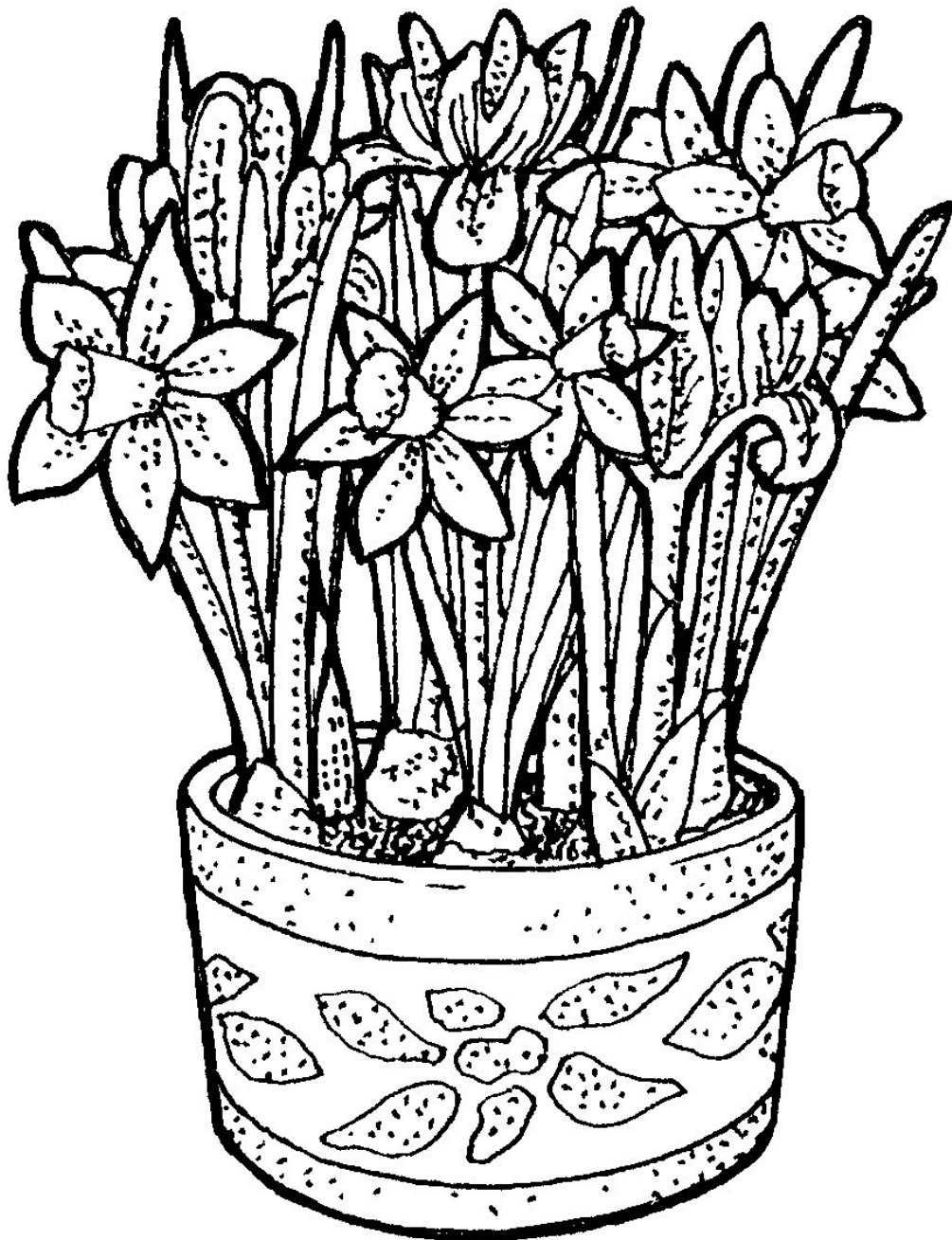


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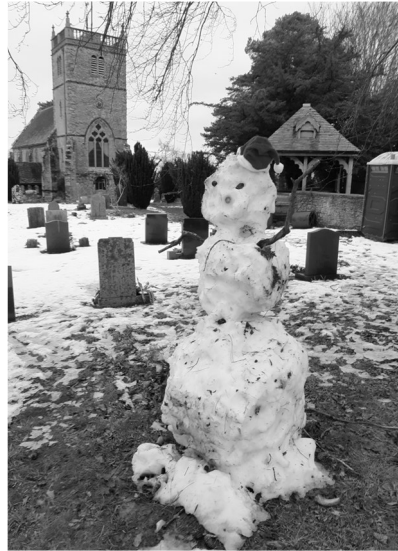
FORUM

February 2026



Serving Highley, Billingsley, Chelmarsh, Glazeley with Deuxhill

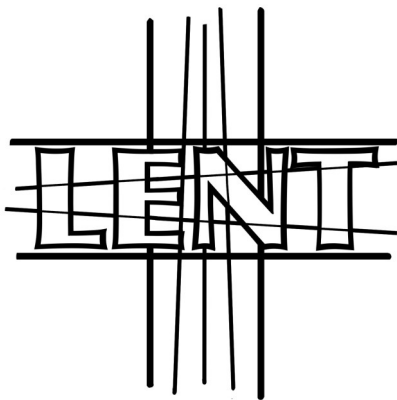
And then there was Snow!



Chelmarsh Churchyard in early January!

**Satisfied user from the first 2026
Repair Café on 10th January.**

**The next cafe is Saturday
14th March,
Highley Community School
10 – 1.00 pm.**



**Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which
this year falls on 18th February.**

**It's a time of abstinence and reflection
leading up to Holy Week, Good Friday
and then the joy of Easter Day.**

Don't forget to send your photos of any events which have taken place in and around the villages. Please make sure that you have permission from anyone in them and their agreement for the pictures to be published. - Ed.

Send to highleyforumeditor@gmail.com

Regular Contributions:

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The Highley Forum prints a wide range of articles (and welcomes your comments – some of which may be printed). The views expressed in these are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor or Management Board. The Editor(s) exercise their right to edit any articles (letters, etc.) submitted. for publication at their discretion without consulting the author. Decisions as to which articles to print remain with the Editor(s).

St. Mary's Church Shop	Parish Hall Office	Highley Forum
<p>The shop helps to raise donations to local, national and international causes. Re-saleable items are always welcome and bulky items can be collected</p> <p>Opening Hours</p> <p>Mon 10:00—12:00</p> <p>Tues 10:00—12:00</p> <p>Wed 10:00—12:00</p> <p>Thurs 10:00—12:00</p> <p>Fri 10:00—12:00, 14:00 - 16:00</p> <p>Sat 10:00—12:00</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to lack of space, we cannot take large items of furniture.</p>	<p>.01746 861242</p> <p>Parish Administrator - Maggie Ritchie</p> <p>The Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10am—12noon.</p> <p>For information about weddings, Baptisms (Christenings), child's Dedication, funerals or for general enquiries about church service times and parish information contact the Parish Office as above.</p>	<p>Please send correspondence to: highleyforumeditor@gmail.com</p> <p>For the attention of The Editor Reports and event details from groups or societies are welcome.</p> <p>Subscriptions</p> <p>If you would like to take out an annual subscription to the Highley Forum please contact the Editor to be added to one of our distribution rounds.</p> <p>Cost: £7 per year</p> <p>Advertising</p> <p>If you would like to advertise in the Forum please contact the Editor at highleyforumeditor@gmail.com</p>

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**The Severn Valley Group of Churches:**

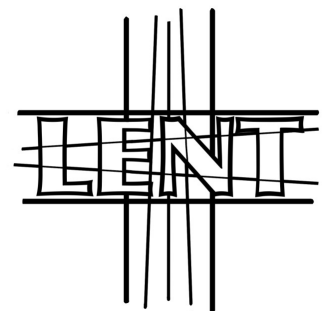
St. Mary, Highley
St. Mary, Billingsley
St. Peter, Chelmarsh
St. Bartholomew, Glazeley with Deuxhill

Are you Ready?

As we age do you find that time goes quicker or slower? It seemed to me that up until recently the years sped by but over the past few they seem to have slowed down. Whether this is anything to do with retirement or just that I am getting nearer to another big number birthday I don't know. And yet as we go through each year there are milestones that we remember and celebrate like anniversaries, birthdays, marriages and even the memories of those who have died, and they all seem to come round much quicker every year.

Many years ago, in 2007 to be exact, those in ministry here in Highley were given a laminated card which showed the dates of Ash Wednesday, Easter day, Ascension, Pentecost and the first Sunday of Advent up to the year 2030. It shows that Easter, for example, falls any time between the 27th of March and 24th of April. So last year Advent ended on the 23rd of December and Lent begins this year on the 22nd of February, so just over 8 weeks between the two periods of preparation and reflection before significant Christian celebrations. It seems that in no time at all we will be commemorating the death and resurrection of Christ.

For much of the society we live in today Christmas is the most important reason to celebrate a Christian festival - for all the parties and presents; then Easter because firstly, it's spring and secondly, there are Easter eggs and bunnies to buy. It seems that the whole reason for the frivolities has dimmed in the nation's memory. Certainly, this is the case when Advent and Lent are considered. OK, there are those who give up chocolate or some other luxury during Lent but the real reason for this is to enable us to focus and reflect on Jesus as the gift from God, for the fact that he was born in Bethlehem and then gave his life at Calvary for us all; this being a far greater gift to us than the ones given in December.



Traditionally Lent is a time of fasting, (not just to lose weight), praying, and repenting, in other words spending quality time with God, taking advantage of a time to let the world do its own thing. Christ reminded his disciples that they shouldn't look gloomy when they fasted, (Matthew 6:16) so this is the example for us. Prayer is the way Christ conversed with his Father in the garden at Gethsemane during the most testing time of his ministry. Repentance is the chance to seek God's forgiveness for the things we have done wrong or failed to do, both those known and forgotten. Lent isn't a time to make us feel good about ourselves but rather one of sharing in a small way the suffering of Christ.

So, going back to the beginning and the question, “Are you ready?” - if you are asked this on the 23rd of December, it normally means ‘Have you bought your turkey and all your presents?’. For us during Lent it means ‘Are we ready to share in Christ’s suffering but then also the joy of the promises he made to all those who commit their lives to him and celebrate his resurrection at Easter’.

Keith Smith

Winnie the Pooh and Lent 2026

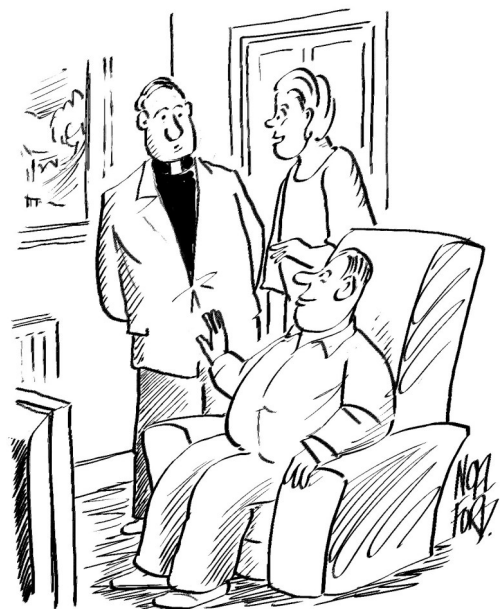
Remember the Winnie the Pooh stories? And Kanga’s insistence on Baby Roo’s taking his Strengthening Medicine? It’s ‘really quite a nice taste when you get used to it’, she explained, although I’m not convinced Baby Roo always agreed.

It can be helpful to think of Lent as a sort of medicine; an opportunity to strengthen us in the things that are good, rein in other facets of our personality and reset the compass to the true North of following Jesus. A Spring-clean of the soul, if you like.

Baby Roo (and Piglet on the one occasion he was subject to it) found Strengthening Medicine not to their liking, and we may groan inwardly at the thought of ‘giving up something for Lent’. Think of what lies behind this ‘giving up’. It’s so that we may be strengthened, our character refined, our prejudices examined, our junk thrown overboard, and we may come to Easter more fit to walk the way of the Cross and rise in new life with Jesus at His Resurrection.

Nor is Lent just a case of giving up chocolate. One year I gave up Facebook for Lent, having spent far too much time scrolling through it each day. It freed me to do other, more constructive things. And instead of giving up, why not take up something you’ve been meaning to do but never got round to; something life-affirming, something good for God.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on 18th February. Many Christians indicate publicly their intention to take Lent seriously by being ‘ashed’- the sign of the Cross made on the forehead in a mixture of ash and holy oil at a special service that day. Having been ashed, the intention of the 40 days of Lent is to maintain a steady course closer to God, symbolised by the giving up of something - maybe chocolate or alcohol, or even social media or watching TV - which has a hold on us or takes up a lot of our free time, money or energy. We walk with Jesus on the way to the Cross, mindful of the ‘riches of God’s kindness, forbearance and patience’ as St Paul has it, and mindful too of Jesus’ choice of the Cross as a way for us to enter those riches more fully. And to face the immensity of that sacrifice and the immensity of God’s riches made available to us in Jesus, we need all the Strengthening Medicine we can get!



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

Taken and adapted from Parish Pump February 2026

Highley St. Mary	Billingsley St. Mary	Chelmarsh St. Peter	Glazeley St. Bartholomew
Carl Hinkinson 07722 031585	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacant

St Mary's Highley

Sad news.

The Rev'd Rose Lawley died peacefully just after 9am on Sunday 11th January. Rose was a retired priest who came to live in Highley after her retirement. Rose came from the Black Country and did a number of jobs before answering the call to ministry. She was ordained in Lichfield Cathedral in 2003, initially as a non-stipendiary priest. After serving her curacy, she ministered in Kidderminster, eventually moving into full-time ministry as a parish priest and industrial chaplain. She was much loved and respected in Kidderminster and was made an honorary Canon of Worcester Cathedral in 2015. She was also a chaplain to the Royal British Legion, a service that gave her great satisfaction.



On retirement she and husband John moved to Highley, much to the delight of the Benefice who benefitted from her ministry. She helped our incumbent, Rev'd Mike Harris, as secretary to the PCC in Highley. After Mike's retirement, both myself and the Revd Val Smith were extremely grateful for the help and leadership she provided as we managed without an incumbent. She chaired Chelmarsh PCC and played a very significant role in guiding Highley PCC, as well as leading services. She retained her role at Chelmarsh after the arrival of our current incumbent, the Rev'd Kina Robertshaw.

Sadly Rose's ministry was cut short by motor neuron disease. Towards the end of her illness, I had the privilege of bringing her Holy Communion and keeping her informed of all that was happening in the benefice. Even at the very last communion I gave her, just a few days before she died, it was clear how pleased she was to see me. Perhaps she did not realise that she was ministering to me just as much as I was ministering to her.

Rest in peace, Rose, and rise in glory!

David Poyner, Assistant Curate, Severn Valley Benefice



From the registers:

Funerals	20.12.25	Mervyn John Phipson
	31.12.26	John Morris
	23.1.26	Josephine Ann Lewis
Baptism	11.1.26	Maxwell Terrell

Chelmarsh News

The Christmas services at Chelmarsh were well attended. On Saturday 14th December, at a crib service led by Glenys Williams and Sheila Bebb. We had seventeen people attend. Glenys and Sheila invited the children to view the nativity set whilst explaining the events that it shows. The next evening was the main village carol service. Seventy five people came to enjoy a traditional service of carols and Bible readings, with mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. Finally the midnight service on Christmas Eve attracted thirty five communicants.

The final 100 Club Draw of the year took place after the midnight service. The results are below:

No. 102	Terry Kenny	£100			
No. 80	Bill Yeomans	£50			
No. 23	John Roberts	£25	No. 120	Cathy Gill	£25
No. 22	Mary Lee	£25	No. 115	Jess Maiden - Billy	£25



This year the 100 Club has raised over £900 for the church. This is much needed income, as we have had to do safety work on tower and on trees in the churchyard. I will write more about the tower work next month; suffice it to say, it is now safe to walk under it again! We have been able to claim some of the costs of this back in grants, but we cannot do this for work to make the trees in the churchyard safe, which has run into several thousand pounds, so we much appreciate all those who support us financially.

Chelmarsh sadly lost one of our oldest inhabitants before Christmas, Avis Link from Woodcock Farm, Hampton Loade. Avis came from traditional yeoman stock and died shortly before her 90th birthday. We send condolences to daughter Anthea, grandson Robert and sister Sheila. After a cremation, a memorial service in Chelmarsh was attended by 65 people, where Robert and Anthea gave touching tributes. We left church to "Gallop Home" from Black Beauty and a blast on the hunting horn.

St Bartholomew's, Glazeley

As at our other services in the benefice, the Christmas showing at Glazeley was excellent, with 45 people attending our service on Sunday 21st December. This set a new record in recent times. The church was prepared a few days before when the loyal helpers were rewarded with Damson brandy and mince pies, as well as an impromptu recital of carols on the organ. Sadly, Rachael our organist on the occasion was ill for the service itself; the congregation coped resourcefully with music played over my computer. The assembled congregation much appreciated the new heating system installed in the church back in September. The service itself combined carols, Bible readings and Holy Communion. The quality of the wine attracted especial comment, but I feel it my duty to remind people that the service took place in Advent, which is a penitential season. After the service we were invited for refreshments at the Old Rectory by Laura and Andrew; a couple of glasses of mulled wine washed the taste of the communion away... After the service the Christmas Tree was donated to a local care home.



(continued on page 8)

St Mary's, Billingsley

Over Christmas we had two services at Billingsley. On Friday 19th we had our evening carol service. The church was beautifully decorated; I particularly liked the candle-lit path, which was also extremely useful in helping us find our way out after the service. We had a mixture of carols, Bible readings and poems, followed by mulled wine, mince pies and cake/biscuits. We had 25 people in the church, which was a very good turnout.



On Christmas Day we had a communion service at 10am. This again followed the format of carols and readings, with a brief celebration of communion. After the service, the congregation were treated to a celebratory Quality Street chocolate as an aperitif before heading off for Christmas Dinner. This time we had 17 worshippers; another very good congregation.

Compared to previous years, both services were made much more comfortable by the new under-pew heating that was recently installed. I am optimistic that in January, February and March, the glacier that normally greets me at the altar at the 8am communion service may have retreated and I no longer have to worry about losing fingers to frostbite.

For next year, we are looking at ways we might be able to attract more families with children to our services; Christmas is not just for adults...

Outside of services, at the end of November we were visited by Alex and his volunteers from Caring for God's Acre, to give the churchyard its late autumn trim. They much appreciated the Welsh Cakes provided by Ellen, as did your roving correspondent. In the spring we want to do some maintenance on the benches in the churchyard and ensure they are put in the best positions for visitors.

Looking ahead, we are also planning speakers and themes for the evening services, which take place from April to September. For June we have booked a speaker from the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, who have helped us and Glazeley with the new heating. We are also gathering material, especially photographs for a local history exhibition. If anyone has old photos of Billingsley and would allow us to copy them, please contact me (David Poyner).

Glazeley News Continued

The regular monthly breakfasts, at 9am at The Down, continue to go well, particularly as a way of bringing people together. All our welcome, whether a church-goer or not; the aim is to allow people to meet and talk to each other. Please contact myself (David Poyner), Sheila Millington (Chetton) or Marion Corfield (01746 764585, marion.corfield@talktalk.net) if you would like to come. The cost is £8 per person.

Whilst the church is open, we now are using wooden candle holders. The brass candle holders have recently been repaired by Lawrence Archer, whose skills with a soldering iron are much appreciated. When all the candles are lit, the effect is quite spectacular!

As I write, we have just had the first heavy snowfall of the year. Many thanks to all our local farmers and contractors who have been busy clearing the roads.

Historically, the Church of England has had its share of eccentric clergy. Even nowadays, hiding away in remote parishes, there are still some colourful clergy about. Clergy such as the elderly, Anglo-Catholic Uncle Eustace, who is incumbent in the small parish of St James-the-Least-of All, somewhere in Very Rural England. Eustace despairs of his nephew, Darren, who has become an Evangelical curate in a busy urban parish... and so he writes letters, to try and properly 'educate' Darren in parish life.

James the Least of All

The Rectory

St James the Least



My dear Darren,

On the Art of Drinking Well

You closed your last letter with the remark that it was time to retire to bed with a cup of cocoa. That may be all very well for the pious nature of a theological college - although a stiff whisky was always acceptable in my day - but it is not a style to continue once in the parish. I do feel obliged to give you a few hints about what should and should not be drunk in public as a parish priest.

Morning visits are to be discouraged, but if one is unavoidable, and you are invited to have a drink, then it has to be coffee. It is the only time of day when a mug is acceptable - provided, of course, that it is bone china or porcelain. In the afternoons one changes to tea, but only from cups. Blended varieties may be all very well for curates in their first year, but it should be Darjeeling for an incumbent. Fruit teas are for Quakers only.

If an inappropriate vessel is offered, then the drink should be accepted, but left untouched. Since the visit will be discussed in the finest detail throughout the parish the moment you have left, your host will soon learn why and not make the same error a second time. It is for the same reason that if you ever want to circulate a piece of news round the parish quickly, never put it in the parish magazine, just mention it casually during one of your visits. Everyone will know by teatime.

Alcoholic drinks must be carefully judged. A sherry - dry, naturally - is probably best if you are invited to lunch. In the early evening, a gin and tonic would be the drink of choice. To ask for whisky would indicate that you are about to go over to Rome, and a mineral water that you have your roots in non-conformity. Beer is never, ever drunk in someone's house unless you suffer from some personal tragedy, such as being the diocesan youth chaplain.

However, an occasional beer in the pub with the bell-ringers (who will be real ale fanatics to a man) or after choir practice - which seems to be the real purpose of holding practices anyway - or as a treat for the sacristan, will show you are a man of the people. It is some years since I visited the pub.

Understanding wine should be taught at every theological college as an essential part of the ministry. Develop a taste for claret, dear boy, and you will be starting your journey towards high office.

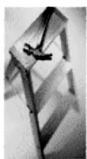
And perhaps you should give that tin of cocoa to the verger.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

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Letter from Westminster

On the last day of Parliament before Christmas, the Government published their Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement. I have been campaigning for more equitable funding, particularly due to concerns that the current settlement will result in higher council tax and reduced local services. As it stands, Shropshire Council is now set to face a significant reduction in government funding over the next three years, which will make it much more difficult to deliver basic services to residents. I was glad to have the opportunity to raise these concerns directly with Alison McGovern MP, Minister of State for Local Government and Homelessness. This is a principal priority of mine going into the new year, and I will keep piling on the pressure in Parliament to secure meaningful change.

My Shop Local campaign in 2025 saw nearly four and a half thousand constituents sharing their views on how to support our local high streets. I have listened to these views and laid out three campaigns that I believe will make a difference: I will be campaigning this year to secure free parking, to cut business costs, and to clean up our high streets. Working together with local community partners, I am excited to see what we can achieve. The recent changes to the Family Farm and Business Tax demonstrate what a difference it makes when the whole community gets behind one cause. In the Commons Chamber, I have thanked all the South Shropshire farmers and businesses for their tireless campaign and though more still needs to be done, I know from conversations with farmers across the constituency that the changes announced in December have come as a huge relief.

It is a great honour to serve as the UK's representative on the NATO-Ukraine Interparliamentary Council and through this role I am able to get a good idea of what needs to be done to bolster our national security. Our nation now faces multifaceted and serious threats, the likes of which have not been seen for decades. We are at a crossroads, where we can either continue down the path of decline in our armed forces or take the difficult decisions needed to ramp up spending and fund them in a way that responds appropriately to the nature of these threats. I have raised my serious concerns about committing to a deployment of UK troops in Ukraine if we do not have a clear strategy to fund and support our armed forces. I will be firing on all cylinders over the next few months to make sure MPs across the house are aware of the harsh reality of our current security situation. The changes that need to be made for the defence of the United Kingdom may be radical and, in some cases, unpopular in the short-term, but the outcome will be far worse if we simply refuse to confront them.

I have six priorities for South Shropshire in 2026. I will seek to unleash rural prosperity, which in practice will involve standing up for our high streets and campaigning for lower business rates. I will work to enhance public services alongside local partners, including raising support for our community hospitals. I will continue to champion our farmers. My work to support local communities will see me travelling across the constituency and fighting for our churches, village halls, leisure facilities, and post offices. I will protect our countryside against overdevelopment and continue working to improve water quality. Finally, I will invest in infrastructure, ensuring that our roads, transport networks, and community facilities get the funding they need. I and my team are going into 2026 with an ironclad commitment to my guiding principles - to listen, support, and deliver for all my constituents in South Shropshire.

Stuart Anderson MP Member of Parliament for South Shropshire
Tel: 01746 555025 Email: stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk
75a High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX



Highley Parish Council



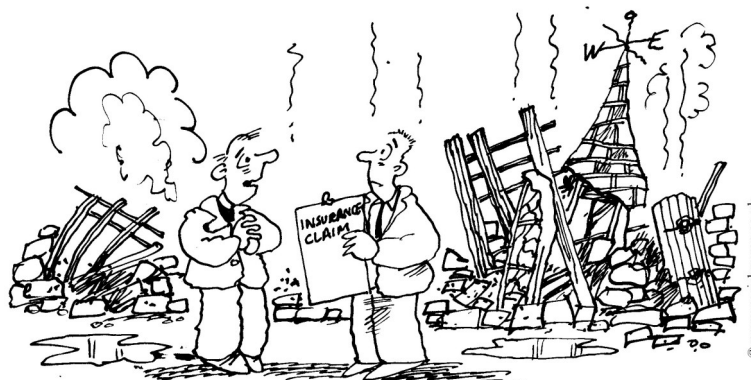
Following a fantastic Christmas and New Year it all felt a bit of a distant memory when Highley Parish Council convened for the first time in 2026 at the start of January. It was a relatively quiet meeting without too much to discuss but we did manage to successfully fill one of our two vacancies! I would like to warmly welcome Councillor Carly Whitehouse to the Parish Council. Carly is relatively new to Highley but she and her family have been involved in various aspects of village life including adopting the miner's wheel at the South end of the village and getting it looking lovely for Highley In Bloom.

As we enter a new year we have begun planning for something which will be with us before we know it - hanging baskets! Every year a significant amount of work goes on behind the scenes to arrange the purchase of the flowers for the hanging baskets, to get them put out to their various locations around the village and to ensure they stay watered throughout the summer season. Despite it feeling like summer is very far away we have already arranged everything we need to, so we can be sure the village will be looking its best when summer comes.

You may have seen in the news that Shropshire Council are looking to work more closely with Town and Parish Councils and we have been engaged in some productive discussions but we continue to find ourselves frustrated with a lot of processes, especially those related to road works and planning. We will continue to work with Shropshire Council to try and improve our working relationship including highlighting our frustrations to those at the top. We will see if it makes any difference but one thing I am certain of is we will continue to do our best for Highley and the people of Highley.

Tom Quinn

Chair – Highley Parish Council



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

Crossword Clues

Across

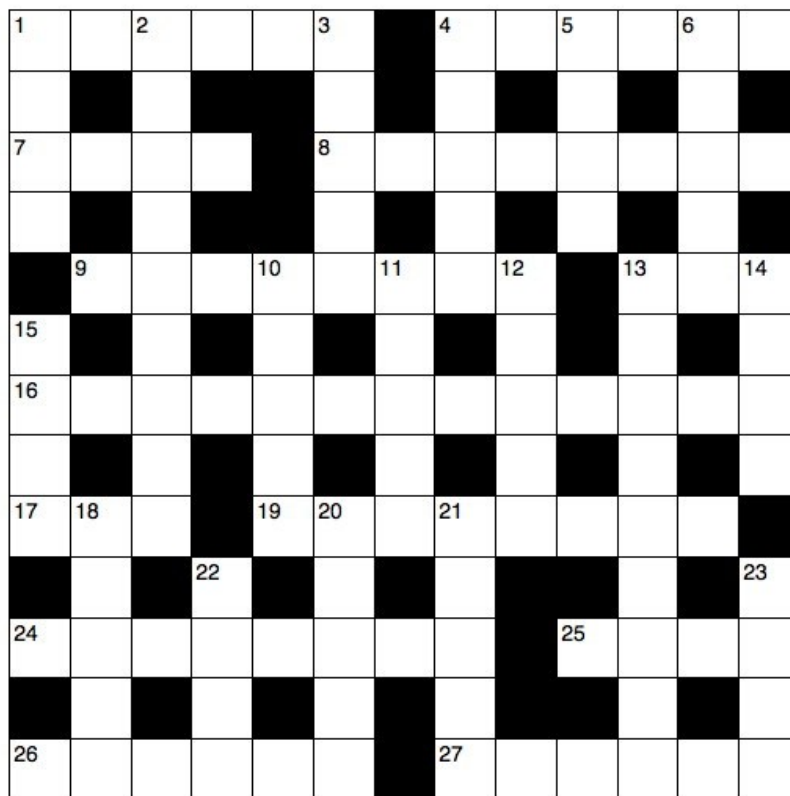
- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)
- 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)
- 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)
- 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)
- 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)
- 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)
- 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)
- 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)
- 19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1–2) (5,3)
- 24 Simon had (anag.) (8)
- 25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)
- 26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)
- 27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)

Down

- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)
- 2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)
- 3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)
- 4 Belief (5)
- 5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)
- 6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)
- 10 A seer (anag.) (5)
- 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
- 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
- 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
- 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of
- 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
- 15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)
- 18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)
- 20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)
- 21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)
- 22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)
- 23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)

Crossword

Answers on page 33



Have a go at Sudoku



Easy

Medium

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

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

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- Highley Table Tennis Club
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- Highley Police Station
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- Bridgnorth U3A Sessions

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Details correct at time of going to print - January 2025



Working together for the people of Highley



Most of us think of Sir Francis Drake as an important explorer, who circumnavigated the world in 1577. This prayer shows us a different side to that famous name.

Disturb us, Lord

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased
with ourselves,

When our dreams have come true

Because we have dreamed too little,

When we arrived safely

Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when

With the abundance of things we possess

We have lost our thirst

For the waters of life;

Having fallen in love with life,

We have ceased to dream of eternity

And in our efforts to build a new earth,

We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,

To venture on wider seas

Where storms will show your mastery;

Where losing sight of land,

We shall find the stars.

We ask You to push back

The horizons of our hopes;

And to push into the future

In strength, courage, hope, and love.

Attributed to Sir Francis Drake, 16th Century

UCB Word for Today

Believe God for greater things

You do not have, because you do not ask. James 4:2

Some people think we're not supposed to ask God for too much; otherwise, it's selfish. But God wants you to ask. 'You do not have because you do not ask.' If you're not asking – then you're not releasing your faith. Jesus said, 'According to your faith be it unto you' (Matthew 9:29 KJV). You need to learn to pray bold prayers and expect and believe God for greater things. 'Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations *for* Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth *for* Your possession' (Psalm 2:8 NKJV). That's a bold prayer! But if God tells you to pray it, it's because He is willing to answer it.

You may have a dream in your heart but don't see how it could ever happen. Jesus fed five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish. He is a God of multiplication. He can multiply your *time* and help you to get more done. He can multiply your *wisdom* and help you to make better decisions. He can multiply your *finances*: 'May He who supplies seed to the sower... multiply the seed you have sown' (2 Corinthians 9:10 NKJV). Instead of being satisfied with merely surviving, God wants you to thrive.

A survival mentality will keep you from God's best. Shake it off and say, 'God, you promised that what was meant for my harm, you would use to my advantage (see Romans 8:28). I may have been through the fire, the famine, and the flood, but I know it's my time of favour. It's my time to see more of your goodness in my life.' Believe God for greater things.

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Wordsearch



Candlemas, 2nd 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.

CANDLEMAS	FORTY	AFTER	DAYS	CHRISTMAS
AGE	BABY	NEW	TESTAMENT	IMPORTANT
PUBLIC	FIRST	MARY	APPEARANCE	BOY
PRESENTATION	JEWISH	FESTIVAL	TEMPLE	DESCRIBED
WORLD	CANDLES	LIGHTING	LIGHT	EARLY



March 2026 workshops
Come and have a go at a new craft
All workshops start at 1pm

- Friday 6th March - Miniature weatherproof gonk workshop – 2 hours - £10
- Saturday 7th March – Decoupage workshop – 1.5 hours - £10
- Friday 13th March – Trinket box workshop – 2 hours - £20
- Saturday 14th March – Shop closed SVR craft fayre in Highley
- Sunday 15th March – Shop closed SVR craft fayre in Highley
- Friday 22nd March – Butterfly workshop – 2.5 hours - £25
- Saturday 21st March – Light up fairy house workshop – 2.5 hours - £25
- Friday 27th March – Nature canvas workshop – 2.5 hours - £25
- Saturday 28th March – 10am Guest tutor Felting workshop – 3 hours - £35

All workshops are suitable for adults and children (children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Payment is required before the session to secure your place as these are limited to four people per session.

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All in the month of

300 years ago, on 20th Feb 1726 that William Prescott, an American colonel in American Revolutionary War was born. Famous for giving the order: "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes."

200 years ago, on 4th Feb 1826 that James Fenimore Cooper's historical romance novel *The Last of the Mohicans* was published.

175 years ago, on 1st Feb 1851 that novelist Mary Shelley died, aged 53. Best known for her Gothic novel *Frankenstein*.

125 years ago, on 2nd Feb 1901 that the funeral of Queen Victoria took place.

80 years ago, on 11th Feb 1946, that the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament was published. It was the first major English-language update of the Bible since the King James version was published in 1611.

Also 80 years ago, on 14th Feb 1946 that the Bank of England was nationalised.

Also 80 years ago, on 19th Feb 1946 that mathematician and cryptanalyst Alan Turing presented a detailed paper for the national Physical Laboratory that gave the first reasonably complete design of a stored-programme computer.

70 years ago, on 11th Feb 1956 that two members of the Cambridge spy ring, British diplomats Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, announced that they had defected to the Soviet Union. They had both vanished in mysterious circumstances in 1951.

65 years ago, on 9th Feb 1961 that the Beatles played at the Cavern Club in Liverpool for the first time.

50 years ago, on 11th Feb 1976 that John Curry won Britain's first-ever Olympic gold medal in figure skating.

Also 50 years ago, on 23rd Feb 1976 that artist the L S Lowry died. Known for his bleak industrial landscapes of north-west England, populated with matchstick men.

40 years ago, on 12th Feb 1986 that the Treaty of Canterbury was signed by Britain and France. It was the agreement to construct the Channel Tunnel linking the two countries. The tunnel opened in 1994.

30 years ago, on 1st Feb 1996 that US President Bill Clinton met Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams at the White House, to discuss the Northern Ireland Peace Process.

Also 30 years ago, on 15th Feb 1996 that the oil tanker Sea Empress ran aground near Milford Haven in Wales, causing a major oil spill along the coastlines of Wales and Ireland.

25 years ago, on 12th Feb 2001 that the Human Genome Project announced the publication of the first complete working draft of the human genome.

Also 25 years ago, on 19th Feb 2001 that the first case of foot-and-mouth disease in the 2001 UK outbreak was detected at an abattoir in Essex.

20 years ago, on 18th Feb 2006 that the Rolling Stones played the world's largest free rock concert on Copacabana beach, Rio de Janeiro. An estimated 2 million people attended.



Dave, Becky and Anthony Jennings



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Highley Companions

Well Highley Companions met for our first session of 2026 and what a lovely time we all had.

It was so lovely to welcome everyone when they came in through the door. Lovely smiles from everyone and look forward to seeing those who are still under the weather with colds coming along next time. It was cold and misty outside but everyone was nice and toasty inside.

We had a lovely time sharing our Christmas memories of bygone years. I started off as I have vivid memories of my sister and I hanging our stockings up - not fancy ones, probably our dad's. We had nuts, orange, sweets and a penny as well as a little toy. Our dad used to pretend he was talking to Father Christmas up the chimney and answering himself. A highlight was going to see Father Christmas in Grey's store at Dudley. We didn't have a lot of money but mom and dad gave us love and what they could. We travelled on the bus to Dudley, but dad always biked and left his bike at my aunty's to save money.

As I went round with the microphone nearly everyone joined in and it was lovely to hear similar stories of not only joy for the children but the hardship some of their families faced, in order to give their little ones something special. One of our ladies shared how difficult it was for her family, especially in the war years, not only at Christmas but other times as well. A great time of sharing and we followed this with a sing song with our resident band.

We had a lovely lunch of jacket potatoes with various fillings and cake with a game of bingo in the afternoon and sang 'Happy Birthday' to Jack whilst he blew out the candle. Luckily we were all able to get home before the SNOW..... came.

Elaine

Please give me a ring on 07870262944 if you are interested in Highley Companions. We are not a drop in group but if you or a loved one have a diagnosis of memory problems or age related memory issues please give me a call on the above number.

Hi from the W.I.

A new year, new committee and lots of exciting things to come!!! We have lots of events planned so watch this space

We are busily recruiting new members to join us from 7.15 p.m until 9 pm in the Library at The Severn Centre.

Our next two meetings are:

Tuesday 17th February - A chance to make something with Angie from *That's Nice Creations*.
Come along and have a go you'll be surprised what you can do.

Tuesday 17th March - Cheese & Wine Evening with a green theme as it's St. Patrick's Day so if you can dress up/ wear something green that would be great

Do come along and see what we are about and you will be greeted on arrival with a lovely cup of tea or coffee and biscuits of course!

Look forward to welcoming you.

Elaine

Answers to Wordsearch (from page 18)

m	r	i	g	h	t	s	o	r	r	y	k
o	c	s	j	t	e	p	p	z	h	a	b
r	s	r	k	a	l	e	a	v	e	g	p
n	c	a	l	l	i	n	g	p	a	p	i
i	b	e	o	k	s	w	s	i	r	r	v
n	r	l	r	e	t	d	t	g	d	i	b
g	o	d	d	e	m	a	n	d	e	d	
a	u	j	r	p	n	n	s	o	n	s	d
b	g	i	p	n	i	n	h	r	w	t	d
s	h	o	e	a	n	s	w	e	r	e	d
t	t	v	n	i	g	h	t	d	c	x	j
s	h	i	l	o	h	s	a	m	u	e	l

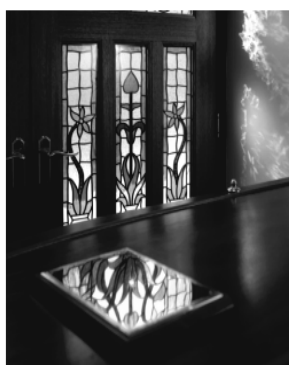
Answers to Sudoku (from page 15)

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

Easy

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

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Climate optimism - Alastair

If you listened to the news in 2025, it was easy to get disheartened by climate change sceptics spreading misinformation about our planet. Whilst there seem to be lots of negative environmental tipping points (the terrifying thresholds beyond which ecosystems collapse, like glaciers melting, corals dying, and rainforests being obliterated), there are plenty of positive tipping points too.

These are the moments when a sustainable technology or action becomes so affordable or popular that it kickstarts “irreversible, self-propelling change”, even when certain leaders and influencers discourage people from adopting them.

Electric car adoption is in this category in the UK.

In Pakistan, solar is booming – not because of climate pledges, or activist pressure, but because the grid has become unreliable and expensive.

Across the world, renewables have finally overtaken coal to become the world’s leading source of electricity. Clean energy is no longer just for rich nations. It is becoming a logical economic choice everywhere. Those that ignore this, will simply be left behind.

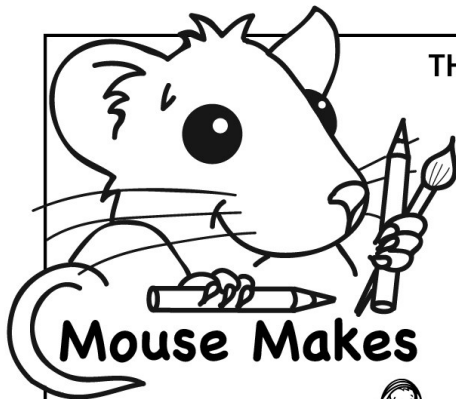
Water meter - Aidan

Last year during the drought, we tried to save as much water as possible, by using spare water from cups and saving the initial cold water that flows before the hot comes out. We are carrying on with this in the winter, and have applied for a free water meter. This should save us quite a bit of money each month, as we are very economical with our water use (short showers, water butts, measuring for boiling in the kettle). Why didn’t we do it before?!

This year I’m going to repair my own clothes! - Jo

There are so many items of clothing in my house that need the odd repair. A hole here, a rip there, a missing button etc. Often the damage begins as a very small hole, but because I can’t sew, the holes get bigger, almost so they are irreparable. This year, I’m going to do a few online tutorials to get better and make sure I don’t end up throwing anything away. If I think it’s too difficult for me, I’ll take it to my local repair cafe!





Read the story in
Luke 4:1-13

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do? v9

FIRST TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible

Learn God's word.



SECOND TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God **first**

Worship **only** Him.

1

T W L D G
R O G L O R Y L O
I B A P T I S E D
V O F O O T H D
S E R V E B T I
J O R D A N J E G

F O R T Y D A Y S S O N K L O R D N H
T D O W N O N W O R S H I P
T E S T W O R L D L T U N B
L V T E M P T A T I O N G R
E I A M J E S U S F N G D E
N L K P D E S E R T E R O A
T H O L Y S P I R I T Y M D
I M J E R U S A L E M F S J
W I L D E R N E S S J U M P

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH



JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT

THIRD TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, **trust**

Him do not test Him.



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Contacts for Local Church Groups, Clubs & Organisations

Severn Valley Benefice –Rector	Rev'd Kina Robertshaw	revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com	861242
Associate Minister	Rev'd. David Poyner	d.r.poyner@aston.ac.uk	01562 68638
Licensed Lay Minister with PTO	Mr Keith Smith		861966
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Angela Forster		07709989119
Churchwardens Highley	Carl Hinkinson	chinkinson4@gmail.com	07722 031585
<hr/>			
Retired Clergy with PTO	Rev'd Richard Law		
PCC Secretary & Church Administrator	Margaret Ritchie	secretaryhighleypcc@gmail.com	861242
Allsorts (Ladies' Group)	Mrs Pat Whitefoot		861155
Children's Sunday Groups	Revd Angie Forster		07709989119
Friday Event	Mrs. Rachel Williams	the-friday-event@hotmail.com	862875
MCMC's Discos	Mark Williams & Chris Smith		860230
Highley Repair Cafe	www.repaircafehighley.org.uk	repaircafehighley@gmail.com	
Bowls Club	Richard Green		861052
Guide and Scout Hut Enquiries	Bridget O'Meara		07974931181
Carers Trust 4 All			03333 231990
Community Car Scheme	Mr Richard Dudson		861817
Cricket Club	Mrs Denise Goulden		861031
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides		www.girlguiding.org.uk	
Highley Community Project	Emma Aspin	hcprojectshops@gmail.com	
Highley Colliery Band	Dave & Lisa Burge		862018
Highley Companions	Elaine Moore		861431
Highley County Primary School	School Office	(Tanya Mathers)	861541
Highley First Responders	Claire van Aswegen	claire.vanaswegen@gmail.com	861580
Highley Medical Centre	Dr J Tatton	Highley Medical Practice, Bridgnorth Road	767121 (option 0)
Highley Mini Minors Toddler Group	Emma Aspin		07752207828
Highley Minors Childcare Centre		Severn Centre	860005
Highley Parish Council	Alison Palmer, Parish Clerk	clerk@highleyparish.co.uk	07496821159
Shropshire County Councillor	Cllr. Sharon Ritchie-Simmons	Sharon.ritchie-simmons@shropshire.gov.uk	07979295387
Highley Miners Welfare Football Club	Alex Edwards. Club Secretary	secretary.hmwfc@outlook.com	
HMWFC: Mini Kickers (ages 4-6)	Alex Edwards. Club Secretary	secretary.hmwfc@outlook.com	
Housing Support Officer	Contact Star Housing		
Parish Hall Bookings	Margaret Ritchie	secretaryhighleypcc@gmail.com	861242
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Email: tony13jup@gmail.com

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ALLSORTS

Allsorts of topics for

Allsorts of ladies of

Allsorts of ages

First Tuesday of the Month

2pm – 4pm in the Parish Hall

Program of events 2025/26

7th Oct...Councillor Quinn, Chairman Highley Parish
Council

4th Nov...Make Christmas cards/Social & cake

2nd Dec...Christmas meal

3rd Feb....Quiz with Arthur Painting

3rd Mar....Easter craft with Joan

NOTE: TIMETABLE: If you know of a more up to date version of this timetable, please email the Editor.

Timetable as of 16.11.25

125

Kidderminster to Bridgnorth via Habberley, Bewdley, Highley, Chelmarsh

Monday to Friday

(except Public Holidays)

Kidderminster Bus Station	0605	0730	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830
Kidderminster General Hospital	0613	0738	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1738	1838
Habberley, Canterbury Rd Shops	0618	0743	0843	0943	1043	1143	1243	1343	1443	1543	1643	1743	1843
Bewdley, Load Street	0629	0754	0854	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1454	1554	1654	1754	1854
Buttontoak, adj Wyre Cottage	0637	0802	0902	1002	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1702	1802	-
Highley, Bache Arms	0656	0821	0921	1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1521	1621	1721	1821	-
Chelmarsh, opp Church	0705	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830	-
Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore	0719	0844	0944	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1744	1844	-

Saturday

(except Public Holidays)

Kidderminster Bus Station	0615	0730	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830
Kidderminster General Hospital	0623	0738	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1738	1838
Habberley, Canterbury Rd Shops	0628	0743	0843	0943	1043	1143	1243	1343	1443	1543	1643	1743	1843
Bewdley, Load Street	0639	0754	0854	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1454	1554	1654	1754	1854
Buttontoak, adj Wyre Cottage	-	0802	0902	1002	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1702	1802	-
Highley, Bache Arms	-	0821	0921	1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1521	1621	1721	1821	-
Chelmarsh, opp Church	-	0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830	-
Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore	-	0844	0944	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1744	1844	-

Monday to Friday

(except Public Holidays)

Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore	-	0655	0755	0855	0955	1055	1155	1255	1355	1455	1555	1655	1755
Chelmarsh, adj Church	-	0709	0809	0909	1009	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1609	1709	1809
Highley, Bache Arms	-	0718	0818	0918	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718	1818
Buttontoak, adj Wyre Cottage	-	0738	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1738	1838
Bewdley Load St	0625	0747	0847	0947	1047	1147	1247	1347	1447	1547	1647	1747	1847
Habberley, Canterbury Rd Shops	0638	0800	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800	1900
Kidderminster General Hospital	0644	0806	0906	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406	1506	1606	1706	1806	1906
Kidderminster Bus Station	0654	0816	0916	1016	1116	1216	1316	1416	1516	1616	1716	1816	1916

Saturday

(except Public Holidays)

Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore	-	-	-	0855	0955	1055	1155	1255	1355	1455	1555	1655	1755
Chelmarsh, adj Church	-	-	-	0909	1009	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1609	1709	1809
Highley, Bache Arms	-	-	-	0918	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718	1818
Buttontoak, adj Wyre Cottage	-	-	-	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1738	1838
Bewdley Load St	0647	0747	0847	0947	1047	1147	1247	1347	1447	1547	1647	1747	1847
Habberley, Canterbury Rd Shops	0658	0758	0858	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800	1900
Kidderminster General Hospital	0703	0803	0903	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406	1506	1606	1706	1806	1906
Kidderminster Bus Station	0710	0810	0910	1016	1116	1216	1316	1416	1516	1616	1716	1816	1916



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Crossword Solution from page 15

C	R	E	D	I	T		T	A	C	K	L	E
O		P			A		E		A		E	
C	A	I	N			K	E	N	A	N	I	A
K		S			E		E		E		V	
	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H		B	E	G
A		O		R		U		O		A		U
S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N	A	R	M	Y
I		I		S		D		E		B		S
A	R	C		E	V	E	R	Y	D	A	Y	
	O		H		O		E			R		M
A	D	M	O	N	I	S	H		D	I	R	E
	I		P		C		A			A		N
S	N	E	E	Z	E		B	R	O	N	Z	E

Waste / Recycling Collections

Black bins:

Thursday 12th & 26th February 2026

Recycling & green bins:

Thursday 5th & 19th February 2026

**No transport for essential journeys?
We may be able to help...**



*For further information, or
to book a car, please contact:*

Richard Dudson
(co-ordinator)
(01746) 861817

Andrew Powell
(01746) 861716

Daniel Humpage
(01746) 862794

Reasonable charges

The scheme is managed by Shropshire Council's
passenger transport services

Regular Events

Severn Strollers	Mondays (not Bank Holidays) 10:30 / 11:00 (Contact: Barbara Skilton: 01746 862003)
Women's Institute	Tuesday Severn Centre
Badminton Club (Seniors)	Tuesday 19.00 SC
Housing Support	Community Room, Rhea Hall, 9-12noon Mon—Friday 862442
Highley Bowling Club	Richard Green

All Round Property Maintenance	10
Boden & Son (Milk Delivery)	28
Cleobury Country Centre	11
Cost Cutter	11
David Dexter (Motor Repairs)	11
Edwards A J Decorating Services	28
Halo Leisure (Severn Centre)	17
Harris, Edwin & Sons (Funerals) Ar-	25
Arc Tree Care	31

Haycox, P & Son (Funerals)	25
Highley Minors	29
Holford, CE (Electrical)	10
Irena Foot Clinic	31
Ince, B (Funeral Directors)	25
Kinlet C of E School	24
Martin, Tony (Plumbing etc.)	31
Northwood & Sons (Funerals)	25
Ovenclean	28
Perry & Phillips (Funerals)	24
Piano Tutor - Francis Engelheart	34
Powell Clive - Gardening Services	10

Severn Edge Vets	28
Second Sense Hearing	21
Shropshire Registration Services	25
That's Nice Creations	19
Tele - Satt Aerials	11
Vivians Mobile Hairdressing	33




Piano tutor

School age & adult,
beginner or advanced.
Based in Kinlet, but I can
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Registrar's Office	25

St Mary's Charity presents
THE RE-LOVED FASHION SHOW

CASTING CALL




VOLUNTEER MODELS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY FASHION SHOW

Hosted by St Mary's Charity, **The Re-Loved Fashion Show** is a celebration of people, place and community, raising funds to support the upkeep of the churchyard — an important and shared part of our village life.


WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Members of the Highley community aged 18+
- All genders, ages, body types and backgrounds welcome
- No modelling experience needed — just confidence to walk with a bit of flair!

WHAT'S INVOLVED

- Modelling a selection of outfits, styled for you using donated clothing and accessories from St Mary's Charity Shop.
- There's no pressure to pose or perform — simply walking the catwalk in a relaxed, friendly way is perfect.
- You'll need to be available to attend **Highley Parish Hall** on **Saturday 25th April 2026** for a rehearsal in the afternoon, followed by the show itself between 4:30pm and 6:00pm.

To support this community event and register your interest in modelling, please email:
rectore@stmaryshighley.co.uk



St. Mary's Parish Hall Highley

Kids parties
Wedding Receptions
Baptism Celebrations
Funeral wakes

£20.00 for the first hour
£12.50 per hour from then on

A multi-purpose main hall, comfortable lounge area and a professional kitchen giving you all of the facilities that you might need.

Chairs, tables and kitchen equipment are all available for your use and there is good disabled access and toilets

Contact: Maggie Ritchie
Email— secretaryhighleypcc@gmail.com
Please make booking payments to
St Marys PCC



Saturday 7th March
Parish Hall, Highley
7pm for 7.30pm start
£5 per person

includes
Hot Dogs and nibbles

There will also be a raffle

Raising funds for the Sunshine Room @ Highley School



Quiz

Chelmarsh Sports & Social Club
Saturday 7th February
7.30 for 8pm start
£10 per team
(up to 5 players)

In aid of Midlands Air Ambulance



There is a community group that you may not know about. It's Art Therapy, held at Highley Parish Hall every Monday, 2pm until 4pm.

Now the usual response is that "I'm not artistic." You don't need to be artistic. Whether it's colouring, drawing, doodling or painting, anyone can have a go .

The idea is that you can focus on something for a couple of hours instead of the everyday stresses that nag at you. It's a wellness idea, an aspect of mindfulness, where you can relax in a friendly, safe environment and have a cup of tea or coffee. There's no judgement, if anything, there is encouragement from others. All the equipment is provided for you, but that doesn't mean that you can't bring a project from home if you want to.

We are a small friendly group, so why not give it go. *Janis Rowe*

'It was an inspired idea to create an art therapy group which is open to all, whatever their ability. The atmosphere is open and friendly, enabling everybody to enjoy a few hours of respite in a busy week' John & Anna Cliff

'I thoroughly enjoy going to art therapy every week. We do colouring or painting, have a chat and a laugh and support each other..' Kate Thomas

'I look forward to going each week as I find it very rewarding and a great way to meet people in a relaxed and non-judgmental environment.' Denise

'I have been going to art therapy for a few months now, it not only helps me with my drawing skills but gets me out to meet new people, maybe make some new friends too. I find it also helps my problem with depression .' PL



Art Therapy Group
Mondays 2pm-4pm
Starting 2nd June 2025
Highley Parish Hall
No artistic ability required
£2 per session
A chance to relax and focus



Church Services in February 2026

Sunday 1st February	9.30am Morning Worship	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 8th February	9.30am Holy Communion	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Morning Worship	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 15th February	9.30am Morning Worship	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10am Holy Communion	St Bartholomew, Glazeley
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley
Wednesday 18th February	Time tba HC with Ashing	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 22nd February	8am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Billingsley
	9.30am Holy Communion	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Informal Service	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 1st March	9.30am Morning Worship	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley



There will be a coffee morning on the second Tuesday of every month. Do join us for a drink and a chat between 10 am and 12 pm. Please see the Weekly Sheet for venue or ring Gill (862077 for venue.



Mid-week Groups

Monday Evening Home Group 7.30-9.00pm contact Stewart & Shirley

Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7.30pm contact Liz and Mervyn

Wednesday Prayer and Study Group 11am—1pm held in Parish Hall unless notified otherwise.

Wednesday Zoom 7pm Contact David Poyner email d.r.poyner@aston.ac.uk

Thursday evening Prayer Meeting @ St Mary's Church Contact Canev Clayton for details

Friday Event Youth Club 7.30pm @ Parish Hall (term-time only) contact Rachel Williams

Friday Night Prayer 9pm Zoom contact David Poyner as above

For enquiries regarding Weddings, Christenings, Funerals or Churchyard memorials

Weddings: Rev'd Kina Robertshaw: email revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com

Christenings/baptisms: Rev'd Kina Robertshaw email revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com

Funerals: Contact your funeral director, who will liaise with clergy