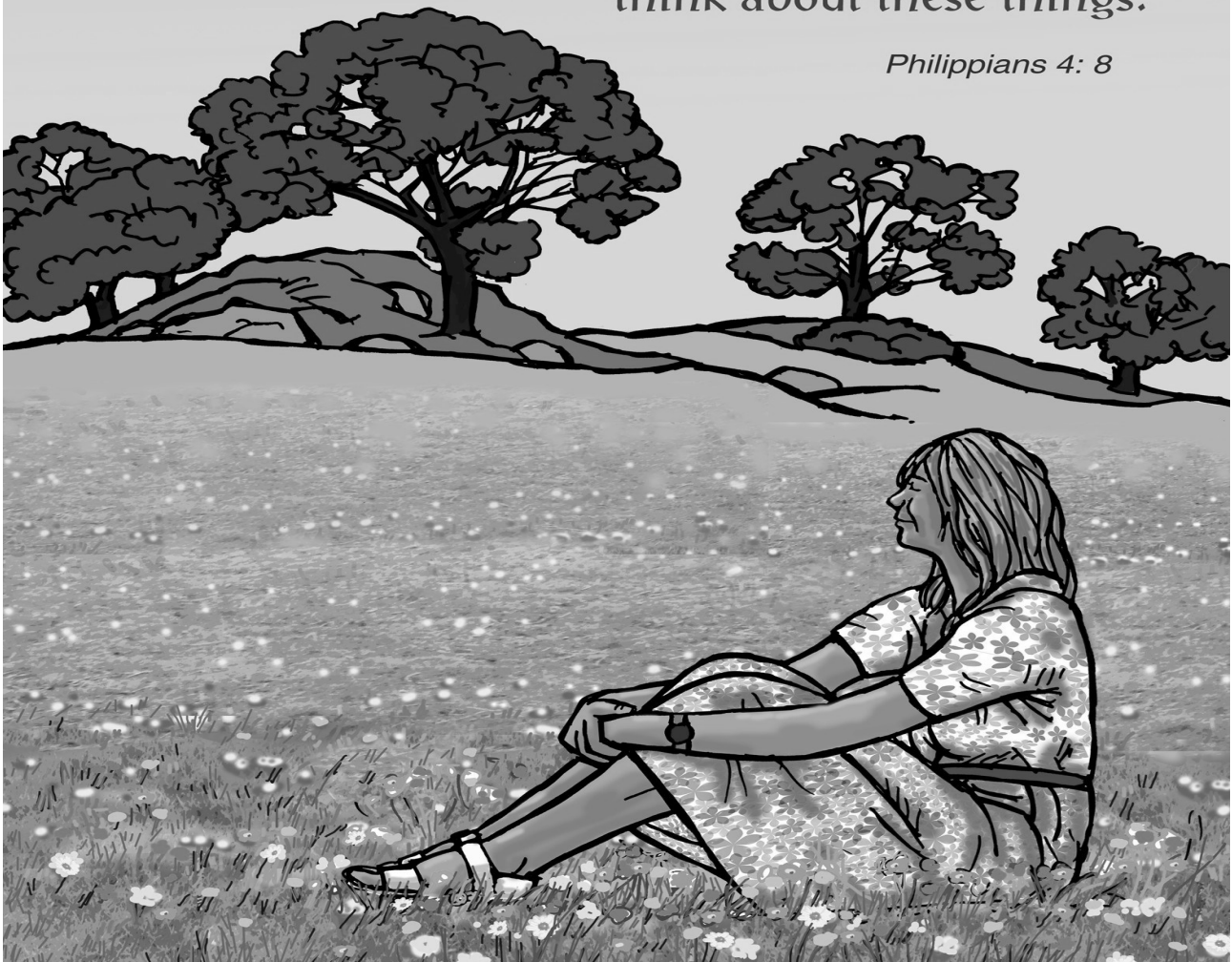


FORUM

July 2026

Finally, beloved, whatever is true,
whatever is honourable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing,
whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.

Philippians 4: 8



Serving Highley, Billingsley, Chelmarsh, Glazeley with Deuxhill

Highley Companions Get Busy



**16th May Raffle—Sheila
Nock and Janet Brown**



**28th May—Plant Pots with
Joan and Lesley**



Having fun with the Fossils!

**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**

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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

Moving On

At this time of year we think of our young people, particularly our children and grandchildren, as they navigate changes in their education. Some are moving from Primary to Secondary School. Older ones are moving from Secondary education to Tertiary – to college and university or apprenticeships or looking for jobs.

When changes take place, rotas and forward planning are often affected and so it is with our editorial. In March this year Keith Smith, who has contributed to the Editorial page for over two decades, informed us his call to move his area of ministry from St Mary's Church to Brown Clee Benefice, to join me in my ministry there alongside Rev'd Joe Simons. Our editorial rota threw up Keith's name for this month and so it seems fitting that he writes this month as his final editorial offering and reflects on what it means to 'move on'.

(Val Smith, Editor)

It doesn't matter in our lives who we are or what we have done, there is and always will be, times of change, times when we move from what we are to what we will be. When we look back on our lives what do we see? Successes and failures, joys and sorrows, When our life-path changes, we can only look forward.

Val and I have known lots of change in our lives – both of us moving continent at one stage and then returning to this country. In 1991 we moved to Highley and became deeply involved in the spiritual and social life of the church before leaving to go to Reading and then returning in 2003.

In September 2007 I was licensed by Bishop Anthony into the role of Reader, (or as I prefer, as a Licensed Lay Minister), in the parishes of Highley, Billingsley, Glazeley, and Chelmarsh. It was the start of a journey in ministry serving under four different incumbents, a time during which I was fortunate to witness the amazing things which God can do when he is given free rein to work through and in peoples' lives. It was a time when the church grew in faith and saw several individuals being licensed or ordained into ministry, fulfilling the words of Matthew 26, "therefore go and make disciples of all nations, (or in this case replace the word 'nations' for 'Benefices'!) baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you".

Most of us encounter many changes throughout our lives. Sometimes we embrace them. Sometimes we resist them. Sometimes we are anxious and fearful of what lies ahead, only to find that there was no need; we adapt and settle in the new way of doing things, just as our young people will adapt to the transitions they are facing.

'To go' was what the original disciples were commissioned to do, to establish and be involved in communities that would grow and flourish and live the gospel message. Many of them travelled

to foreign lands. We are aware of the trials and tribulations the disciples faced to fulfil their calling. It is fortunate that none of those who were Licensed Lay or Ordained Ministers here had to endure the sufferings of those first Christian leaders, but almost all of those leaders have answered a call to move on, to seek fresh pastures, a time for a change.

So, after 19 years here I realised that I had a decision to make and it was one which was prophesied by a stranger who spoke to me when I was on duty as the chaplain at the Cathedral. It took over a year to come to fruition but that is the way God works. I realised that my work here was done and that I had to move on to pastures new. As with any move there are things I shall miss, but it is the excitement of a new challenge that motivates me.

We still live here in Highley and consider ourselves to be a part of the wider family of God at St Mary's and the village. We have merely been asked to minister in a different part of the Church. That's what being a disciple is all about.

I am grateful for what I have learnt over the many years working in Highley and the villages, for those who I came to know and call good friends, and recognise the part Jesus has played in developing who and what I am. I thank those who, over the years, have been a source of encouragement, support and friendship during my time here.

So at this time of change, for me, for our children as they begin new adventures, whether at school, into the workforce or outside through their hobbies and interests, our prayers are with each one, that they may embrace each opportunity with relish and confidence and learn to live life to the full, safely and fruitfully.

Change may initially be challenging, but it is not necessarily bad.

God bless,

Keith Smith

Time Prayer

Father,

We are all so busy. We rush here and there, trying to meet deadlines, trying to fit more and more into our already full days. So often we seem to run out of energy and time. Sometimes we wonder what it's all about.

Help us, Lord to recognise that we *have* time. You have given us every day of our lives. Help us to choose wisely how we use our life time. Help us to spend time with you first; to learn your ways; to encounter the living Jesus in the Bible and in prayer. And everything else will fall into place. In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



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

St Mary's Highley

If you want somewhere to keep cool in the current heatwave, church buildings are definitely the place to go! The ancient stones keep us cool in summer (and cooler still in winter!).

The church is open every day and so whether you want to find a quiet spot to just *be* and contemplate or you are looking for a church service, please do come in.

There is a mid-week service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month (see Rev'd Angie Forster for more details) and a variety of services during the month on Sunday mornings at 10.30am. (see back page for details).

We hold in our prayers all who are finding life difficult at the moment, either through ill-health, the excessive heat or other personal issues. If you would like a visit or have circumstances you would like us to pray for, please contact a member of the leadership team. (See back page).

From the registers: Funeral: Maggie Hudson 27.6.26



It Depends on Who You Are, as to what you see...

A man fell into a pit and couldn't get himself out...

~ A subjective person came along and said, "I feel for you down there."

~ An objective person walked by and said, "It's logical that someone would fall down there."

~ A mathematician calculated how deep the pit was.

~ A news reporter wanted the exclusive story on the pit.

~ HMRC asked if he was paying taxes on the pit.

~ A Pharisee said, "Only bad people fall into pits."

~ A self-pitying person said, "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit."

~ A self-esteem therapist said, "Believe in yourself and you can get out of that pit."

~ An optimist said, "Things could be worse."

~ A pessimist claimed, "Things will get worse."



Chelmarsh News

The bric-a-brac sale I briefly reported on in the June Forum raised £400 for church funds. This will help us meet the cost of £750 to seal the lead on top of the tower roof which is leaking.

By the time this article appears we will have had our annual plant sale in the church, on the 27th June. This is always a busy event, attracting good support from the whole community. We time it to coincide with St Peter's Day, the patron saint of our Church. At Petertide, the Church name for the days around this is when new ministers are ordained, with events such as the plant sale, we remember our calling to be the body of Christ in Chelmarsh.



In addition to the work done by Marie and Phil to create a new flower bed in the churchyard, Les has continued his efforts to clear ivy around some of the old tombs. These can now be seen properly.

We estimate around 250 people attended the funeral for Fraser Russon. We continue to hold Nic, Michelle and Xander in our prayers.

David Poyner



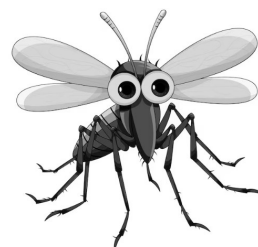
The boys on the substitutes' bench knew their only chance of a sing was if one of the first team was injured

Holiday soothies

For dealing with motion sickness, ginger capsules are your new friend. Available from any health store, they do a wonderful job in calming upset tummies.

For fever or frayed tempers, take some camomile tea bags with you. Camomile tea doesn't just calm your nerves; cooled down, the tea also soothes sunburn.

For banning mosquitoes & insomnia, take some essential oil of lavender. Mosquitoes hate the smell, so if you put a few drops around your pillow at night, you can help keep them at bay – and help yourself drift off to sleep.



St Mary's Billingsley



In June we held our local history exhibition in the church over the weekend of the 13th/14th. The displays included photographs, maps and document; we are very grateful to everyone who helped us with this. On the Saturday afternoon we served refreshments in church as well as having a bric-a-brac and plant sale. It was fascinating to hear the memories of Billingsley and the church; I learnt that in the days of the Rev James, there was a choir and the organ was in the chancel. On Sunday evening, at 6pm we held a service of thanksgiving for the work Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, with an excellent address by John Clark from the Trust. The church was full for this event; we ran out of hymn books

All our local churches are members of the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust and they have helped us a lot with grants; new heating at Billingsley, repairs to the floor at Glazeley and to the belfry at Chelmarsh. They are the main funders for work on churches and chapels in Shropshire and help to keep these as signs of the active presence of God in every community. I was very pleased so many came to support the event.

In July, our 6pm service will be a look at the Shetlands. These are the most northerly part of the British Isles and of course now feature in a TV Detective series. But there are far more to these islands than murders.... Refreshments will be served after the service. Also in July we have our usual 8am communion on the 4th Sunday, the 26th.

St Bartholomew, Glazeley



We are pleased that the car park has been resurfaced by the owners, Andrew and Laura Jones; we have a covenant that allows us to use this for church purposes. The resurfacing of the car park has created a significantly larger space for cars. A fence has also been put up to protect the grass between the drive and the car park.

With our friends at Chetton Church, we held our monthly Saturday breakfast at the Down on June 20th at 9am. Amongst the usual raffle prizes at the May breakfast there was a tray of carrot seedlings; there is something for all tastes at Glazeley. The breakfasts are probably now going to pause for July and August, whilst people are on holiday, to resume in September.

Our next service in church is Holy Communion on 19th July at 10am.

.....
Smile Lines

Flight path

Windsor Castle, outside of London, is directly in the flight path of Heathrow International Airport. While a group of American tourists was standing outside the castle admiring the elegant structure, a plane flew overhead at a relatively low altitude, making a tremendous noise. One particularly annoyed tourist demanded: "Why did they build the castle so close to the airport?"
.....

James the Least of All

Editor: The elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained... by the Revd Dr Gary Bowness

On war between parishes

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

So, now you have enjoyed your first Summer Fete. Don't say I didn't warn you. It may be small consolation but remember that they only happen once a year - although in your case, you still have another 30 to endure before retirement.

I negotiated our own last week. As usual, the band from our neighbouring parish of St Eusebius played. There has been much bad blood in the past between our two villages. The trouble started on the day that St James the Least of All never told St Eusebius that the Vikings were coming up the river. We may have long since buried the hatchet, but both sides remember where they put it.

Tension between the two communities down the centuries has moved on from occasional slaughter to something a little more refined. Just as I began my opening speech to crown the Rose Queen, the band struck up with the National Anthem. When the hog roast started, they played "Smoke gets in your Eyes" and when it came to the necessary music for the maypole dancing, they all disappeared into the beer tent.

With great Christian charity, we shall bide our time. In September we have the annual football match between the two churches' Servers. Last year, in addition to winning the match, the St James' boys sent three of their side off with concussion. Naturally, I visited them in hospital.

Miss Prendergast, as always, played Gypsy Rose Lee. If the tall, dark, dear lady tells me one more time that I am about to find romance with a tall dark lady, while she flutters her eyelashes at me, I swear I shall throttle her with a bell rope. Besides, I already have a beautiful dark lady in my life - and my Labrador is devoted to me.

The only real hiccup came when I bought 12 packets of fudge from Mrs Masheder to present to our choirboys. Yet again, she had misread salt for sugar in the recipe. After I presented the packets at Mattins the following day, a formal complaint was rapidly made by a parent to the police that the Rector was attempting to poison their son. But as I explained to the officer, if I had intended to poison anyone, I would have done it far more discreetly - and infinitely more efficiently.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

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Letter from Westminster

Amongst the recent chaos in Parliament, I have been using my position to stand up for South Shropshire's businesses. As part of the Government's 'Plan for Steel', Ministers have announced plans to cut tariff-free import quotas for the steel industry by 60% from July. Having been contacted by the family-run Amodil Group based in Cleobury Mortimer, I spoke in Parliament recently to raise their urgent concerns about the knock-on effects of this policy for downstream industries that heavily rely on imported steel products. I am delighted that, in a rare intervention during my speech, the Secretary of State for Business and Trade has promised to look into this matter personally. I will be working with the Secretary of State to ensure he delivers on this commitment made in the Commons Chamber. I want South Shropshire's homegrown businesses to get the support they need to thrive.



Back in the constituency, I have met with representatives from National Highways to discuss the ongoing issues on the A49 at the Onibury crossing. Having informed the representatives of the serious concerns which residents have brought to me, I was glad to be reassured that work is continuing to progress following a number of unforeseen setbacks, with completion currently expected by early August. I will continue liaising closely with National Highways as the project progresses and will keep residents updated with the latest developments.

As part of my ongoing campaign to improve our local roads, I am delighted that a Road Warden Scheme is being rolled out in South Shropshire, giving local communities the freedom to carry out low-risk maintenance in their area. Having met with residents, I wrote to Shropshire Council in March to push for their adoption of this scheme. This is exactly the kind of practical, community-driven action which I have been calling for, placing local people in the driving seat to fix small problems before they become big ones. This includes litter picking, sign cleaning, leaf clearance and, crucially, small pothole repairs. I will be closely monitoring its implementation over the coming months.

Finally, earlier this year I launched the latest stage in my long-running campaign to improve the provision of health and social care services in South Shropshire. I want fellow residents to have access to the highest quality of care in our local area, not only matching the standard of other parts of the country, but exceeding it wherever possible. So, I launched a Health and Social Care Survey to find out more about what residents think. Amazingly, over 1100 residents have already responded, but the survey is ongoing and you can share your views on my website or on the paper survey which is making its way around South Shropshire.

I recently held advice surgeries in Bridgnorth and Conover where I discussed a wide range of issues with local residents, and I am looking forward to my next MP Coffee Morning on Friday 10th July in Aston on Clun Village Hall. These events provide the perfect opportunity for an informal chat about local or national issues over a cup of tea or coffee and a cake. Upcoming dates and locations are advertised on my website or you can phone my constituency office at 01746 555025.

Stuart Anderson MP

Email: stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk
75a High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX

Highley Parish Council

After what feels like a significant period of time (at least eighteen months) we have finally made some concrete progress on our rescue of National Cycle Network Route 45, or at least the section of it threatened with closure between Country Park Halt and Hampton Loade. Having agreed that Highley Parish Council will take on responsibility for it's upkeep, this month I chaired a meeting of the newly formed NCN Route 45 Working Group. We gathered at the Severn Centre, with representatives from a number of interested parties and began to work out exactly what the maintenance should look like and how we would manage the path. Great progress was made but there is still lots to do! If you are interested in helping us with this project please get in contact and you can join us for the next meeting of the working group.

Outside of Route 45 all of HPC's time this month has been taken up preparing the village for the arrival of the Shropshire's Best Kept Village judges. Having taken the prize last year in the South category this year we are eying up *Best in County* so keep your fingers crossed!

As we enter the summer proper, I wish everyone in Highley a happy and enjoyable time over the warmer months, including any holidays or staycations you have planned. I am hoping to get at least a few camping trips in, I might even have a local one down at Wellness Woodlands.

Tom Quinn
Chairman



Highley
Parish
Council



Is Danger lurking in your Fridge?

When you look in your fridge, what do you see? Milk, butter, vegetables and last night's leftovers? So far, so good. But what about the things that you don't see? A recent survey of people's fridges found that more than half of them were harbouring dangerous bacteria such as E. coli, salmonella and listeria. So, it seems that unless we take care of our fridges, they can become playgrounds for germs.

Veggie drawers with bits of slimy carrots or liquefying greens have been found to harbour more bacteria per square centimetre than a toilet seat. Plates of raw meat can be a bacterial timebomb. Even door seals and fridge handles can be a germ hotspot.

The key thing is to regularly wipe shelves and drawers down with a mild disinfectant, remove stale food, and to keep the temperature of the fridge at five degrees. Don't overcrowd your fridge (which can block air circulation) and don't engage in the classic 'fridge food linger,' staring into the open fridge while deciding what you want to eat. Warm air will be rushing in.

Your fridge is the hardest working appliance in your kitchen, but it needs your help.



Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31)(10)
- 14 In Cain(anag.)(6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him" (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
- 23 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

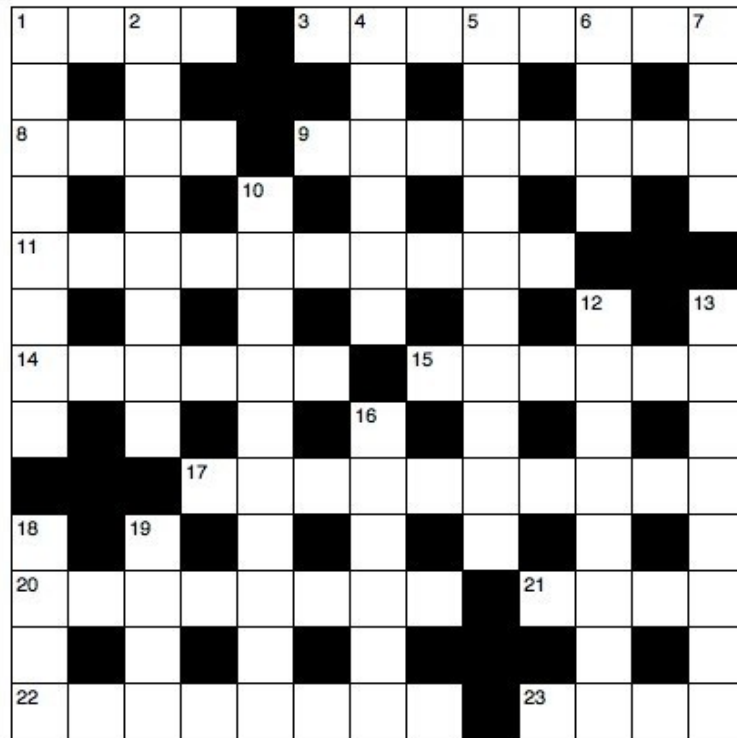
Down

- 1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)
- 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)
- 4 'We three kings of — are' (6)
- 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
- 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
- 7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
- 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)
- 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
- 13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)
- 16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)
- 18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)
- 19 Rear(anag.)(4)



Crossword

Answers on page 33



Have a go at Sudoku



Easy

Medium

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

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

UCB Word for Today

Resurrect your dream

For God does speak...in a dream.' Job 33:14-15

God is the giver of dreams. 'For God does speak...in a dream, in a vision...when deep sleep falls on people' (vv. 14-15 NIV). Unless you want to spend the rest of your life being unfulfilled and uninspired, take your dream out of the closet and blow the dust off.

It's easy to get caught up in the 'have tos' of life – working; caring for children, spouses, and ageing parents; taking care of homes, etc. But you must believe that you can resurrect your life and your dreams and believe you have the ability to tap into the enthusiasm you once felt for life. You must have the courage to face the disappointments of the past, take a good look at how you got off the path, and see where you are headed. Then you have to silence the voice in your head that says: 'This is all there is. Who are you to want more from life? You can't do it; it's too late for you.'

We give up on our dreams because we think that's what grown-ups are supposed to do. But as we mature, we realise that reaching for our dreams is what makes us feel alive. The truth is that with love, prayer, and great attention, your dream, like Lazarus, can be resurrected (see John 11:43). The secret of recapturing dreams is to enjoy the pursuit of the dream rather than focus on the outcome. Achievement in this case is not about position, fame, or financial compensation, but about doing what you love. That's what Jesus promised: 'I am come that they might have life, and...have it more abundantly' (John 10:10 KJV).

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Why our 'crumbling infrastructure' is hurting older people

Poorly paved roads, unsafe crossings and poor public toilets are slowing people down, especially older people, who tend to feel safer staying inside.

But the lack of regular, positive exercise is a danger for them. Such is the verdict of a recent report from MPs serving on the Health and Social Care Select Committee.

The MPs stress that what they call Britain's 'crumbling infrastructure' is leading to many preventable health conditions, ranging from obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, cancer, the onset of frailty, dementia and disability.

Figures suggest that 44 per cent of people aged 75 or older are doing less than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity per week. In the UK, lack of activity is associated with a staggering one in six deaths and is estimated to cost £7.4bn a year.

So, the MPs are calling for local action to fix streets and crossings, and to put in more toilets and public seating, as well as better national transport.

Layla Moran, the chairman of the health select committee, said: "Staying physically active can help older people to live not just longer, but healthier, happier, more sociable lives."

(Parish Pump July 2026)

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- Highley Senior Pop-In Club
- Highley Police Station
- Highley Bowls Club & Indoor Bowling
- Highley Reach Youth Club
- Highley Minors Childcare
- Highley Community Project
- Highley Badminton Club
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Details correct at time of going to print - January 2025



Working together for the people of Highley



Wordsearch

It was 250 years ago, on 4th July 1776, that the US Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress. The original signed parchment still exists, behind bullet-proof glass at the National Archives in Washington.

An original draft of the Declaration was made by Thomas Jefferson, and was amended by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams. It runs for only 1,320 words. The Declaration included the phrase: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."



- JULY JEFFERSON TRUTHS CONGRESS FRANKLIN

- THOMAS CREATOR FOURTH EQUAL DRAFT

- DECLARATION JOHN CREATED BENJAMIN LIBERTY

- INALIENABLE WASHINGTON LIFE INDEPENDENCE PURSUIT

- SECOND RIGHTS CONTINENTAL HAPPINESS ADAMS

Highley Companions

The Highley Companions have been so busy since Elaine's last Forum article!

The Tombola and Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th May was very well supported by the community, including some of the Companions and their families. We raised enough money for us to provide the Companions with an outing later this summer. Although we entertain them fortnightly in the Parish Hall, everyone enjoys a change of scene and so we are looking forward to taking as many Companions and Volunteers as possible on a canal trip.

What a fabulous day our Companions had on Thursday 28th May! They decorated their plant pots and chose which flowers to plant. They then sang along to an accompaniment provided by Mick, Sian, and Jack. Lunch was hot dogs and onions, cooked by our team of Volunteers, followed by a chocolate Malteser cakes made by Lesley. Later, we had a quiz about musical instruments, and everyone learned something new. Finally, it was time to go home. Our wonderful Companions left with their potted plants to nurture over the summer months.

On Thursday 11th June the Fossils made a return visit and entertained everyone with their singing to guitars, drum and kazoo! We were all encouraged to join in with the choruses and so sang with great gusto. After sandwiches and Gay's lemon drizzle cake Mandy and Lesley challenged both Companions and Volunteers to quiz questions and answers based on the name George!

We are looking forward to being entertained by a variety of guests in the months to come and will continue to tell the Forum all about them.

A reminder that, although we always warmly welcome new Highley Companions, the Thursday sessions are not for dropping in. If you or a loved one are struggling with memory issues, whether diagnosed or not, Elaine Moore would love to hear from you. She can be contacted on 07870 262944. We are also at Highley Drop-In 9-12 on the last Friday of the month at the Severn Centre. We would love to see you, to tell you more about us.

Gay Barker

Book recommendation: (from Parish Pump July 2026)

Dementia, God and the Church: Journeying with hope written by Wendy Gleadle and Frances Attwood, BRF, £12.99



Dementia is one of today's most feared health conditions, and Christians with the condition may also worry about losing their faith and their connection to God. However, there is still hope: those living with dementia can still find meaning in their life and their faith.

Written by two practitioners in this field, *Dementia, God and the Church* aims to show how person-centred approaches to dementia can provide hope. Wendy Gleadle first examines the difficulties of maintaining religious beliefs as cognition declines, and the implications of this if faith is equally emotional as cognitive. She explores other forms of spiritual awareness, such as relationships, the arts and creativity.

Frances Attwood asks how churches can better support those living with dementia, through examining what they and their families and carers find helpful and want most. Throughout, space is given to first-hand stories of those with dementia, those working with them and those caring for them.

All in the month of July

250 years ago, on 4th July 1776 that the US Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress.

250 years ago, from 12th July 1776 to 4th October 1780, that the British explorer Captain James Cook made his third and final voyage. He travelled to New Zealand and Hawaii, where he was killed in a violent exchange with the local people.

175 years ago, on 3rd July 1851 that Charles Bannerman, British-born Australian cricketer, was born. He scored the first-ever run in Test cricket, and also scored the first century in Test cricket.

175 years ago, on 24th July 1851 that the Window Tax was abolished in England and Wales. The tax was introduced in 1696 and was based on the number of windows in a house. It led to many windows being bricked up. It was replaced by a tax on inhabited buildings.

125 years ago, on 9th July 1901 that Dame Barbara Cartland, romantic novelist, was born. She wrote 723 novels, including 23 in a single year, and sold more than one billion copies of her books.

90 years ago, on 24th July 1936 the speaking clock telephone service was launched in the UK.

80 years ago, on 22nd July 1946 that the King David Hotel in Jerusalem was attacked. The Irgun (a militant right-wing Zionist group) bombed the hotel which housed the British administrative headquarters for Palestine. 91 people were killed.

60 years ago, on 30th July 1966 that the 1966 FIFA World Cup final took place. England beat Germany 4 – 2. English player Geoff Hurst became the first (and only) player to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final.

50 years ago, on 4th July 1976 that Operation Entebbe took place. Israeli commandos staged a counter-terrorist hostage-rescue mission at Entebbe Airport in Uganda, following the hijacking of an Air France plane on 27th June.

Also 50 years ago, on 20th July 1976 that NASA's Viking 1 lander successfully landed on Mars, and sent back the first photographs from the surface of Mars.

Also 50 years ago, on 29th July 1976 that the pier-head of Southend Pier in Essex was destroyed by fire. It is the world's longest pier. It re-opened in 1986, but then a tanker crashed into it, creating a 70-foot gap. It reopened again in 1989, but two further fires, in 1999 and 2005, caused significant damaged. It reopened in July 2012.

30 years ago, on 1st July 1996 that candidates taking the British driving test also had to pass a written exam for the first time.

30 years ago, on 5th July 1996 that Dolly the sheep was born. She was the first cloned mammal at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. Died in 2003.

20 years ago, on 1st July 2006 that Fred Trueman, cricket player and broadcaster died. Seen as one of the greatest bowlers in cricketing history.

Also 20 years ago, on 15th July 2006 that Twitter, the online micro-blogging service, was launched.

10 years ago, on 13th July 2016 that Theresa May became Prime Minister (until 2019) after David Cameron resigned following the UK's referendum on leaving the European Union.



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- Monday 3rd August – Paper flowers – 1 hour - £6
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- Wednesday 5th August – Decoupage book marks – 1 hour - £6
- Friday 7th August – Journal – 2 hour - £25
- Saturday 8th August – Shop closed
- Monday 10th August – Wizard hat light – 2.5 hours - £25
- Tuesday 11th August – Paint your own money box – 2 hour - £6
- Wednesday 12th August – Paper butterflies – 1 hour -£6
- Friday 14th August – Gecko workshop – 3.5 hours - £35
- Saturday 15th August – Shop closed – call to book your workshop
- Monday 17th August – Sea horse wall hanging – 3 hours - £30
- Tuesday 18th August -Owl wall hanging – 2 hours - £30
- Wednesday 19th August – Fish wall hanging – 2 hours - £25
- Friday 21st August – Animal statue – 3 hours - £30
- Saturday 22nd August – Shop closed - SVR craft fair
- Monday 24th August – No workshops today
- Tuesday 25th August - No workshops today
- Wednesday 26th August – No workshops today
- Thursday 27th August – No workshops today
- Friday 28th August - No workshops today
- Saturday 29th August – Shop closed

All children under 8 years old must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Booking in advance is advisable.

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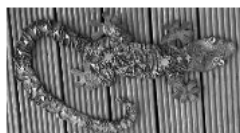
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Answers to Wordsearch (from page 18)



Answers to Sudoku (from page 15)

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

Easy

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

Medium



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Sustainable Highley - We can make Highley sustainable! Please email your ideas to our new email address: sustainablehighley@gmail.com. Any ideas please, that help us save energy, resources and protect the environment that we share.

National Emergency Briefing - Alastair

On Wednesday 23rd September at 18.30, a film of the National Emergency Briefing 2025, will be shown in the community hall in the Severn Centre. It is essentially a 45 minute film of experts describing the perilous situation of our climate and its impact on our lives. The film presents arguments for 3 critical things:

- The Government should deliver a prime-time, multi-channel televised national emergency briefing to the nation, launching a major public engagement plan to cut through disinformation. There should then be regular televised updates.
- The Government should launch a science-led national emergency response to climate and nature breakdown, showing the same leadership and determination as in WW2 and during the financial crisis. This should include emergency legislation to drive a rapid reduction in emissions whilst investing to adapt to a more dangerous climate. Evidence shows that such action will create jobs and improve lives.
- The Government should lead stronger global action. International climate conferences have failed to deliver the scale of global action needed. By taking steps (1) and (2), the UK can establish the credibility required to help lead by example to drive the coordinated global action that people across the world are calling for.

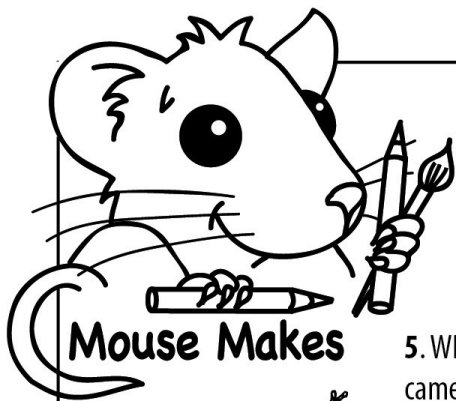
There will be a discussion following the film, with refreshments. There is seating for up to 80 people, so please make sure you will be there! In the meantime time, ask our MP to support the NEB: <https://www.nebriefing.org/parliamentary-call>
Find out more on [nebriefing.org](https://www.nebriefing.org)

Hedgehogs and no mow May - Juliet

I read an article the other week, that suggested no-mow May was bad for hedgehogs. No mow May is a great way of encouraging grass and flowering plants to grow, which undoubtedly attracts insects and in turn, hedgehogs. The problem is that some people are strimming straight after May, and not checking the long grass, which can result in injuries and death for some hedgehogs. The solution is not to mow, or mow as late as possible, and then check the grass is clear of animals before you chop it down!

Summer suncream - Jessie

If you are heading to the coast or another bathing spot in the hot weather, use suncream that doesn't contain oxybenzone and octinoxate, both of which can be harmful to aquatic organisms. Those that say 'marine safe' are the ones you want.

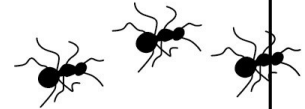


Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

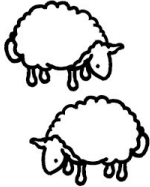
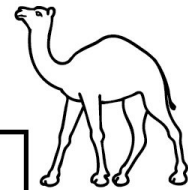
7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?
Luke 18:25



8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7



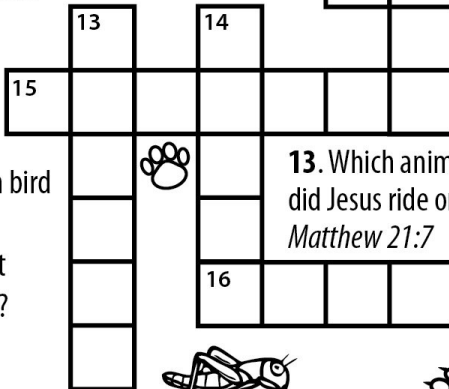
9 across. In what creature's mouth was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27



9 down. What lives in holes?
Matthew 8:20

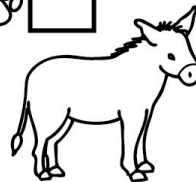


12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?
Luke 3:22



13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7

14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13



10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?
Deut 7:20



11. What animals eat crumbs from under the table?
Matthew 15:27

15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30



B I B L E

C R E A T U R E S

Miscellaneous Observations On Life

- ◆ An egotist is a man who talks about himself so much that you don't have a chance to talk about yourself. - *V Havner*
- ◆ Education is never as expensive as ignorance. - *Anon*
- ◆ A compliment is verbal sunshine. - *R Orben*
- ◆ If you know someone who tries to drown their sorrows, you might warn them sorrows know how to swim. - *Anon*
- ◆ Never let the future disturb you. You will meet it, if you have to, with the same weapons of reason which today arm you against the present. - *Marcus Aurelius*
- ◆ Golf: a game in which the balls lie on the ground and the players lie in the clubhouse. - *Anon*
- ◆ *With the sales in mind:* Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months. - *Oscar Wilde*
- ◆ Your house: a portion of land covered by a mortgage. - *Anon*
- ◆ Fisherman: one who drops the fish a line but seldom hears from them. - *Anon*
- ◆ If we are called to great ends, we are called to great hazards.—*John Henry Cardinal Newman*

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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	01746 861121
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Angela Forster		07709989119
Churchwardens Highley	Carl Hinkinson	chinkinson4@gmail.com	07722 031585
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		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 Andrew Powell		07368557716
Cricket Club	Mrs Denise Goulden		861031
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides		www.girlguiding.org.uk	
Highley Community Project	Emma Aspin	hcprojectshrops@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			
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.gov.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
Pop In Club	Dale Schnelting		
Severn Centre	Dan Dyson	General Manager	860000
Severn Strollers	Barbara Skilton		862003
Women's Institute	Terry Stanley		07576156110

What's on?

Highley Bowling Club is now open

- ◆ New members welcome
- ◆ No experience necessary

Contact: Richard Green for more details

richard.green1945@hotmail.co.uk

The Bowling Green is situated at the rear of the Severn Centre. Social bowling is on Thursday morning 10am - 12.00.

We are holding an open morning 10am—1pm on Saturday 9th May with free tea, coffee and biscuits. Please wear flat shoes.

All equipment will be provided.



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09:30-12:00

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MAY: 22nd

JUNE: 26th

JULY: 24th

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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
Buttonoak, 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
Buttonoak, 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
Buttonoak, 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
Buttonoak, 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

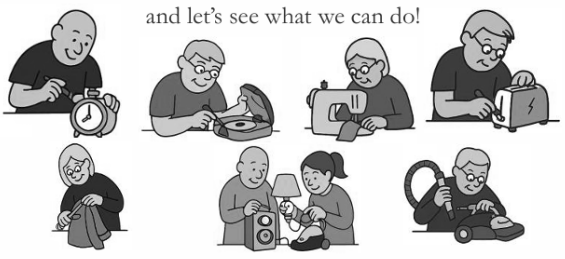


Highley *Bin it? No Way!!!*
Repair Café


Saturday 11th July
10:00am - 1:00pm at
Highley Community Primary School
(Grasmere Drive, WV16 6EH)

email:- Repaircafehighley@gmail.com web:- Repaircafehighley.org.uk

Don't bin it - Bring it!
Our friendly volunteers are here to help fix your household items. Pop down to the Repair Café and let's see what we can do!



Our volunteer service is free, however you will need to cover the cost of any parts needed. A financial donation for items that are successfully repaired will help ensure the Repair Café can continue. **Thank You!**
Highley Parish Council, Shropshire Grass Roots & Enfinium LTD have provided financial support which helped us start our "Repair Café Highley"



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 2026

7th Apr..A talk from Sue Williams
5th May..Alison from the Food Hub.
Helping local groups & charities.
2nd Jun.Selina Graham, Deputy to the
High Sheriff of Shropshire
7th Jul..Richard Churchley, Folklore & Folk songs
1st Sept.Dawn Jones, How to look after your skin

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

Waste / Recycling Collections

Black bins: 2026
Thursday 2nd, 16th & 30th July

Recycling & green bins:
Thursday 9th & 23rd July

www.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/

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



Piano tutor

School age & adult,
beginner or advanced.
Based in Kinlet, but I can
come to you. Some day times
available, but limited after-school.

Francis Engleheart
07710 288526 • fengleheart@hotmail.com

All Round Property Maintenance	10	Haycox, P & Son (Funerals)	25	Severn Edge Vets	10
Cleobury Country Centre	11			Second Sense Hearing	21
Cost Cutter	35	Highley Minors	29	Shropshire Registration Services	25
David Dexter (Motor Repairs)	14			That's Nice Creations	35
Halo Leisure (Severn Centre)	16	Irena Foot Clinic	10	Tele - Satt Aerials	11
Harris, Edwin & Sons (Funerals) Ar-	10	Ince, B (Funeral Directors)	25	Vivians Mobile Hairdressing	11
Arc Tree Care	16	Kinlet C of E School	24		
	25	Martin, Tony (Plumbing etc.)	28		
	10	Northwood & Sons (Funerals)	25		
		Ovenclean	28		
		Perry & Phillips (Funerals)	24		
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**No transport for essential journeys?
We may be able to help...**

**COMMUNITY
CAR SCHEME**

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



**Andrew Powell
07368557716**

Reasonable charges

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

**St. Mary's
Parish Hall
Highley**

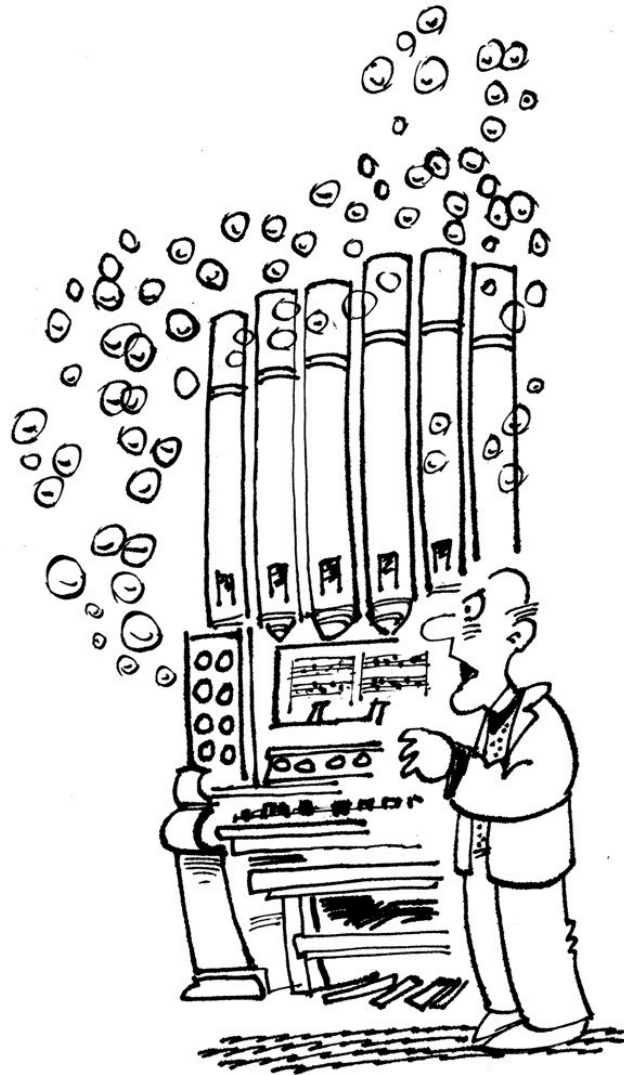
Kids parties
Wedding Receptions
Baptism Celebrations
Funeral wakes
£20.00 for the first hour
£12.50 per hour from then on

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

Raise a Smile



For the last time! - Which member of the Junior Choir put bubble mixture in the organ-blower?!

The Paper Shop
High St., Highley

Costcutter

- ◆ Newsagents
- ◆ Confectionery
- ◆ Tobacconists
- ◆ Food Hall
- ◆ Off Licence
- ◆ Videos
- ◆ Pay Point
- ◆ Free cash machine

We are your local, friendly newsagents. We deliver daily and Sunday newspapers right to your door.

Come and browse through our extensive range of books, magazines and greeting cards

We have an excellent selection of beers wines and spirits, also convenience grocery and frozen food.

Church Services in July 2026

Wednesday 1st July	10am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 5th July	9.30am Morning Service	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 12th July	9.30am Holy Communion	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10.30am Morning Worship	St Mary's Church, Highley
	6pm Evening Service	St Mary's Church, Billingsley
Sunday 19th July	9.30am Morning Worship	St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh
	10am Holy Communion	St Bartholomew, Glazeley
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's Church, Highley
Sunday 26th July	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 2nd August	9.30am Morning Service	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