



Pontesbury & Stiperstones Family of Churches

Newsletter

10th July and 17th July 2026 - Double Issue

Dear all,

We don't have a 'thought' for this newsletter edition, but as we approach the end of the school year it is a great time to pray for the schools in our benefice. The following prayer has come from the Diocese of Hereford Education Team:

Loving God,

Help us to serve one another with kindness, patience, humility and joy.

Teach us to build communities where everyone is welcomed, valued and encouraged.

May our words and actions show your love each day, so that our schools – and churches - may be beacons of peace, hope and belonging.

Amen.

Rebecca, PA to Greg

Richard's Farewell

A date has now been set for Richard's installation as Rector of the Chirbury Hills Benefice and as Rural Chaplain, Monday October 5th at Chirbury Church. All will be welcome to attend. Travelling arrangements can be sorted nearer the time. On Tuesday July 21st, there will be a farewell supper at Holy Trinity Minsterley for Richard, Claire, Moray and Liv at 7 p.m. Sarah Edwards, sarahedwards90@hotmail.com and Caroline Holloway, carolineholloway1973@gmail.com are coordinating this, so please contact them if you are able to help. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Ian Williams

We are delighted to have Revd Ian Williams as part of our team. The primary focus of Ian's ministry will be at Hope/Shelve. His contact details will be supplied shortly. Please note that Ian's day off will be Mondays.

Holiday Club

We are planning to run a holiday club in Minsterley from Monday 20th – Friday 24th July from 10-12 each morning. Anyone willing and able to help out for one or more days should let Rev Fran know at revfran@btinternet.com

Sunday July 26th

To celebrate Holiday Club, we will be having a special service to showcase what the children will have been learning through the week. This means that the Holy Communion service for the benefice that day will be at Habberley at 5 p.m.

Time Out

We have relaunched Time Out, our friendship group for those struggling with anxiety, our next session takes place on Tues July 21st at 2 p.m. at the Pavilion. We would like to recruit an additional volunteer for the third Tuesday of each month to supplement the team. Please speak to Allen Marsden, Stephen & Jackie Winwood or Helen Pitt if you would like to know more.

New Screen and Projector

The screen has now been installed at Holy Trinity Minsterley and will be in full operation very soon. If anyone would like to learn how to use it, please speak to Greg or Sarah Edwards.

Bingo!

HTM's bingo night takes place this Saturday (11 July) in the church. Doors open at 6.30pm with eyes down at 7pm. Books are £10 with prizes for the winners. Refreshments are available and there's a raffle. Everyone is welcome and we'll be finished in time for England vs Norway kick off!

Please pre-book with Sarah on 07971984925 or sign up on the sheet in HTM so we know how many tables to set up.

Snailbeach Summer Praise

There will be a summer service at St Luke's Snailbeach on Sunday July 12th at 3 p.m. followed by a welcome tea for Ian Williams, our new curate. Everyone is welcome to the service and for tea and cake at the village hall afterwards.

HTM coffee hub

There will be **no** coffee hub at HTM on 22 July as our summer kids club will be taking place that week.

Ride & Stride

This year, as a benefice, we will be participating in walking for Ride & Stride on Saturday Sept 19th. We have planned a walk of approximately 8 miles of the churches in Shrewsbury and to the southeast of it. If you would like to participate, please let Greg, Stephen Winwood or Sarah Edwards know.

HTM at Minsterley Show

HTM will be running the refreshments stall at Minsterley Show again this August (15th). Could anyone who is able to bake some cakes for us to sell (as slices or as whole cakes) please let Sarah know asap. We also have a freezer available to store anything that's made in advance.

Baptisms

Prayers and congratulations to baby Emmanuel who is being baptised at St George's on Friday at 1 p.m. and to Sonja Crane, who is being baptised at HTM on Sunday as part of the main service. Do pray for them upon this important milestone.

Holiday

Please note that Greg and Fran will be on holiday from Weds 14th-Tues 21st July. Richard, Fran and Ian are all still available.

Readings for Sunday July 12th

Isaiah 55.10-13

Romans 8.1-11

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

Readings for Sunday July 19th

Isaiah 44. 6-8

Romans 8. 12-25

Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43

Calendar for the Fortnight -

Fri 10 th	Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon Emmanuel's Christening at 1 p.m.
Sat 11 th	Bingo at HTM at 6.30 for 7 p.m.
Sun 12 th	Holy Communion at Hope at 9 a.m. Holy Communion at Minsterley at 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer at Pontesbury with Children's Church at 10.30 a.m. Summer Praise at Snailbeach at 3 p.m. Evening Prayer at Habberley at 5 p.m. Service of Meditation at Pontesbury at 7 p.m.
Mon 13 th	Leavers Service for Pontesbury School at St George's at 9.15 a.m. Youth Café at Minsterley Parish Hall at 3.30 p.m.
Tues 14 th	Foodbank at Minsterley from 10-12 Little Dragons at St George's from 10-11.30 a.m. Oasis at 12 noon at Minsterley Methodist Chapel

Weds 15 th	Coffee Hub at HTM 10-12 Tea Break at St George's 2-4 p.m. Pontesbury Fundraising Ctte at 4 p.m. in WER
Thurs 16 th	Foodbank at Pontesbury 10-12 Trinity Tots at HTM from 10-11.30 a.m.
Friday 17 th	Prayers at HTM at 9.30 a.m. Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon
Sun 19 th	Worship Together at Shelve at 9 a.m. Holy Communion at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m. Minsterley Praise at HTM at 10.30 a.m.
Mon 20 th -Fri 24 th	Holiday Club from 10-12 at HTM
Tues 21 st	Minsterley PCC at 6 p.m. Richard's farewell at HTM at 7 p.m.
Weds 22 nd	Tea Break at St George's 2-4 p.m. Pontesbury PCC at 7 p.m. in WER
Thurs 23 rd	Foodbank at Pontesbury 10-12
Fri 24 th	Prayers at HTM at 9.30 a.m. Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon
Sun 26 th	Morning Prayer at Hope at 9 a.m. Family Service at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m. Holiday Club service at Minsterley at 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Habberley at 5 p.m.