HOPE NEWSLETTER

October 2025

Hope and Shelve parish

Services in October

October 5th 9am Harvest Holy Communion at All Saints, Shelve

October 12th 9am Harvest Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Hope

October 19th 9am 'Worship for Everyone', All-Age Service at All Saints, Shelve

October 26th 9am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity, Hope

ADVANCED NOTICE November 1st at 3pm All Souls Service at Holy Trinity Hope
A quiet service to remember our loved ones.

Refreshments served after all our services.

During October we will be celebrating Harvest in our churches, both at our services and as we enjoy Harvest Lunches and Suppers. Special care will be taken in decorating our buildings with fruit, flowers and vegetables, and we will sing the old favourites, 'We Plough the Fields' and 'Come Ye thankful People Come!'.

It is one of the joys of living in a rural area that I have become very aware of the appearance of the fields changing through the year, as they are ploughed, planted, and harvested. Whilst I am able simply to enjoy the views, farmers in our communities, whether they are growing crops or managing stock, have to cope with the vagaries of the weather and the markets to produce what we eat and use. Harvest is a time to give thanks for the business of farming, in all its variety, and to pray for those involved in it. We may sing 'all is safely gathered in', but we know the work doesn't stop at harvest-time.

Our Harvest events also remind us that God is the creator of all that grows, and all that is harvested. The Bible describes this in the poem that is the first chapter of the Bible. It depicts a world that is desolate and chaotic, being brought into beautiful order, as God speaks things into being. What God makes is very good. God gives names to light and day, moon and stars, just as later the human will give names to the animals and birds. Humans are given a role in governing and managing creation on God's behalf, so that all the world can be blessed.

It is easy to see the ways we have sometimes failed in this responsibility, but heartening also to see the variety of opportunities in our area to conserve and care for the land and all who live on and in it.

Rev Fran Brealey

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

1st, 15th & 29th October

Hope Show 2025

Hope Village Hall extends sincere thanks to everyone who submitted entries to this year's Hope Show and to all who joined us for the prize-giving. It was another great display of local residents' skills across a wide range of exhibits, in 48 classes, and particular congratulations go to all of those who did achieve success. Unfortunately, the 'men only' class of Bara Brith was too heavily subscribed and I only managed 4th place, of the 4 entries!! To those who shared my disappointment, better luck next year.

We were delighted to see so many exhibitors and, although the numbers were down a little on last year's record entries, as always, the standard was outstanding. It is a real pleasure to showcase the creativity and talent of our wider community. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2026 for another round. The list of exhibit classes will be published well in advance, giving you plenty of time to grow it, bake it, draw it, or make it.

Here are the results:

Hope Show 2025 – Class positions

Cookery	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Jar of chutney	Ali Rummy	Joan Price	David Stacey
2. Jar of jam	Jean Evans	Debbie Oates	Charles Price
3. Cheese scone x 3	Anne Williams	Jean Ellis	-
4. Quiche – any filling	(no first place awarded)	Anna Baylis	Anne Williams
5. Victoria sandwich (Traditional, 4 eggs)	Sue Williams	Jean Ellis	-
6. Lemon drizzle cake	Jean Ellis	David Stacey	Milly McDermott
7. Bottle of fruit gin	Ali Rummy	Joan Price	-
8. MEN ONLY: Bara Brith	Zac Zarychta	Mark Harris	David Stacey
9. Banana loaf	Anna Bayliss	Emma Kultanova	Anne Williams
10. Shortbread biscuits x 5	Rebecca Williams	Anne Williams	Emma Ball
11. Trifle	Debbie Davies	-	-
12. Gluten-free cake	No entrants	-	-
Produce	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
13. Heaviest marrow	Doug Boulter	Ali Rummy	Bob Evans
14. Heaviest potato	Bob Evans	-	-
15. Cooking applies x 5	Tracy Eggby Jones	Anne Williams	Emma Ball
16. Eating apples x 5	Charles Price	Tracy Eggby Jones	Carolyn Johns
17. Hen's eggs x 3	Duncan Bennett	Charles Price	William Hamer
18. Tallest sunflower (see rules)	Jill Peabody	Debbie Oates	Tracy Eggby Jones
19. Tomatoes x 3	Anne Williams	Annabel Stacey	Jean Evans
20. Unusual shaped vegetable	Bob Evans	Sue Leffman	-
21. Basket of vegetables (At least 5 different vegetables)	Ali Rummy	Sue Leffman	Annabel Stacey / Doug Boulter
22. Beetroot x 3	Jean Evans	Tracy Eggby Jones	Ernie Farmer
Flowers	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
23. Dahlias x 3	Doug Boulter	Joan Price	Ernie Farmer
24. A single rose	Anne Williams	Debbie Davies	Ali Rummy
25. A vase of mixed flowers from your garden	Joan Price	Jean Evans	Jayne Gunnery
26. Autumn wreath (fresh, not artificial flowers)	Joan Price	Debbie Davies	Sue Williams
27. Foliage pot plant	Anne Williams	Ali Rummy	Jean Evans
28. Miniature arrangement in a wine glass	Joan Price	Debbie Davies	Ron (Hillcrest)
29. Flowering pot plant	Debbie Davies	-	-
Craft	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
30. A crocheted item	Jackie Perks	Debbie Davies	-
31. A knitted item	Jackie Bebb	Val (Hillcrest)	Kath (Hillcrest)

32. A patchwork item	Jane Shutte / Anne Williams	-	-
33. An item of jewellery	Anne Williams	-	-
34. A birthday card	Debbie Davies	Jayne Gunnery	Carolyn Johns
35. An item made of wood	Wendy Carter	Steve Hall	Anne Williams / Doug Boulter
Art	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
36. Open class, any medium	Wendy Carter	Orlando Bayliss	Rosemary Hart
37. Painting of an animal, any medium	Wendy Carter	Charles Price	Rosemary Hart
38. A landscape, any medium	Wendy Carter	-	-
Photography	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
39. An animal	Carolyn Johns	Pat Shore	Ruth Morriss
40. A tourist attraction in Shropshire	Roger Shore	Pat Shore	Carolyn Johns
Children's Class 5 years and under	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
41. Decorated biscuits x 3	Noah Ball	Busy Edwards	Rosie Puttock
42. A bubble picture	Bertie Edwards	Rosie Puttock	Noah Ball
Children's Class Ages 6-7	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
43. Garden on a plate	-	-	-
44. Decorated cup cakes x 3	-	-	-
Children's Class Ages 8 to 11	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
45. A vegetable animal	Laren Gulliver	Busy Edwards	-
46. Chocolate brownies x 3	Busy Edwards	Laren Gulliver	Katie Squire
Children's Class Ages 12 to 16	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
47. Victoria sponge (4 eggs)	-	-	-
48. Flower arrangement	-	-	-

Cups / Trophies	Awarded to
Lord Bridgeman Cup (Best exhibit)	Joan Price
Val Gunnery Cup (Art)	Wendy Carter
Ladies Cup (most points)	Anne Williams
Men's Trophy (most points)	Charles Price
Children's Cup (most points)	Bertie Edwards / Laren Gulliver / Busy Edwards
Broadhope Cup (winner of the most popular class)	Jill Peabody / Joan Price
Dyfrig Wyn Llewellyn Cup (heaviest marrow)	Doug Boulter
John & Patricia Edwards Trophy (Best entry in craft section)	Wendy Carter
Brian Williams Trophy (Most points in produce section)	Tracy Eggby Jones

The Bog Visitor Centre Opening times in October

From the week beginning Monday 29 September the Centre will only be open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Therefore closed Monday 29 September through to Thursday 2 October. On Friday 3 October the Centre reopens for the weekend. This pattern of opening will continue throughout October until The Bog closes on Sunday 2 November.

The Bog Autumn Fair

The last weekend of the season – Friday 31 October – Sunday 2 November will be the Autumn Fair when a variety of handmade crafts will be on sale. Refreshments will also be available.

APPLE DAY 2025

SATURDAY 4th October

12 – 4pm

HOPE VILLAGE HALL - SY5 0JB



Apple presses available for pressing while you wait – bring your own containers

Apples (not windfalls) can be left for professional juicing & bottling

Refreshments available including

PORK & APPLE BURGERS, APPLE PIES AND CAKES

RAFFLE

Enquiries to Sarah 07790 100462 or email treasurer@hopevillagehall.org.uk

HOPE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Hope Apple Day – How It Works

Hope Apple Day takes place at **Hope Village Hall**, where you can bring your apples (not windfalls) to be turned into delicious juice.

- **Bring a small batch** of apples and press them on the day using our community equipment.
- **Have a larger harvest?** Leave your apples with us, and they'll be taken for **professional juicing, pasteurisation and bottling**.

What happens next?

- If you're bringing apples to press and take away the fresh juice (that will only have a limited shelf-life) **please** bring **your own containers** for the juice.
- **You** can **buy back your own bottled juice** (priced at cost, and based on the weight of all apples pressed to juice ratio).
- Or, you can **donate your apples** to the Village Hall and the bottled juice will then be sold to raise funds.

Equipment available

We have the equipment for pressing lent to us by generous locals:

- A **scratter** (for pulping the fruit)
- A **small hand press &** a **larger press** for bigger batches.

Callow Club

Everyone is welcome!

18th October - 7:00pm

We are very excited to be hosting the Tin Soldiers at the Worthen Village Hall.

This is a bistro style evening, so please bring your own refreshments and drinks and enjoy a wonderful evening of musical entertainment.

A raffle will be held for our local Food Bank.

This is certainly an event not to be missed, so book early to ensure a table for you and your friends.





USE IT OR LOSE IT

Don't forget the mobile Post Office van calls at

Hope Village Hall every Thursday @ 10.15 am

HOPE AND SHELVE PARISH

Harvest Supper

Friday 10th October
6.30 for 7 pm
Hope Village Hall, Minsterley SY5 0JB
Tickets £10
under 11s half price

Bring own drinks
tea and coffee provided
Auction and Raffle

Contact Wynford 01743791320
or Fran 07982324760 for tickets



All Souls Service

A time to remember those we have lost recently or long ago

3.00pm
Saturday 1st November 2025
Holy Trinity, Hope

MORE SEASONS FROM THE SKIES

PHOTOS BY RIC MORRIS
FEATHER AND HAY PHOTOGRAPHY



Back by popular demand, Ric takes us higher than ever with some fresh views over Shropshire and the neighbouring counties. Expect the same entertaining style that always delights!



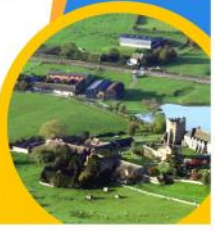
OPEN MEETING
Members & non-members welcome

Wednesday
15 October 2025

Time
2.00 PM

Minsterley Parish Hall
A488, Minsterley, SY5 0EH

Free entrance
Refreshments available
pontesbury.u3asite.uk



learn, laugh, live

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Ric Morris has already wowed us several times with his captivating aerial photography from a balloon drifting over Shropshire.

Now he returns on **Wednesday 15th October** at **Minsterley Parish Hall (2pm start)** with a completely new talk: **More Seasons from the Skies**.

Ric brings a fresh collection of images and tales, charting Shropshire and the neighbouring counties' changing landscapes through different seasons and moods. From hidden patterns in the fields to unexpected glimpses of history etched into the countryside, his eye for detail reveals a side you'll never see from the ground. Informative, surprising, and always entertaining, this promises to be another unforgettable afternoon with Ric Morris.

Following the talk, refreshments will be provided, offering a chance to catch up or learn more about our u3a. Members and Non-Members are welcome.

Our u3a is part of a UK charity dedicated to bringing together individuals not in full-time employment for enjoyable learning or active experiences. We are local, friendly, and affordable, featuring over 20 interest groups covering a variety of activities, from history, literature and geology to walking, cycling, pickleball and table tennis ...

Heathers Latest Report

Shropshire Council

As expected, a recent independent assessment of Shropshire Council's finances shows that the new administration inherited a truly dire financial situation with a likely shortfall of £0.9m of income over expenditure. This is likely to grow to a deficit of £35m by the end of the year unless we take immediate and drastic action.

Despite that we have sought to improve services where it really matters to residents. We have improved the rate of road repairs by expanding the 'in-house' repair teams, who provide a more effective pothole repair service. **We have repaired 7970 potholes since 26th May 2025.**

We have also reduced the response times for residents for residents ringing (to under 8 minutes) the Council and have launched of programme of working more closely with parish and town councils to improve service to residents and restore pride to our communities.

Lastly, our 'Cared for Children Services Team' has just been awarded an 'Outstanding' grade by the inspectors OFSTED.

A488

As we go to press, the repairs to the landslips on the A488 have just been completed. The work has repaired all the subsidence and resurfaced the road. A regular programme of gully clearing has been put in place to minimise the chances of slips re-occurring.

Brockton landslip

As we go to press, work is about to start to repair the landslip on Brockton Brook near the bridge. This will mean that the road towards Hampton Beech will be closed untill 1st October.

Fibre Broadband

There has been some delay in delivering broadband to the last 5% of dwellings across Shropshire after two companies pulled out of the programme. I am pressuring BDUK, the body who commission this work, to come up with new providers. It is important that we in rural areas have the same standard of service as residents of urban areas. I will keep you informed of progress.

Best wishes

Heather

Heather Kidd

Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen (including Westbury) Mobile: 07980 635518

MARTON VILLAGE HALL

Saturday October 25th Tabletop Sale 10am—2pm

£5 per table—Book with Chris Richards

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

A Big Thank You and a Bit of Local History

A big thank you to Mal Fellows, one of our local Parish Councillors (and now a Trustee of Hope Village Hall), for his recent refurbishment of the Gravels bus shelter. Mal replaced the damaged end section of the metal roof, renewed the side panels, and reproofed the internal woodwork, so it is now in fine fettle for many years to come.

Just over a year ago, Mal carried out a similar refurbishment of the Hope bus shelter, and now both shelters are in excellent condition. While not everyone will need to use them, those who do can be assured of a safe and secure place to wait for their bus, particularly in adverse weather. A small but clear example of our Parish Council in action for our community.

The original Gravels bus shelter was built in 1932 on More Estate land after permission was kindly granted by Sir Thomas Jasper Mytton More Esq, who also donated four posts from the Linley Estate to aid construction. Construction funds were raised at a Whist Drive and Dance held at the old Gravels Hut and together with donations, the event generated £9.18.0d (£9.80, post decimalisation). Mr R. J. Morris, the builder, generously provided his labour free of charge and the shelter was constructed using galvanised corrugated iron with a lining and flooring of match-boarding; and all this within the £12 limit for materials decreed by the organising committee.

By 1935, due to 'nuisances that have been done in the shelter'! the committee resolved that the shelter should be locked each evening after the last bus and reopened fifteen minutes before the first bus the following morning. On Sundays, access was to be granted only on request, with keys available from Mrs Swain or the nearest committee member, on condition of prompt return.

This historic information has been drawn from the original Minute Book compiled by the Committee established specifically to oversee provision of the Gravels bus shelter and we are very grateful to a local resident for kindly granting access to this document.

I'm sure that the 'nuisances' at Gravels must have ceased long ago but if any of our older readers recall instances of youthful mischief at the Gravels, or elsewhere, I'd be very interested to hear of it. Naturally, all stories would be treated in strict confidence, and only shared with our 500+ residents if you give permission.

Residents who possess further historical information relating to Hope and its surrounding area are encouraged to share it and please contact me at barry@hopeandbentlawnthistory.org.

Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association
Craft and Flower Show

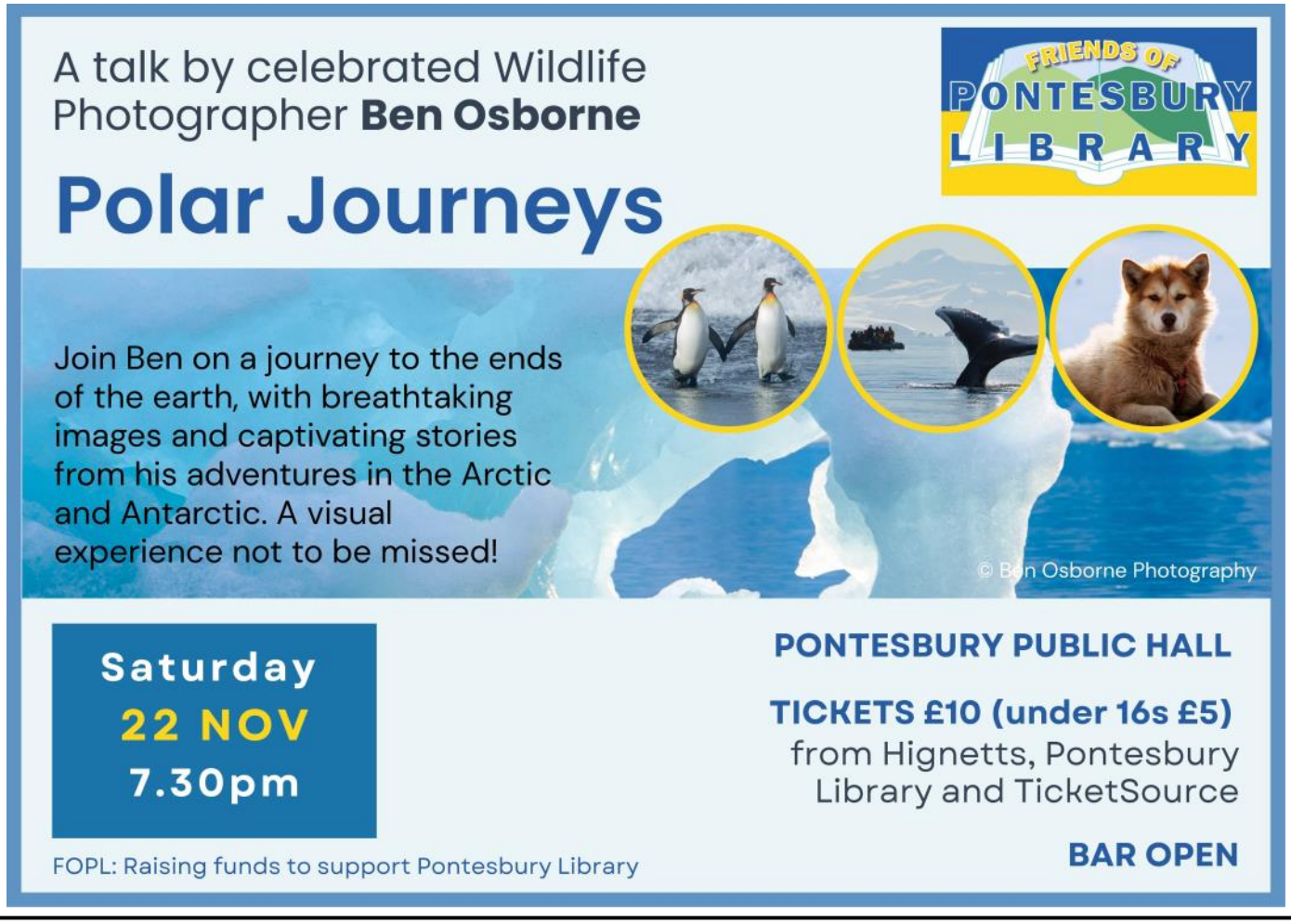
The hot dry summer resulted in poor growing conditions for most gardeners so it was encouraging that so many managed to produce such good specimens for our Show on 23 August. The overall number of entries was lower than in previous years but some categories showed an encouraging increase. The Floral Art (Flower Arranging) class saw such an increase and it was good to see some new names among the exhibitors. The Craft side also showed some ups and downs in numbers but there was an impressive number of paintings and photographs on display.

Our President, Bill Neil, commented on the recently re-introduced Beginners' Classes, saying that it was through these that he and his wife, Chris, started their interest and participation in flower shows and hoped that others would follow the same route. It is hoped that some of those who visited in the afternoon will come back next year to show their gardening or craft skills; some of the winners this year did just that!

Winners of trophies were:

Best Exhibit, Flower Section	Betton Lakelin Cup	Julie Owen
Most Points, Flower Section	Baker Yates Cup	Julie Owen
Best Exhibit, Sweet Peas	Dot & Des Evans Memorial	Dave Perry
Best Exhibit, one Fuchsia	The Holyoak Cup	Dave Perry
Best Exhibit, Petite Exhibit	Joan Jones Cup	Julia Morris
Best Exhibit, Floral Art Section	Banksian Medal	Debbie Harris
Most Points, Floral Art Section	David & Ann Cup	Debbie Harris
Best Exhibit, Vegetable Section	Bill Stephens Cup	Dave Perry
Best Vegetable Exhibit	N.V.S. Medal	Dave Perry
Most Points, Vegetable Section	Bennett Cup	Dave Perry
Most Points, Flower and Veg Sections	Barnett Cup	Dave Perry
Best Exhibit, Fruit Section	Jack Newnes Cup	Terence Lewis
Most Points, Cookery Section	The Committee Award	Margaret Mitton
Best Exhibit, Handicraft Section	The Hignett Award	Leigh Howard
Most Points, Needlework	The Jean Swann Cup	Leigh Howard
Best Exhibit Item carved from wood	The Shropshire Woodcarvers' Club Perpetual Trophy	Phil Cross
Best Exhibit, Painting or Sketch	E & J Simpson Perpetual Trophy	Tanya Yates
Best Exhibit, Photography	John Lakelin Award	Lorna Howland

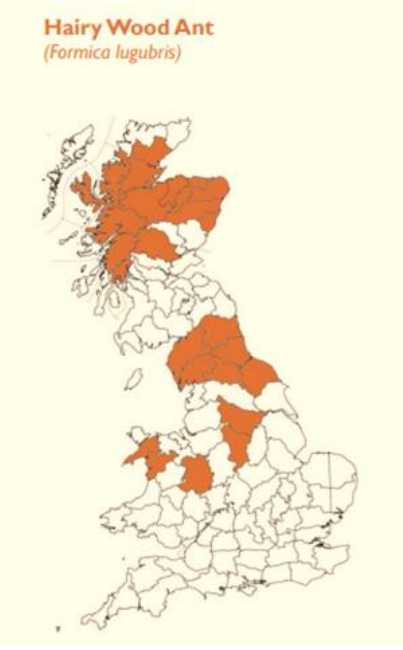
We look forward to seeing everyone at the Trading Post and remind you that we will be closing for the winter at the end of October, and reopening on the first Saturday in February. The Trading Post is situated in the Old Station Buildings on Station Road and is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon.



NATURAL ENGLAND
Notes from the hill

Well, the summer has flown by, and boy it's been a hot one! As you would expect this has been good for some wildlife and bad for others. Those that require wet ground, like snipe that need to probe the ground for food, have not fared well whereas some butterflies have had a bumper year. We have even spotted a clouded yellow this year, which is a migrant butterfly rarely seen up in the Shropshire Hills.

One species that you might expect to do well in the sunshine is the wood ant which build their nests or solariums so as to maximise catching the warmth of the sun. However, the wood ants that we are lucky enough to have within our upland woodlands are a northern species called hairy wood ants. They are on the southern edge of their range, so in the peak of the summer this year there was little activity on their nest mounds as they had retreated to the shade underground. At least half of their nest is usually underground, which like in our houses have various rooms or chambers for different purposes.



Wood ants are a very important part of a healthy woodland ecosystem, and they are one of a few key species known as ecosystem engineers. Like earthworms to the soil, wood ants shape the environment that they live in and benefit biodiversity. For example, they affect tree growth through their relationship with aphids (they farm aphids and collect the sugary honeydew that the aphids excrete) and their control of other insects such as moth caterpillars, will benefit the trees. Their nests add to nutrients within the soil and host a variety of other species, many of which are only found in wood ant nests. They are also a food source for a variety of creatures including green woodpeckers and they disperse the seeds of various plants such as cow wheat. As each wood ant colony can consume 20,000 prey in a year, with most of their activity being in the woodland canopy, they have a significant impact upon the surrounding woodlands and it could be argued that woodlands without their presence are not in a natural state.



Across Europe, wood ants are under threat, and many species ranges are shrinking. Some of the main reasons for this decline are: changes in woodland management, woodland fragmentation, urban expansion, and human disturbance.

Our population of hairy wood ants at Resting Hill seem quite isolated, but it would be good to hear if anyone knows of any wood ant nests in the surrounding area as that would inform us of how best to link up some of their sites. Are there any in Snailbeach or Eastridge for example?

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoreoak

Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group

The RVCWG has been working hard this year to deliver walks and events throughout the Rea Valley to fellow nature enthusiasts.

Each month we have a local walk – discovering flora and fauna together. We have explored areas such as Snailbeach, Eastridge, Gatton, Brockton, Poles Coppice, Hope and Mitchell's Fold. Each walk is a great opportunity to learn more about our incredible landscape and local history, to chat and to see what wildlife we can find together. (cont....

We have also hosted a number specialist events in 2025, looking more in depth into the wildlife found in our area. Each event was led by a local expert lending their time and expertise for free. In January we investigated winter ducks and wildfowl, April saw a wildflower walk at Pontesford and Earl's Hill. In May and June our experts showed us the delights of butterflies and bats – particularly fun using specialist sound equipment that helps people visualise the echolocation of different species of bat. In July we continued looking to the sky with swift walks at both Ford and Hanwood – where several nesting sites were found - particularly important given the nature of the falling population of a bird on the Red List for birds of conservation concern. We were also supported by volunteers from the Severn Rivers Trust helping us to explore various and fascinating pond life – from single cell zooids to dragonflies and newts.

We are so grateful that over 100 people have joined us on these walks, and we have all learned much more about each subject. The specialist events have been supported by Shropshire Hills National Landscape. The equipment and communications support has enabled us to reach more people and enthuse them about nature in the local area. The new programme for specialist events begins in January 2026

The RVCWG also produces an incredible quarterly 'iRecord Report' based on wildlife sightings within the Rea Valley Area submitted to iRecord. This is a fantastic summary of what is being seen throughout the year. Presented in an attractive and easy to understand way, this report is a joy to read and can be found and downloaded from our website.

We have a vibrant and active Whatsapp group which anyone can join, and our Facebook community page has grown from strength to strength with both forums being a place where people can share their own photographs and nature finds and ask for help with species identification. If you would also like to join our e-mail distribution list, you can receive regular updates about our events and other activities taking place throughout the Rea Valley Area.

More information can be found on our website.

Membership, walks and events are all free.



CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE 16th July 2025 – 15th September 2025			
CRIME REPORTED	**DETAILS**	**LOCATION**	**NOTES**
Public order offence		Stapeley	
Assault		Chirbury	
Theft	Graham Edwards small stock trailer and red diesel stolen	Marton	Occurred overnight, 9th – 10th Sept
Production or being concerned in production of a controlled drug	Cannabis farm		Two persons arrested
Public nuisance		Marton	
Taking vehicle without permission		Bishop's Castle	Suspect identified
Interfering with mail		Hope	
Stalking		Churchstoke	
Criminal damage	Person's unknown have entered field and mutilated a Ewe, sheep have previously been located with missing body parts	Black Marsh	Occurred between the 4th – 7th August
Harassment		Snailbeach	
Burglary	Tools stolen from property being renovated	Rowley	Occurred 16:00 – 16:30 21st July
Criminal damage	Tree's chopped down	Snailbeach	

These reported stats show two matters of great concern, on our own doorstep, namely the atrocious action at Black Marsh and the interception of mail at Hope, which has a strong implication of identity theft, of which we must all be mindful. Having contacted the police about these concerning incidents, it transpires that since their publication it has become known that the attacks on Black Marsh were by a dog that has now been identified and the mail issue at Hope is something of a family matter, so perhaps not the immediate implication it might suggest.

But this police newsletter also included some good news. Firstly, following the allocation of government funds from the neighbourhood policing grant to be spent on local policing, a post for an extra PC has been created, and already filled, at Bishop's Castle Police Station. However, as a cost-saving measure, the hours of Police and Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been reduced. The effect of these changes remains to be assessed.

The other very good news is that on Monday 15th September, at Shrewsbury Crown Court, 7 men, from Broseley, Cross Houses and Telford were convicted for conspiracy to steal regarding rural thefts and burglaries across south Shropshire and Powys. They had been part of a gang that have plagued the area for several years and were sentenced to a combined total of more than 25 years.

Their main targets were farms in south Shropshire, with agricultural equipment such as tractors, ATV's, quad bikes, trailers and 4x4 pick-ups, worth between £5million and £10million, being stolen to order. More concerningly, it was reported in the national press that the vehicles stolen would either be broken down as parts or sold to other farmers who would 'not ask questions' about where they came from.

Working with colleagues from Dyfed-Powys Police, West Mercia Police collated evidence relating to over 150 offences, spanning a number of years. There is no doubt that this was a complex investigation against a gang of career criminals and we in these rural places should be very satisfied and grateful that they have been taken out of circulation for a significant time.

Despite this positive outcome, this type of rural crime remains a threat so we must not be complacent. Beyond the 7 convicted, it is known that there were others involved in this gang, perhaps as the recent theft of a trailer from Marton demonstrates, so vigilance must continue to be our watchword.

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.



REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP












REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

Join us today!

Anyone who lives or works in the area, or has an interest in its wildlife, and who wants to actively contribute to local knowledge and conservation, is welcome.

Membership is free.

Enthusiasm and interest in the area are far more important than specialist knowledge.

To join please email reavalleycwg@gmail.com

Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg

More Information
www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/

Email today to join our active and vibrant Whatsapp group.







REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

MONTHLY WALK: OCTOBER 2025

Saturday 18th October - Monthly Walk
10am - 1pm
Snailbeach Car Park
juror.pampering.zooms

Join our friendly Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) members at our October monthly walk providing an opportunity to discover local flora and fauna together.

Free to attend and no booking required.

Please note that there is no designated leader for these monthly walks. A meeting point is listed for each walk and the group will decide together on the day where they would like to walk.

Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwg

More Information
www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/

REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP





JOIN US TODAY!

Email: reavalleycwg@gmail.com

Active and vibrant Whatsapp group also available

Located at Shelve Farm, between Minsterley & Bishop's Castle.

The Pooch Parlour
Dog Grooming

Find us on Facebook & Instagram!

The Pooch Parlour Dog Grooming

@poochparloursalon

1 on 1 Dog Grooming

Fully Qualified Level 2 & 3

FdSc Animal Management & Welfare

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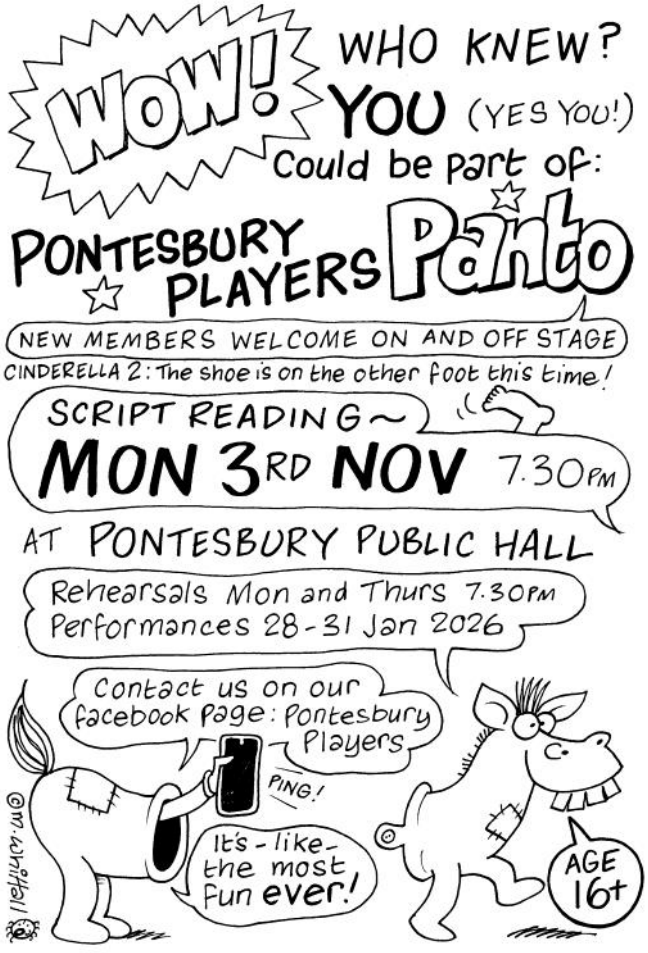
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FREE

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

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**

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

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

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

Twitter: **@SouthShropCops**

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

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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

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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

Nicki Bowen

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07788 123380 **OR** rmorriss73@gmail.com

ENTERPRISE HOUSE

Your Local Business & Community Support Centre

01588 638038

info@enterprisehouse.org.uk

Opening Times: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am till 5pm











- **Printing, Copying & Scanning**
- **Volunteer & Community Group Support**
- **Designing, Editing & Finishing**
- **Co-Working & Meeting Rooms**
- **Community Support**
- **IT & Business Training**
- **Computer Repairs**
- **Equipment Hire**
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Heather Kidd (Unitary Councillor)

www.worthenwithshelvepc.org.uk/committee

November 2025 deadline—Friday 24th October 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.

Size	*(width x height)*	Per issue	Per annum (11 issues
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
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Standard	6 x 6 cm	£5.00	£36.00

Online directory entry £5 per annum

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**

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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