

## REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

**MONTHLY WALKS : 2026**



Join our friendly Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group at our monthly local walks - providing an opportunity to discover local flora and fauna together.

**Free to attend and no booking required.**

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Stapeley Saunter  
Mitchell's Fold Car Park  
cabbages.update.quantity

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Snailbeach Woods Walkabout  
Snailbeach Car Park  
works.plenty.ecologist

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Mar**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Earls Hill Lope  
Pontesford Hill Car Park  
marginal.owns.transcribes

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Apr**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Gatten Yomp  
Gatten Daffodil Car Park  
hedge.scales.freshest

**Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Buxton Hill Stroll  
Viewpoint Car Park Tankerville  
games.cheeses.strongman

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Jun**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Minsterley Mooch  
On street, Minsterley  
mush.harsh.factories

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Jul**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Hinton Hike  
Station Road Car Park, Pontesbury  
irritated.swift.freedom

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Aug**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Pulverbatch Plod  
Pulverbatch Car Park  
wriggle.disbelief.housework

**Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Sep**  
**10am - 1pm**  
The Hollies Bimble  
Snailbeach Car Park  
works.plenty.ecologist

**Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Oct**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Hope Valley Amble  
Hope Valley Nature Reserve Car Park  
movements.ankle.logs

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Nov**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Eastridge Excursion  
Eastridge Wood Car Park  
buzzards.uniforms.swift

**Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Dec**  
**10am - 1pm**  
Stiperstones Stomp  
Stiperstones Inn Car Park  
foods.growup.overdone



Facebook  
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More Information  
[www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/](http://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/)



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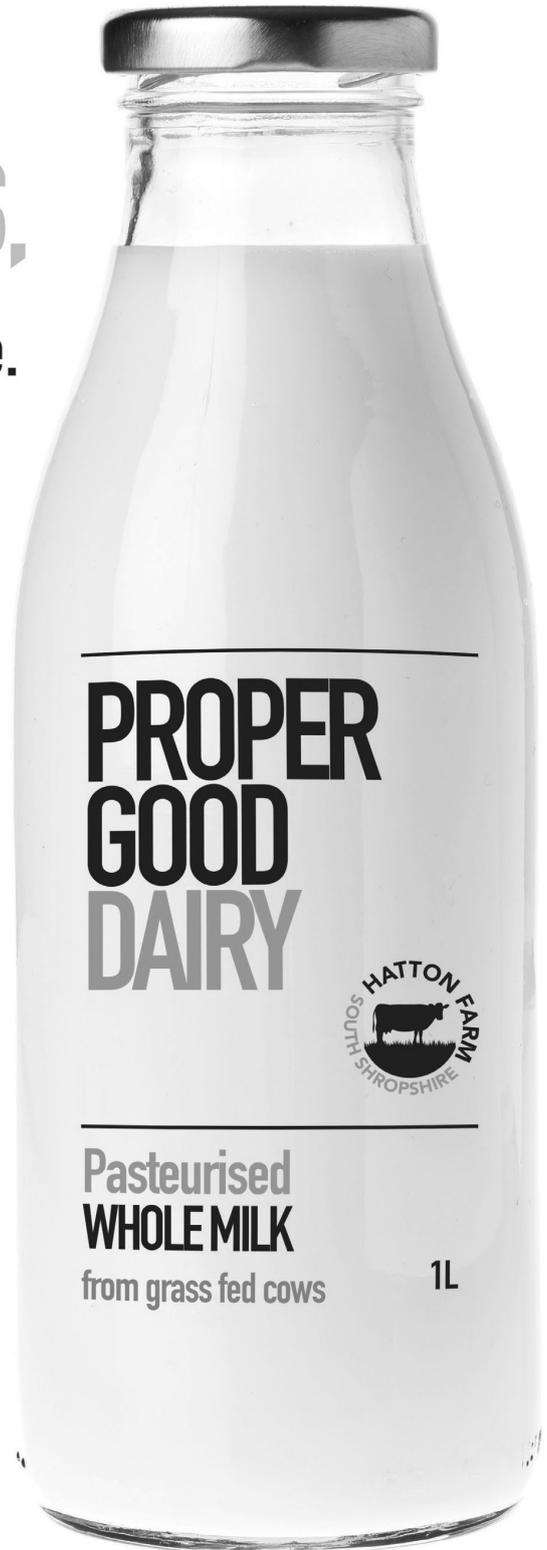
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each time.

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## Rea Valley Transport Scheme

The Rea Valley Transport Scheme is now fully operational, enabling residents of the area to access medical appointments including Pontesbury & Worthen surgeries, and Shrewsbury, Telford and Oswestry hospitals. The scheme also undertakes whenever we can to get people to opticians, dental and other wellbeing appointments e.g. support groups where possible.

Please note that the scheme is not set up to help with emergency appointments or to assist with other transport requests such as shopping.

Our drivers are all volunteers, but are insured, DBS checked and safely recruited. However, they are not medical professionals. Your driver will collect you from your home address and take you in good time for your appointment. To request transport, please contact our scheme administrator, Emma ([reavalleytransportscheme.info@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleytransportscheme.info@gmail.com)) or by calling 07468 115939. If possible, please give us a minimum of a week's notice of when and where your appointment is.

A teacher told her young class of children to try and draw the portrait of someone they knew. While they worked, she walked about, keeping an eye on their progress. One little girl was working diligently, and the teacher asked who she was drawing. The child replied: "I'm drawing God." The teacher protested that no one knows what God looks like. Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

*Here are the real-life answers from children:*

### How do you decide who to marry?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming.

- Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.

- Kirsten, age 10

### How can you tell if two people are married?

You have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids.- Derrick, age 8

### What do most people do on a date?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough.

- Lynnette, age 8

### How would you make a marriage work?

Always tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a train wreck - Ricky, age 10

**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**

February 10th	Brookfield Waterwheel	Matthew 17:1-9	2Peter 1:16-end	Exodus 24:12-end
February 24th	The Blessing Snailbeach	John 3:1-17	Psalm 121	Genesis 12:1-4a

## Bible Readings in church this month

1 <sup>st</sup> February	2 Samuel.15. 13-14,30;16.5-13	Psalm 3	Mark 5 v1-20
8 <sup>th</sup> February	Genesis 1. 1-2.3	Romans 8. 18-25	Matthew 6. 25-end
15 <sup>th</sup> February	Exodus 24.12-end	2 Peter 1. 16-end	Matthew 17.1-9
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Isaiah 58.1-12	Psalm 51. 1-18	Matthew 6. 1-6, 16-21
22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Genesis 2. 15-17; 3. 1-7	Romans 5. 12-19	Matthew 4.1-11

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## Services in the Chirbury Hills Group of Parishes

within the Deanery of Pontesbury and the Diocese of Hereford

	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 1st	10.00 am Morning Worship Kay Yeates		11.15 am Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale			6.00 pm Evening Prayer Fran Brealey
Sunday 8th	4.00 pm Evensong David Moss			9.00 am Holy Communion Stephen Griffiths	11.15 am Baptism Fran Brealey	
Sunday 15th		3.00 pm Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale	11.15 am Holy Communion Maxine Neal		10.00 am Family Worship Kay Yeates	
Ash Wed'day 18th			10.30 am Ruth Leigh			
Sunday 22nd	11.15 am Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale			9.00 am Holy Communion Richard Lonsdale		

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

THE CHIRBURY HILLS



GROUP OF PARISHES

### Chirbury Hills Benefice contacts

**Local Lay Minister:** Kay Yeates  
01938 561 640  
[km\\_yeates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:km_yeates@yahoo.co.uk)

**Lay Worship Leader:** Aster Meyer  
[aster.meyer@pm.me](mailto:aster.meyer@pm.me)

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

#### Churchwardens:

**St. Michael's Chirbury**  
Tony Sheppard 01938 561821

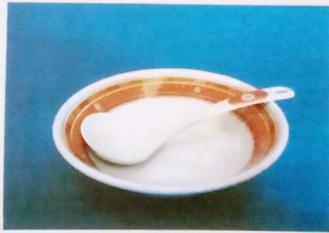
**St. Mark's Marton**  
Maureen Jenkins 01938 561645

**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

## Come to Lent Lunch

In Marton Village Hall  
On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, &  
March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Soup, Cheese & Biscuits, Tea & Coffee  
For just £ 7- 00  
12 -30pm for 1-00pm



All welcome

## February diary dates for Chirbury Hills Benefice

Please note the following:

The baptism at Middleton postponed from last month due to the weather will now be on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 11.15am.

Coffee and chat in Chirbury café will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>.

Messy church is on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am in Chirbury- see poster below

Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February; Ruth Leigh will be leading a service at St. Michael's Chirbury at 10.30am

Also on Ash Wednesday, Lent lunches begin at Marton Village Hall - see poster

Please support as many of these as possible.

THE CHIRBURY HILLS



GROUP OF PARISHES

## Messy Church

Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup>

10.30 to 12 noon

Chirbury Church

Come and join us for craft and activities on the theme of family love and friendship and hear the story of Ruth.

## CHARITY FRAUD

Fraudsters rely on the public's generosity in giving to charities and good causes and may claim to be fundraising by impersonating a genuine charity or have set up a fake charity. These may be very often tied into topical events in the world, such as natural disasters, or the many human problems around the world caused by war and conflict.

Criminals may use various methods including emails online, door to door collections or street collections for cash, or to get people to sign up to Direct Debit payments for a Charity. Whilst many may be genuine the public are advised to always be wary, and ensure you are not giving money to fraudsters.

Simple checks you can do include:

- Check the Charity name and Registration Number at <https://gov.uk/checkcharity>
- Check the Fundraising Regulator's online directory to make sure a charity is committed to good fundraising practice – see <https://gov.uk/checkcharity>
- If you still have doubts, then ask for more information as any genuine charity will be happy to give you more details.
- Any appeal should be clear on precisely what your donation will be used for.

Street and door to door collections:

- Collectors should always wear a visible and authentic ID badge
- Collection buckets should be securely sealed and undamaged; fundraising materials should always show the Charity name, registration number and a landline phone number
- If in doubt, ask them for more details

Online Charity Appeals

- Never click on links in emails and attachments, but visit the Charity's website yourself and check the Charity registration number.
- Never respond to unsolicited messages asking for personal and financial details.
- Beware of any advertising materials that just display a mobile telephone number.

- Never respond to requests for donations through a money transfer company.

So, only give to Online Fundraising pages from known and trusted sources, contact that charity direct if in doubt. If you still think the appeal is false, then report it to Action Fraud.

## SCAM FACEBOOK EMAILS

There have been a number of fake Facebook emails circulating recently, with a Subject line "suspicious activity has been detected" ( All in lower case). These are similar to the Instagram fake emails circulating earlier in the summer.

It will have come from a very lengthy, and obviously false email address and the message tells you that a new email address has been added to your Facebook account. It then urges you to open various links if you have not added any new email addresses.

Do not click on any of the links, nor the link to "Unsubscribe".

## If you have fallen for fraud . . .

report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via [actionfraud.police.uk](http://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](mailto: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 banks.

Dear All,

I hope you had a good Christmas and New Year. My report is about roads this month:

Winter gritting.

I've asked for this to be reviewed. The current scheme is outdated, and much of it fails to deliver a satisfactory service, particularly in rural areas. As we face a severe funding shortage, we will work closely with Towns and Parishes to utilize our resources as effectively as possible.

Road Repairs.

Some good news! In November the Department for Transport (DfT) announced Highways Infrastructure funding allocations for 2026/27 to 2029/30. The Council will receive £34.7m funding in 2026/27, increasing to £49.7m by 2029/30. We are already working on plans to make sure that this money is spent efficiently.

More good news.

The unnamed road from Rowley to Brockton will be closed from 26th March to 31st March for a thorough resurfacing scheme by Shropshire Council.

Shiregrove bridge A490.

The contractors did the core sampling just before Xmas. Unfortunately the survey has shown that the ground below the surface is basically very wet, hence the subsidence on both sides of the road. A new design scheme will be needed for the road back to a safe standard being drawn up. This and the repair should take about 4-6 months to deliver. I am also talking to Council Officers regarding the traffic management setup. Heavy-duty barriers may be installed so that people or vehicles can't move them, and residents can drive safely in the centre of the road. It will also stop the traffic lights from being tampered with.

Some failures in communication around the closure of the A488 in storm Goretti are being investigated with a view to making them more reliable for the future.

Best wishes,

**Heather Kidd**

Leader of Shropshire Council.

Local councillor for Chirbury and Worthen Division which includes Snailbeach, Hope & Shelve in our benefice.

# CHAIR YOGA

## WITH DEBBIE RIGBY

Strength begins with showing up

Join us for a gentle, relaxing Armchair Yoga session with Debbie, a qualified yoga instructor and retired nurse. Discover how yoga can harmonise body, mind, and spirit, improve flexibility and balance, and bring a sense of calm and wellbeing - all from the comfort of a chair! All welcome - no experience needed!



**OPEN MEETING**  
Members & non-members welcome

 **Wednesday**  
18 February 2026

 **Time**  
2.00 PM

 **Minsterley Parish Hall**  
A488, Minsterley, SY5 0EH

Free entrance  
Refreshments available  
 [pontesbury.u3asite.uk](http://pontesbury.u3asite.uk)

**learn, laugh, live**







At our next u3a meeting on **Wednesday 18th February 2026** at 2pm to Minsterley Parish Hall, we'll be welcoming **Debbie Rigby**, a qualified yoga instructor and retired nurse. Debbie will introduce us to **Chair Yoga** – a gentle and accessible way to enjoy the benefits of yoga while seated or using a chair for support.

Yoga means 'union' – it harmonises body, mind and spirit. Debbie will share a little about yoga's history and philosophy, then guide us through some simple movements and mindful breathing to ease tension and improve flexibility, balance, and relaxation.

A calm and enjoyable afternoon for everyone – no experience or special clothing needed! Participation is voluntary and not a requirement of attending

Following the session, refreshments will be provided, offering a chance to catch up or learn more about our u3a. **Members and Non-Members are welcome.**

Our u3a is part of a UK charity dedicated to bringing together individuals with a focus on those not in full-time employment for enjoyable learning or active experiences. We are local, friendly, and affordable, featuring over 25 interest groups covering a variety of activities, from history, literature and geology to walking, cycling, pickleball and table tennis ...

# CRAFTY MONDAYS

## CRAFT AND CHAT

2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
LOUNGE AREA

AT

MINSTERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

7 PM TO 9 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

LESLEY ON 01743-791045

OR SANDRA ON 01743-891861

OR

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## Answers

3	5	9	6	4	1	8	7	2
1	2	4	8	7	9	5	6	3
6	7	8	5	3	2	9	1	4
9	3	5	7	1	4	6	2	8
4	1	6	3	2	8	7	9	5
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2	6	7	4	5	3	1	8	9
8	4	1	2	9	6	3	5	7

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P	B	P	Y	O	D	E	I	B	P	N	N	M	G	



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Report online: [www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/)

**BISHOPS CASTLE & RURAL**  
Safer Neighbourhood Team  
(covers all our magazine area except Minsterley)

**SHREWSBURY RURAL WEST**  
Safer Neighbourhood team  
(covers Minsterley)

Twitter: [@SouthShropCops](https://twitter.com/SouthShropCops)  
Email: [bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)  
Facebook: [Bishops Castle Policing Team Rural Watch](#)

Twitter: [@ShrewsburyCops](https://twitter.com/ShrewsburyCops)  
Email: [shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 – 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026			
CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Burglary (dwelling)	Mid renovation property broken into via window, tools stolen	Rowley	Early hours of 14 <sup>th</sup> January
Assault		Brockton	
Harassment	On two occasions, animal blood has been placed on external door handles of property	Hemford	Occurred over the Christmas period
Allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in a public place	Dog has got loose and attacked victim's dog around the neck	Worthen	

## They Pose as Your Bank – Then send a ‘Courier’ to steal everything.....

Following a spate of Courier Frauds, we would like to remind people what Courier Fraud is and how you can stay safe.

Fraudsters are contacting members of the public claiming to be from the Police or in some cases your bank. They inform you that there has been a fraudulent payment made from your bank account, or that you need to withdraw large sums of money (both UK and foreign currency) or high value items such as watches or gold to help resolve the problem. They will then send a courier to collect the money/bank card or even ask you to transport the money to another location. This is known as 'courier fraud' and is one of the most common types of telephone fraud in Britain.

They will attempt to gain your trust by asking you to ring the Police/Bank back who will be able to offer further assistance; this makes the call seem genuine when in actual fact the fraudster keeps the line open so the victim is unknowingly reconnected to them. They are likely to ask you to clarify your full bank details including your PIN.

If you do receive such a call, end it immediately. If you are concerned that you have been the victim of a courier scam, we would recommend that you inform your bank immediately, not using the number the fraudsters provided but by using a trusted number such as on the reverse of your bank card. When doing this we recommend that you wait at least ten minutes if using the same landline you have received the call from, or by using a different phone.

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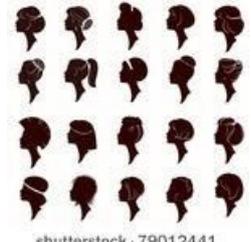
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*Appointments advisable: call 01743 792548 or drop in.*

## 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](http://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](http://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  
Wide range of support for unpaid carers.



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## Spring Messenger

As winter starts to draw to a close and the days are getting noticeably longer we all start to search for signs of spring. One of the first spring flowers is the Lesser Celandine. This little plant, often viewed as a garden weed, lights up our churchyards with bright, shiny yellow stars set off beautifully by the surrounding dark green heart-shaped leaves. An old name for Lesser Celandine was 'Spring Messenger' and, like the Snowdrop, it can lift the spirits with the message that spring is coming.

Another old name is Pilewort, suggesting that this plant was used to treat haemorrhoids. Richard Maybey in his Flora Britannica considers this prescription to have been due to the Doctrine of Signatures, a belief that similar shaped plants could cure specific ills. In the case of Lesser Celandine it is the knobbly tubers that were thought to resemble piles!

Lesser Celandine is a common plant which can spread fast and likes shady damp areas, but it is not fussy and can be found in grassland, at the base of walls or monuments, on banks, verges and along path edges and is always to be found within churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries. The cheerful yellow flowers can carpet the ground offering an important early nectar supply to emerging insects such as queen bumblebees, beetles and other pollinators.

Although small, the Lesser Celandine has attracted the attention of the famous. Wordsworth wrote three poems about it and the naturalist Gilbert White of Selborne in Hampshire recorded when he saw his first Lesser Celandine each year, the average date being the 21st February. This date has been known as Celandine Day since 1795. Now, due to climate change, the flowers can be seen earlier in the year with some coming into bloom in late January.

Enjoy the Lesser Celandine in February, its flowers and leaves both die back in late spring so please make a record of it using iNaturalist, as anyone looking at plants later in the year may not find any remaining traces of it so it can easily go unrecorded. Although a common plant it is an important one and one on which our early pollinators rely.

All the best,

**Harriet Carty**

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor

## Abuse. See it for what it is.

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If you've experienced or witnessed abuse, you have the right to report it. Whether or not to report is your choice.

You can report abuse to the police, but that's not your only option. There are other organisations that can listen, take your experiences seriously and help you get support.

For more information and advice, please follow the link <https://enough.campaign.gov.uk/> or search 'Enough Campaign'.



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# WEEKLY EVENTS



## MONDAY

### YOUTH CAFE (term time)

3.30 - 5pm

Years 7 - 10 | activities |  
snacks | free Wi-Fi | music  
Contact Joe on 07387 578230  
for more information

### BIBLE STUDY

7 - 8pm

Group meets every two weeks.  
For information contact Greg  
Smith 07902 794653



## TUESDAY

### REA VALLEY FOODBANK

10am - 12pm

For information contact Greg Smith  
07902 794653 or go to  
[www.reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk](http://www.reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk)

### ICTHUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

2.30 - 4.30pm

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each  
month. For information contact  
[PApontstip@outlook.com](mailto:PApontstip@outlook.com)



## WEDNESDAY

### COFFEE HUB

10am - 12pm

A drop-in community cafe where everyone is welcome.  
FREE tea and coffee | cake and biscuits | chat and companionship



## THURSDAY

### TRINITY TOTS (term time)

10am - 11.30pm

A pre-school drop-in group for under 5s with their parents or carers.  
Activities | crafts | toys | stories | songs | snacks

ALL OUR WEEKLY GROUPS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE

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









Henry is making a real effort for Lent – he's giving up the remote control and walking to the TV

## St Lukes' church Snailbeach

### Services for 2026

Book the dates now for the further occasional services in Snailbeach:

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

## Minsterley Methodist Church

### 10am Sunday services



1 <sup>st</sup> February.	Café Praise ... ...exploring the faith informally
8 <sup>th</sup> February.	Preacher – Mrs Helen Pearson
15 <sup>th</sup> February.	Minsterley Praise. Preacher – Rev Richard Hall
22 <sup>nd</sup> February.	Preacher – Rev Kim Stilwell. Service includes Holy Communion

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**

I am so busy at this present time I cannot do with less than four hours each day in the presence of God.

*- Martin Luther*

No man ever said, at the end of his days, 'I have read my Bible too much, I have thought of God too much, I have prayed too much, I have been too careful with my soul.'

*- J C Ryle*

It is dangerously possible for activity to be no more than a dizzy whirl around a central emptiness.

*- Anon*

## Snailbeach Methodist Chapel

### 2.45pm Sunday services

1st February	Dr. John Woolley.
15th February	Domini Lucas

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

**Sue Priddey (01743 790913)**

# Our partner churches in the Stiperstones Group —

## St Luke's Festival Church Snailbeach



St Luke's is a "Festival Church." Services are usually held on five festival days: Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas day. A few other services are planned too. See Stiperstones churches website.

**Next services:**

15th March 9.00am	Mothering Sunday
	Holy Communion with pots of flowers!
5th April 9.00am	Easter Sunday
	Holy communion

## St Mary's Parish Church Habberley

**Church Wardens** Pauline Stopford, The Kennels, Habberley (01743 790784)  
 Pearl Hannigan, 9 Yarlington Orchard, Pontesbury (01743 790495)

Sunday 8th Feb	5.00pm	Evensong
Sunday 22nd	5.00pm	Holy Communion



## Hope & Shelve Parish

(services at Holy Trinity Church Hope and All Saints' Church Shelve)

**Church Warden** Barbara Venables

Refreshments are served at all our services



**February 2026**

Sunday 1st	9.00am	Shelve	Holy Communion for Candlemas
Sunday 8th	9.00am	Hope	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	9.00am	Shelve	Worship Together
Ash Wed 18th	7.00pm	Pontesbury	Group service
Sunday 22nd	9.00am	Hope	Morning Prayer

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