

## NAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

December 2021 Merry Christmas





Lorna and Malcolm Knill would like to wish family, friends and neighbours a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year - we are sending a donation to the Hospice

We wish all our friends and neighbours a very Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy 2022. In lieu of sending cards this year we will gift donations to SDN and

With Love, Malcolm & Doreen



Liz Humphreys would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all my family, friends and neighbours. And a big thank you for being so good to me - love to you all - Joan Purslow.





Severn Hospice.

Kath and Michael Hampson would like to wish all family, friends and neighbours a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Derek and Jean Rowson send Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours, wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year



George and Joan wish all relatives and friends a very happy Christmas and may we all look forward to a pandemic free New Year.

Claire, Paul, Georgia and Will Corfield wish all our friends and neighbours a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We will be donating to charities instead of sending cards this year.

I would like wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Love & Best Wishes Wendy Whitelaw

"Tankerville Pottery and Gallery Wish all their friends, neighbours and customers a healthy, happy and peaceful Christmas this year."

> Don and Gloria would like to wish family and friends a merry Christmas and a happy New Year

Aunty Sylvia would like to send everyone love and good wishes for Christmas and a happy and healthy





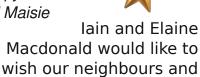
Merry Christmas and a happy New Year from Carol, Andy and Maisie



Just squeezed in -



Carol & Graham McMillan would like to wish friends and neighbours a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. A donation to the Severn Hospice has been sent in lieu of cards.



friends a very happy Christmas and all the

best for 2022.



#### Inside this month

A Christmas Issue - many thanks to all those who have sent in greetings and for their generous contributions to our printing costs. A 'green' take on an old Christmas Story and a chocolate box controversy.

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# FROM THE EDITOR sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk

Happy Christmas everybody
We don't feed the birds through the
summer, the jury seems out as to whether
this is good for them or just saving us
money. Come October, the robin appears
on the empty bird table, glaring at us
through the window. He (or she) is around
all summer carefully watching to see that I
am digging in the right place or sweeping
properly and enjoying the creatures I
disturb. I often feel there is a little of my
sister in the robin - just keeping an eye on
us.

Now he is tucking into nuts and seed or processed mealworm, while the weather is not too cold he defends his territory with vigour but as winter hardens he reluctantly allows another robin or two to grab a few crumbs while his back is turned.

Our trivia this month looks at those animals

which seem to have a special place at Christmas.



Our community is sad to lose two well loved members. Mike Hockly of Bentlawnt died whilst in hospital following an operation. Judy Wyke of Shelve died unexpectedly at home. They will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Paper copies or online versions

We currently print 320 copies a month which are delivered by our shrinking team of helpers. Another 50 or more families read the newsletter on-line, some of these are friends or relatives now living away but some are locals who would rather read the online version to the paper one. The advantage to online readers are a



full colour version and a saving of paper. I suspect our advertisers would prefer us to take a paper copy with their phone numbers more readily on hand.

If you would prefer to switch to our online service contact the editor. If you think you could help with deliveries please contact Geoff, Carol McMillan or Elspeth Gorman.

#### Village Hall News for SDN

#### December 2021

The hall AGM was held on 3 November and the elected officers are:

Chairman Julian Bromhead

Vice Chairman Phil Sproson-Jones

Secretary Pam Bickley Treasurer Maria Marks Booking Secretary Jo Jeays

The officers are supported by a number of committee members and other supporters who give their time freely in the management of the hall and in organising events. The hall would not be able to function without them and their efforts are recognised.

Regular events held at the hall include Stiperstones Brass practices, yoga, fitness club, Women's Institute and table tennis club.

Jo should be contacted to check hall availability and request a booking form using the e-mail: \_or on\_07815 733730.

On Sunday 12 December the hall will host community carol singing with the brass band at 3pm.

Julian Bromhead, Chairman SVHchairman@outlook.com

#### Grants available for local conservation projects

The Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund is open for applications.

The Fund supports projects to deliver practical conservation work in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) or involve young people in activities relating to the conservation of the area.

It's administered by the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust and earlier this year, they awarded £11,000 to eight community projects which are helping to look after the Shropshire Hills landscape.

Projects include restoring village roadside verges to encourage wildflower and create valuable wildlife corridors in the countryside, supporting volunteers to manage local woodland, and helping local Community Wildlife Groups to take action to conserve our local curlew population.

Projects have also enabled secondary school pupils to take part in practical conservation tasks, supported free places for younger children to join forest school sessions and funded a pollinator planting project at a local care farm, involving participants in all aspects of the research, planning, planting and after care.

If you, or your community group, has a project in mind, please get in touch.

Grants range from £500 to £2,000 and are generally awarded for activity within a particular Financial Year (April to the end of March).

We are inviting applications this autumn/winter for projects to start on or after 1 April 2022. Further information about the Fund and how to apply is on our website at <a href="https://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/help-to-look-after/shropshire-hills-aonb-trust/aonb-conservation-fund">https://www.shropshire-hillsaonb.co.uk/help-to-look-after/shropshire-hills-aonb-trust/aonb-conservation-fund</a>





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Camels and the Donkey

The three Kings or "Magi" who predicted the birth of Jesus are depicted as arriving on the backs of camels. It is also widely believed that Mary arrived in Bethlehem on the back of a donkey, as well as carrying Jesus into Jerusalem.



#### **December - Letter from Westminster Christmas** 2021



Reflecting back to this time last year, it is striking how far we have come.

Last year, just before people began to move around the country for the Christmas break, it was with the bitterest regret that the government had to impose restrictions on gatherings over the festive period. This change, which we all wished to avoid, meant last minute disappointment for so many after a tough year, and I know it was particularly difficult for those with children, as well as for grandparents.

But of course, the first doses of the covid vaccine had only just been administered in the lead up to Christmas 2020, meaning very few people were protected against the worst of the virus. In contrast, the rollout this year means almost 90% of the adult population have received at least one dose of the covid vaccine, with many now having received a booster jab or third dose.

We also now have effective drugs to combat the worst cases of covid, such as the recently approved Molnupiravir, which was found to reduce the risk of hospitalisation or death for COVID-19 patients most at risk by 50 per cent.

I write well before Christmas, and I have no wish to tempt fate, since we all know how resilient covid has proved. But local clinicians are working flat out to get more jabs into arms, to do all we can to avoid any reimposition of restrictions. So I am hopeful that this year, unlike last, it will be easy for friends and family to come together and celebrate Christmas as we all normally would.

This year will also see the resumption of Christmas services in the many churches in South Shropshire, which I know will bring great comfort to those with faith. The very nature of collective worship meant that congregations and choirs were particularly restricted when covid restrictions were in place, so I am grateful these services have resumed.

While enjoying the Christmas and New Year bank holidays, please spare a thought for those who cannot be with their families – including all those who work in our NHS and emergency services, and those serving in our Armed Forces, who have continued their vital work while still adapting to the challenges of covid this year.

Once again this year, as the long lasting impact of covid remains, the work of volunteers has been critical to the health and wellbeing of our communities. So I would like to thank all those who have given up time, in whatever capacity, to help others in need this year.

I wish everyone in South Shropshire a very Happy Christmas, with best wishes for the year ahead.

Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP for Ludlow



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Ox, Donkey and Sheep

The ox and the ass/donkey are the most frequently mentioned animals of the nativity, said to have been present in the manger at the birth of Christ. These animals are almost always included in a nativity scene. Sheep are also often included in a nativity scene because



the birth of Jesus is reported to have been revealed to shepherds by angels.

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#### **NATURAL ENGLAND**

#### Notes from the hill



It seems to be a late and warm autumn on the hill, with very few frosts so far and I wonder if it will be another warm winter, which is something that I guess we might have to get used to in light of climate change predictions. On the wildlife front there will be winners and losers from warmer winters but the general forecast for wildlife is poor and having a wildlife friendly countryside is key to allowing wild creatures the ability to adapt to these ever-faster changes.

Following the recent COP26 conference, I thought that it would be a good time to mention how the predicted changes in climate are likely to affect the Stiperstones. The climate predictions for the Shropshire Hills are for increasingly warmer, drier summers and warmer wetter winters, along with more frequent heavy storms.

Some of the effects on the hill are obvious like drier summers increasing the fire risk on the heathland and drying up the wet flushes, while wetter winters reduces our ability to carry out controlled burns and violent storms are likely to damage mature trees. However, many of the effects are more subtle such as ours and the commoners grazing animals being influenced by water holes drying up, remaining in the shade for longer in the summer and grazing patterns changing as vegetation like brambles and bracken increase. Gorse too, is held in check by frosts and snow and so may well increase in warmer winters, while trees on the shallow soils may struggle in summer droughts.

Upland species are particularly at risk from a warming climate as they can't keep moving up hill and we are likely to end up losing some of our upland species like red grouse for example. This bird, along with a number of other species that the nature reserve is special for, is on the edge of its range here and so is likely to be one of the first victims of climate change.

It's not all bad news, as there will be lowland and southern species that hopefully move on to the hill. One example is the nightjar, which is already starting to nest on the site and one day we may even see some Dartford warblers. Yet birds are mobile species and as such are more likely to be able to adapt, whereas many less-mobile species like insects and plants are likely to be marooned unless there are the habitat links across the countryside through which they can move and acclimatise.

The Stepping Stones project focuses on encouraging people to help create these links across the countryside which will allow species to be more resilient to the effects of climate change. As a first step it has mapped all of the existing habitats in the area and modelled the best places where there is potential for creating wildlife corridors and steppingstones.

COP26 was about government action to halt climate change, but we can all play our part however small, by changing the way that we live. So, whether it's moving to an electric vehicle, eating less meat, growing your own veg or insulating your home, we can all make a difference and help save the wildlife on the Stiperstones and across the planet. So how about joining me in making an environmental New Year's resolution?

Happy Christmas from Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoreoak.

Nightjar

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Reindeer These famous Christmas icons have developed over time, taking myths and stories from numerous cultures such as Father Christmas, Saint Nicolas and Sinterklaas. The older legends were never depicted with reindeer, in fact this part of the story came later and is believed to have been introduced through the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas' by Clement Clarke Moore in the 19th Century.





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#### News from St. Lukes





This Christmas there will be a memory tree in the church to remember loved ones.

There will be a Christmas Day Service at 9.00am - Everyone welcome

#### Marie Edwards writes

I must thank the congregation of St. Luke's Church for the hymn book, gardening voucher and bouquet of flowers they gave me on my retirement as organist.....very unexpected and not necessary but very gratefully received.

When I mentioned to Peter Francis that I was willing to help out I little imagined that 22 years later I would still be there. However I have enjoyed it immensely and love the friendship from St. Luke's. It will always be a very happy place in my heart especially as Colin and I were able to celebrate and renew our wedding vows for our Golden Wedding in August 2019.

Thank you all again and my love and good wishes to everyone now and for Christmas and the New Year.

#### Stiperstones Churches Website

I have been developing a site for the Stiperstones group of churches since the spring. This was initially to provide a link for the pre-recorded services. It is also used for the weekly newsletter from Rev Greg Smith and the team.



As winter comes in and I have to spend more time indoors, I am hoping to continue to develop the site and add information about the churches and church communities in the group. The site is not intended to replace the "A church near you" information but add detail of events, church history, images etc.

If you would like to submit anything or have any suggestions for the site please contact me at media.pontstip@gmail.com.

If you visit the site you will see my attempt at creating a logo for the site – If there is anyone with more graphic design skills than me (a very low bar) and could help with a logo please also contact me.

Alistair J M Bates Bentlawnt

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#### Kangaroo

In Australia a common Christmas song is 'Six White Boomers' which depicts Santa Claus giving his reindeers rest when he gets to Australia and instead using six white kangaroos! In the song, Santa also changes into some cooler clothes to cope with the much warmer climate down under.



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#### Snailbeach WI

Our November meeting was the first to be held in an afternoon which was very well attended, and during which we had a demonstration by our home-grown crafters, Jo , Anne and Bridget, who kept us entertained with table arrangements, a Christmas tree made of twigs and all members making their own Star of David with twine and twigs. A goody-bag for us to make our own table decoration was given to each member to take away.

The December meeting will comprise a curling afternoon when members will be asked to make a contribution of food for a buffet tea.

We shall be entering a decorated Christmas Tree in St. Georges church, Pontesbury, for their Festival in December.

Future events planned will be a visit to Attingham Park on December 3rd, when members could go for a walk in the lovely grounds, or go inside to see a servants life at Christmas time.

In January, we hope to organise a walk up to Stiperstones Inn for lunch and the January afternoon meeting is yet to be confirmed.

At our February meeting, there will be a demonstration of Origami on the 10th at 2.30pm, and a visit to Theatre Severn to see "Calendar Girls" on Sunday the 6th. From March we will go back to our evening meetings.

We always welcome new members, please telephone our Secretary on 01743 537269. Joyce Graves



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#### Partridge

The partridge is most commonly associated with Christmas because of the song '12 Days of Christmas', where the first gift is a partridge in a pear tree. This song is commonly believed to be gifts given by a true love. However, the 'true love' mentioned in the song represents god and the partridge in the pear tree represents Jesus Christ. In fact, all the gifts mentioned in the song have a religious connotation.



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Worthen with Shelve Parish Council

Worthen with Shelve Parish Council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish, we are the level of government closest to the community, with Shropshire Council above us in the hierarchy. As the authority closest to the people, we are invariably the first port of call people go to with their concerns or ideas.

The most common topics that this parish council deals with are planning matters (noting that we are statutory consultees, not the decision maker), Road Safety, Managing Snailbeach Public Toilets, Hope Burial Ground, maintaining closed churchyards, bus shelters and streetlamps. We have a Planning Committee and a Climate Change Group in place and communicate with Shropshire Council regularly to ensure better services are delivered for our parish. While we have limited powers to make decisions, we do have the ability to negotiate with, and influence, organisations that do make the final decisions.

We have been extremely busy over the past 18 months working closely with the community as part of the Covid Aid group. We have worked on projects to alleviate flooding to people's homes and businesses, hired equipment for recent works to the BOAT in Worthen, moved from 'ZOOM' meetings to in person meetings at our village halls, worked with agencies to retain our affordable housing and hopefully deliver more in the Parish. We have, with the help of West Mercia Police and the We Don't Buy Crime team sent out Smartwater kits to most residents in the parish (if you have not received your kit, please contact The Clerk at clerk@worthenwithshelvepc.org.uk), and communicate regularly with Highways, reporting issues on our roads.

Looking towards next year, we are exploring a range of projects, including making the public toilets carbon neutral or even negative by looking to introducing changes to the way we obtain energy and water, we are looking to move to eco-friendly supplies and cleaning materials, and we are investigating the introcution of a bike washing station as the facilities located in the toilet and indeed the carpark are not suitable for this activity. In addition, we are researching the introduction of electric vehicle charging points in the parish, are working with agencies to explore Community Led Housing provision, and are planning to update our Parish Plan.

Worthen with Shelve Parish Council has seventeen councillors representing three wards (Worthen, Hope and Heath), and meet ten times a year (monthly, excluding August and December). At our meetings, we discuss and respond to planning applications, matters relating to our ongoing commitments and projects, and any other matters referred by local residents. All our meetings are advertised in advance on our website, and usually take place on the last Monday of the month, starting at 19.00. (www.worthenwithshelvepc.org.uk)

Residents can bring to the attention of the parish council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the clerk. If matters raised are not the responsibility of the council, the clerk can bring them to the attention of the proper authority. We will be holding general meetings early next year to discuss the above projects in the parish, or any other matters of importance to local residents.

S J Smith, Responsible Officer.

#### Dog fouling

THIS PARISH COUNCIL HAS NOTICED THAT THERE IS AND HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN DOG FOULING IN THE PARISH. A person who doesn't clean up after their dog may face an on-the-spot fine of up to £80. These fines are known as fixed penalty notices. If a person refuses to pay they can be taken to the local Magistrates Court for the dog fouling offence and fined up to £1,000.

If you walk a dog, even one belonging to someone else, you are responsible for clearing up after it.

We want to reduce the amount of dog waste littering the parish of Worthen with Shelve and ensure that dog owners meet their responsibilities.

Anyone in control of a dog should have the means to clear up after the dog(s) and transport it to a suitable bin.

Anyone responsible for a dog(s) should be clearing up on all open air land with public access.

Dog faeces can cause problems to users of parks, public footpaths, sports grounds, farms, wildlife areas and nobody likes it left outside their front gate. It can also carry diseases including Toxocariasis, which can lead to serious illness, including blindness. This can be a particular risk for children. There is a risk to livestock from Dog faeces too.

#### Dog waste bins

In recent years national guidance on the disposal of dog waste has changed and it is no longer necessary to separate dog waste from other types of household waste.

For this reason, dedicated dog waste bins are no longer required and waste can be disposed of in any available litter bin or your black household bin.

There are both Dog waste bins and litter bins located in the parish and this council kindly ask responsible dog owners to use the available bins.

Please remember that the absence of a dog waste bin or litter bin is not an excuse to leave your dog's waste behind. Please take your dog waste home.

How should I dispose of my dog's waste?

As a rule, it is always better to dispose of your dog's waste at home:

In your domestic waste bin (black bin). Make sure you double wrap the waste to prevent smells. (cont on P15)







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#### Dove

The dove often appears in Christmas decorations, often with an olive branch in its beak as a symbol of peace and forgiveness. The turtledove, specifically, is a symbol of love and a sacrificial animal mentioned in the Bible, which may explain its appearance in the tune "The Twelve Days of Christmas".





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## On Wednesday 15th December, The Marches Choir, conducted by Alistair Auld,

will present their "Big Christmas Sing!", a festive evening of carols and Christmas music in St John's Church, Bishops Castle. They will be joined by the Marches Brass Quartet, adding even more to the joyful atmosphere.

The choir will sing a variety of seasonal pieces, as well as selected choruses from Handel's Messiah, including of course Hallelujah! As usual there will also be a number of carols for audience participation. Children and families are especially welcome, and there will hopefully be some special carols in which the children in the audience will be the stars!

The concert will start at 7.00 pm, and tickets (£8, children and students free) are available by calling 01588 650315, online from TicketSource, or can be purchased from choir members or on the night."

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> call Susan on 01743 791082 or 07854 110271 susanlockwood345@btinternet.com

#### from page 13

Biodegradable dog waste bags are available from some retailers and provide a more environmentally friendly alternative to plastic bags

You might also want to consider a dog waste decomposer, or similar 'dog toilet' which can be bought from some pet supplies retailers and set up in your garden

Dog waste can also be disposed of using a litter bin or dog waste bin while you are out, but if you cannot find one you should take your waste home.

You should never leave dog waste bags on the ground, or hanging on a fence or trees. As well as being unpleasant for other people, this is littering and you could incur a fine.

To reduce the need to pick up dog waste during walks, you could try training your dog to go at home and walking him before meals so that there is less to pick up.

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FCA number: 403640 With thanks to



#### Penguins

The frequent appearance of penguins as a modern Christmas motif relates only to their association with snow and the wintery conditions of the season. The same is true for other animals associated with snow covered environments, such as polar bears.



·

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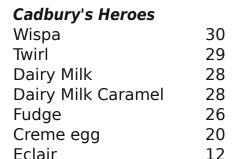
**Dash and Dawdle**Registration 10.00am
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Boxing Day

New Year's Eve Party
from 8.00pm
Doctor's & Nurses
Fancy Dress Theme
in aid of the Air Ambulance

Which Magazine analysed our chocolate favourites.
These are the centres ranked in order

#### Cadbury's Roses Hazel in Caramel 30 Dairy Milk Chunk 23 Hazel Whirl 19 Tangy Orange Creme 19 Caramel 17 Country Fudge 15 Golden Barrel 17 Coffee Escape 14 Strawberry Dream 11 Signature truffle 6 Caramel Bite 5

Quality Street	
Purple One	26
Green Triangle	22
Orange Creme	18
Fudge (pink)	18
Caramel Swirl	15
Toffee Finger	13
Strawberry Delight	12
Milk Choc Block	11
Toffee Deluxe	11
Coconut Eclair	10
Toffee Penny	10



Do you agree? - start arguing now!

Which also reported that there were often fewer of the customers favourite chocs than the lesser liked ones.

Do you hide your favourites at the bottom of the box - or just snaffle them all first?







#### A Christmas Carol (with apologies to Charles Dickens)



"I am all for theories about climate change, and would not for a moment dispute the wisdom or good intentions of the vast majority of scientists. But I am also an empiricist; and I observe that something appears to be up with our winter weather, and to call it 'warming' is obviously to strain the language."

Boris was cycling home in shorts and suit jacket and contemplating "Did I really say that? - Well what if I did, I contradict myself so often who will remember?"

It was a little warm for Christmas Eve and Boris was glad to get out of his sweaty shirt and into a hot shower, as he removed the last of his clothes a chill came over him and he turned to see the shadowy figure of a young girl in pigtails holding out a placard. The apparition spoke with a disconcerting Scandinavian accent. "Things too hot for you Boris? Is it this warm

December weather or the heat from the political fires being lit around you. Be prepared for more apparitions tonight – don't say I haven't warned you many times." and she was gone.

Boris blithered and blathered "I should never have had those IKEA meatballs for tea, why can't I get that Greta girl out of my mind?"
Boris slipped under the bed covers, but slipped out again to hang his plastic Santa bin bag by the fire which was burning nicely with Cumbrian coal. Unusually he found sleep difficult and as Big Ben struck ten the ghostly apparition of a butler knocked and entered "Sir you have three visitors, I have shown them into your office."

"But its Christmas Eve" stammered Boris.

"They say it is very important sir."

Without brushing his hair Boris followed this shadowy retainer downstairs. He was greeted by three distinguished gentlemen wearing very old fashioned clothes. "Prime Minister we have great news for you they chorused." At this Boris cheered a little.

The first arose, "I am Abraham Darby sir I have invented a new way to make iron and steel, we will soon have factories belching out smoke and fumes but making Britain the richest country in the world."

The second added "I am Isambard Kingdom Brunel, I have built you railways and steam ships so that Britain can spread its influence and reap the riches from all over the globe."



The third arose proudly, "I am Thomas Telford, I am using these inventions to build roads and canals to bring North and South closer together and bridges to carry the new high speed trains across the countryside." Boris was about to thank these great men when he found himself back in bed. He felt pleased to be the leader of a nation with such a proud history of industrial development but little naggy thoughts about increased carbon



dioxide and air pollution kept loitering in his mind.
Big Ben struck eleven, the bedroom door burst open
again and in came a man in safari gear followed by a
film crew. The man perched uneasily on the end of the
bed and whispered into a microphone,

"There is more meaning and mutual understanding in exchanging a glance with a global warming sceptic

politician than with any other animal I know. Their sight, their hearing, their sense of smell are so similar to ours that they see the world in much the same way as we do. They live in the same sort of social groups with largely permanent family relationships protected by the money they receive from large oil corporations. They walk around on the ground as we do, though they are immensely more powerful than we are. So if there were ever a possibility of our climate becoming too warm they would know about it." Boris tried to speak, "Haven't I seen you on television?" but the Number 10 Cat appeared and the crew left in hot pursuit. Boris tossed and turned while conjuring up another naggy thought about flying with Peppa Pig to a Caribbean Island for the New Year.

Continued on page 21

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On the last stroke his windows were flung open and he was dragged through them by a very elderly lady with pigtails and speaking with a disconcerting Scandinavian accent.

Together they flew above the city, Boris could see waves gently lapping around the

Cenotaph, the railings of Westminster Bridge just showing above a river which seemed to be engulfing all the landmarks he was so familiar with. They flew low over a Palace all boarded up and a park whose trees were merely scorched trunks. They flew on to the coast where they could see gangs of people fighting to get into little boats.

"What is all this Boris asked of his companion?"

"This is UK 2100 sir. The seas have risen as we predicted, the summers are so hot that trees self ignite, at the hottest times it is even unsafe to use any form of liquid fuel. Those people you see below you are the last of the refugees trying to get to France where they can live in the high mountains. There are no glaciers any more and the rich have built heavily defended cities there."

Boris was about to ask about his own children when he woke with dawn lighting the bed clothes strewn around him.

Boris opened the window and called to the policeman below, "Hello officer, is this Christmas Day?"

"Well of course it is sir, I didn't think even you would get that wrong" "Well thank goodness for that.".....

Does Boris go on to change the world – we will just have to wait and see. Happy Christmas all you Tiny Tims.

Building on the Prime Minister's 10 Point Plan, today's UK Net Zero Strategy sets out a comprehensive economy-wide plan for how British businesses and consumers will be supported in making the transition to clean energy and green technology - lowering Britain's reliance on fossil fuels by investing in sustainable clean energy in the UK, reducing the risk of high and volatile prices in the future, and strengthening our energy security.

From the Government website.

#### Goat

Many Scandinavian Xmas decorations feature stylized goat. This is the Yule Goat which is often made of straw and represents a goat that would once have been slaughtered for the feast. Some Swedish towns display a large straw goat during the Christmas season. The Yule goat has also been regarded as a spirit which visits households to make sure the yule preparations are underway.





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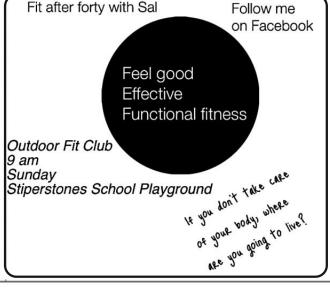
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Nine Pantomime Anagrams

abuse that bad teeny
boo bawdiest hen
ha bovinely battier fatheads
hell satan gender
i snoop busts
kid not twitching
sad aching ill paid mad man
some hot ogre
the drooling idle dirt
answers below



beauty and the beast babes in the wood ali baba and the forty thieves hansel and gretel puss in boots dick whittington aladdin and his magic lamp mother goose little red riding hood



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#### A Medium and a Fiendish this month

<u> </u>
c. I.C.
Sudoku
OF THE DAY

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

Christmas tree soup

Did you think that eating satsumas was the most festive way to get your hit of Vitamin C? Think again. It turns out that you can actually eat parts of your Christmas tree and that the needles from your tree are a great source of Vitamin C. If you want to tuck into your tree after Christmas then dry out the needles before grinding. You can then use the dried needles as a garnish on soups.

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

Three old country men died on Christmas Eve and were met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates.

'In honor of this holy season'
Saint Peter said, 'You must each
possess something that
symbolizes Christmas to get into
heaven.'

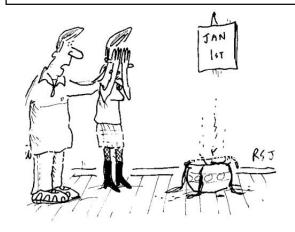
No one warned us of this they all complained, but Peter stood firm "rules is rules".

The first fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. 'It's a candle', he said. 'You may pass through the pearly gates' Saint Peter said.

The second reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. Peter was unimpressed but the man rattled them and said, 'They're bells.' Reluctantly the Saint said 'OK, you may pass through '.

The third who was usually a bit slow on the uptake started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's panties.

St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, 'And just what do those symbolize?' "Well they are Carols".



"There, there, Dear. A poinsettia's for Christmas, not for life."

Pig

In the Norse tradition the family would make an oath for the coming year over the pig to be prepared for the holiday feast. This would occur on the twelfth night of Yule(January 1st). This can be seen as a precursor of the current tradition of making new year's resolutions.



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Mon 20th Dec
Tue 21st Dec
Mon 20th Dec
Tue 21st Dec
Thu 23rd Dec

Tue 28th - Friday 31st Dec - Normal collection days

Mon 3rd Jan Tue 4th Jan
Tue 4th Jan Wed 5th Jan
Wed 5th Jan
Thu 6th Jan Fri 7th Jan
Fri 7th Jan
Sat 8th Jan





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Bishop's Castle Hospital Closure We were all shocked recently when the Shropshire Community Health Trust suddenly announce it was temporarily closing Bishop's Castle Hospital. This was done without warning and without consulting the community.

#### **Heather Kidd**

Local Shropshire Councillor for

# Chirbury & Worthen including Snailbeach and Stiperstones

Telephone: 01938 561 651 Mobile: 07980 635 518 Email:

heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk Facebook: Heather Kidd www.heatherkidd.org.uk Since then, my colleagues, Ruth Houghton and Nigel Hartin, and I have been campaigning hard to ensure that our local hospital re-opens soon and is not permanently shut on one pretext or another. We have written an open letter to the Chief Executive and appeared many times in the press and on Radio Shropshire. We are also asking questions at the County's Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

So far, this pressure has at least stopped the removal of the community health services team from BC to Craven Arms

We are concerned on two counts. First that this will impact on local health care as winter approaches and second, that this is the first step in a closure process. We will fight and any proposed permanent closure tooth and nail.

#### **Ambulances**

I have campaigned on Ambulance response times for many years. They have never been good and are now getting worse as ambulance stations close, ambulances are sucked away into the urban West Midlands and are seriously held up at our hospitals. Co-operation between the Hospital Trust and the Ambulance service is indifferent leading to episodes such as 17 ambulances queuing to discharge patients at the Princess Royal the other evening.

Although poor funding from central government does not help, poor management at the hospitals makes things much worse. My colleagues and I will continue to bring pressure to bear on them by bringing their shortcomings into the public domain through the press, radio and various scrutiny panels.

#### Snailbeach Roadworks

Western power had originally asked to close the road through Snailbeach for 8 days in December. After two site meetings we have got them to reduce this closure to 4 days 29th November – 2nd December. 9am till 3.30pm. There will be access to homes plus the pub and the shop although you might have to wait until they move some of the plant.

ŀ	-inal	I١	/, may	/ I wish	you all a	Merr	y Christmas	and a	pros	perous	new y	/ear!

Best wishes

Heather Kidd,

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#### Mouse

The mouse often makes a small appearance due to the opening lines of the poem "The Night Before Christmas": "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house / Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse."





### Carolyn Bailey

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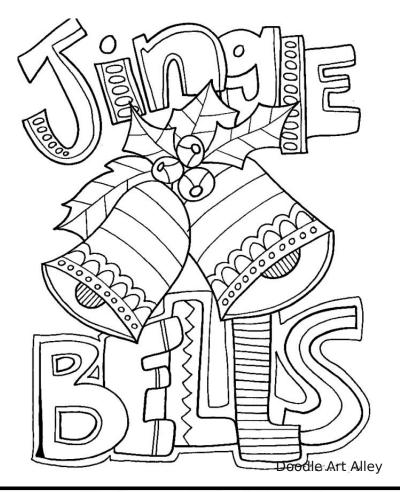


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#### Christmas Word Search

```
UBL
                    S
               RQOPERHLHB
                  NTBCWP
                 ZOKIBMOS
              T Y L P W O A E U R U
J C Y I T T J L U H C
               VDUGKA
              YLEDMSQWG
               F A
S Y
              GF
                    IWUSS
                            QEH
                  E
                    SWZ
               LUCTEL
              E
                         VESND
       QPNL
              F
               EKELEGGNOGO
              Z D
                    E
                     QVNT
                            0
       TBOCXRZETNBIMUIEP
      Y P S O H J B S B O M M P O B V C
              VMFREQVMQIXT
   UNRUAL
            1
                                 WDHW
   RFRMNBMSCHAXQSGNIKCOTSC
 MLPEPTQNIIHTNGTGCOEXARMA
  V X M Q A Y E O R E E R P R V N W X B D L C K O
UGKFJZJHYNHTAERWXBHMTUOHOQPFWO
F W I V O G B I N X K C O V X A Y N O A I W Z N P Y O V L M
       BELLS
STOCKINGS
WREATH
                    CELEBRATE
                                 MISTLETOE
CHIMNEY
                    EGGNOG
```

TRFF

SANTA www.thetypicalmom.com

#### Its a Cracker!

What do donkeys send out near Christmas? Mule-tide greetings.

A gingerbread man went to the doctor's complaining of a sore knee.

"A sore knee?" the doctor said. "Have you tried icing it?"

How did the bauble know that she was addicted to Christmas? She'd been hooked on Christmas trees all her life.

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? Tinsilitis.

What do you call a blind reindeer? - No-eye deer.

What do you call a blind reindeer with no legs? Still no-eye deer.

What is Santa's favourite kind of pizza? One that's deep-pan, crisp and even.

Why did the red-nosed reindeer help the old lady cross the road? It would have been Rudolph him not to.

Did you hear about the man who stole an advent calendar? He got 25 days.

The Christmas jumper my kids gave me last year kept picking up static electricity. I took it back and exchanged it for another one - free of charge.

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#### Robin

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Harassment Worthen

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#### Telephone 01743 791208

#### 552/553 Shrewsbury to Bishops Castle

Monday to Friday

			-															
Notes (SCH - School Days Only)												SCH			SCH			
BUS STATION, Stand N	07:35	08:10	08:50	10:05	10:25	11:00	12:00	12:30	13:30	14:00	14:35		15:45	16:25	16:25	17:00	17:40	18:10
Copthome Rd, opp Barracks	07:42	08:17	08:57	10:12	10:32	11:07	12:07	12:37	13:37	14:07	14:42		15:52	16:32	16:32	17:07	17:47	18:17
Shrewsbury Hospital			09:02	10:17	10:37		12:12	12:42	13:42	14:12			15:57	16:37		17:12	17:52	
Radbrook Oakfield Rd Jct	07:47	08:22				11:12					14:47				16:37			18:22
Hanwood, Caradoc View Jct	07:52	08:27	09:07	10:22	10:42	11:17	12:17	12:47	13:47	14:17	14:52		16:02	16:42	16:42	17:17	17:57	18:27
Hanwood, Cock Inn	07:54	08:29	09:09	10:24	10:44	11:19	12:19	12:49	13:49	14:19	14:54		16:04	16:44	16:44	17:19	17:59	18:29
Lea Cross, adj Jct	07:57	08:32	09:12	10:27	10:47	11:22	12:22	12:52	13:52	14:22	14:57		16:07	16:47	16:47	17:22	18:02	18:32
Mary Webb		08:36 SCH										15:20						
Pontesbury, opp Shop	08:03	08:38	09:18	10:33	10:53	11:28	12:28	12:58	13:58	14:28	15:03	15:21	16:13	16:53	16:53	17:28	18:08	18:38
Minsterley, adj crown & sceptre	08:07	08:42	09:22	10:37	10:57	11:32	12:32	13:02	14:02	14:32	15:07	15:27	16:17	16:57	16:57	17:32	18:12	18:42
Plox Green, Crossroads	08:09			10:39	10:59	11:34	12:34	13:04	14:04	14:34		15:29	16:19	16.59	16:59		18:14	18:44
Snailbeach, Village Hall					11:01				14:06			15:32	16:21		17:01			18:46
Stiperstones, adj Pub					11:05				14:10			15:35	16:25		17:05			18:50
Норе	08:15			10:45			12:40			14:40				17:05			18:20	
Gravels	08:19			10:49			12:44	0 3		14:44				17:09			18:24	
White Grit, Jct	08:23			10:53			12:48			14:48				17:13			18:28	
Llan Turn Jct	08:27			10:57			12:52			14:52				17:17			18:32	
Lydham Glebe Meadow Jct	08:31			11:01			12:56			14:56				17:21			18:36	
Bishops Castle Salop Street jct	08:33			11:03			12:58			14:58				17:23			18:38	
Bishops Castle, adj Boars Head	08:35			11:05			13:00			15:00				17:25			18:40	

From 6th January 2020

#### 552/553 Bishops Castle to Shrewsbury

Monday to Friday

Days Only)			SCH		SCH					g								
Bishops Castle, opp Boars Head				07:30				09:40			12:20		13:30			15:40		
Bishops Castle Salop Street Jct				07:32				09:42			12:22		13:32			15:42		
Lydham Glebe Meadow Jct				07:36				09:46			12:26		13:36			15:46		
Llan Turn Jct				07:40				09:50			12:30		13:40			15:50		
White Grit, Jct				07:44				09:54			12:34		13:44			15:54		
Gravels				07:47				09:57			12:37		13:47			15:57		
Норе				07:50				10:00			12:40		13:50			16:00		
Stiperstones, opp Pub	06:50	07:20	07:50		08:23				11:15					14:35			16:50	
Snailbeach, Village Hall	06:54	07:24	07:54		08:27				11:19					14:39			16:54	
Plox Green, Crossroads	06:56	07:26	07:56	07:56	08:30			10:06	11:21	11:55	12:46	13:05	13:56	14:41		16:06	16:53	
Minsterley, opp crown & sceptre	06:58	07:28	07:58	07:58	08:33	08:50	09:25	10:08	11:23	11:57	12:48	13:07	13:58	14:43	15:10	16:08	16:58	17:35
Pontesbury, Hall Bank	07:03	07:33	08:03	08:03	08:37	08:55	09:30	10:13	11:28	12:02	12:53	13:12	14:03	14:48	15:15	16:13	17:03	17:40
Mary Webb					08:40										15:26 SCH			
Lea Cross, Opp Jct	07:08	07:38	08:08	08:08		09:00	09:35	10:18	11:33	12:07	12:58	13:17	14:08	14:53	15:30	16:18	17:08	17:45
Hanwood, Cock Inn	07:11	07:41	08:11	08:11		09:03	09:38	10:21	11:36	12:10	13:01	13:20	14:11	14:56	15:33	16:21	17:11	17:48
Hanwood, Caradoc View Jct	07:13	07:43	08:13	08:13		09:05	09:40	10:23	11:38	12:12	13:03	13:22	14:13	14:58	15:35	16:23	17:13	17:50
Radbrook Oakfield Rd Jct	07:18		08:18							12:17					15:40			
Shrewsbury Hospital		07:48		08:18		09:10	09:45	10:28	11:43		13:08	13:27	14:18	15:03		16:28	17:18	17:55
Copthome Rd, adj Barracks	07:23	07:53	08:23	08:23		09:15	09:50	10:33	11:48	12:22	13:13	13:32	14:23	15:08	15:45	16:33	17:23	18:00
Bus Station Stand N	07:30	08:00	08:30	08:30		09:22	09:57	10:40	11:55	12:29	13:20	13:39	14:30	15:15	15:52	16:40	17:30	18:07

From 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020







## Minsterley > Motors

Telephone 01743 791208 www.minsterleymotors.co.uk

	_			Satu	rday				
08:00	08:35	10:05	10:45	12:30	13:45	14:45	15:40	17:00	17:40
08:07	08:42	10:12	10:52	12:37	13:52	14:52	15:47	17:07	17:47
08:12	08:47	10:17	10:57	12:42	13:57	14:57	15:52	17:12	17:52
08:17	08:52	10:22	11:02	12:47	14:02	15:02	15:57	17:17	17:57
08:19	08:54	10:24	11:04	12:49	14:04	15:04	15:59	17:19	17:59
08:22	08:57	10:27	11:07	12:52	14:07	15:07	16:02	17:22	18:02
08:28	09:03	10:33	11:13	12:58	14:13	15:13	16:08	17:28	18:08
08:32	09:07	10:37	11:17	13:02	14:17	15:17	16:12	17:32	18:12
08:34	09:09	10:39	11.21	13:04	14:19	15:19	16:16	17:38	18:14
	09:12				14:21			17:40	
	09:15				14:25	35		17:45	
08:40		10:45				15:25			18:20
08:44		10:49				15:29			18:24
08:48		10:53				15:33			18:28
08:52		10:57				15:37		97 9 9E 3	18:32
08:56		11:01				15:41			18:36
08:58		11:03				15:43			18:38
09:00		11:05				15:45			18:40

	07:32		09:32		12:17			15:52	
	07:36		09:36		12:21			15:56	
	07:40		09:40		12:25			16:00	
	07:44		09:44		12:29			16:04	
	07:47		09:47		12:32			16:07	
	07:50		09:50		12:35			16:10	
07:05		09:20					14:45		
07:09		09:24					14:49		
07:11	07:56	09:26	09:56	11:40	12:41	14:00	14:51	16:16	16:55
07:13	07:58	09:28	09:58	11:42	12:43	14:02	14:53	16:18	16:57
07:18	08:03	09:33	10:03	11:47	12:48	14:07	14:58	16:23	17:02
07:23	08:08	09:38	10:08	11:52	12:53	14:12	15:03	16:28	17:07
07:26	08:11	09:41	10:11	11:55	12:56	14:15	15:06	16:31	17:10
07:28	08:13	09:43	10:13	11:57	12:58	14:17	15:08	16:33	17:12

Saturday

15:50

15:18

17:29

09:30

10:23

10:00

07:30

	745 Mondays a	ind Fridays only
Pontesbury to Clu	in 745 A	
Pontesbury Shop	08:50	Ludlow
Minsterley	08:55	Craven
Hope	09:00	Long M
Gravels	09:03	Astono
White Grit	09:05	Lydbury
Lydham	09:10	Little Br
Bishops Castle	09:15	Cluntor
Colebatch	09:20	Clun
Clun	09:30	

Clun	09:35
Clunton	09:38
Little Brampton	09:40
Lydbury North	09:50
Aston on Clun	10:03
Long Meadowend	10:05
Craven Arms	10:10
Ludlow Assembly Rooms	10:25

Does not run on Bank Holiday except Good Friday

Ludlow to Clun 745	В
Ludlow Assembly Rooms	13:15
Craven Arms	13:30
Long Meadowend	13:35
Aston on Clun	13:37
Lydbury North	13:50
Little Brampton	14:00
Clunton	14:02
Clun	14:05

Clun to Pontesbury 745 A	
Clun	14:10
Colebatch	14:20
Bishops Castle	14:25
Lydham	14:30
White Grit	14:35
Gravels	14:37
Hope	14:40
Minsterley	14:45
Pontesbury	14:50

#### 775 Tuesdays only

Pontesbury Shop	09:30
Minsterley	09:35
Plox Green	09:38
Норе	09:40
Gravels	09:45
White Grit	09:48
Llan Turn	09:51
Bromleys Mill	09:55
Lydham	09:57
Bishops Castle	10:00

Bishops Castle to Newtown 775 B	
Bishops Castle	10:05
Church Stoke	10:20
Blue Bell	10:25
Sarn	10:30
Kerry	10:40
Newtown	10:50

Newtown to Bishops Castle 775 E	
Newtown	13:50
Kerry	14:00
Sarn	14:10
Blue Bell	14:15
Church Stoke	14:20
Bishops Castle	14:35

Bishops Castle to Pontesbury 775	
Bishops Castle	14:40
Lydham	14:43
Bromleys Mill	14:45
Llan Turn	14:49
White Grit	14:52
Gravels	14:55
Hope	15:00
Plox Green	15:02
Minsterley	15:05
Pontesbury	15:10

Temporary Post Office Stiperstones Inn 12.15 to 2.15 Tuesdays only

# Family

# Christmas Quiz



6.00pm
Thursday 16th December
The Stiperstones Inn

Adults £10 per head
Chidren £7.50
(Including Festive Buffet)



Call to Book on 01743 791 327



