

HOPE AND SHELVE PARISH

Services during April

Sunday 7th April – Holy Communion at Shelve 9am

Sunday 14th April – Holy Communion at Hope 9am

Sunday 21st April – Morning Prayer at Shelve 9am

Sunday 28th April – Morning Prayer at Hope 9am

Spring is here at last, that time when, so Tennyson suggested, 'a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.' I don't know what evidence the poet had for his comment, but it certainly lifts the spirits to see the hedges greening and to hear the birdsong again.

Spring seems to be a popular time to be married. Talking to a wedding couple the other day, I was reminded of how a marriage ceremony combines many traditional elements with new hopes and anticipation of the future. These days there are lots of different places where you can hold a wedding, but those choosing to be married in their local church are linked with earlier couples who have made their vows on the same spot, perhaps parents or grandparents, with whose children were baptised there, and those who have been laid to rest in the churchyard. Rural churches especially have this strong sense of being rooted in local communities, and serve as a reminder of God's presence with us as we go about our daily life and work.

Revd Fran Brealey • revfran@btinternet.com • 07982 324760

Advance Notice!

On the afternoon of June 1st we will be holding our summer fete at Leigh Manor, by kind invitation of David and Annabel Stacey. This will be our first summer fete as the joint parish of Hope and Shelve, and we hope it will be an enjoyable event for our communities and surrounding villages. If any local individual, organisation or charity would like to have a stall, do contact me email revfran@btinternet.com.

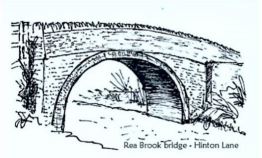
Hope Show Stalls

Would you be interested in having a stall at the Hope Show? (To be held on 7th September at the village hall). Crafts, local produce, art etc., bring your own table.

Enquiries to chair@hopevillagehall.org.uk

Rea Valley foodbank

COMMUNITY APPEAL



The Rea Valley Foodbank supports anyone unable to meet their food bills and will provide a weekly parcel of food and other essential household goods until financial circumstances improve. You need a referral to ensure that your parcel meets your needs, but it's really easy, just call…..

Greg 07902 794653 Richard 07922 830488

Alternatively GP's and schools are able to make referrals.

Rea Valley was set up in partnership with Shrewsbury Food Bank PLUS. The valued support from Shrewsbury means that our Foodbank sessions in Minsterley and Pontesbury are supplied with donated food, toiletries, cleaning products and household items for individuals and families every week.

We desperately need in-date tinned and packet foodstuff, toiletries, cleaning products, pet food and nappies. If you are able to donate and can help us to help others in our community please drop off at the following venues, at the dates and times listed. **NOTE: Egg boxes needed please!**

Hope Village Hall	**Worthen Village Hall**
Every 2nd Wednesday 12 noon until 2:00 pm 10th April	Every 3rd Wednesday 08:30 am until 11:00 am 17th April

Members of our team will be there to collect donations and provide a warm welcome. Thank you!
For further information please email support@reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS
We would like to give a huge thank you to all those who have donated food and household essentials, as well as financial support, when we have held the Community Appeal days in Hope Village Hall. It is very much appreciated by ourselves and our clients. We wouldn't be able to give the support needed without your donated items, so many thanks again.

Free Health Checks

The Shropshire Council Community Outreach team offer mini health checks throughout the community. These health checks give Shropshire residents a better understanding of their health as well as an opportunity to discuss any concerns they have regarding their health and wellbeing. The team are able to inform residents what help and support is available, empowering residents to take the next step in improving their own health and wellbeing.
Visiting Hope Village Hall between noon to 1.50pm on the following dates:

15th May
17th July
18th September
20th November

For further information, please email: CommunityOutreach@shropshire.gov.uk

Does anyone have unwanted clean 454g/ 1lb jam jars?
if so please ring or text Jean 891637 mobile 07867 650117

Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group

How many Curlews and Lapwings are there? Please help us to find out

It's not too late to join our Curlew and Lapwing survey. We need to know how many breeding pairs there are, and where, before we can try and help them.





We have looked for Curlews and Lapwings since 2014. In 2023, we found 9 - 11 breeding pairs of Curlews, but didn't find any nesting Lapwing. We hope to find the same number of Curlews again, and more Lapwing.

This year we are also looking for Kestrel and Cuckoo.



The survey only involves three 3-hour visits between the beginning of April and mid-June, simple instructions and a map to record your observations are provided, and there will be a training session if you want to come. Results from previous years can be found on the Rea Valley pages on the Community Wildlife Groups website www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/

If you see or hear any of these birds, or if you want to help with the survey, please email me: leo@leosmith.org.uk

Leo Smith



Wednesday Community Cafe
Hope village Hall

Alexanders of Welshpool—Every thing for your Garden.

Free Delivery to your door
Hope, Bentlawnt and surrounding Vlilages

Large bags of Compost
Grass Seed Fertiliser

Seed Potatoes (many varieties)
Broad/Runner Beans, Peas, Onion Sets and more
All sold loose so buy as many as you need

Flower seeds

Orders can be requested via Telephone/Online (ask for Hope or Marton Delivery or made at Hope Village Hall (Wednesdays 12-2pm).

Telephone 01938 552329 website www.alexandersofwelshpool.co.uk

Email: enquiries@alexandersofwelshpool.co.uk

WORTHEN AND BROCKTON CROWN GREEN BOWLING CLUB

Would you be interested in joining our Bowling Club? Our bowling green and Clubhouse are situated in the heart of the village behind Worthen Village Hall and adjacent to Brockton Rovers football pitch. The countryside surrounding the bowling green is the envy of many of our visiting bowling teams.

We are a small friendly Club who play competitively in the various Shrewsbury Bowling Leagues. We have our own Club Cup Competitions which usually take place at weekends and Bank holidays and we organise friendly matches with other local Bowling Clubs. This means we have many social events throughout the bowling season which runs from April through to September.

If you have ever considered bowling and would like to know more about becoming a member of our friendly Club, then please contact Kate Washbourne, Club Secretary, on 0779 1210208 or e-mail kate@gladstan.co.uk

Janet, Debbie & Clare would like to say a massive thank you for the support, help and raffle prizes that were donated to our recent Bingo Evening. We raised the fantastic amount of £630 for Hospice at Home which is a charity very close to us as a family.
The winners of the lucky squares were as follows:

Joan Price	Trish Lewis	Janet Davies	Mary Brockley	Lorna Lewis
Brian Heath	Marie Edwards	Liam Bennett	Carol Wilkinson	John Delves

PONTESBURY & DISTRICT GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 5 March. The Committee and Trustees were all re-elected *en bloc and in their annual reports the Chairman, Treasurer and Trading Secretary all commented on how well the Association is doing. A lease on the trading Post was recently signed giving us security of tenure for the next 110 years.*

Spring Planting

April in the garden is the time for potatoes to be planted. Traditionally it was Good Friday when this happened – that day being the first one in the Spring when the workers had a day off. The date for Easter is variable so it might seem a bit haphazard, especially as it falls quite early this year. However the date for Easter is determined by the lunar calendar and there are many gardeners who now plant and harvest by the phases of the moon, so both approaches seem to tie in well together!
There is still a danger of frost until the middle/end of May so look after tender plants and seedlings until then. If you don't have a greenhouse in which to shelter the smaller plants you can wrap them in horticultural fleece when frost is forecast. Looking further ahead to when your soft fruits are ripening and protect them from marauding birds with fruit netting. You can make a protective cage using canes and netting – just be careful if high winds are forecast!

Spring into the Garden

Don't forget the social evening at 7.30 on Thursday 16 May in the Public Hall. Admission is free, as are the refreshments, so all you have to pay for is anything that you buy from the plant and garden-related stalls that will be there. More information will be in next month's Newsletter.

At this point it is worth reminding ourselves that, although the Gardeners Association has been in Pontesbury for over eighty years, there are people new to the area who may not know how we work. The Association was formed with the aim of promoting gardening in the local area and now its main function is as a co-operative: buying garden consumables in bulk and reselling to members at rates lower than are normally found in garden centres and other retail outlets. The centre of activity is The Trading Post, which is a former railway shed by the old line in Pontesbury, and a view of the building itself is worth a visit.

We only sell a limited range of seeds; because of their perishable nature we concentrate on those for planting in Spring and at the moment we have several varieties of seed potatoes, beetroot, pea and bean seeds and onion and shallot sets, which are sold in whatever quantity you want to buy, as opposed to the pre-packed quantities that you have to get in most retail outlets. We do sell loose grass seed all year round. Occasionally members will bring in surplus seeds or seedlings to exchange or sell for a small donation; these are usually snapped up quite quickly.

The Trading Post, in Station Road, is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon until the end of October.

Some dates for your diary:

- 19 May Pontesbury Garden Trail
- 24 August: Annual Show, 2.30 pm in the Public Hall
- 26 October Last Trading Post open day for 2024.

The Callow Run

This local event has been successful for the last couple of years and enjoyed by those taking part. We are still looking for someone to take over the reins and organise it this year.

We are hoping the run can take place on the same day as the Hope Church Fete in the summer or maybe on the same day as Hope Show in September.

If you, or someone you know would be interested in taking on the organisation of the event for 2024 please contact chair@hopevillagehall.org.uk for more information.

Hope and Bentlawnt Local History Group

The potentially severe effects perceived attributable to the change in climate, post the pre-industrial age, have been abundantly described in recent years; certainly, our milder winters have brought us wetter weather and significant localised flooding, but nothing on the scale of one weather event in the early C19 on which industrialisation could not be blamed.

The catastrophic effects of this severe storm, which actually covered an area from Worcester through to Lancashire, are described in the book, 'The History of Minsterley', written in the 1970s by Miss D.T. Merry, which contains a contemporaneous report of the event and describes how devastating it was for everyone living in our immediate area and down into Shrewsbury. What follows is an extract from Miss Merry's book:

'There were many more half-timbered cottages in Minsterley in the eighteenth century. Then in 1811 a terrible flood occurred on Monday, May 27th, of which a first-hand account was given in the Shrewsbury Chronicle of the following Friday:-

"On Monday afternoon a violent storm of hail, thunder and lightning was widely felt, particularly South-West of Shrewsbury. The air was sultry, the lightning very vivid and the thunder is described by persons near Minsterley to have been similar to the report of many cannon immediately over their heads: near White Grit hailstones two inches in circumference lay almost a foot deep. About five o'clock in the afternoon, a cloud burst upon the ridge of the Stiperstones, and a torrent of water, with irresistible force and thundering sound, running down the hillside, swept away several cottages belonging to the White Grit miners. Part of the vast body of water took a direction through Habberley, but the greatest quantity of water pursued its course through the valley through which runs the Minsterley Brook. From the vicinity of Mr Nailor's Hogstow Mill, buildings and everything in its way were overwhelmed; and our readers may form some idea of the bulk and impetuosity of the torrent, when they are told that, among many others that it tore up by the roots, one tree containing 80 feet of timber was floated over meadows more than a mile.

Between five and six o'clock, the deluge reached Minsterley, flooding almost every house in the village. Mr Vaughan, a farmer, was swept away from his fold, and carried several hundred yards through the bridge, where the current threw him upon a pig sty, from whence he climbed to the roof of a house and was saved. His sister was carried a great distance and left in the branches of a tree; but so much bruised that she is not expected to survive; not a trace is left of his threshing machine or stabling, but five horses escaped. Thirteen persons were miraculously saved in the Angel publick house; in the first alarm they ran upstairs, and when the water had reached the second storey, they clung to the rafters. The stabling, with all other contiguous buildings, were swept away. In the stables were 17 horses, and they swam out. The persons who perished in this village were Mr Hoggins, a farmer, Holmes, a labourer, and another person.

The next scene of desolation was Pontesford, where …. at Mr Heighways (Pontesford House) it burst into the house through the windows till at length the walls gave way, and Mr Heighway's venerable grandmother, aged 83, with two female servants and a labourer were hurried into the abyss. Meanwhile Mr Heighway's wife and another lady climbed upon the roof of the house, from whence they beheld Mr Heighway clinging to a pole, who was lifted by two men upon the bridge about 30 yards distant. Mr Bennett, an overseer of Pontesbury Coal Works, and two others, got into a hayloft, where deeming themselves secure, they were in the act of petitioning the Almighty to deliver the persons upon the bridge, part of which had just fallen in, when instantly the building was swept away, and the unfortunate men were all lost. The bodies of these men were not found yesterday. The losses of Mr Heighway, it is supposed, will exceed £4000. Nearly the whole of his house, except the end on which his wife and her companion were saved, is destroyed, together with the furniture, stabling, barns, sheds, two valuable horses, tan-pits, hides, bark etc, and every tree is torn away from his orchard. At this place the water was at least 20 feet deep. At Minsterley, the water was from 6 to 8 feet deep in some houses. The house and Mill at Plox Green were carried away.

(cont.)

At Hanwood, the damage done at the linen mills of Marshall, Atkinson & Co., is considerable …. Indeed it may be said that every bridge and mill within the course of the torrent has either been destroyed or greatly damaged. … The torrent following the course of the Meole Brook reached Coleham, ….about 10.00 at night, with a tremendous roaring noise. The cellars and lower rooms belonging to the Seven Stars Publick house, and all the houses adjoining, were deluged. The street in front of Mr Hulbert's factory was inundated to a depth of nearly three feet, by an instantaneous gush. At this time the noise of the current was inconceivably dreadful and the cries of 'Help, Help, Drowning,' etc. contributed to the horror of the sound. The force of this great body of water rushing into the Severn from the Meole Brook actually turned the current of the Severn, which rose near the English Bridge four feet perpendicular in less than ten minutes. Much damage has been done at the Abbey Mill, and in the gardens contiguous. The force of the torrent running under Coleham Bridge carried with it a portion of the field occupied by Mr Birch, by which several hundred square yards of ground will be lost to the owner.

The number of lives lost amounts to nine at Pontesford, and three at Minsterley. ……..

We have heard it said in the parishes of Pontesbury, Worthen and Westbury (i.e. including Minsterley) at least three thousand acres of land were deluged. ……."

THE BOG VISITOR CENTRE 2024 Season

The Visitor Centre reopened 20th March

The Stiperstones National Nature Reserve managed by Natural England presents a unique landscape of rocky tors and heathland that has a rich natural history and geology. Lead and other minerals provided reason for centuries of human occupation in which industry The Bog played an important part. It is a privilege and pleasure to pass on information of these aspects to visitors and to provide guidance on the range of walks, long and short, that are available for them to enjoy.

Our team of volunteers are looking forward to welcoming visitors from near and far with information and refreshments. A wide range of local crafts are available to purchase as are books, maps and walk leaflets.

Staffing The Visitor Centre

'Volunteers' work their first 30 hours voluntarily and additional hours after that are paid at the minimum rate for those who chose to be paid. Our pool of volunteers ranging in age from 16 to 80+ needs expanding and we are looking for people who would enjoy interacting with our visitors. New recruits receive comprehensive training during their induction period. If interested please email Lin Brown. (Contact details below)

School students make a considerable contribution to the successful operation of the Centre at weekends and during the holidays and are paid for all their working hours at the appropriate rate for their age. Students interested in joining the team please contact Lin Brown. (see below)

Opening hours Tuesday – Friday 11am – 5pm
Saturday and Sunday 10am – 5pm

Contact details for our Secretary Lin Brown 01694 781634 bogcentre@hotmail.co.uk

NATURAL ENGLAND

Notes from the hill

Each month this year I am featuring one of the twelve species for which action plans have been produced by the Stepping Stones Project. These plans can be found on the Middle Marches community Land Trust web site. Each of these species now has a champion that will encourage the delivery of the actions within these plans.

The species I am featuring this month is the snipe. Unlike the willow Tit featured last month, this is one species that we do have on the Stiperstones, and our annual surveys have counted up to 6 pairs on or neighbouring the nature reserve. Considering that the last county wide census estimated a population of 15-20 breeding pairs, the Stiperstones and the Stepping Stones area are obviously very important for the survival of this species in Shropshire.

The snipe is a fairly small, brown stocky wading bird with a straight bill which is used for probing in wet soil for invertebrates. The straw-coloured stripes that run vertically along the head and down the back distinguish it from the similar sized woodcock, which like its name suggests, is more commonly found in woodland and has bars running horizontally across the head. The snipe is most often found in wet places and particularly favours wet rushy pastures, where if disturbed flies off in a characteristic zig-zag fashion.



In winter we get lots of snipe coming to Britain from Europe and from as far east as Russia, presumably because of our relatively warm winter climate allowing the bird to continue to probe the soil for food. Breeding numbers, particularly in the south of England are now very low, however the wonderful display flight and drumming of the snipe can still be heard on still evenings in spring, particularly on the east side of the Stiperstones. It is here, where the springs emerge from the hill, that the wet marshy flushes occur, and it is these that are the favoured feeding and nesting habitats of the snipe. The drumming sound produced by the male is created by the bird repeatedly flying up and diving down. It is in the dive that it splays its outermost tail feathers which vibrate and make a kazoo like sound. Often the female can be heard responding with a chippa-chippa call from deep within the rushes.

Having visited Iceland in the spring, where it is the most commonly heard background noise, it makes you wonder what other sounds of the countryside we no longer hear in the UK.

With the prediction of increasingly hotter and drier summers to come, the snipe will be particularly vulnerable to climate change, so any action to create wet rushy pasture in our countryside will help to keep this wonderful bird within the Shropshire hills.

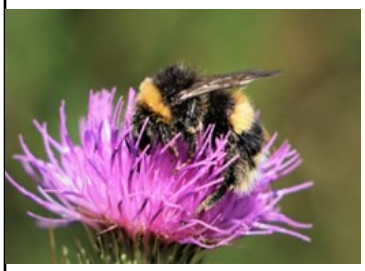
Any sightings of snipe or any of the 12 featured species within the Stepping Stones area should be recorded using one of the recording apps or websites such as Birdtrack or iRecord, or scanning the QR code. All information will be useful for the conservation of these threatened animals and plants.

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoreoak

The Green-winged Orchids of Minsterley Meadows

As reported in last month's newsletter Minsterley Meadows is up for sale and the Minsterley Meadows working group is hopeful for the success of ongoing negotiations. If so, a campaign will be launched to raise the necessary funds to purchase the meadows. Minsterley Meadows (SSSI) is a threatened habitat of national importance. It contains an abundance of Green-winged Orchids, characteristic of this type of land, which are nationally scarce**.**

Green-winged Orchid



Green -winged Orchids (Anacemptis morio) are short plants with narrow leaves (height 7-15cm) which live on unimproved grassland. Their name comes from the green veins in the 'hoods' of the flowers. (See photo below). They are mainly a stunning purple but colours can range from shades of purple to pink and even white. These orchids bloom in May and June and are pollinated by bumblebees.

Bumblebee on Knapweed



Grasslands such as Minsterley Meadows, the home of the Green-winged Orchid, are ancient habitats which are vulnerable to change. They need careful management and hay cutting at the right time to ensure that they are kept in good condition. Cutting time is from mid-July to the end of August, after the flowers have set seed.

We have a valuable opportunity to safeguard the future of Minsterley Meadows and the Green-winged Orchids. More updates will follow but in the meantime for further information please contact:
info@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk
See website: https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/

Hope Village Hall Community Café

Every Wednesday from noon to 2pm.

Come along to enjoy good company, light refreshments and use the post office facilities.

Alexanders of Welshpool stall, bric a brac and books

The Sabrina Mobile Library visits Hope Village Hall on Route 3, alternate Wednesdays, from 1pm to 1.50pm.

Upcoming dates: 3rd and 17th April

We have a map of all our routes and stops on our website here:
https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries/mobile-libraries/

arts alive FLICKS IN THE STICKS

One Life

Cert: PG - 109 mins



Fri 19th Apr - 7.30 pm

Marton Village Hall

Admission: Adults: £5 Child: £2.50

Enquiries: 01743 792790 or 07810 230860

Film only £5. Film and Fish & Chips £10. (Fish & Chips must be pre-ordered) Bar and refreshments available from 7.00p.m.
All enquiries to 01743-792790 or 07810-230860.

British stockbroker Nicholas Winton visits Czechoslovakia in the 1930s and forms plans to assist in the rescue of Jewish children before the onset of World War II, in an operation that came to be known as the Kindertransport.

Starring: Anthony Hopkins, Johnny Flynn, Lena Olin, Romola Garai, Alex Sharp, Marthe Keller, Jonathan Pryce and Helena Bonham Carter

BFI The National Lottery Film Forever

Make the most of life, join our u3a

Our u3a is part of a worldwide charity which helps retired and semi-retired people come together and learn for fun and friendship:

- 20 plus interest groups in our local u3a; something for everyone
- start at any level
- a warm welcome
- meetings are in person or by zoom, depending on the group
- new groups are formed when sufficient members express interest

- Art History
- Bridge
- Café Society
- Cinema & Social
- Creative writing
- Cycling
- Family History
- Folk Music
- Gardening
- Geology
- History
- Italian
- Literature
- Local History
- Painting & Drawing
- Photography
- Pickleball
- Play reading
- Recorded music
- Short Tennis
- Table Tennis (Minsterley)
- Table Tennis (Pontesbury)
- Walking (long)
- Walking (short)



learn, laugh, live

Contact
Steve Anderson
steve.anderson.u3a@gmail.com
07861 531 186

u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley



April 17

Wednesday 2pm
Minsterley Parish Hall
A488, Minsterley, SY5 0EH
Refreshments available
Free entrance

learn, laugh, live

OPEN MEETING
Members & non-members welcome

POLITICS, SCIENCE AND ADVENTURE IN THE ANTARCTIC

A talk by Jonathan Walton

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a invites members and non-members to our next Open Meeting on the 17th April, where our speaker is **Jonathan Walton**, long term Pontesbury resident, talking about **Politics, Science and Adventure in the Antartic**.

His Antarctic experience includes 20 summer seasons and 2 winters over 50 years. He is the holder of the Polar Medal and current president of the UK Antarctic Club. This exciting presentation includes an overview of the continent of Antarctica plus personal tales of life in a hostile climate with periods of up to 9 months sharing a one room hut with only 3 others.

There will also be the chance to chat with u3a friends over coffee/tea and biscuits.

u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley

West Mercia Police

BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL
Safer Neighbourhood Team

Date: February 2024 – Newsletter

BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL SNT are based at Bishops Castle Police Station, Union St, Bishop's Castle, SY9 5AL

We work in the Parishes and area's of Bishop's Castle, Mainstone, Colebatch, Clun, Llanfair Waterdine, Newcastle on Clun, Bettws-Y-Crwyn, Stowe, Bucknell, Bedstone, Hopton Castle, Clungunford, Aston on Clun, Hopesay, Clunbury, Edgton, Wistanstow, Lydbury North, Lydham, More, Norbury, Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Stiperstones, Worthen and Chirbury.

Team details

Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant: Sgt 0640 Jenni Price
Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable: PC 3331 Stuart Coote
Police Community Support Officer: PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss
Police Community Support Officer: PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown
Team Email: bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

West Mercia Police contact numbers
Emergency: 999 Non Emergency: 101
Bishops Castle Police Station (not for reporting): 101, Extension 770-4901
Report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/
Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Website: www.westmercia.police.uk
Twitter: @SouthShropCops
Facebook: Bishop's Castle Policing Team Rural Watch

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED
CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE

16th February 2024 – 15th March 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Burglary	Pub broken into and till removed	Stiperstones	Occurred 02:20 13th March. CCTV images of offenders obtained, enquiries ongoing
Staking			
Allowing dog dangerously out of control	Dog has forced its way through hedge separating both properties and attacked victim's dog	Aston Pigott	
Theft	Water pump stolen from outside property	Priest Weston	Occurred sometime over the last 3 months but
Theft	Diesel siphoned from tractors	Snailbeach	Overnight 2nd – 3rd March
Blackmail		Stiperstones	
Theft	Set of traffic lights stolen, later found discarded with batteries missing	Hope	Overnight 25th – 26th February
Theft	Drone stolen	Area of the Hope Valley	Suspects named by victim, enquiries ongoing
Malicious communications		Bentlawnt	
Theft	7 lambs stolen, all had blue marking and yellow tags	Nr Habberley	Overnight 12th – 13th March

Quad bike thefts

Thefts of quads and other All-Terrain Vehicles from farms by criminal gangs continues to be of a regular occurrence in the county, in particular South Shropshire. On many occasions the quads have been left with keys in the ignition making it easier for the offenders to steal and potentially leaving the victim unable to claim on any insurance.

Please take measures to make the vehicle as difficult as you can to steal.

- When not in use, keep quads and ATVs locked up and out of sight, try and block doors where possible with other machinery or vehicles

- If gates or entrances are no longer used, then seal them off. Restrict access routes to the premises

- Install tracking devices and immobilisers to make it easier for police to recover stolen vehicles - most modern tracking devices are GPS enabled, with alarms/alerts that will send a message informing you if your machine is being tampered with.

- Target-harden your quad by creating a security cage or use a mechanical device such as steering brake/lock, ground anchor or wheel clamp when not in use - these devices are both visible and physical deterrents to thieves

- Know what you own – keep records of serial numbers and photographs of your kit including unique identifying features

- When buying a new quad insist on a chipped key and immobilisation system

The Minsterley and District Eisteddfod Committee would like to thank all the competitors who entered the various classes at the event on Saturday, 16 March 2024. We congratulate the winners and hope that both entrants and visitors enjoyed the occasion and gained pleasure from the performances.

The Committee would also like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the many friends who help out in various ways during the Festival weekend as it would be impossible to stage the event without this support.
C Penrose (Assistant General / Committee Secretary)

Come to the Gathering!

An Evening of Praise, Singing and Christian Fellowship.
Last Tuesday of the Month. Starts at 7pm
Marton Village Hall
ALL WELCOME

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

David Buxton	Julie Chesters
David Croker	Fiona Dale
Heather Davies	Mal Fellows
Andy Holloway	Brian Jones
Heather Kidd	Mike Powell
Richard Jones	John Soper
Annabel Stacey	Richard Tongue
Benno Veenstra	Gayvn Williams

www.worthenwithshelvepc.org.uk/committee

STRENGTH & STABILITY CLASS FOR AGES 60+

Tuesdays 9.30am—10.30am at Minsterley Parish Hall

Thursdays 10.00am—11.00am at The Pavilion Community Hub, Pontesbury

Booking is essential.

Contact Dan Lewis on 07904 338 791

or danlewisfitness@btinternet.com

Hignetts of Pontesbury Ltd

Established 1919

Family run fresh food retailers

Locally sourced meat *Fresh fruit and vegetables*

Fair trade foods *Groceries at competitive prices*

Bread, pies, buns and cakes all baked on the premises daily

Freshly filled sandwiches, baguettes and rolls

Garden plants and flowers *Compost and grow bags*

UPS parcel collection and delivery hub

Tel: 01743 790 228

www.hignetts.co.uk

Shropshire Pickers

Anything old and interesting

Buyer of records, stamps, old toys, engineering items, carpentry items, military items, cars/bikes including parts, old farm items.

Shed, garage and house clearances.

Please call: 07971 218136

All Shropshire Mobility

Freedom For Living!

vehicle adaptation specialists

hand controls

left foot accelerators

car boot hoists

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Bishop's Castle Medical Practice	01588 638285	Montgomery Medical Practice	01686 668217
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital	01743 261000	NHS Non-Emergency Helpline	111

Shropshire Council Customer Services	0345 6789000	Shropshire Council Benefit Support	0345 6789002
Shropshire Council Welfare Support	0345 6789078	Shropshire Council Bereavement Support	0345 6783028
National Grid (Fault Report/Status)	0800 6783105	Environment Agency (Incident Hotline)	0800 80 70 60
Severn Trent Water (Report Problem)	0800 7834444	Shropshire Highways (Report Problem)	0345 6789006
Shropshire Citizens Advice Bureau	0808 2787894	Shropshire Rural Support	0300 1232825
Royal Agricultural Benevolent Society	0800 1884444	Farming Community Network	01788 510866
Samaritans Helpline	116 123	Universal Credit Helpline	0800 3285644
Child Benefit Helpline	0300 2003100	Pensions Helpline	0800 7310469
Business Support Helpline	0300 4563565	Keep Shropshire Warm (Energy Advice)	0800 1123743
Barnabas Money Advice (Debt Advice)	07507 663251	A4U (Disability/Carers Advice/Advocacy)	01743 539201
Age UK Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin	01743 233123	Just Credit Union (Low Cost Loans)	01743 252325
Christians Against Poverty (Debt Counselling)	01274 760720		
Shrewsbury Samaritans	0330 0945717	Shropshire Mind (Mental Health Support)	01743 368647
Alzheimer's Society Shropshire	01952 250392	Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service	0300 3031191



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HOPE VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY EVENINGS
6.30 TO 8PM



Table Tennis
(2 tables available)
Or Darts



We have bats etc., available but bring your own if you can. Small charge to cover refreshments.

Pilates Class

When? - Mondays

Time? - 6:00-6:45PM

Class? - Mat Pilates

Where? - Hope Village Hall

Pilates is great for easing aches and pains of all kinds.

Improve your strength , posture and breathing!

For more details, you contact:

Ruth Morriss of ExtendAbility

Website : www.ExtendAbility.co.uk

Email : rmorriss73@gmail.com

Mobile : 07788123380 (please leave text or voice message)

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HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF HIRING HOPE VILLAGE HALL?

Our rates are very competitive :

Currently **£7 per hour** **Please note this will be increasing to £8 from May 2024**

Enquiries and bookings are made with Debbie on 01743 891414 (Reserve - Jean on 01743 891637). A leaflet is available with information about the facilities. You can also find out more online at hopevillagehall.org.uk

West Mercia POLICE
SERVING - PROTECTING - MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:
SGT 2382 Damien Kelly PC 21056 Matt Howell PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss

Contact Details

Emergency: **999**

Non Emergency: **101**

Crime stoppers: **0800 555 111**

Website: **www.westmercia.police.uk**

Twitter: **@SouthShropCops**

Facebook: **Bishops Castle Policing Team Rural Watch**

Email address: **bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk**

May 2024 deadline - Thursday 25th April 5pm

Advertising is an important source of funding for our newsletter!

Do you have anything to advertise? **Wanted? For Sale? Business? Hobby?**

Prices per annum below; We can price for one-off or irregular ads too.

Size	*(width x height)*	Per issue	Per annum
Whole page	19 x 27 cm	£25.00	£179.00
Half page	19 x 13 cm	£15.00	£107.00
Quarter page	9 x 13 cm	£8.00	£57.00
Double standard	12 x 6 cm	£6.50	£46.00
Standard	6 x 6 cm	£5.00	£36.00

By advertising in the Hope Newsletter, you agree to our advertising terms and conditions which can be found at https://hopevillagehall.org.uk/hope-newsletter/advertising

Hope News Online...

You can view the newsletter and archive back to 2012 online at:

hopevillagehall.org.uk/hope-newsletter

If you would like to receive the newsletter monthly by email, please email:

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By sending in an item for publication, you agree that you have the relevant rights for it to be published.

CONTACT US

Please send articles / quiz responses to editor@hopenews.uk

All other comments / questions to enquiries@hopenews.uk