HOPE NEWSLETTER

June 2026

HOPE AND SHELVE PARISH NEWS - Services in June

June 7th 9am Holy Communion service at All Saints, Shelve

June 14th 9am Holy Communion service at Holy Trinity, Hope

June 21st 9am Family Service at All Saints, Shelve

June 28th 9am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity Hope

It is only a couple of weeks till the parish fete at Leigh Manor, by kind invitation of David and Annabel Stacey. We do hope you will join us on Saturday June 6th from 2-4pm. We are looking forward to welcoming the Stiperstones Brass Band to play for us again.

Across the benefice there are various events planned for June, including a clothes swap at Snailbeach Village Hall on June 20th from 2-4.30. Summer Messy Church takes place at Holy Trinity, Minsterley on June 17th at 3.30pm. This is suitable for all primary school age children, and weather permitting we will be making and enjoying a picnic in the church grounds. There will be crafts to make and cards for Father's Day. No need to book, children accompanied by a parent or carer can just turn up on the day.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new curate, Ian Williams, at the beginning of July, who will be working part-time in the parish of Hope and Shelve. I have already told him about the great lunches on Wednesdays in the Village Hall!

As always do feel free to contact me (details below) if you would like to talk about a wedding, baptism, funeral or memorial service – or indeed anything else!

Rev Fran Brealey revfran@btinternet.com 07948 676581

With Thanks

It's always good to give thanks, where appropriate, to those who do any work for the benefit of our community and we are pleased to pass on our gratitude to Mike Ellis, who continues to keep in trim the grassed area around the Bentlawnt memorial.

But we must also mention Joyce Graves and Debbie and Jan Davies who spent a whole day sprucing up the potted plants around the village hall. New pots were used for the old plants and these have been supplemented with new plantings. But our thanks must also be given to Wendy-Jane and Jonathan Walton and their team for providing and laying bright new stone on which the new pots stand. It was a very generous gesture.

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

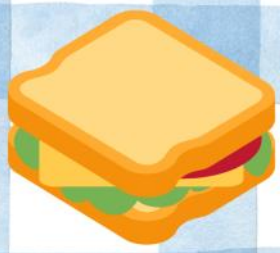
Hope and Shelve Parish

Summer Fete

Saturday June 6th
2-4pm at Leigh Manor, Minsterley SY5 0EG.

FREE ENTRY!

raffle
refreshments
sideshows
stalls
music from the
Stiperstones Brass Band



Messy Church

Join us for our Summer Picnic!
Craft . Food . Games . Story



Wednesday June 17th
HOLY TRINITY MINSTERLEY
3.30pm

Inside if wet!

OPEN MEETING

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

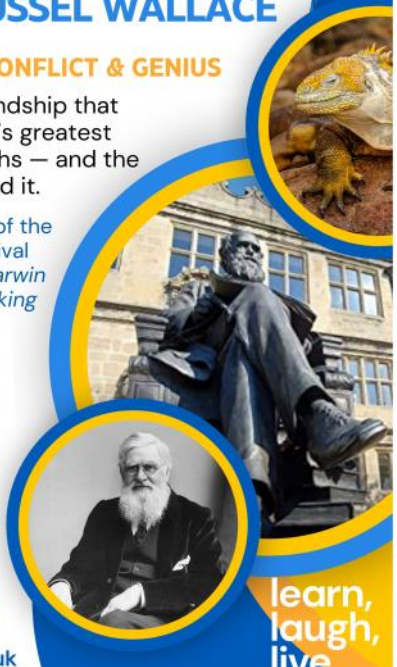
Talk: **Jon King**

THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP OF CHARLES DARWIN & ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE

COLLABORATION, CONFLICT & GENIUS

The extraordinary friendship that shaped one of history's greatest scientific breakthroughs — and the generosity that defined it.

With **Jon King**, Founder of the Shrewsbury Darwin Festival and author of *Charles Darwin in Shrewsbury – The Making of a Marvellous Mind.*



Wednesday
17 June 2026

Time
2.00 PM

Minsterley Parish Hall SY5 0EH

Free entrance
Refreshments available

pontesbury.u3asite.uk

learn, laugh, live

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

At our next u3a meeting on **Wednesday 17th June 2026** at 2pm in **Minsterley Parish Hall**, **Jon King** will present a fascinating talk on **Charles Darwin**, Shrewsbury's most famous son, and his friendship with **Alfred Russel Wallace**.

This talk explores the remarkable collaboration that led to the discovery and refinement of one of science's greatest theories - evolution by natural selection. It examines not only the intellectual partnership behind this groundbreaking work, but also the challenges within their relationship, and the final act of generosity that typified a friendship once described as "one of those bright spots in the history of science, which ought to shame all those who indulge in petty jealousies."

Jon King founded the Shrewsbury Darwin Festival and directed Shropshire's Darwin Bicentennial Celebrations in 2009. He is the author of '*Charles Darwin in Shrewsbury - The Making of a Marvellous Mind*', which will be available for purchse after the talk.

Following the session, 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-wide charity that brings people together, particularly those no longer in full-time employment, to enjoy learning, activities and new experiences. We are a friendly, local and affordable organisation with over 25 interest groups.

HOPE SHOW 2026

Saturday 5th September

Hope Village Hall 2pm to 4pm

Show Schedule

COOKERY		PRODUCE		FLOWERS	
1	Jar of Beetroot Chutney	13	Heaviest Marrow	23	3 x Dahlias
2	Jar of Lemon Curd	14	3 x Duck Eggs	24	A Single Rose
3	5 x Cheese Straws	15	5 x Cooking Apples	25	A vase of mixed flowers from your garden
4	French Onion Tart	16	5 x Eating Apples	26	Autumn Wreath (Natural ring – No Oasis)
5	Victoria Sandwich (Traditional 4 Egg Recipe)	17	3 x Hens Eggs	27	Foliage Pot Plant
6	Ginger Cake	18	Broadest Sunflower Head (See rules of exhibiting)	28	Miniature arrangement in a teacup
7	Bottle of Raspberry Gin	19	3 x Tomatoes	29	Flowering Pot Plant
8	**Men Only:** Lemon Cheesecake	20	Unusual Shaped Vegetable		
9	Chocolate Chip Muffins	21	Basket of Vegetables (at least 5 different vegetables)		
10	Any Savoury Loaf	22	3 x Beetroot		
11	Trifle				
12	Millionaires Shortbread				

CRAFT		ART		PHOTOGRAPHY	
30	A decoupage item	36	Painted Stone	39	Water Scene
31	A Knitted Item	37	Painting of a Flower / Flowers – Any Medium	40	A Sunset / Sunrise in Shropshire
32	A Patchwork Item	38	A Portrait – Any Medium		
33	An Item of jewellery made from recycled items				
34	A Birthday Card				
35	An Item made from Wood				

CHILDRENS CLASSES

5 YEARS & UNDER		AGE 6-7		AGE 8-11	
41	3 X Decorated Biscuits	43	A Suncatcher	45	Design a poster to encourage recycling (Not computer generated)
42	Egg Carton Flowers	44	A Robot made from recycled items	46	3 x Cheese Scones
AGE 12-6					
47	Victoria Sandwich (Traditional 4 Egg Recipe)				
48	Flower Arrangement				

Please remember that all exhibits must be grown, made or produced by the entrant, personally. A list of the few rules will be published nearer the event but the most important is to HAVE A GO and have fun.

West Mercia Police Report

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED

CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE

16th April 2026 – 16th May 2026

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Abduction of pet (dog)	Victim has reported that their pet dog has gone missing, believed stolen	Nind, Minsterley	Dog went missing on the morning of the 13th May. Dog is a 7-year-old female Corgi
Assault		Chirbury	Suspect arrested at the scene
Dog worrying livestock on agricultural land	Dog walker has strayed off the footpath with dog off of lead, dog has chased cattle resulting in one cow having to be destroyed and another receiving treatment	The Knolls, Stiperstones	Occurred 12:40, 3rd May. Walker was female and the dog was a black Labrador
Malicious communications		Chirbury	
Dog worrying livestock on agricultural land	Sheep attacked by dog whilst on a walk, sheep had to be destroyed	Stiperstones	Owner identified and payment offered
Harassment		Hope Valley	
Theft	Parcel stolen after being delivered	Pennerley	Occurred between 13th – 15th April

Appeal following fatal collision in Minsterley

We are appealing for witnesses to a fatal collision on the outskirts of Minsterley where a man sadly lost his life.

Around 1pm on Friday 8th May, a tractor and motorbike collided on Horsebridge Road in Minsterley.

Despite the best efforts by emergency services, the motorcyclist, a man in his 70s, was sadly pronounced dead at the scene.

A 35-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving.

We would like to hear from anyone who witnessed the collision, or who may have dashcam footage from the moments leading up to the incident which could assist with our enquiries.

A common sight at this time of year the elder, (Sambucus Nigra),has a huge amount of folklore and history surrounding it and has a variety of medicinal properties and uses to extol, referred to in popular folklore as the "medicine chest of country people". The flowers are mainly used by herbalists to aid in combatting inflammation within the respiratory system, such as asthma, coughs and hay fever.

You can make a number of things from the flowers at home such as:

- Cordials
- Natural sodas (fermentations like Elderflower 'Sham'pagne)
- Wines, infusions into spirits
- Flower head tempura
- Elderflower Sherbert is great especially playing with cocktails
- Infused into creams, custards, ice creams, sauces and cakes.



Letter from America – chasing the 'American dream'

On 25th January 1866, Edward Preston, a miner from Gravels, wrote from Virginia City, Nevada, USA, to his friend and former colleague, Captain Richard Waters, to update him on his travels and aspirations since leaving the UK in November the previous year.

Captain Waters was born in 1827 in Cornwall. He started his working life as a tailor, but later became a mining agent/engineer and, at the time of his marriage in 1864, was working at a mine in Halkyn, North Wales. He then moved to Shropshire where he lived at The Llan, Hyssington. Over the next years, Captain Waters was engaged with several local mines, but at the time of Edward Preston's letter he was at Cefn Guntley Mine, Hyssington (1865-1866) and Hope Valley Mine (1865). In 1879 he travelled to Norway on a round of mine inspections. He died in 1881 and in 1890, Captain Water's widow, Emma, was living at Hope Villa (now named Oak House) in the Hope Valley.

The title of Captain was conferred on mine agents/engineers who were responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of a mining facility. This included managing a team of workers, ensuring that safety protocols were followed and that the mine was operating efficiently and effectively. In that era, such men were not the highly qualified engineers we have today, but were selected from among the working miners themselves, being chosen for their shrewdness, ability and knowledge of mining.[1][2] From their tin-mining roots and decades of underground experience, C19 Cornish Mine Captains were in demand in many parts of the world, as suggested from Richard Water's work record. It is possible that Edward Preston had similar roots and, having gained experience at Gravels, now followed this route by seeking exciting new opportunities in Nevada.

Today, we can fly to Nevada in something over 10 hours, but in Edward Preston's day travel was considerably different. On 1st November 1865, he boarded the steamship, 'City of Washington', in Liverpool, bound for New York, and arrived on 13th November. It is worth remembering that Edward commenced his journey before the end of the American Civil War. Although his destination was largely isolated from the major theatres of that war and Confederate forces never posed any serious threat of territorial seizure, Nevada nonetheless served as an important target because at least $400 million in silver ore from the Comstock Lode was used to finance the federal war effort.[3] Although the end of the War was in train, the final Confederate surrender was of the, 'CSS Shenandoah', in Liverpool, where captain of this Confederate 'commerce raider' surrendered the cruiser to British authorities on 6th November (just 5 days after Edward departed from the same city). Officially, the American Civil War did not end until 20th August 1866.[4]

Edward remained in New York for just a week. He found it to be very expensive and wrote this view, *'Not even as pleasant as at the Gravels', and described a few of the sights as, 'shoddy'. He left New York on the 'Santiago de Cuba' heading south to, 'Wend my way with 5,000 others to the promised land' and after 8-days sailing through the Caribbean Edward landed in Georgetown, Nicaragua*.

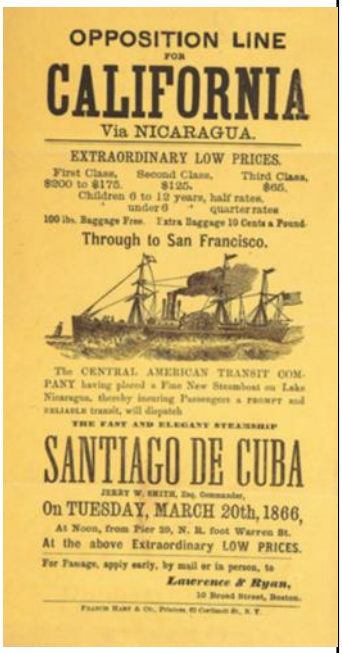
The 'Santiago de Cuba' was a side-mounted paddle wheel steamship, built in 1861, that had been bought by the Union Navy during the American Civil War and assigned to the Union Blockade of the Confederate States of America, where she was notably successful, capturing several blockade runners.[5] At the war's end, the Navy moved quickly to reduce its fleet and 'Santiago de Cuba' was decommissioned on 17th June 1865 and sold to the Central American Transit Company.[5]

At that time, which was prior to the completion of the US transcontinental railroad, the existing transcontinental shipping route from New York to San Francisco, via Nicaragua, was still a viable business. After the first leg to Nicaragua, passengers would transfer to shallow draft river steamers to travel along the San Juan River and across Lake Nicaragua to reach San Juan del Norte. This left a 15-mile carriage ride to reach the Nicaraguan Pacific Coast at San Juan del Sur, from where other ocean-going steamers would leave for San Francisco.[5]

Continued overleaf

'Santiago de Cuba. sailed the New York to Nicaragua leg of this route on a monthly basis and her first sailing for the Central American Transit Company left New York on 20th November 1865 so, whether or not he realised it when booking, Edward Preston took the steamer's inaugural journey following her exploits in the Civil War. [5]

[1866 advertisement for *Santiago de Cuba as part of the Central American Transit Company.*] [5]


OPPOSITION LINE
FOR
CALIFORNIA
Via NICARAGUA.
EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES.
First Class, $200 to $175. Second Class, $125. Third Class, $65.
Children 6 to 12 years, half rates, under 6 quarter rates
100 lbs. Baggage Free. Extra Baggage 10 Cents a Pound.
Through to San Francisco.
The CENTRAL AMERICAN TRANSIT COMPANY having placed a Fine New Steamboat on Lake Nicaragua, thereby insuring Passengers a PROMPT and RELIABLE transit, will dispatch
THE FAST AND ELEGANT STEAMSHIP
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
JERRY W. SMITH, Esq. Commander,
On TUESDAY, MARCH 20th, 1866,
At Noon, from Pier 20, N. R. foot Warren St.
At the above Extraordinary LOW PRICES.
For Passage, apply early, by mail or in person, to
Lawrence & Ryan,
10 Broad Street, Boston.
FRANCIS HART & CO., Printers, 63 Cortlandt St., N. Y.

In his letter, Edward describes his journey along the San Juan River and through Lake Nicaragua as the most delightful part of the journey, where he saw, *'Plenty of crocodiles, monkeys, naked natives, pretty Mexican senorita's etc and enjoyed the nice fruits of these regions'. From Nicaragua he took another steamer to San Francisco, arriving on 18th December. He remained there for 4 days and found it, 'The most agreeable of places to live', but also found it something of a culture clash commenting that, '1/3 of the inhabitants being Chinese' and, 'Another striking thing is the little regard paid to dress, you see men in blue shorts sit next to you at dinner, as if they were in their Sunday dress.'*

For the next section of his journey, Edward took a river steamer to Sacramento and from there travelled with the mail & stage coach over the Sierra Nevada to Virginia City. This final land journey took a drive of 30 hours over the mountains with, *'Little else than a trail to go by and 6 mules dragging you, sometimes dashing along, at the edge of a steep incline then again for two or three hours going at the rate of three miles an hour thro' mud and snow almost to the horses bellies' and with 7 feet of snow on the summit. His letter continues, 'I spent a most miserable Xmas Day thinking of how all my friends and acquaintances were enjoying themselves in Old England whilst I was in a land with no trees to be seen for miles but plenty of Picite, Indians, Chinese and white men who never go out without a six shooter'.*

So, why did Edward chance his future in Nevada? Following the discovery of silver at the Comstock Lode in 1859 there had been a population boom that became an impetus to the creation of Nevada Territory out of western Utah Territory in 1861. Nevada only became a state on 31st October 1864, during the Civil War. [6] This great discovery of silver was widely reported in the UK (local newspapers, but notably, the Mining Journal) so would have been common knowledge amongst the mining community and much of the press coverage was to induce investment (unregulated at that time) in Nevada mining projects.

In his letter, Edward told Captain Waters that since his arrival, he had become accustomed to the country and began to like it. *'For the first fortnight I could find nothing to do, and occupied my time in visiting the mines. There are some twenty or more claims on the one lode the Comstock which is of an enormous width and richness, sometimes opening out to 200' it runs due N&S and dips to the E. The ores are richer sulphurets yielding in some places from £50 – £60 per ton of ore. Last year they shipped nearly £4,000,000 of silver from this one lode. They work the vein in its whole breadth in chambers, it requires massive trees being as the ground swells considerably and this makes it expensive as no timber grows in the neighbourhood and when in it only lasts two or three years, they are now commencing a deep drain tunnel which will be 4 miles long and strike the vein at a depth of 1500 feet. Most of the work is done with a pick and gad, the men earn £1 a day in shift work and can live on 10/s a day. I am working at present in a Surveyor's Office and get £1-10 a day but in another month I am going to set up an Assayer's Office in one of the new Districts with a partner and we expect to clear from £500 to £700 a piece.'*

At this point, he invites Captain Waters to join him by saying that, *'A good miner is bound to make his fortune, the difficulty here is not to make money but to keep it when you have got it. I know several men who to last year were worth from £30 to £50,000 and now they have hardly a shirt on their back lost all thro' speculating.'*

He concludes by asking to be remembered to Capt. Nancarrow (surely a Cornish name) and all who remember him in the neighbourhood. Then, asking how is the mine getting on, *'As promising as ever I hope, with all the machinery up, is the chimney standing yet? How are they all at the Gravels, remember me to them when you see them, tell them I am well, and often think of the pleasant times I spent there.'*

So, what could have happened to Edward Preston?
After the discovery of the Comstock Lode, Virginia City rapidly developed into one of the most important mining centers of the American West. At its peak in the mid-1870s, it had an estimated population of 25,000 residents and served as a center of mining finance, engineering, and innovation.[7]

By the late 1870s, mining activity across the Comstock Lode began to decline and the population fell sharply. In 1878, rich gold-bearing ore deposits were discovered at Bodie, California, drawing miners and investment away from the Comstock. Businesses closed, and many residents left for new mining camps in California.[7]
Did Edward remain or move on? We know not.

References:
[1] An Interior Ellis Island- Setting the Scene
[2] https://sites.rootsweb.com/~staustell/Word_Doc/Life/Duties of a Mine Agent.htm
[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nevada_in_the_American_Civil_War
[4] CSS Shenandoah - Wikipedia
[5] USS Santiago de Cuba - Wikipedia
[6] Portal:Nevada - Wikipedia
[7] Virginia City, Nevada - Wikipedia

Heather's Report for May

1. Roads

Following up on the road resurfacing done at Aston Piggot and the Brockton to Rowley Road, the road between Westbury and Vennington is next, with the Marche Road being done as I write this.

In the late summer/autumn, the Rorrington to Priest Weston Road will be resurfaced and the A490 at Sheargrove Bridge (north of Chirbury) will receive significant work to stabilize the road edges.

Shropshire Council is also introducing a new, more stringent regime for inspecting road repairs made for the Council by its contractors. For too long, road repairs have not been inspected properly, allowing indifferent workmanship to go unchallenged, with poor repairs opening up after far too short a time.

However, to make sure future repairs are of a high standard, the Council is introducing a team of inspectors to inspect all completed road repairs. If they are not up to standard, they will insist that the work be redone. A number are now in place with more to follow.

This has already proved its worth on the A489 near Churchstoke when a contractor top dressed over a pothole and a Shropshire inspector is insisting that this be repaired properly at the contractor's expense.

2. **20mph limits outside of schools**

The 20mph speed limit outside the Long Mountain School in Worthen is going to be put in place in August.

3. Destruction of habitat

I have been contacted over the last few months by residents of the Pennerley area, distressed at the wholesale clearance of gorse and scrubland in the area. Everything above the ground on this 5-acre site has been removed, including the grass, totally destroying valuable habitat for birds, insects and mammals.

I have spoken to the Planning Department of Shropshire Council, and the site is not an SSSI or covered by any other protection. I have, however, managed to get the signage for the public footpath running across the site restored.

We need to work together now to find a way to protect sites like this for the future. As a first step, please let me know of any similar land of value to wildlife e.g. woodland, heath, scrub etc. that you think might be under threat, and also if you would like to take part in a group to move this project on.

Best wishes

Heather Kidd, Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen Division

Tel: 07980 635518 heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk also on Facebook

Shropshire Council

Community Right to Bid Moratorium Notice

The Cock Inn, Brockton, Worthen, SY5 9HU

is designated an Asset of Community Value, under the Localism Act 2011, following a successful nomination from Worthen with Shelve Parish Council.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 95 of the Localism Act 2011, Shropshire Council has received notification from the current owner that the above asset is to be disposed of through a sale of the freehold. The date for this purpose is 18th May 2026.

This has set in place the following moratorium timescales on the sale of the asset:

Moratorium	End Dates	Description
Interim Moratorium (6 weeks)	29/6/26	During this period a valid community group may request in writing to Shropshire Council, to be treated as a potential bidder to purchase the above asset. If no written request is received prior to the end of the Interim Moratorium as shown, the owner is free to sell the asset on the open market.
Full Moratorium (6 months from notification of sale)	18/11/26	If a written request to be treated as a potential bidder is received from a valid community group within the interim period (as above), the full moratorium period of 6 months will be enforced. The asset owner will not be permitted to sell the asset, unless to a valid community group or through an exempt form of disposal, during this 6 month period. After this moratorium period the owner is free to sell the asset on the open market.
Protection Period	18/11/27	Following the moratorium period above (whether 6 weeks, or the full 6 months), no further moratorium will be enforced on the sale of the asset for an 18 month protection period (from the date of notification). Therefore if the asset has remained unsold by the date shown, a second moratorium period will be enforced.

Valid community groups that can write to express an interest in being a potential bidder for the asset are:

- a Parish Council in whose area the asset lies or,
- any incorporated community group which meets these definitions:
- It has a local connection, meaning that its activities partly or wholly occur in the local area
- It is a charity, a company limited by guarantee, a Community Interest Company or an Industrial and Provident Society or Community Benefit Society.

If you would like to be treated as a potential bidder for the asset named above, and use the Community Right to Bid, please write to: **Strategic Asset Manager, Shropshire Council, Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT or** CommunityRight@shropshire.gov.uk **by 29th June 2026**

***Please note:** Any written request to be treated as a potential bidder cannot be treated as confidential and may be made publicly available at the Council's offices and on the website. Any personal information will be held securely by Shropshire Council for the above purpose, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.*

www.shropshire.gov.uk
General Enquiries: 0345 678 9000

Cock Inn, Brockton – For Sale

You may already be aware that the Grade II Listed Cock Inn in Brockton has been placed for sale by the owners, Admiralty Taverns Ltd, a company which owns some 1200 pubs around the country.

Although a considerable amount of money was spent in refurbishing and upgrading the pub since it was last purchased in 2022, the sale price of the pub can only be based on its identified turnover. This means that the projected sale price will probably be in the £300,000 - £400,000 range.

This sale may be viewed as of great importance to the community, especially if a sale as a going concern could not be achieved and the property eventually went to the open market. Because of this, Worthen with Shelve Parish Council will be looking to hold a Public Meeting (details of which will be published on the Parish Council's website [Worthen with Shelve |]), to gauge the public response and to discuss the possibility of a community takeover of the pub.

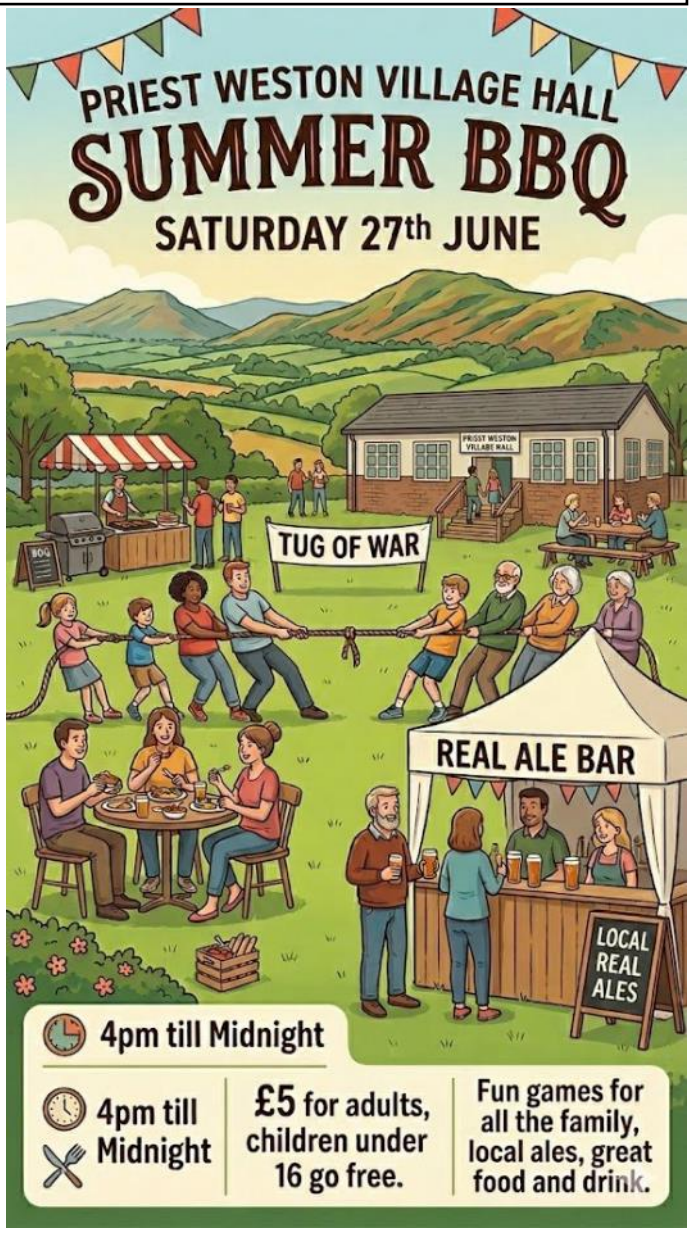
The meeting may be called at short notice. It is open to all and a good turnout is hoped for.

The 'Community Right to Bid Moratorium Notice' opposite, from Shropshire Council is relevant to any community purchase of the Cock Inn.



Got any clothes to donate or swap?

Bring them along on the day







Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group members have been looking for Curlew, Lapwing, Kestrel, Cuckoo and Red Kite since late March.

Our area extends from Stapeley Hill to Brockton in the west, across through Minsterley and Pontesbury to Plealey, south to Cothecott Hill and then westwards over the Stiperstones and Hope Valley.

If you've seen or heard any of these species, please don't assume we know about them.

Please report all your observations, especially any Curlew

("the most important bird conservation priority in the UK")

to Leo Smith 07791 901732, leo@leosmith.org.uk.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for a few more volunteers to help with our Wednesday community café.

Whilst we have a great band of helpers more are always welcome. Whether it's helping in the kitchen, baking cakes or whipping up a batch of soup. (We can re-imburse a certain amount for ingredients, although donations are gratefully received). It doesn't have to be every week, just what people can manage.

Please message enquiries@hopevillagehall.org.uk or speak to someone on a Wednesday.

Hope Village Hall Regular Activities

Monday & Wednesday Evenings
Pilates with Ruth
Wednesday Lunchtime – Community Café
Mobile Library Van alternate weeks
Mini Health Checks bi-monthly
Thursdays
10.15 – 11.15 am Mobile Post Office
5.15 – 6.15pm Barre Class
6.30pm Table Tennis & Darts
Friday Mornings – Tai Chi with Elfy Attitude

2026 Annual Events

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - HOPE SHOW
SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER – APPLE DAY

There are lots of other one-off events which are advertised in the Hope Newsletter or on the Village Hall website www.hopevillagehall.org.uk

HOPE VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

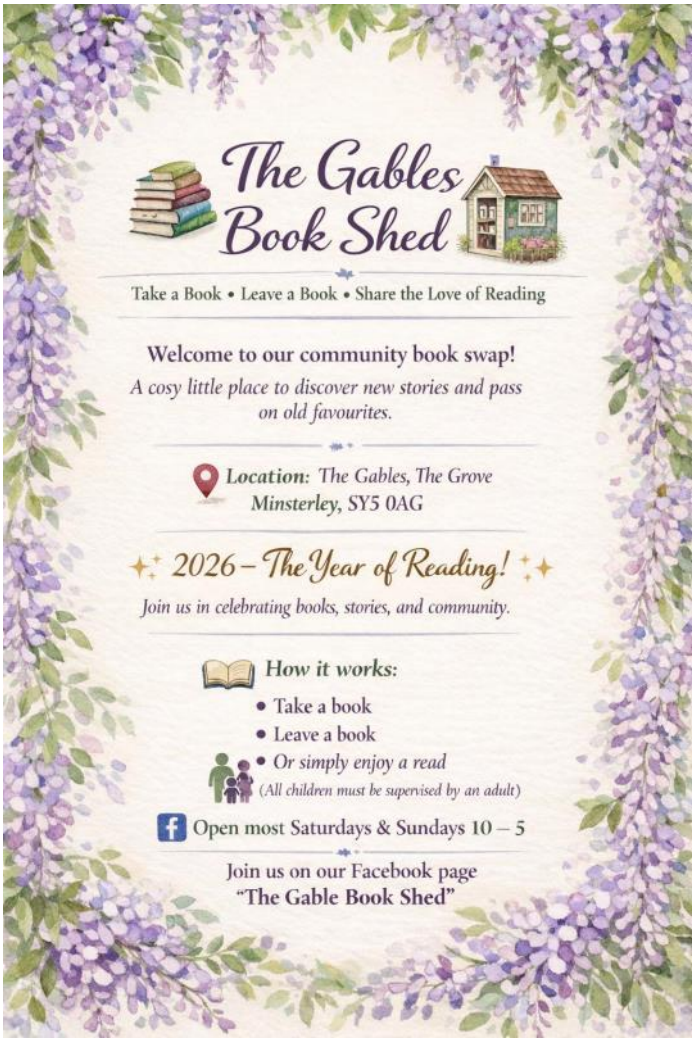
THURSDAY EVENINGS
6.30 TO 8PM



Table Tennis
(2 tables available)
Or Darts



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



BRIC A BRAC WANTED

If you have any clean, unbroken bits and pieces that you are considering taking to a charity shop or that might otherwise end up in landfill please consider donating them to Hope Village Hall.

We have a bric-a-brac table at the community café each Wednesday lunchtime, selling items at more than reasonable prices as part of our efforts to raise funds for the hall.

Drop off at the hall when the cafe or table tennis is on or contact us and we may be able to arrange collection locally.

Email: treasurer@hopevillagehall.org.uk
Or call Sarah on 07790 100462
Thank you


SHREWSBURY
FOOD
FESTIVAL
27 & 28 JUNE 2026
THE QUARRY PARK
SHREWSBURY
Food • Family • Fun!
180+ food, drink & homeware exhibitors, 2 chef demo stages, tastings, live music, family entertainment stage, field to fork area and lots of free kids activities.
Evening Concert
6.00-8.30pm
on Saturday
SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
SHROPSHIRE Festivals
shrewsburyfoodfestival.co.uk


THE SALOP FRYER
PONTESBURY
CHIPS
Small Chips £3.50
Large Chips £4.90
Cone of Chips £2.70
Chips & Cheese £5.00
Chips & Gravy £4.80
Chips & Curry Sauce £4.80
Potato Scallop £1.00
Chip Bap £3.50
SIDES
Curry Sauce £1.80
Irish Curry Sauce £1.80
Gravy £1.80
Mushy Peas £1.80
Baked Beans £1.80
FISH
Cod £9.90
Mini Fish £6.00
Haddock ... £9.00
Cod Roe £2.90
Fishcake £2.80
Scampi (6 pieces) £5.00
CHICKEN
¼ Chicken Breast £6.00
¼ Chicken Leg £6.00
Southern Fried Mini Fillets (5) £5.50
Chicken Nuggets (6.) £4.00
Popcorn Chicken £5.60
DRINKS
Bottles £2.20
Cans £1.50
Water £1.10
Kids Drinks £1.10
SPECIALS
Mini Fish & Chips £8.70
Lunch Box Special £7.00
(Large Sausage & Chips & either Curry/Peas/Gravy/Beans in a Tray)
Pie & Chips £7.00
Fish & Chips £13.40
Kebab Special £10.00
(Doner/Chicken Meat in Fresh Naan Bread)
KEBABS
Mixed Kebab Naan ... £10.50
Doner Kebab Naan .. £10.00
Chicken Kebab Naan £10.00
Doner Kebab Pitta £9.00
Chicken Kebab Pitta .. £9.00
Doner Kebab Wrap £8.50
Chicken Kebab Wrap . £8.50
Mixed Meat & Chips £10.00
Chicken Meat & Chips £9.80
Doner Meat & Chips ... £9.80
Chicken Meat & Salad £8.80
Doner Meat & Salad ... £8.80
Chicken Kebab Burger £7.00
Doner Kebab Burger .. £7.00
KIDS
4 Chicken Nuggets & Chips £4.90
Small Sausage & Chips £4.90
SAUSAGES
Small Sausage £2.00
Large Sausage £3.20
Large Battered Sausage £3.50
PIES
Steak £4.00
Steak & Kidney £4.00
Chicken & Mushroom £4.00
Mince Beef & Onion £4.00
Meat & Potato £4.00
BURGERS
Beef Burger £5.10
Cheese Burger £5.60
Battered Burger £4.50
Chicken Burger £5.50
SAUCE POTS
Any pot of sauce..... £1.10
Hot Chilli, Sweet Chilli, Mint, Mayo, Garlic Mayo, Ketchup, Brown, Tartare
EXTRAS
Pineapple Fritter £2.30
Onion Rings (10) £4.90
Pickled Egg £0.80
Bread Roll £0.80
VEGETARIAN
Cheese & Onion Fry-it £2.30
Cheese & Onion Pasty £3.40
Veggie Burger £4.50
Halloumi Burger £5.60
Cheese, Leek & Potato Pie £4.00
Halloumi & Salad Pitta £6.30
Halloumi & Salad Wrap £5.80
Salad in Naan/Pitta/Wrap £4.00


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Friday: 12 – 9pm
Saturday: 12 – 2pm & 4:30 – 9pm
Sunday: CLOSED
www.thesalopfryer.com

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

10th & 24th June

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



USE IT OR LOSE IT

Don't forget the mobile Post Office van calls at Hope Village Hall every

Thursday @ 10.15 am

Come along and find your voice

Would you like to meet once a fortnight for an informal, fun acapella sing song?

No previous singing experience or music reading needed. Just a group of people meeting for the joy of singing.

Do bring song suggestions if you'd like to.

Free Taster session on Tuesday 16th June
6.30 – 7.30pm at Hope Village Hall

If enough interest, cost of subsequent sessions will just be sharing the cost of the hall.

If this appeals to you please let me know.

Tel: Janette on 01743 892919

or email: enquiries@hopevillagehall.org.uk

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- SATURDAY 11TH JULY
- SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST

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Have a Go at Archery

Many sports can trace their origins back through history, and some originated from war or hunting related activities, and are now a sanitised version of their origins. Archery goes back before most other sports, probably originating in Africa before spreading into Europe and the rest of the world. The sport has now evolved into a high-tech activity, with recurve and compound bows sitting alongside its basic form, the longbow and all these forms are practised in local clubs on a regular basis.

If you would like to try your hand at shooting arrows, then Long Mynd Archers, near Church Stretton, are putting on a series of Have a Go sessions on the mornings of Saturdays 13 June, 11 July and 8 August between 10 and 12 noon. No booking is required, so just turn up between 10 and 12. The cost is £15 for a one hour session with qualified coaches and experienced archers. All equipment is provided by the Club, and there will be opportunities to progress further if you would like to do so. The club is situated at New House Farm, SY6 7JH, on the A49 just before the traffic lights at Church Stretton. More information can be found on the Club's website www.longmyndarchers.co.uk.

Dogs out of control – death to livestock

This article should not be necessary for our rural readers because you know of the implications of not having control of a dog when in close proximity to livestock; but that message still may not have reached everyone. It is not just when in a field of livestock; an unruly dog on a road or track adjacent to livestock can have a 'worrying' effect.

The latest West Midlands Police newsletter has two reports of dogs worrying livestock, both in the Stiperstones area. The first involved a dog walker straying off a footpath with their dog off lead. In this case, the dog chased cattle resulting in one cow having to be destroyed and another receiving treatment.

The second case involved an attack on sheep, requiring one to be destroyed. Here, the dog owner was identified and has offered compensation.

These are extremely concerning and distressing for livestock owners and the loss of their animals is at no insignificant cost.

Please, please ensure control of your dog in such circumstances.



This month brings critical milestones for cat welfare across the UK and Northern Ireland. From major legislative shifts in Northern Ireland to time-sensitive petitions in Wales and England, your voice is needed more than ever to ensure no cat is left unprotected on our roads! Please take part and help us help cats - be part of legislation change that will save cats lives!

https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/750612#main-content

Mini Health Checks (Blood Pressure)

The Shropshire Community Outreach team will be at the hall to do free blood pressure checks on **Wednesday: 15th July from noon to 1.50pm**

Four Local Healthwatch Teams Working Together To Hear Your Experiences Of Stroke Care

Healthwatch Shropshire, Healthwatch Telford & Wrekin, Healthwatch Stoke-on-Trent and Healthwatch Staffordshire are inviting people to share their experiences of stroke care. This includes patients, carers, family members and anyone who has supported someone after a stroke.

They are asking for feedback on all parts of stroke care. This includes diagnosis, hospital treatment, rehabilitation and the support people receive after leaving hospital, whether from the NHS, charities or community groups.

People often receive care across different areas. For example, some patients from Shropshire may be treated in Stoke. By working together, the four Healthwatch teams can build a clearer picture of what is working well and where things could be improved

This work is especially important right now. Some stroke support services are facing funding changes, and this may affect the help people receive during recovery. Hearing real experiences will help show what difference this makes.

Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer at Healthwatch Shropshire, said “This is a chance for people to come together and share their views to help shape future services.” She added that “listening to people’s experiences is key to improving care.”

Jan Suckling, Chief Officer at Healthwatch Telford & Wrekin, said: “Recovering from a stroke doesn’t end when someone leaves hospital. We want to understand how well ongoing support is working for people as well, and where there may be gaps, so services can better meet people’s needs.”

Sarah Adderley, Associate Director for the Midlands at the Stroke Association, said that they welcomed the work as it highlights how vital ongoing support is:

“Feedback from the stroke community we serve is incredibly valuable and we are consistently told how valuable personalised stroke recovery services are for survivors in the area.

“While currently, 280 people have a stroke every day in the UK, which is one person every five minutes, we expect the number of people to have a first or second stroke to only increase.

"We are encouraging more people in the community to share their experiences through this Healthwatch initiative, to ensure that they continue to receive the right levels of support into the future.”

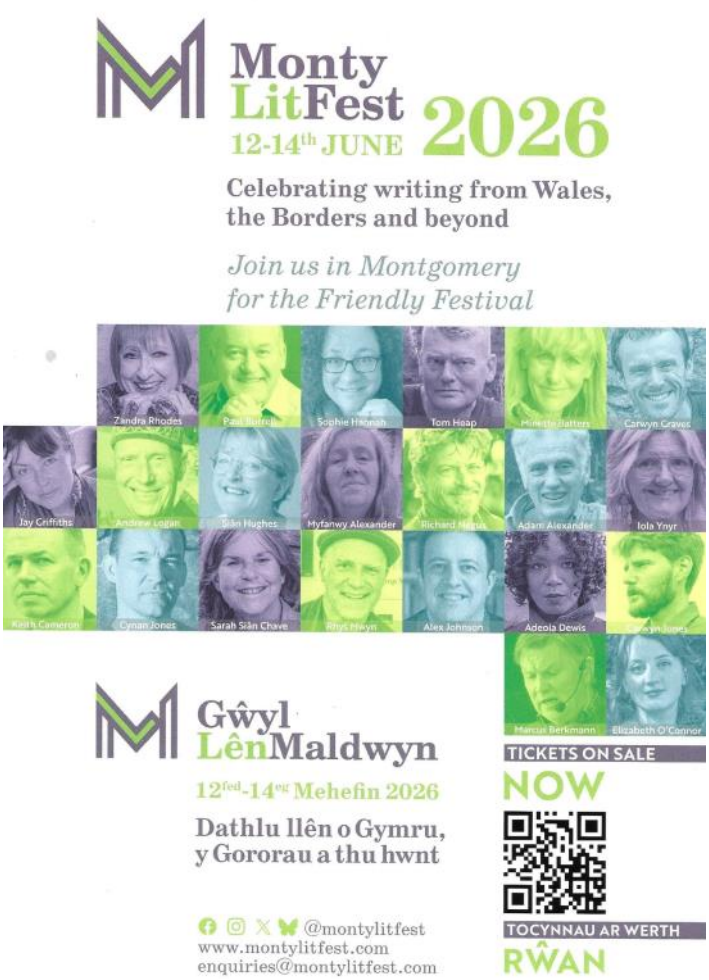
If you or someone you know has experience of stroke care, please take a few minutes to share your views. Every response helps build a better understanding of services and how they can improve.

You can share your experience online through the Healthwatch Shropshire website or call 01743 237 884.

Or online at Healthwatch Telford and Wrekin website or by calling 01952 739540.

Please help us spread the word by sharing this message and our posts on social media. Together, we can help improve care for everyone.

Kind regards, **Healthwatch Shropshire Team.**







Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association

A date for your calendar...**Saturday 29th August**

Our Annual Show on in Pontesbury Parish Hall will cover a range of classes including fruit, vegetables, flowers, handicraft, art, baking and photography (the latter with categories for pictures of snow, decay, trees and geometric images).

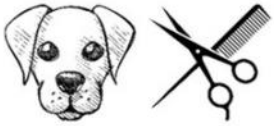
Full schedule to be published soon with entries welcomed from all age groups.



The Gardeners' Trading Post at the old station buildings, Station Road, Pontesbury, SY5 0QY is open every Saturday, 9.30am to 12 noon from February to late October.

We stock a wide range of composts, grass seed, lawn products, bamboo canes, fleece, netting and other garden sundries. Do pop in and see us!

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Group activity?

Community information?

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editor@hopenews.uk Or:

enquiries@hopenews.uk

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PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown

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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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- new groups are formed when sufficient members express interest

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- Cinema & Social
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- Cycling
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- Geology
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- Italian
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- Local History
- Painting & Drawing
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- Table Tennis (Pontesbury)
- Walking (long)
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Contact
Steve Anderson
steve.anderson.u3a@gmail.com
07861 531 186

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Time?: 6pm-6:45pm

Class?: Mat Pilates

Where?: Hope Village Hall

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July 2026 deadline—Thursday 25th June 5pm

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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 NB: Hard copy newsletter is black & white.

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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