



SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

May 2020

Letter from Westminster – Rt Hon Philip

Dunne MP May 2020



This wretched global Coronavirus pandemic, is affecting every single one of us, given the unprecedented measures governments around the world have had to take, including ours. The virus itself has been slower to reach Shropshire, but is now in our midst and local residents have been responding brilliantly to the advice to stay at home, to prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed and save lives.

I have been deeply heartened by the amazing response of communities across South Shropshire to pull together and help those in need.

With around 30% of South Shropshire's population over retirement age, we clearly have a substantial proportion of those at greater risk, and needing to shield themselves. The number of people aged 90 or above in South Shropshire has more than doubled in my time as your MP, many in residential or receiving domiciliary care locally.

So helping those self-isolating or shielding to receive food and medicines safely, has been a key role for the wonderful coronavirus support groups that have sprung up across county. The number of those volunteering to help neighbours in need, has been truly inspirational to see. Having been in self-isolation myself since mid-March with a chronic lung condition, I am very much aware of the difficulties from not being able to go out as usual to get supplies or work as normal.

Continued on page 3



"This message is for the key workers and volunteers – all of them – that continue to do such important work while we fight coronavirus. Whether their work involves frontline care for the sick and vulnerable, or

other essential roles such as cleaning, refuse collection, delivery driving, teaching or the production and distribution of food, we want them to know they are all worthy of praise and that the whole community is behind them."

"We are so grateful to the amazing key workers of Shropshire Council and the many other organisations working tirelessly to get us through these difficult times."

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NOTES FROM THE ON-LINE EDITOR

We were all very sad when Patrick made his decision to give up the Newsletter and having stepped in for a month I realise the enormous time and



effort he has put in during his reign. The friends of the SDN are seeking a way forward until a new editor or team of editors can be found. With no hard copy to produce during lock down and my own 100% isolation this interim online only policy has kind of worked out OK We have prodded most of our usual contributors, many of them like ourselves have a few spare minutes in the day and have sent us their articles, although they seem to have a bit of a recurring theme.

Many of us living in the country with a garden, the sunshine, the birds, the air and views across the hills must count ourselves very lucky. We have not been overlooked by Covid 19 and our hearts go out to all our readers who have been affected personally or through caring or worrying over family and friends.

We hope more of you have been taking a look at our online content. We have tried to keep you up to date both nationally and locally with links to news and advice from central and local government.

Please keep sending us your articles, ideas or comments.
sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk

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Continued from front page

I have been working to support those community groups of which I am aware, listed on www.philipdunne.com. Local residents can get in touch with Shropshire Council's Covid-19 support line on 0345 678 9028 for emergency help.

While in isolation, I have been doing all I can to support the thousands of local residents who have been in touch by email, many with urgent health issues or concerns about their livelihoods. An initial priority for me and my team was helping local South Shropshire folk who, due to global travel restrictions imposed with little or no notice, became stranded overseas. Some have been in desperate conditions or medically critical situations - for example, a constituent who had been stuck in a hospital in Florida, after suffering a stroke – who I am pleased to say we helped to get a medical evacuation by air to Princess Royal Hospital. With collaboration between government and the airlines, many people have managed to get home, and we continue to work to repatriate any who remain stranded.

I have regular updates with NHS leaders locally, as well as weekly calls with Shropshire Council to discuss responses across the county. I have been in touch with each care home and domiciliary care provider operating in South Shropshire to understand the particular issues they face in keeping their residents and staff safe.

The House of Commons returned from the Easter recess in a partially digital format, though I have been continuously raising issues throughout this crisis with Ministers, who are working flat out. I have chaired the Environmental Audit Committee meeting in virtual sessions to maintain scrutiny of the government.

As I write, it is not yet clear when this lockdown will end. But knowing fit and able people who have only just survived its effects, including of course the Prime Minister, I am well aware of the seriousness of coronavirus. But I am also convinced we will get through this crisis as a country, and I am sure the community spirit and respect for carers shown during this pandemic will last for years to come.

I felt, as usual, Her Majesty, in only her fifth address to the nation as Queen, captured the mood of the nation so well when she said: “I hope in the years to come everyone will be able to take pride in how they responded to this challenge. And those who come after us, will say that the Britons of this generation, were as strong as any.”

Keep safe and well.

Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP



To show appreciation for the county's NHS workers, Shropshire Council's highways team and its contractors are this week painting a special **THANK YOU NHS** message on the approach to each of the county's six hospitals.

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Shropshire-based project team at summit hosted by Prince Charles

CURLEW COUNTRY joined a range of people working with curlew and other priority species both on the ground and at a policy level when the Prince of Wales hosted a rare bird

recovery summit at Highgrove House.

The Shropshire-based landscape conservation initiative was represented by project manager Amanda Perkins and farmer Mark Pinches.

Curlews have declined in England by nearly 50% over the past 25 years but a nationally significant curlew breeding population nests in the landscape of the Shropshire Hills and Powys, where Curlew Country operates. Working on a grass roots up basis with farming partners, Curlew Country investigated the causes of breeding failure of curlews over two years and discovered that from 30 plus nests monitored, no chicks survived. The project immediately took action to save this important curlew population from extinction. Over the past 3 years the initiative has enabled over sixty chicks to fully fledge into their natural environment, through a technique called head-starting which it has pioneered for Curlew in the UK.

This was the second summit hosted by The Prince of Wales to encourage improved efforts to prevent this iconic species from dying out. Recovery of the UK curlew population will deliver a range of other environmental benefits including soil quality, water quality, carbon sequestration and conservation of other habitats and species. Curlew Country has supported farmers and land managers working to enable success of breeding curlews on their land through habitat interventions. It engaged a farm business manager to assess the real cost to a farm business of supporting breeding curlews and trialled nest protection, including predation control. It has been gathering information on the ground to help inform and influence policy makers. In preparation for the summit



over 30 of the Curlew Country Farmers Group gathered for a workshop to consider in greater detail what is needed in new agri-environment schemes to secure a future for waders breeding locally.



Amanda Perkins, Curlew Country Project Manager commented 'Curlews inspire farmers to think about wider environmental measures on their farms. This second summit moved forward from the first, at which the basic curlew recovery requirements for habitat and predation control achieved general consensus. At the Highgrove summit we were able to look in more detail at what is needed urgently at a policy

level. There is certainly agreement that there is no time to waste if we are to save Britain's largest wader, not just locally, but throughout the UK. More effective action and less monitoring of species on the brink of being lost in our countryside is needed at a nationwide scale.'

You can find out more about Curlew Country's pioneering work and how you can get involved or support it at: www.curlewcountry.org

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*Sound the flute!
Now it's mute!
Bird's delight,
Day and night,
Nightingale,
In the dale,
Lark in sky,--
Merrily,
Merrily merrily, to welcome in
the year.*

*Little boy,
Full of joy;
Little girl,
Sweet and small;
Cock does crow,
So do you;
Merry voice,
Infant noise;
Merrily, merrily, to welcome in
the year.*

*Little lamb,
Here I am;
Come and lick
My white neck;
Let me pull
Your soft wool;
Let me kiss
Your soft face;
Merrily, merrily, to welcome in
the year.*

William Blake

Be a freezer hero

*fridge hereoWe all know that meat,
pizza and ice cream can be frozen,
but there may be a few foods that
surprise you!*

- Eggs
- milk,
- bread
- cheese



*In fact, almost anything can be
frozen! Pop a label on whatever you
freeze to avoid any Unidentified
Frozen Objects.*

Shropshire
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recycle for your community

10 things to do in the garden to help our wildlife (and the planet).

There are 24 million gardens in the UK, big and small, and they have an important part to play in our effort to help nature and combat climate change. And of course our gardens bring us great pleasure and help create a feeling of well being. Children of all ages will enjoy getting involved in these activities. Here are a few suggestions of easy ways to do this, courtesy of The Wildlife Trusts and the RSPB. (www.wildlifetrusts.org, www.rspb.org)

1. Leave a small (or large) patch of lawn uncut to help minibeasts and insects, which in turn will provide food for birds.
2. Grow some nectar rich flowers for bees, hoverflies and butterflies. Some easy annuals are marigolds, nasturtiums and California poppies. Or grow some native wildflowers like cornflowers.
3. Keep a woodpile in a corner of your garden or under a



hedge as shelter for minibeasts, and maybe frogs and toads.

4. Make a bee or bug "hotel."
(www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-build-bug-mansion)
(many of the

minibeasts you will attract are gardeners friends, for instance ladybird and hoverfly larvae eat harmful pests like aphids.)

5. Put up a bird or bat box.
6. Make a small pond.
7. Start a compost heap. (www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/compost-heaps/)
8. Make a home for hedgehogs.
9. Put away the chemicals! (Slug pellets for instance do not just kill slugs and snails, but also poison creatures that eat them, in particular thrushes and hedgehogs.)
10. Change to peat free compost! (if you haven't already).

Peat removes carbon from the atmosphere and stores it, yet 94% of the UK's peatlands have been destroyed or damaged. Peat from wild places is a major ingredient in garden compost, (unless it states that it is peat free). There is no such thing as a "sustainable" source for peat.

www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/today_in_your_garden/ethical_peat.shtml)

Most plants from garden centres are grown in peat based composts.

Liz Knowles

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WHAT'S ON

Not a lot !

Monday Quiz

On-line from the Stiperstones Inn, join contestants from all over the world and try and answer Phil's testing questions with sound and visuals from Lara.

8.00 pm – check out Philip's Facebook.

Wednesday Bingo

As above but you need 'Zoom' installed to handle this one.

8.00 pm again – great prizes – free to play!

The Open Day / plant sale at Holy Trinity Church Minsterley at the end of May has now been cancelled.

And Spring arose on the garden fair;

Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;

And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast

rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.

(Percy Bysshe Shelley)

Chairman's Report from Ray Harper

When Patrick contacted me to request a report for this edition I thought what can I report – the hall is in mothballs and the police have garnished the car park with blue and white ribbon. Then I got a phone call from Graham McMillan asking if we still wanted the grass cutting, then a message from Maria Marks to let me know that the electricity bill had just arrived and that we should turn the heating off. I then realised that life goes on, we may well be unable to join together in a yoga class, a W.I meeting or whatever but life goes on and, crikey, are we lucky.



Three of Caroline and my kids live with their partners in flats in Greater London. One has a French window onto a car park, one has a balcony four floors up and the other shares a balcony sized area on the ground floor with the recycling bins. We on the other hand have the whole of this beautiful countryside to wander through (or just to look at from the window if you don't want to go out) and I have decided to not take it for granted but to appreciate and enjoy it to the full.

When we are not gardening we often walk through the mine and up to the Big Pool and beyond. Whereas in the past when we bumped into neighbours it would be a wave of the hand and a quick hello, we are now taking great pleasure in stopping (the appropriate distance away) and passing the time of day. I guess that because we see less people in this strange time we value company more.

So there we are the village hall is closed but life goes on and I have time to appreciate this wonderful area and the people who live here. I hope you do too.

Looking forward to seeing everything back to normal but I hope the changes for the good that comes out of the current situation stay with us.

**DON'T JUST EAT IT
COMPLEAT IT**

Try using up

every edible bit of your food. Potato skins, bread crusts, and broccoli stems are all delicious and perfectly edible, but they often get wasted because we don't think to use them up. Try leaving the potato skins on when you make mash, or adding the broccoli stem to your stir fry or stew along with the florets.



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February Storms on the Stiperstones

From Noel Evans, Pennerley

February saw us hit by a series of storms one after the other. This is an event that we have not seen for a long time, neither have I seen such fluctuating air pressure. This is where a barograph comes in very handy. A barograph records the atmospheric pressure on a chart via a stack of cells, made of corrugated metal, which is nearly evacuated of air and contains a spring inside.

As the air pressure increases the cells are compressed, and when it decreases the internal spring allows the cell to expand once again, allowing you to see the everchanging air pressure. Alongside the stack of cells, sits a drum, which is operated by either a clockwork mechanism or a battery driven one.

A chart is then wrapped around the drum to record the air pressure via a pen arm which is connected to the cells at one end, and on the other end sits a nib with ink in it, which then rests on the chart to produce a trace of recorded air pressure.

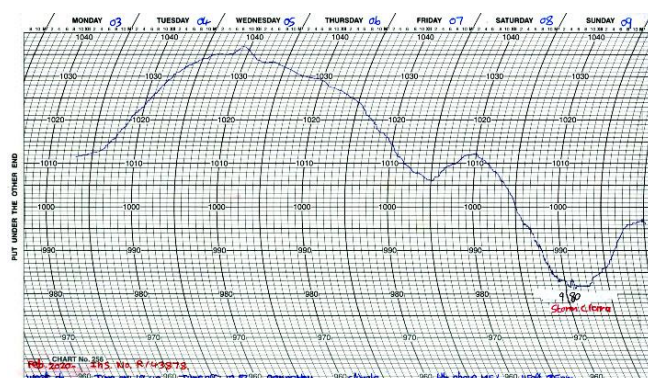
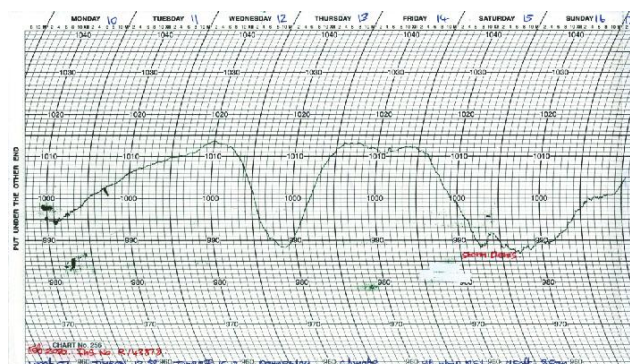
The charts themselves come in various times durations, from one day to one month. The most commonly one used is a seven day one, that has a scale of 950 – 1050 millibars.

It was interesting that in January, from the 19th to the 22nd we had an unusually high-pressure weather system over the UK, that was only 1mb from the very top of the chart, giving a reading of 1049.9mbs.

I have never recorded air pressure that high for many years. Eighteen days later the storms started launching themselves on us in more ways than one.

Below are a couple of examples of barograph charts from the weeks of Storm Ciara and Storm Denis, to enable you to see a pressure trace.

The first chart show the air pressure trace as Storm Ciara swept over us. (note that the pressure was also very high four days before.)



The second shows the air pressure trace as Storm Denis swept over us.

These storms also brought with them unprecedented quantities of rainfall, although we did not have as much as a lot of areas did, we still had a monthly total of 197.2 mm - 7.7inches. That is over double the average which is 89.5 mm - 3.5 inches a month. Regarding wind speed, a max gust of 70 mph was reached during storm Ciara and 55 mph during storm Denis.

This certainly hot's up the debate about climate change and global warming, though it seems that there are defiantly some serious changes afoot, both with the weather patterns and the climate.

I will keep you posted as to other climate and weather events as well as weather monitoring.

Keep well Noel Evans

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NEWSBRIEF

First an update from our councillor, Heather

In these challenging times I have been heartened by the way our communities have been pulling together to support the vulnerable amongst us.

I have/ will be working with a team of coordinators and volunteers from throughout the area over the next few weeks and months as the crisis moves forward.

If you need help please contact 0121 318 5138 (this is a local team number!) between 9am and 4pm or email: worthencovid19@gmail.com or Heather Kidd 07980635518 heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk

Here are a few updates on the situation as we go to press:

- **Green Waste:** The Council is prioritising the collection of black bins and recycling. It may not be able to collect green waste if the numbers of its workmen fall further. Please don't put food waste in with green waste for now.
- **Buses:** The Government now promised to put money into keep buses running. Welsh Government already doing this and is funding the Tanat Valley 588 service. Hopefully the 553 and 552 will be reinstated.
- **Community Group Grants:** Grants of up to £500 now available, also small business grants of up to £10,000 all being run by Shropshire Council. Either ring 0345 6789000 or myself or go to shropshire.gov.uk/covid-19-grants
- **Food Bank.** This has been set up for the whole of our area. Nobody in our community should go hungry in 2020! Ring 0121 318 5138 between 9am and 4pm or email: worthencovid19@gmail.com or Heather Kidd on 07980635518 heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk. This is a confidential service.

For up to date info as it happens on services and local news etc. sign up to my email by emailing heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk and asking to be put on my mailing list. In normal times this also tells you of road closures, local planning applications and events.

and on a lighter note from our Scottish correspondent

Tae a Virus

Two months ago we didna ken yer name or ocht about ye

But lots of things have changed since then, I really must salute ye.

Yer spreading rate is quite intense, ye'r feeding like a gannet

Disruption caused is so immense ye've shaken oor wee planet.

Corona used tae be a beer, they garnished it wi' limes

But noo it's filled us aw wi' fear, these days are scary times.

Nae shakin hawns or peckin lips, it's what they aw advise

But scrub them weel richt tae the tips, that's how we'll aw survive

Just stay inside the house ye bide, nae sneakin oot for strolls

Just check the lavvy ev'ry hoor, and take stock ae yer loo rolls.

Oor holidays have been put aff, that's the Jet2 patter

Pit oan yer thermals, have a laugh and paddle 'doon the watter'.

Canary Isles nae for a while, nae need for suntan cream

And aw because ae this wee bug, we ken tae be nineteen.

Boredom surely will set in, but hae a read or doodle

Or plan yer menu for a month wi' 99 pot noodles

When they run oot, just look about, a change it wid be nice.

We've beans and pasta by the ton, and twenty stane ae rice,

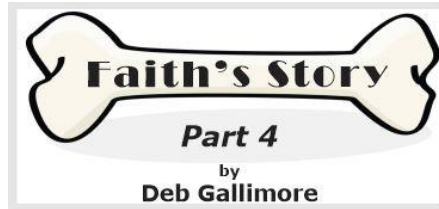
So dinny think ye'll wipe us oot, aye true a few hae died

Bubonic, bird flu and TB, they came, they left, they tried.

Ye might be gallus noo, ma frein, as ye jump fae cup tae cup

But when we get oor vaccine, pal, yer number will be up!

After her tough start, Faith develop seemingly as waiting for something to apart from her skeletal she is a very healthy dog, coat and is full of energy. puppy in the litter, she



continued to grow and normal. I think I was always happen, but it seems that challenges and her autism she heals well, has a lovely As she started to walk as a seemed to me to be in a

curved shape. Her oversized tongue hangs out and is curved to the right of her body, her right ear hangs just slightly lower than her left and her tail also swings just slightly to the right. I wondered if her left hand side developed more than the right while in the womb. I have watched this girl grow and had my hands on her from birth, I know her better than I know myself and I have made a conscious effort to monitor her development I am inclined to consider the whole dog, otherwise we are just sticking plasters over wounds. We are always careful with growing Leos not to let them run with the big dogs and to exercise them gently and appropriately according to their age. This was of great frustration to Faith who was most put out that she was not allowed to gallop in the paddock with our other dogs. Her bad conformation was becoming more apparent as she grew, her stifles very straight, her hocks pop forward when she stands up on her back legs, and even when she walks slowly. It doesn't matter to me that she is not correct from a show point of view, but it does worry me that it makes her more susceptible to injury. Especially given her intense nature and apparent lack of self-control. I give her (like all my giants) Glucosamine and Chondroitin daily to help support her joint formation; and do my best to keep her crazy enthusiasm to a low simmer. She walks on a Perfect Fit harness and doesn't pull on the lead. Playtimes are made less explosive by adding one dog at a time supervised until everyone is just calmly sniffing round in our dog paddock, where we have trampolines (or giant Leonberger hammocks) and tunnels and sandpits, oh and kids, lots of kids too, all very exciting and enriching.

Despite this though Faiths movement was not great, she often appeared lame with no obvious cause, her front legs were wide spaced with her right elbow turned out and she was more well-muscled on her chest than her rear. I visited a vet physio with her but examination by a new person was almost impossible as Faith would stiffen and just sit down. This was not conducive to joint



manipulation and diagnosis. We did some hydrotherapy which Faith started to enjoy but only because I was there walking round with her and nobody else was touching her. She is happy to have fuss from people, but she knows the difference between a fuss and an examination instantly; and clenches everything she can.

Part 5 follows soon...

Be storage savvy

*Different foods do better in different places, so knowing where to store them is key to keeping them fresh. We have a **Food Storage A-Z** to help you to figure out where to store your foods, as well as tips on how to use them up!*

For example: did you know that apples keep fresher for longer in the fridge, but bananas need to stay in the cupboard?



*Earth is dry to the center,
But spring, a new comer,
A spring rich and strange,
Shall make the winds blow
Round and round,
Thro' and thro' ,
Here and there,
Till the air
And the ground
Shall be fill'd with life anew.
(Alfred Tennyson)*

Social distancing while outside

Exercise is good for your physical and mental health
But, you **MUST** be responsible to protect all our health

While outside:



Avoid

Close contact with others (handshakes, hugs, kisses etc)



Distance yourself

Keep 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people



Keep to small groups

A maximum of two people, unless part of your household



Don't arrange

to meet up with other people



Stay away from busy areas

Go somewhere else for your walk

Only visits sites that are within walking distance from your home.
Please do not travel to sites.



www.gov.uk/coronavirus



Issues raised by Bishops Castle Community Police

Following a number of burglaries during March there has been a decrease in reported offences since the Covid 19 lockdown guidance. Offenders who travelled into the area to commit burglaries on 16th March were arrested on the day and stolen items were recovered.

Offences had recently been started to be conducted during the day, please be wary of any suspicious vehicle's and report them via 101. If you would like some advice on your security you can email the Bishops Castle Policing Team at bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Get to know your date labels.

Best before' refers to quality – your food is at its best before this date, but should still be OK to eat after: use your senses to check.

'Use by' is about safety – eating food after this date could give you food poisoning. Remember, you can freeze your food up to and including the use by date, keeping it for another day.



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Notes from the hill

Following current Covid-19 guidance the rights of way on the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve can be used by local people for exercise, but dogs must be kept on leads at all times. We do not encourage travelling to the site by vehicle and although the car park is not barriered off, the police are patrolling it to ensure it is not misused.

An opportunity that many of us are taking from remaining at home, is the chance to get stuck into a bit of gardening. So why not help the environment by making your garden more wildlife friendly. The RSPB website is a good place to look for some detailed advice, or butterfly conservation have a monthly wildlife gardening blog.

I have mentioned before that the creation of a pond can be the best way to bring wildlife into the garden. Another factor is the plants that you grow, with some being more attractive to native animals than others. The most obvious choice of plant would be a native one to the area, and often these can be just as beautiful as some of the more gaudy flowers that are often planted out. They will also fare better as they are used to our climate and soils. For example at this time of year, the primroses, cowslips and violets make a wonderfully vibrant show of colour in our countryside. The leaves and flowers of primroses can also be made into a tea which is said to calm the nerves and drive away nasty coughs – perhaps just the thing at the present moment.

I should hasten to add that wild plants should not be dug up from the countryside, but can be bought or the seeds collected.

In general pale coloured flowers, such as primroses, attract night time pollinators such as moths, whereas coloured flowers like violets attract day flying insects like butterflies and bees, so I would suggest a mix of both. Simple flowers are a good choice, compared to big showy double flowers, which are less accessible by insects and often don't carry much nectar.



Another wonderful native plant for the border is the foxglove, which on a sunny day will always have a few bumblebees squeezing into its finger shaped flowers. Also any plant from the thistle family will attract bees and butterflies and if you don't like the thought of a prickly thistle how about common knapweed which has a flower like a thistle but no spines.

Finally a word for the often overlooked and much maligned dandelion. This delightful plant is used by all sorts of wildlife, bees feed on its plentiful nectar, grazing animals seek out its tasty leaves (it's a good addition to a salad too) and goldfinches eat its seeds later in the summer. As well as being good for wildlife it can also be used by the gardener, as like comfrey it has a long tap root that reaches minerals deep in the soil, so its mineral rich leaves can be used as a mulch or fermented in a bucket (maybe with nettles) and used as a plant food.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel all our events up to June this year, including the opening of the cottages at Blakemoorgate, more details can be found on our Facebook page.

Happy gardening from Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak.



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SNAILBEACH WHITE STARS

Jordan Knill reports

Red Barn Rovers 3-5 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: Our first game in 3 months after a substantial winter break and it was a big one, a cup quarter-final against a Division 1 side that were unbeaten in the league. We had depleted numbers due to various players leaving during the break, but we battled through to make it into a cup semi-final. Marcus Ashley was justifiably named the new captain and capped it with 2 goals. The game also saw Charlie Davies put in a great performance that was capped off with his first goal for the club.

GOAL SCORERS:

Calum BENNETT, Ben MILLINGTON, Charlie DAVIES, Marcus ASHLEY (2)

TEAM:

GK: Gaz TURNER

DEF: Owen MORRIS, Manny WILLIAMS, Calum BENNETT

MID: Ollie DAVIES, Charlie DAVIES, Ben MILLINGTON, Craig GRIFFITHS, Sam JONES

ATT: Jamie HYNE, Marcus ASHLEY ©

SUB: Josh WILLIAMS

Beacon 3-3 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: Despite numerous absentees the boys should've walked away with all 3 points having been ahead twice. At 2-0 the game looked done but unfortunately poor game management and lacklustre finishing cost us in the end. Still, a decent point against the team who were top of the league, having played more games than anyone else. Impressive debut by midfielder Seth Ellis and a long-awaited return for Danny Jones in defence.

GOAL SCORERS:

Jamie HYNE, Marcus ASHLEY (2)

TEAM:

GK: Gaz TURNER

DEF: Ben MILLINGTON, Danny JONES, Jack BREEZE

MID: Ollie DAVIES, Craig GRIFFITHS, Jamie HYNE, Seth ELLIS, Manny WILLIAMS

ATT: Kingsley BROWN, Marcus ASHLEY ©

SUB: Josh WILLIAMS

Beacon 3-1 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: Out of the cup in the semi-final stage. Absolutely gutting but we take it on the chin and move on. With the game on a knife edge a few key decisions went against us and in truth, we didn't create quite enough, and our hosts were clinical with their chances. We will look to bounce back with a solid end to the season.

GOAL SCORER: Marcus ASHLEY

TEAM:

GK: Gaz TURNER

DEF: Ben MILLINGTON, Owen MORRIS, Manny WILLIAMS, Calum BENNETT

MID: Craig HARRIS, Craig GRIFFITHS, Jamie HYNE, Seth ELLIS, Sam JONES

ATT: Marcus ASHLEY ©

SUBS: Charlie DAVIES, Ollie DAVIES



Mr. Quips

COVID-19

Corner

- In an unsettling reversal of my teenage years, I am now yelling at my parents for going out.
- Has anybody let the Amish know what's going on yet?
- "To be honest, staff at my local Sainsburys were under the assumption that I've been panic buying alcohol for the last four and a half years.
- A side effect of lockdown is it's really hard to end 'phone calls. Twice today I almost said, "OK, I have to run" before realising that there was nowhere to run to...
- I still haven't decided where to go for my holiday this summer. I'm debating between the bedroom and the living room.
- If someone doesn't invent a prototype of a see-through toaster while we're under lockdown, then honestly, what was it all for?
- I picked a hell of a time to have not learned how to cook for the past 29 years.
- Really wish we had a dog right now but then I remember that old slogan. a dog is for life, not just for a global pandemic.
- I don't think it's going to be that hard to stay 6 feet away from my wife during the outbreak...that's 94 feet closer than the restraining order says.
- What's the best way to avoid touching your face? A glass of wine in each hand.
- Ever since it was brought to my attention that you can say "Covid-19" to the tune of "Come on, Eileen," I've been unable to read it any other way.

1969 A very different May Day

The late 60s were another scary time for the establishment. The Government. The Police, The Armed Forces, The Churches and Universities all found themselves at the sharp end of a wave of resentment and opposition from all people 'students'. A wave of protest spread across the Western World reaching a peak as opposition to the US involvement in Vietnam gained momentum.

At the time of the 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration outside the US embassy in London I was studying at Liverpool University. As naive young people we were suddenly drawn into a social group of Anarchists, Maoists, Trotskyists, Marxists, Leninists and many other ists. Most of my fellow 'revolutionaries' had read very little of the relevant literature but we could be found pedalling newspapers such as Peace News, Freedom and International Times around the trendy pubs of Liverpool's swinging city, embarrassing the likes of Scaffold members Mike McGear and John Gorman and Liverpool poets Adrian Henry and Roger McGough into buying a copy.

My good friend John Bernard Cowan and I being 'non violent activists' were neither supporters of Ronald Reagan nor Ho Chi Minh and decided to have our own demonstration at the Pier Head. This descended into a full 'Wolfie Smith' debacle with leaflets left on the Wavertree bus, a turn out in single figures and one friendly policeman in the pouring rain- though we did make two lines in the Sunday Observer.



My enthusiasm was undiminished, so when in November 1969 the all white Springboks South African rugby team were due to play at Old Trafford I joined many thousands outside the ground to demonstrate our opposition to apartheid. Along with fifty or so other demonstrators I was pushed through a police cordon which closed behind us, we were then chased and harried by mounted police until we escaped, I without one shoe, into a nearby shopping arcade. Sitting to regain my breath I found myself next to would be Channel 4 newscaster John Snow. John was no stranger to me as he was a very active student leader and was always prominent in University debates.

Lord Salisbury a strong supporter of the South African and Rhodesian separatist governments was the Chancellor of our University. Opposition to his remaining in position led to much discussion within the student union. This coupled with the fact that many students, possibly myself included, were rumoured as to them having their political activity stored on secret files by the University raised the temperature of discontent within the student body. It was not difficult to see that another incident could lead to direct student action. This was soon to be proved correct when the University's treatment of its many tenants became front page news with the opening of the new senate building. The University like many other inner city

campuses needed to expand and they were buying up and demolishing streets of low quality housing. We students believing that the rights of tenants were being abused helped form the Abercrombie Tenants association. Princess Alexandra was invited to open the new Senate House. A large demonstration followed this announcement and eventually to appease the growing feeling of discontent the Princess also visited some of the tenants in their homes.



Ill feeling was still simmering and when the University dismissed a list of 5 demands put to them by the students a decision was made to occupy the Senate Building. The action became national news and ended acrimoniously with 9 students being sent down for 1 or 2 years and my friend Pete Creswell being expelled. John Snow was one of the students sent down and he made the decision not to return but to continue a media career which had already begun at Radio Merseyside.

May of that year saw the a growth of May Day marches across the country. Labour Day as it is also known was not to be a public holiday for many years, it had unwelcome links to the mass military cavalcades in front of the Kremlin. That year against the direct demands of the University 1500 students were joined by several trades unionists to march through the streets of Liverpool. This proved to be my last active political protest.

Many of the issues we campaigned against have been resolved to a greater or lesser extent. The data protection act now protects us from having files covering our political or social activity being held with out our knowledge, tenants in rented accommodation have much greater rights and Lord Salisbury resigned from his position as Chancellor in 1971.

PS I have just discovered that Pete Creswell finally received an honorary degree from the University in 2016.



Loveliest of trees the cherry now

E. Housman,

1859 – 1936

*Loveliests of trees, the
cherry now*

*Is hung with bloom
along the bough,
And stands about the
woodland ride
Wearing white for
Eastertide.*

*Now, of my threescore years
and ten,
Twenty will not come again,
And take from seventy
springs a score,
It only leaves me fifty more.*

*And since to look at things in
bloom
Fifty springs are little room,
About the woodlands I will
go
To see the cherry hung with
snow.*



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The latest from freecycle



Dear Freecycle.org member,
Freecycle is a global community, and right now our community is under threat from a global pandemic. While we remain committed to reducing waste and keeping items out of the landfill, our main concern is the health and well-being of our members. We've asked local moderators to refocus local groups on crisis info and updates: local testing sites, shopping restrictions, critical info, and to only allow items which are essential/basic necessities. Click on "Contact moderator" at the top of your local group page to pass on info for wider dissemination to other local members. Above all, please follow local and national guidelines when posting items to your local group, and when giving or receiving items..

You, as a member, also have a critical role to play: for example by notifying your moderators of the latest info so that they may email it out to local members. Or, post the info in an OFFER to the entire group:

OFFER: virus-testing site info

WANTED: info on shop hours for the elderly

Please, when making a post, do consider the following to remain safe and healthy:

- Only post essential items / basic necessities;
 - Avoid all contact with the recipient: place item on your porch for others;
 - Do not participate in the gifting process if you are experiencing any symptoms;
 - Before picking up or gifting: wash hands, wipe the items down with a disinfecting wipe;
 - After picking up, disinfect items and wash hands;
 - Also, please disinfect regularly-used surfaces like gates or the table where item is left;
- Essential items may include: canned goods, masks, protective gloves, disinfecting gel, etc.

You

get the idea, but again, follow official guidelines and orders in effect at your location.

Freecycle is about helping each other and helping the planet.

Help us to apply this mission in a careful and safe way, by only posting necessities --where permitted-- which may help a fellow member avoid shops, cashiers, ATMS as well as direct

social contact with others.

With your help, we can continue to care for our communities in a new and safe way.

Thank you for your part in making this happen.

More information can be found at the links below:

<https://wiki.freecycle.org/COVID-19>

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THE SAMMY MAIL COLUMN

— with Geoff Sproson

Many of us are incarcerated or nearly so in homes, some on our own others with family young and old. Maybe its time for a little on-line learning if you haven't tried it before. If you have school age children you have probably come across the BBC's extensive bite size service – learning in small swallowable pieces. During the lock down the Beeb have added some heavy weight nashers to their usual biters Professor Brian Cox and Sir David Attenborough amongst them. Schools have probably sent links to more learning resources but here are a few for young and old that Sammy has come across.



TED is a nonprofit organisation devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages. You can watch TED talks on their online site TED.com or from an app on your Firestick or smart TV. You can listen to the very best University lecturers from around the globe.

Future Learn is a private company jointly owned by The Open University and The SEEK Group. The Open University have 50 years of experience in distance learning and online education. Future Learn offer a wide range of courses which involve watching short videos, reading some text and often following links to other sites. Most courses involve online text based group discussions with interventions from a tutor. Some have assignments which you share with other learners. Courses are free although you can pay for Records of Achievement to add to your CV.

TheSchoolRun is owned and run by a small team of UK mums all working from home. They provide a large quantity of primary level learning materials. The courses cost £7 per month, less if you take out a longer subscription. There is a free 14 day trial.

Is it time to open that piano or keyboard again well Virtual Sheet Music was created to provide musicians, as well as all music lovers, the ability to quickly locate sheet music. The site contains a lot of free scores but there are more with a premium subscriptions. Regular emails offer tips for practising and playing.

*She turned to the sunlight
And shook her yellow head,
And whispered to her neighbour:
"Winter is dead."
(A.A. Milne)*

*Come, fill the Cup, and in the Fire of
Spring
The Winter Garment of Repentance fling:
The Bird of Time has but a little way
To fly--and Lo! the Bird is on the Wing
(Omar Khayyam)*

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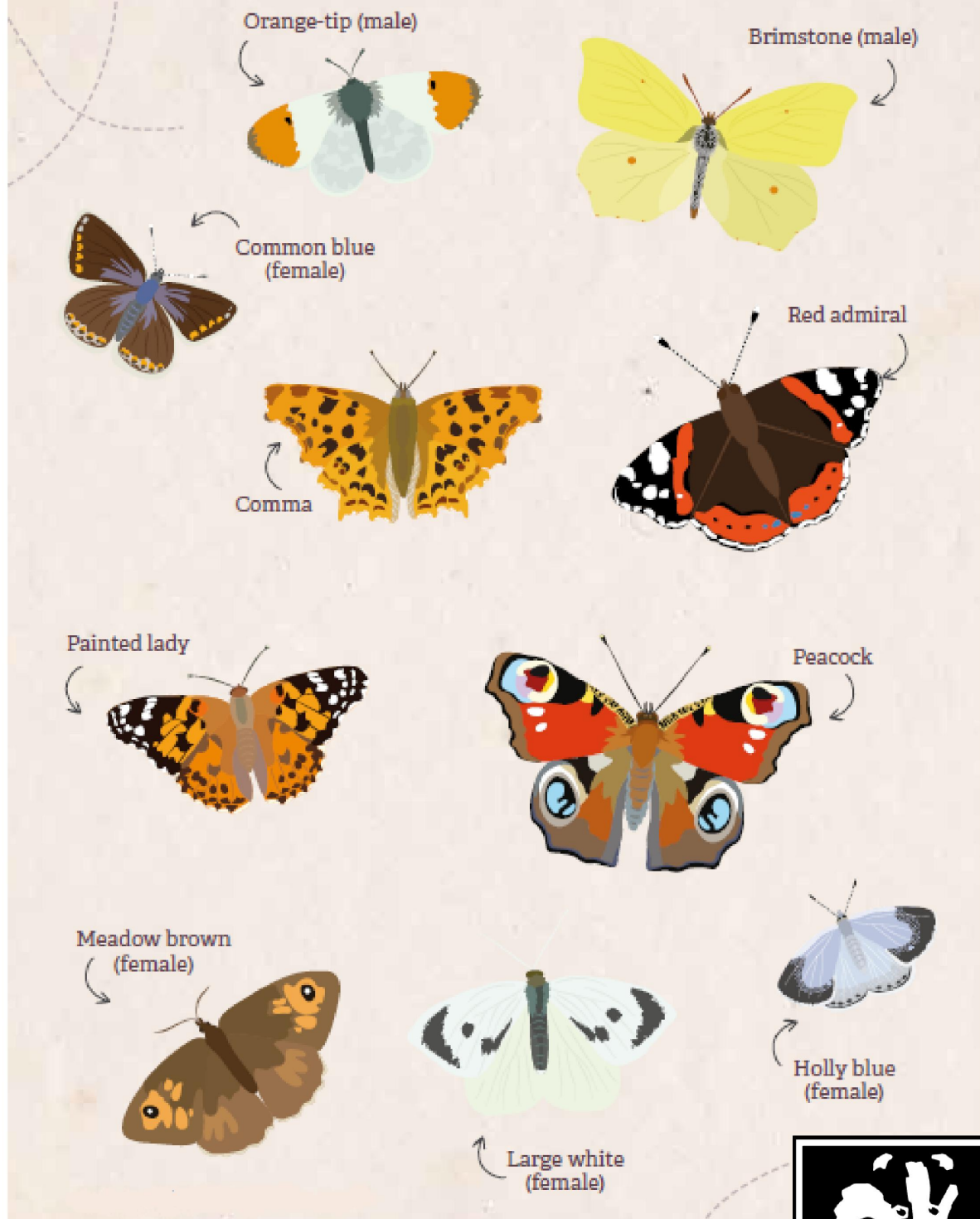
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**Please contact Caro on:
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First session a free trial one for newcomers.

West Mercia Police

Date: April 2020 – Newsletter

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:

PC 3331 Stuart Coote

PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss

SC 4671 Barnbrook

SC 39810 Edwards

Emergency: 999

Non Emergency: 101

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Harassment		Meadowtown	
Dog dangerously out of control		Worthen	
Criminal Damage	Unknown substance thrown over vehicle causing damage to the paintwork	Chirbury	During 10 th April
Criminal damage	Light smashed on vehicle	Chirbury	Parked at same location as the above incident
Burglary	Shed broken into, nothing stolen but items moved around	Stiperstones Primary School	23rd – 24 th March
Malicious communications		Worthen	
Burglary	Padlocks forced off outbuildings, items moved around, nothing stolen	Snailbeach	During daytime 19 th March
Burglary	2x Specialized E Mountain Bikes stolen from outbuildings	Pennerley	Overnight 16 th – 17 th March

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Friday - 9 to 5.30pm
Saturday - 9 to 1pm

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552/553 Bishops Castle to Shrewsbury

Monday-Saturday

	07:30		09:30		12:15			15:50	
	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
07:16	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
07:33	08:18	09:48	10:18	12:02	13:03	14:22	15:13	16:38	17:17
07:38	08:23	09:53	10:23	12:07	13:08	14:27	15:18	16:43	17:22
07:45	08:30	10:00	10:30	12:14	13:15	14:34	15:25	16:50	17:29

552/553 Shrewsbury to Bishops Castle

Saturday

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			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			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

DAY TRIPS 2020

We are sorry but we have had to cancel all trips from now until July at the earliest.

July

Stratford River Festival

Saturday 4th - £21.00

Quarry Bank National Trust

Friday 10th Member £21.50

Emmerdale Studio Tour -

Saturday 18th - £62.00

Hereford Chase & Distillery Tour

Wednesday 22nd - £43.00

August

Bristol International Balloon Fiesta -

Saturday 8th - £28.00

York

Saturday 22nd - £31.50

Blackpool with Afternoon Tea in the

Tower Ballroom

Thursday 27th - £45.00

September

Shugborough Hall & Gardens

Tuesday 1st - £15

Chatsworth Country Fair

Saturday 5th - £42

Southport Air Show

Saturday 12th - £22

Lake Windermere

Tuesday 15th - £40.50

Buzzards Valley Vineyard Tour & Buffet Meal

Wednesday 23rd - £36

Malvern Autumn Show

Saturday 26th - £40

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KEY PHONE NUMBERS

UPDATES AND ADDITIONS: CHANGES IN BLUE

Worthen Medical Practice:	01743 891401
Westbury Medical Centre:	01743 884727
Pontesbury Medical Practice:	01743 790325
Bishop's Castle Medical Practice:	01588 638285
Montgomery Medical Practice:	01686 668217
NHS HELPLINE:	111
Shropshire Council:	0345 678 9000
Local Support and Prevention Fund:	0345 678 9078
Shropshire Citizen's Advice:	0344 499 1100
Shropshire Rural Support: Offer support to rural people during periods of anxiety and stress	0300 1232825
Royal Agricultural Benevolent Society (RAB): Assistance for individuals and families from the farming sector	0808 281 9490
Mind	07434 869248
Samaritans:	free from any phone 116 123
	local call charges apply 0330 094 5717
South Shropshire Housing Assoc:	0300 303 1190
Sevenside Housing:	0300 300 0059
Universal Credit:	0800 328 5644
Child Benefit:	0300 200 3100
Pensions:	0800 731 0469
Govt Business Support Helpline:	0300 456 3565
HMRC special coronavirus helpline for businesses or self-employed	0800 024 1222
Chirbury Post Office and Stores:	01938 561201
Cock Inn:	01743 891969
Hignetts of Pontesbury:	01743 790228
Smiths Butchers Minsterley:	01743 791863
Londis (Worthen):	01743 891997
Marton Village Stores:	01938 561279
Stiperstones Inn:	01743 791327
Yockleton Arms:	01743 821491
Care in the Community Helpline:	0121 318 5138
Worthencovid19aid@gmail.com	