


# December 2024/January 2025

**HOPE AND SHELVE PARISH**

**Services in December**
December 1st 9am Advent Holy Communion at All Saints, Shelve
December 8th 9am Advent Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Hope
December 15th 4pm All-Age Christingle Service at All Saints, Shelve
December 22nd 3pm Traditional Carols by Candlelight at Holy Trinity, Hope
December 25th 9.30am Christmas Day Holy Communion at All Saints, Shelve
December 29th 10.30am Group Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Minsterley

**Services in January**
January 5th 9am Epiphany Holy Communion at All Saints, Shelve
January 12th 9am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Hope
January 19th 9am Morning Prayer at All Saints, Shelve
January 26th 9am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity, Hope

Are you a last minute person when it comes to Christmas, or did your decorations go up as soon as Halloween was over? I do admit that I like wearing my Christmas jumpers all through December, and maybe some of January too. But I'm quite strict about not starting my Christmas too early (hence the church tea in the Village Hall on November 23rd was called a Winter Tea, even though we did enjoy some lovely Christmas music!).

The weeks leading up to Christmas, known in the church as the Advent season, have a character of their own. The emphasis is on reflection and preparation, not so much the list of things we need to do, make, wrap or bake, but preparing our minds and hearts for the great celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. This will be the theme of our services at Shelve and Hope on 1st and 8th December.

We start our Christmas celebrations with our Christingle at Shelve on 15th December and our Carols by Candlelight at Hope on 22nd. On Christmas Morning we have a Holy Communion service at Shelve.

Not everyone finds Christmas-time easy, especially as we remember the loved ones we have lost, or are separated from. Our Prayer Tree in the Village Hall is available for anyone to write a prayer or remember someone, and there is one in Shelve church too, which is always open if you want a quiet moment.

Wishing you all joy and peace this Christmas time.

Revd Fran Brealey

revfran@btinternet.com • 07982 324760

# COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday 7th December 2024**

**10.00am – 12.00noon**

**Hope Village Hall**

**In aid of Hospice at Home**

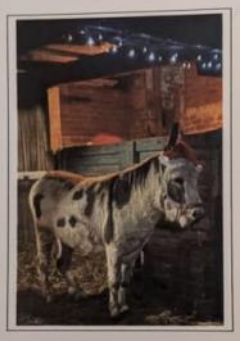
Stalls: Cakes
Raffle
Christmas Stall
Lucky Squares
Seasonal Refreshments

Donations welcome beforehand, please contact
Clare Bennett – 01743 790419 or Deborah Davies – 01743 891414

## All Saints Church

Come and join us at Bank Farm, Worthen for

## "Carols with the donkeys"



Monday 9th December, 6pm

Mulled wine ,soft drinks ,mince pies and singing well- known Christmas carols and songs.

All welcome.

Donations to be divided between All Saints Church Worthen and Ward 19, Children's Ward, Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital.

Callow Club

# The Singing Florist

Jane, the Singing Florist will be demonstrating her flower arranging skills to music and song. All her floral/chocolate Christmas arrangements created on the night will be raffled at the end of the evening so to be in with a chance of winning a Christmas arrangement to take home to adorn your Christmas table, you need to be there.

DON'T MISS this event

- Christmas floral/chocolate arrangements to be won
- Mulled wine and festive refreshments
- Good company and friendship

***Booking is essential as this event will book up quickly.***

*Linda Sagar 01743 891 744 or 07840 365 474*
*Coral Milborrow 01743 892 958 or 07485 655 992*

**11th December 2024 7:30pm**
**Worthen Village Hall**
**Price: £8.00**

# BINGO
## Family Fun Night

**In aid of Hospice at Home**

**FRIDAY 13th December 2024**
**Doors Open from 7.00pm**
**(Eyes Down 7.30pm)**
**Hope Village Hall**

**Bingo Books**
**£10 for 6 or £5 for 3**
**To include a strip of raffle tickets**

Donations of Raffle Prizes would be greatly appreciated.
Please contact Clare (790419) or Deborah (891414)

Refreshments will be available on the night

# Celebrate Christmas!

**Sunday 15th December**
**4pm at Shelve Church**
***Christingle service***

**Sunday 22nd December**
**3pm at Hope Church**
***Traditional Carols by Candlelight***

**Christmas Day**
**9.30am at Shelve Church**
***Holy Communion***

**Worthen Village Hall**






**Friday 13th December - 7.30pm.**

**Teams of 4 - £3.50 per person.**
**Tea & Coffee served or**
**bring your own drinks and nibbles**

**To book, please call 01743 891912**
or message
'Worthen Village Hall and Recreation Ground' on
facebook

# BIG CHRISTMAS SING!

**COME AND SING**
**CAROLS WITH THE**

# MARCHES CHOIR

**Conductor - Alistair Auld**

**WEDNESDAY**
**DECEMBER 11th 2024**
**7.00 pm**
**ST JOHN'S CHURCH**
**Bishop's Castle**

**Children and families especially welcome!**

**Tickets £8 on 07806 433394 or online from TicketSource**

**Children and students FREE**

www.marcheschoir.org.uk

The Marches Choir, conducted by Alistair Auld, present their "Big Christmas Sing!", a festive evening of carols and Christmas music in St John's Church, Bishops Castle.

The choir will sing a variety of seasonal pieces, including “The Angel Gabriel”, a lively and tuneful re-telling of Gabriel's story, arranged by David Wilcocks, and "Sing Lullaby!", a traditional Basque carol, with a lovely lilting melodic charm. Angelus et Virginem, a joyous carol, with a dance like setting, will have a beautiful flute solo, and the choir will also perform an arrangement of "The First Nowell" and "Pachelbel's Canon" with the two well-known tunes cleverly combined to great effect, using two flutes and choir. As usual there will also be a number of carols for audience participation.

Children and families are especially welcome, and there will be some special carols in which the children in the audience will be the stars! Mince pies and wine will be available in the interval to add to the festive spirit.

The concert will start at 7.00 pm, and tickets are available by calling 07806 433394, online from TicketSource (https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-marches-choir/t-avgovrz), or can be purchased from choir members or on the night."

## Remembrance Day

On Monday 11th November at the Bentlawnt Memorial, over 40 people attended the community Act of Remembrance in memory of the large number from our own community and all others who died in the two world wars and lie at rest in many parts of the world.

Our gratitude is extended to Rev Fran Brealey who conducted the service and to Clive Rowe for his beautiful but poignant rendition of the Last Post as a prelude to the 2-minute silence.

Wreaths were laid by Joyce Graves on behalf of the congregation of Holy Trinity Church, Hope and by David Stacey on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire.

Ralph Graves read out the names of each of those recorded on our Memorial and also spoke to the memory of the late Wilf Overton, from Plox Green. Back in 2016, after Ralph had arranged for the Memorial to be placed at Bentlawnt, because the only list of the Fallen was in Hope Church, it was Wilf that initiated the service that has since been held there. Thereafter, Wilf was a regular attendee to assist with the service, always immaculately turned-out and wearing his medals and white gloves.

**IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN IN BOTH WORLD WARS**

FIRST WORLD WAR:

**William Henry BENNETT**
Commemorated at
Vis-en-Artois Memorial,
Pas de Calais, France

**Arthur Percy BETTON**
Buried at Artillery Wood
Cemetery,
West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**Thomas O. BUNTING**
Buried at Cologne Southern
Cemetery, Nordrhein-
Westfalen, Germany

**Frederick William COCK-ERAL**
Commemorated at Ypres
(Menin Gate) Memorial,
West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**Richard EDWARDS**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**John G. GUNNERY**
Buried at Etaples Military
Cemetery, Pas de Calais,
France

**Charles Howard HARRIS**
Buried at Dartmoor Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt,
Somme, France

**Alfred John BETTON**
Buried at Brookwood Military
Cemetery,
Surrey, UK

**William Henry BISHOP**
Buried at Jerusalem
War Cemetery, Israel

**Oscar William CHALLINOR**
Buried at Grove Town Cemetery,
Meaulte, Somme, France

**John DOOGAN**
Buried at Unicorn Cemetery,
Vendhuile, Aisne, France

**William A. EVANS**
Buried at Hooge Crater
Cemetery,
West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**James GWILLIAM**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**Thomas HUGHES**
Commemorated at Arras

Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

SECOND WORLD WAR:

**Alick Gilroy DODDINGTON**
Buried at Holy Trinity Church,
Hope, Shropshire

**John Wilton DOWNS**
Buried at Massicault War Cemetery,
Tunisia

**Robert Charles ECCLESHALL**
Buried at Ambon War Cemetery, Indonesia

**Kathleen Violet ECCLESHALL**
Commemorated in the Civilian War Dead Roll of Honour, located near St. George's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, London

**Kenneth EDWARDS**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**William EVANS**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**Gordon REDGE**
Buried at Massicault War Cemetery,
Tunisia

**Leonard Martin JACKS**
Buried at Ismailia War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt

**William JOHNSON**
Commemorated at Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**Leonard William RUFF**
Buried at Overloon War Cemetery, Nord -Brabant, Netherlands

**Frederick James JONES**
Commemorated at Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

**Jack JONES**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**George Henry WALTON**
Commemorated at Alamein Memorial, Egypt

**Josiah W. JONES**
*(Cannot be positively identified on Commonwealth War Graves Commission records)*

**Richard James JONES**
Buried at Holy Trinity Church, Hope, Shropshire

**Francis MADDOX**
Commemorated at Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**John Edward PARRY**
Commemorated at Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

**Seymour PHILPOTT**
Buried at Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel

**John Thomas POWELL**
Buried at Berks Cemetery Extension, Hainaut, Belgium

**Phillip PREECE**
Buried at Avesnes-Le-Comte Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France

**Richard James PRYCE**
Buried at Aval Wood Military Cemetery, Vieux-Berquin, Nord, France

**Eli PUGH**
Buried at Vaulx Hill Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

**John ROWSON**
Buried at Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Cemetery, Egypt

**Richard John George VAUGHAN**
Commemorated at Thiepval Memorial
Somme, France

**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

**5 star Hygiene Certificate!**

Shropshire Council recently carried out a food safety inspection of the village halls kitchen and have awarded us the highest grade available.

Thanks and congratulations go to Deborah Davis, and the other kitchen volunteers, for ensuring food preparation and practices are carried out to the highest standards.

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

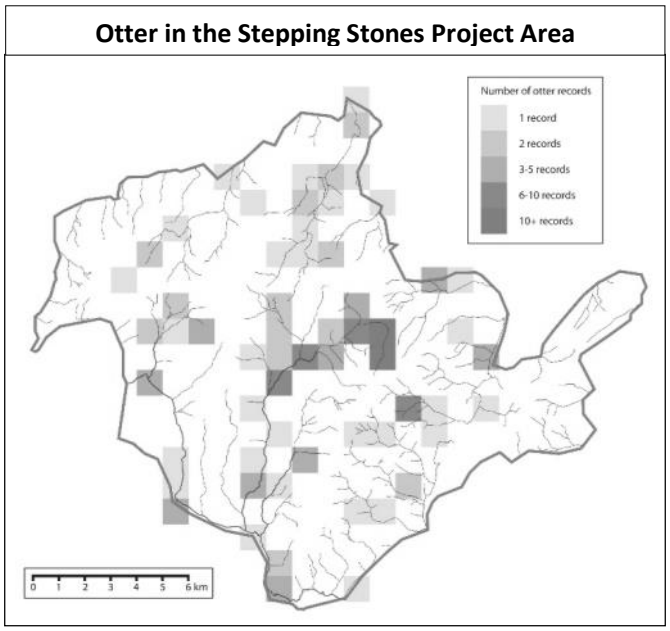
December 11th January 8th & 22nd

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

## NATURAL ENGLAND

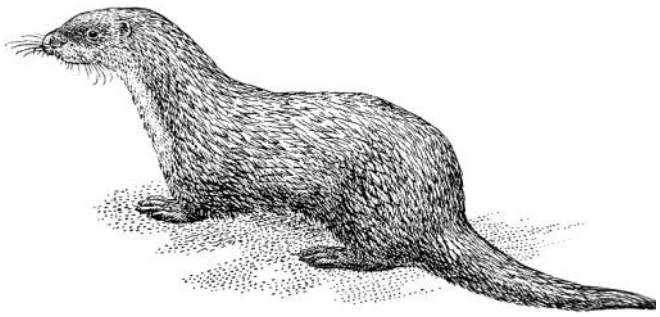
## Notes from the hill

This month's edition of Notes from the Hill is the last one which covers one of our twelve featured species that have action plans produced by the Stepping Stones Project. The last of the twelve is the otter, which although generally won't be found on the Stiperstones, the health of its riverine environment will certainly be affected by what goes on up in the hills. There has been a push on the Stiperstones, and on other sites in the Shropshire Hills, to help "slow the flow" and hold back water in the hills by blocking drainage ditches and rewetting marshes and bogs so that water is released slowly into the catchment of these rivers. Actions like these are becoming more and more necessary as we start to see the implications of climate change and more frequent flood events in the lowlands.




The elusive otter is one of our top predators feeding on fish, amphibians and crustacea. One of the nearest records that I remember is from the Bridges where otters were feeding on signal crayfish in the stream near to the Youth Hostel. I once, also had a lovely evening watching a couple of otters playing further down where the East and west Onny rivers meet. Sightings may be rare but as these animals are largely nocturnal their presence is best shown by the signs that they leave behind. Footprints can often be seen particularly in soft sandy deposits and their five webbed toes are bigger than a mink's. Otters also leave spraints in prominent places, such as fallen trees, weirs and bridges, as 'scented messages', helping them to find mates and defend territories. They contain visible fish bones and have a distinctive, pleasant musky smell, which has been said to be reminiscent of jasmine tea.

Once restricted to Scotland and a few small areas of England and Wales. Now, the otter is extending its range into former territories and has increased locally, though the population is still fragmented, and it remains on the global red list of threatened species. Like with most top predators its presence alone can be a sign of a healthy environment, although if it is surviving on an invasive crayfish maybe that may not always be the case.



Actions identified in the plan include:
further survey work, habitat improvements and the removal of barriers to fish passage.

For more information on getting involved with the Stepping Stones project search for The Stepping Stones Project in the Shropshire Hills.

*Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy New year from Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoreoak*

## Christmas Greetings



On behalf of Pontesbury & Rea valley u3a committee can I wish all our members past, present and future a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2025.

2024 has been very positive for our u3a - we've increased our membership once again, welcomed new committee members, had the privilege of listening to a wide range of inspirational speakers and we've 'learned, laughed and lived' via all the activities taking place via our 20 plus interest groups.

If being a member of our u3a sounds appealing then why not visit our new website (pontesbury.u3asite.uk) and find out a bit more about what we get up to. There's a u3a noticeboard in The Pavilion with information too.

pontesbury.u3asite.uk

u3a activities tend to be geared towards those no longer in full time employment and help to make sure that as we get a bit older we don't lose our sense of adventure, and satisfy our need to belong to a thriving community and keep our brains engaged.

If you have a friend or family member who you think would enjoy becoming part of the organisation then why not 'gift' them membership this Christmas - it's better than toiletries or socks and makes a gift that lasts the full year. Membership from January 2025 to March 2026 is available as a gift for just £15.00.




Check out the website for more details or contact Steve our membership secretary:
Phone: 07861 531 186

Or if you want to find out more about us, come long to our Christmas Party on the 18th December at 2pm at the Pavilion in Pontesbury.

In the meantime - have a great Christmas and maybe make joining the u3a your new year resolution?




## Callow Club

Everyone is welcome!

**Wednesday 11th December 2024** at Worthen Village Hall at 7:30pm
Jane, the Singing Florist will be demonstrating her flower arranging skills to music. All her floral/chocolate Christmas arrangements created on the night will be raffled at the end of the evening.
£8.00 per person will include mulled wine and festive refreshments.
***This is an evening not to be missed but booking is essential.*** *Phone Linda Sagar on 01743 891744 or 07840-365474 if you wish to join us.*

**Wednesday the 15th January 2025 at 7:30pm**. We'll be meeting at Brockton Church Rooms, Brockton adjoining Worthen to hear all about the life of Eglantyne Jebb, the Founder of the Save the Children Charity. Her life will be presented by way of a monologue by Alison Utting who wowed us at the beginning of this year with her very entertaining monologue about Dame Agnes Hunt. The usual refreshments will be served. All are very welcome. £5.00 entry for non-members.

***TO BOOK EITHER OF THE ABOVE CALLOW CLUB EVENTS please contact Linda Sagar on 01743 891744 or 07840-365474 if you wish to join us.***

## Hope Village Hall AGM

We will be holding our AGM on **Monday 20th January 2025 at 7pm**

The meeting is open to members of the public

The Hall is a registered charity and run by a committee of volunteers. We could really do with some new members so, if you are interested in supporting the hall and your local community by joining us please come along to the meeting!

## Date: November 2024 – Newsletter

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

### CRIME STATS

Please note not all crimes or investigations are recorded below due to the sensitive nature or ongoing investigations.

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

**16th October 2024 – 14th November 2024**

| CRIME REPORTED | DETAILS | LOCATION | NOTES |
|---|---|---|---|
| Criminal damage | Criminal damage caused to a vehicle left on side of the carriageway following a collision | A488 near Nind turn | Suspect vehicle details obtained |
| Stalking | | Worthen | |
| Stalking | | Snailbeach | |
| Burglary | 3 x keylite roof windows, 1 x whacker plate, 1 x JCB hydraulic breaker, 1 x hydraulic breaker, generator and Copper piping stolen from building site. | Leigh | Occurred 11th – 14th October |
| Suspicious circumstances | Unknown vehicle has driven over fields, tyre track discovered on two consecutive mornings. | Priest Weston | Occurred 3rd and 4th Nov. Likely caused by persons poaching or Hare Coursing during hours of darkness. Similar reports of vehicle tracks on land in the Bishop's Castle area during this time period |

### Hope Village Hall Community Café

Thank you to everyone who has come along on Wednesdays to enjoy the lunches and company. Funds raised from this provide a much needed income from the hall.

The café, and post office, will not be running on 25th December or 1st January, giving all our volunteers a well deserved break over the festive season.

Back to normal from 8th January!

**Local charity, Community Resource Launches their 2024 Warmer Winter Appeal**
**Can You Help Local Households Stay Warm?**

As temperatures drop, local charity, Community Resource is once again reaching out to local residents to help protect Shropshire's most vulnerable households from the impact of fuel poverty.

With energy costs rising sharply and the loss of the Winter Fuel Allowance for some, their 2024 Warmer Winter Appeal is more crucial than ever in preventing our community from being left in the cold.

Each year, Community Resource provides emergency fuel grants, energy-saving materials, and essential support to help those in our county facing difficult "heat or eat" choices. This winter, the need is especially acute, with many rural and elderly residents struggling to heat older, uninsulated homes. Many households in Shropshire are also off the gas grid and rely on more expensive heating options, making the need for help even greater.

Every donation makes a difference:

- **£10** can provide an emergency energy top-up.
- **£50** could fund draft-proofing kits and other essential materials.
- **£100** could provide immediate relief to a household in crisis.

**Together, we can make a lasting impact** by ensuring that vulnerable neighbours stay warm, safe, and healthy through the winter. To donate, visit their JustGiving page, or for more information on how you can help, contact Community Resource at 01743 360641 or via email – enquires@community-resource.org.uk

## MINSTERLEY MEADOWS SAVED

Following an intense 10-month campaign the species rich Minsterley Meadows SSSI has been purchased by and for the community!

Over £155,000 was raised by local people and organisations. That figure combined with part of a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant has enabled Middle Marches Community Land Trust to purchase the land for the local community and wildlife. Further funds granted by the National Lottery as part of the £224,000 bid will be put towards three years of management and community engagement on and around the meadows. With over 5000 Green-Winged Orchids as well as many other wildflower species the meadow is an ecological haven open for the public to enjoy!

Members of the Middle Marches Community Land Trust, Marches Meadow Group and Minsterley Meadows campaign steering group extend their sincere gratitude to those who donated their time, pledged money and spread the word about the campaign. Another big thank you must go to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for their generous grant, and grateful thanks to the players of the National Lottery! The community responded to the call and this grant is your reward. It will enable us to ensure that the meadows will be enjoyed, valued, cared for and sustained, not only now but in the years to come.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund aims to make a difference to people's lives today whilst also leaving a lasting legacy for future generations.
Follow @HeritageFundUK on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, and use #NationalLotteryHeritageFund.
Website: www.heritagefund.org.uk

To find out more contact:
https://www.middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/ or https://www.marchesmeadowgroup.com/

For queries email: info@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org

JOHN (Delves)

Invites you to join him

for tea and cake

at Hope Village Hall

Saturday 7th December

2-5 p.m

**Come to the Gathering!**
**An evening of Praise, Singing and Christian Fellowship**
**Third Tuesday of the Month**
**7:00pm for refreshments and 7:30pm start**
**Marton Village Hall**
**ALL WELCOME**

**Minsterley Meadows**

**Public Meeting**

**Minsterley Parish Hall**

**9th December 8pm**

Complimentary refreshments provided

An update on future plans for the meadows;

A chance to answer your questions and hear your views

Keep a lookout for our future Event

**MINSTERLEY MEADOWS**

**A Springtime Celebration**

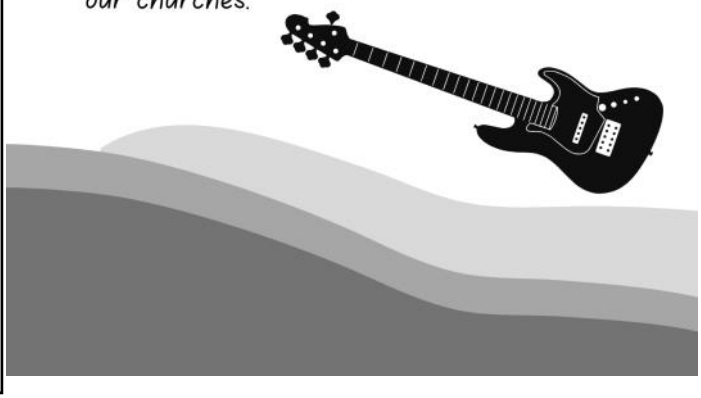
*when the orchids are in bloom*

**With your help we've done it!**




## Thank you!

Thanks to all who joined us recently for our evening in the Village Hall to hear about the life of Elvis Presley. We heard from Bill Powell the story of Elvis' life, his humble beginnings, meteoric rise to fame, and his tragic decline and death. The talk was punctuated with clips of Elvis in action singing some of his iconic tunes. We were pleased to raise £386 to support the ministry and mission of our churches.



## Sad Death of Mary Webb Society President

It was with great sadness that Mary Webb Society members learnt that our president and friend, Dr Gladys Mary Coles, had died suddenly on 7th October at the age of 89. As well as being our president and guiding light, Gladys Mary was the leading biographer of Mary Webb and a lifelong champion of this Shropshire writer's life and works.

A proud Liverpudlian born in Everton, Gladys Mary was a lecturer in Creative Writing, also an accomplished artist and gifted poet and novelist. Spending much of WW11 in Wales gave her a deep love of that country. She died after having enjoyed a writers' workshop in Wales with friends. Gladys Mary also had a great affinity with Shropshire, especially this area, 'Mary Webb Country', where Mary Webb based her novels. Mary's second novel 'Gone to Earth' was completed in Pontesbury, the Webbs' home for much of WW1. This was made into a Hollywood movie in 1950, with scenes filmed in this area and many local people as extras.



**Dr Gladys Mary Coles**

Gladys Mary enjoyed giving countless talks for the society at many village halls here including Worthen, Snailbeach and Pontesbury. Mary Webb's first novel 'The Golden Arrow' was based on the legend of a golden arrow said to be lost on Pontesford Hill. In April 2015 to support the campaign to Save Pontesford Hill, Gladys Mary gave a talk on Mary Webb in Pontesbury at the Public Hall.

This amazing woman has continued to inspire and enthral us with her incisive knowledge and passion for her subject. We will remember her for her warmth and wit, her friendship and her unique gifts. She is irreplaceable and will be sadly and greatly missed.

Sue King
Mary Webb Society member

## Heathers Report for November 2024

**SHIREHALL SHREWSBURY**

Plans to move Shropshire Council's offices descended into chaos recently when Shropshire's Conservative Administration decided to close down their offices in Shirehall, Shrewsbury a month before the new offices in the Guildhall would be ready!

This has been an utter shambles, with staff and public being left in the dark about what is happening. Our latest information is that most staff will now be working from home (and paying for their own heating) until the new accommodation is ready. However, Council meetings will still take place there and some tenants and departments such as the registrar will operate there until December.

**WORK STARTS ON NEW HOMES IN CHIRBURY**

The developer is now clearing the site and building work should start soon. The aim is to have the homes ready by August or September 2025.If you have a connection with Chirbury and are interested in a home then please register with 'Homepoint' as soon as possible as there is a 20 week delay in processing applications. This will allow you to bid on a property when they are completed. Contact me for more details

**DRAINS AND GULLIES**

The severe rain the other week has revealed just how many of these are blocked across our area. I have reported many of these to the Council but if you have one blocked near you then report it to 'FixMyStreet' - https://improvingyourroads.shropshire.gov.uk/) and let me know. I will try my best to get the Council to clear them.

**GRITBINS**

Soon the seasons of frost will be upon us. If you have an empty grit bin near you let me know. I will try to get them filled, but given the parlous state of the Council's finances, this might be hard work.

Best wishes
Heather Kidd,
Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen.
Heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk 079806 35518 Also on Facebook! www.heatherkidd.org

## Worthen & Brocton Community Calendar

Introducing the new Worthen & Brockton Community Calendar for 2025. This has been produced using entirely photographs taken by local people, the final twelve being chosen by visitors to the Worthen Big Community Lunch, held in October. We hope you like it!

The price is £7, or £9.50 including envelope and stamps if you would like to post it on to someone as a gift. You can order a copy from Sarah, just email treasurer@hopevillagehall.org.uk or call 07790 100462. They are also on sale in the Worthen Londis.

Proceeds from sales will go towards the Best Kept Village Competition funds, to be used for ongoing projects which will benefit and enhance the community. Many thanks to the local supporters who contributed to the printing costs, and to everyone who submitted photographs, which has helped to make this all possible.







## Mitchell's Fold Stone Circle - Off Roading

West Mercia Police has recently received an increase in complaints of motor vehicles, mainly enduro motorbikes, riding over Stapeley Hill, between Hemford and White Grit.

Shropshire Council still have the Byway that goes over Stapeley Hill, marked as such on the definitive map, but the Council's 'NO MOTOR VEHICLES' signs either end of the Byway are old and weathered. Police would like to remind off-roaders that this Byway has a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) that has been in place for many years in order to prohibit motor vehicles from using the Byway, so the Byway should only be used by vehicles for access.

The TRO is in place to protect Mitchell's Fold Stone Circle, which is a scheduled monument. The marked Byway runs straight through the middle of the Prehistoric Stone Circle.

Scheduled monuments, such as Mitchell's Fold Stone Circle, are protected under law by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, as well as other pieces of legislation. As a Scheduled monument there may be offences being committed by driving or riding over the site, which could be considered as causing criminal damage to the site. This is punishable by a fine and 2 years in prison. Section 59 of the Police Reform Act also gives Police powers to seize vehicle's that are off-roading and causing distress or annoyance to the public.

## Midwinter Concert at All Saints Church Worthen with Monty Folk

**Saturday 7th December @ 7pm**

Come together to hear Christmas Classics to celebrate Mid-Winter and the Festive period. There will be flutes and whistles; guitar, double bass and drums; harp and fiddle; and more. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Tickets are £12 and are available from Ann & Vicky. Advance booking is kindly requested to know numbers for refreshments.

Contact Ann to reserve your ticket
01743 891556 / 07745 508978 /
annmorganjones456@gmail.com




## 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

**APPLE JUICE**

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Apple Day in October. As well as the apples that were pressed on the day a pickup load of apples were taken to be pressed, pasteurised and bottled. The bottle from apples that were donated are now available for sale at the village hall @ £3.50 per bottle.

**Mini Health Checks**

The Shropshire Community Outreach team will be at the hall to do free health checks on

15th January from noon to 1.50pm

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


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| 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


## 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


## FREE

Do you have an event to promote?

Anything for sale or wanted?

A regular group meeting? Group activity?

Community information?

We usually have space to include posters or a mention about the above for no charge.

Just email details to:

editor@hopenews.uk Or:

enquiries@hopenews.uk

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**Key Phone Numbers**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pontesbury & Worthen Medical Practice | 01743 790325 | Westbury Medical Centre | 01743 884727 |
| 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 |

## 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

**For Sale**

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***And much more!***

## 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)

## ENTERPRISE HOUSE, BISHOP'S CASTLE

***YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRE***

| | |
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| **WEBSITE DESIGN & HOSTING** | **SERVICED OFFICES FOR RENT** |
| **COMMUNITY INFORMATION**<br>Advice, Support & Signposting | **VILLAGE OUTREACH**<br>Event Equipment Hire & PAT Testing |

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## HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF HIRING HOPE VILLAGE HALL?

Our rates are very competitive @ **£8 per hour**

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 0642 Jenni Price
PC 3331 Stuart Coote
PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss
PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown

**Contact Details**

Emergency: **999**
Non Emergency: **101**
Crime stoppers: **0800 555 111**

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

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

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

Twitter: **@SouthShropCops**

**February 2025 deadline - Sunday 26th January 5pm**

# Advertising is an important source of funding for our newsletter!

Do you have a business to advertise?

Prices for a single issue and per annum below; We can price for irregular ads too.

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| Whole page | 19 x 27 cm | £25.00 | £179.00 |
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| 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 current 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: **mailinglist@hopenews.uk**

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Have you got any recipes, cartoons, quizzes, crosswords or articles you would like to see in the newsletter? Just send to either of the email addresses below and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Articles—editor@hopenews.uk or sarah@hopenews.uk

Comments or queries—enquiries@hopenews.uk

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