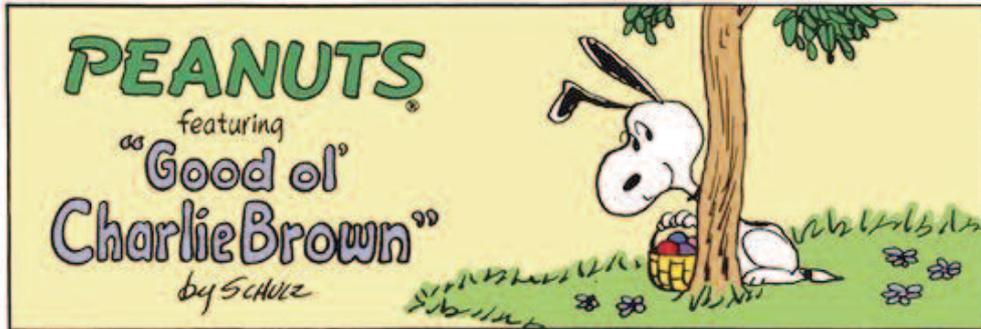


SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

APRIL 2018



The Snailbeach District News hopes you all had a 'Good ol' Charlie Brown' Easter



NEWS IN BRIEF

Snailbeach resident publishes novel.

Snailbeach resident Michael Dennis writes, "Most people, even most of my friends, don't know I've been busy writing a novel for some time. Well, now it's published, and it is called 'A Trinity of Ages'. For want of a better classification I would call it science fiction.

If you are interested, you can find details on my website which goes under the slightly pompous name of 'michaeljohndenniswriter.co.uk', from which, if you are so minded, you can go to my publisher, 'FeedaRead', where there is a bit more information and, yes, the opportunity to buy a copy." Go buy it and read it!

Worthen with Shelve Parish Council

On the 14th of February 2018 Worthen with Shelve Parish Council announced 2 casual vacancies for the Heath ward due to the retirement of Jane Price and Caroline Jones. If the Returning Officer has not received a request for an election by 10 Electors of the Heath ward Parish within fourteen days of this notice, that is 6th March 2018, then The Parish Council must, as soon as practicable after the expiry of this fourteen day period, co-opt 2 persons to fill the vacancies. If you are interested in serving as a councillor please contact:

Sarah-Jane Smith
Clerk to the Council
The Cart Barn, Worthen, SY5 9HN
01743 891438

Stiperstones School

Mrs Rondel (KS1 and EYFS teacher) is looking to improve the outdoor area to the rear of the KS1 classroom at Stiperstones C of E Primary. She is in the process of applying for a National Lottery Grant and if successful this could be spent on a wide variety of

resources for the area; from covered sandpits, digging pits and water walls to promote messy play and communication, mark making panels to encourage letter formation to sensory gardens, veg patches, reading areas and science equipment.

The children have created a wish list of ideas but your input would be greatly received. If you have any thoughts or ideas please feel free to contact her on rondel.d@stiperstones.shropshire.sch.uk

They trained, they rowed, they made history!

Nearly 200 people turned out to welcome Di Carrington home to Pontesbury. Beaming at the crowds Di sprang out of the car looking radiant even after her 60-day epic voyage rowing across the Atlantic Ocean. BBC Radio Shropshire's Johnty O'Donnell covered the event as Di chatted to everyone about her achievement and posed for photographs with community members. Jessica Lawrence and Catherine May presented her with flowers and champagne on behalf of Friends of Pontesbury Library. Di thanked the FoPL committee for organizing the event at such short notice. (See pictures at pontesburylibrary.co.uk) If you'd like to make a donation to the team's charities visit atlanticladies.co.uk and simply click on the Make a Donation box near the top on the left-hand side. Di has accepted an invitation to give a talk in Pontesbury sometime soon. A date is yet to be confirmed, so WATCH THIS SPACE!

Marches Meadow Group

There will be a talk by Tim Selman, CE of the Wyre Community Land Trust on Sunday April 22nd from 10.30 am until 1.00 pm at Norbury Village Hall. Tim will talk on the natural history of the Wyre Forest and how the Wyre

Forest Community Land Trust helps to manage the small orchards and meadows within the forest. Refreshments will be available. The talk is free to members of the Marches Meadow Group and £3 for non-members. For more information please contact Richard Small on 01743 791476 or email him at richard.w.small@gmail.com

The five year project comes to a close.

The Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme received initial approval in July 2011 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. A detailed Delivery Plan was submitted in December 2012, and the Scheme started in Spring 2013. Project Coordinators, Joy Howells and Helen Fairweather were appointed to develop the Partnership, consult widely with local people, groups and organisations and prepare a five-year programme of activity. That five year programme is now ending in April 2018.

Stephanie Hayes writes, "Community involvement has been vital to the success of the Scheme. Many people have been involved in the Scheme in many ways. We wish to thank you all for sharing your knowledge, giving your time and getting involved over the last five years.

We are in the midst of wrapping up, finishing off and clearing out the office! As the Scheme comes to a close, our projects are evolving through other groups and organisations. For data protection reasons, we cannot move your details into these other groups. Instead, we will shortly send out a separate email asking you to re sign-up to those groups of interest to you. Look out for this email and make sure you sign up to keep in touch with what's going on locally."

Regular Local Activities

Stiperstones Brass Rehearsals

Snailbeach Village Hall
Mondays 6.30pm

Bingo Night

Stiperstones Inn
2nd Monday - 8.00pm

Quiz Night

Stiperstones Inn
Last Monday - 8.00pm

Knitter Natter

Stiperstones Inn
Tuesdays from 10.00am

Yoga

Snailbeach Village Hall
Tuesday & Wednesday 10am

Iyengar Yoga

Snailbeach Village Hall
Tuesday 7pm

Ballroom Dancing

Snailbeach Village Hall
1st & 3rd Thursdays
From 7.30pm

Snailbeach & Stiperstones Baby & Toddler Group

Snailbeach Village Hall
Thursdays 10am-12pm

Snailbeach WI

Snailbeach Village Hall
2nd Thursday - 7.30pm

Fit Club

Stiperstones School Playground
Sunday 9 am

Kids Football Training

Snailbeach Football Club
Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
(Easter - October -
excluding school holidays)



Notes from the Editor

How many of you have noticed the slight change of name to the SDN? After a meeting of 'the committee', it was decided by a very narrow margin to revert back to the original name - 'Snailbeach District News'. By dropping the ampersand (&), we now carry the name we have carried for the last 30 years and more. The 'ampersand' was only added when David Wallace took over as editor for 3 years. I always felt slightly uncomfortable with the change of name and feel that the dear old SDN deserves her original name back. This lady is not for turning, as another old institution once said.

Caroline Jones called me on March 1st to ask me to apologise for the late delivery of the SDN this month on her 'round' due to the appalling weather conditions. I assured her that she wasn't the only one struggling to deliver the March edition of the SDN. It once again brought home to me how much we owe to the dedicated band of delivery people who volunteer to get the SDN to you, regardless of weather conditions, month in and month out. Thank you!

On a personal note, I must thank all those that helped Maria and myself over the two days when we were completely snowed in. Jo from next door and Dave & Sonja, but mostly my good neighbour Jacko. His patience and hard work got me and my car out onto the lane, and so on to the road through the village. Jacko, you are a star! Thank you.

We've given over our centre spread this month to the Snailbeach Play Area Project. This safe and secluded play area that nestles behind the Village now desperately needs funds to help maintain what equipment is there, and to replace items that have simply fallen apart due to age, wear and tear. Because of all the Health and Safety issues that surround the construction and installation of equipment for children's play areas, the costs of even simple things like a see-saw are quite eye watering! The Village Hall and The Stiperstones pub will be running various fund raising events throughout the rest of the year in order to buy a see-saw at a cost of some £2000. Lara Sproson-Jones has also set up a crowd funding website. If you can help out in any way, no matter how small your contribution, you'd be helping to make a difference. You can donate here: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lara-sproson-jones.

Please do keep letting us have your news and articles. Without you the SDN is nothing!

Patrick Marks – Editor

Email: editor.sdn@mail.com Phone: 01743 790049

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Pontesbury Library News

Apologies for last month's comments on the weather, I really did tempt fate with the snow. It even crushed the first few miniature daffodils that had bravely flowered early in the library garden.

The cold snap did bring a few more birds to the garden, I noticed friends sharing photos of Redwings and Fieldfares on social media and this sparked my interest, so I began googling British birds. I even got out my free NT mini binoculars and started bird watching. We have decided to go with a 'Birds' theme for April. This will be collections of fiction and reference books.

Shropshire libraries will be supporting Dementia Action week (21 -27 May). Pontesbury library will be holding a 'Tea and Memories' afternoon. This will be delivered by the team librarians, sharing information about how the library can help support those living with dementia, this will take place at the library on Monday 21st May at 2pm to 3.30. It will be a relaxed afternoon with tea and cake served by the Friends of Pontesbury library.

Rhyme and Story Time will be Thursday 5th April at 2.30. This will be in the Easter holidays, there will be colouring and activity sheets for older siblings

Flower Arranging Evening

At Hope Village Hall

Thursday 26th April 2018 7.30pm

With demonstrator Jane Pugh

"The Singing Florist"

Followed by Posh Puds

Tickets are £7.50

Contact Jo on 07905636569

PONTESBURY MUHEZA LINK

Update Meeting

Thursday April 26th 7.30pm

St George's Church Pontesbury

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hear the latest news of our

projects in Tanzania.

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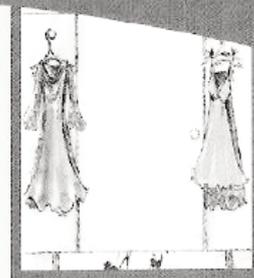


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The Worst Ever Broadway Play

The Worst Ever Broadway Play

An immediate and sensational flop, *Moose Murders* by Arthur Bicknell is now widely considered to be the worst play ever performed on Broadway.

'If your name is Arthur Bicknell – or anything like it – change it,' said the theatre critic at CBS.

When it opened and closed on 22 February 1983, Frank Rich, the drama critic of the *New York Times*, wrote: 'From now on there will always be two groups of theatregoers in this world: those who have seen *Moose Murders* and those who have not. Those of us who have witnessed it will undoubtedly hold periodic reunions in the noble tradition of survivors of the *Titanic*.'

The play, a mystery farce, relates the adventures of Snooks and Howie Keene, Nurse Dagmar, Stinky Holloway and others trapped together one excellent stormy night at the Wild Moose Lodge, a guesthouse in the Adirondack Mountains. Several murders take place, Stinky tries to sleep with his mother and a man in a moose costume is assaulted by a bandage-wrapped quadriplegic.

There is a thunderclap. The curtain rises on a hunting lodge which is attractively festooned with stuffed moose heads.

Act One gets off to a corking start when 'The Singing Keenes', the resident entertainers, come on and launch straight into a rendition of 'Jeepers Creepers'. A scantily clad Snooks Keene sings in an off-key screech. She is accompanied by her blind husband pounding away on his electric organ until the plug is pulled out by the resident caretaker, Joe Buffalo Dance, who wears Indian war paint but speaks with an Irish brogue.

They are soon joined by the wealthy Hedda Holloway, the Lodge's new owner. She arrives with her husband Sidney, the heavily bandaged quadriplegic, who is confined to a wheelchair. His attendant, Nurse Dagmar, wears revealing black satin, barks like a Nazi and whenever possible leaves her patient out in the rain. In addition to her son Stinky, a drug-crazed Oedipal hippie, Mrs Holloway has a young daughter called Gay, who is permanently in a party dress. When told that her father will always be a vegetable, she turns up her nose and replies, 'Like a lima bean? Gross me out!' and then breaks into a tap dance.

Just before the interval Stinky gets out a deck of cards to give the actors, if not the audience, something to do. The lights go out mid-game and the first of several inexplicable murders is committed.

'Even Act One of *Moose Murders* is inadequate preparation for Act Two,' Mr Rich wrote. In the play's final twist Mrs Holloway serves Gay a poison-laced vodka Martini for reasons that are never entirely clear. As the young girl collapses to the floor and croaks in the middle of a Shirley Temple tap-dancing routine, her mother breaks into laughter and applause.

The leading lady was supposed to be making her comeback after more than forty years away from the Broadway stage, but she dropped out after the first preview.

To mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of its opening and closing the play was restaged as a conceptual art project. 'Broadway had its chance and they blew it,' the artist said.

(This bizarre and somewhat surreal play sounds like the perfect material for a future Stiperstock Follies production! – Editor)

Acknowledgements to Stephen Pile "The Ultimate Book of Heroic Failures"

Some more heroic failures...

1. *The Cherry Sisters*

This vaudeville act would sometimes perform behind wire mesh because of the amount of vegetables thrown at them. A critic described their singing as "the wailing of damned souls", a remark that resulted in a change to US libel laws in 1901. The sisters challenged the criticism but the judge ruled that "the editor has the right, if not the duty, of publishing fair and reasonable comments, however severe" about people in public shows.

2. *The bullfighter El Gallo*

El Gallo (The Chicken) would stride into the ring and strike a manly pose but as soon as the bull emerged he would drop his cape, run and jump over the barrier. The move became known as the "espantada", or "the bolt". Crowds loved this show of cowardice so much that he was brought out of retirement seven times.

3. *Robert 'Romeo' Coates*

As well as being a spectacularly bad actor, Coates insisted on "improving" Shakespeare: after saying one of his own lines, he would turn to the audience and say, "I fancy that was rather better." The audience would openly mock him and often asked for an encore of his speciality – dying on stage.

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Now that's quite interesting...



- There is no evidence that Geoffrey Chaucer ever visited Canterbury.
- The dark side of the Moon is turquoise.
- If Prince Charles becomes king, he will be the oldest monarch ever crowned in Britain.
- After his wife's death, a heart-broken Benjamin Disraeli found that she'd kept all the hair from the haircuts she'd given him in 33 years of marriage.
- People in India panning for gold in sewers make four times the average wage.
- Croquet was dropped as an Olympic sport after the 1900 games because only 1 spectator had turned up to watch.
- For inspiration, D. H. Lawrence liked to climb mulberry trees naked.
- Einstein's last words were spoken in German to a nurse who didn't speak German and are lost for ever.
- There is no word in English which rhymes with 'pint'.
- All but one of the ravens at the Tower of London died from stress during the Blitz.
- Skoda is Czech for 'shame', 'damage' or 'pity'.
- The floods in Australia in 2010 and 2011 caused the world's sea levels to drop by seven millimetres.
- During his first teaching job in 1925, Evelyn Waugh set out to drown himself at sea, but turned back after being stung by a jellyfish.
- The Afrikaans for 'astrology' is 'sterrewiggelary'.
- Pavarotti holds the world record for the most curtain calls: he bowed 165 times over the course of an hour.
- Not one of the Star Trek TV shows or films contains the words 'Beam me up, Scotty'.
- The Irish poet Brendan Behan became an alcoholic at the age of eight.

The WEA is organising Three Short Walks Mindfulness 23rd May 2018 Ref: C3125945

Press pause and step outside as we take a gentle walk with mindfulness tutor Julie Howe. Explore the beauty of the Stiperstones and see the benefits of mindfulness in a natural setting.

Nature 06.06.18 Ref: C3125944

Join writer and WEA tutor Simon Fletcher for a walk at the Stiperstones and discover the wonders of the area's flora and fauna.

Folklore 14.06.18 Ref: C3126017

Discover a landscape steeped in folklore and magic with local artist Anne Marie Lagram.

Date/time: 10:00 – 12:00

Please wear sensible shoes and bring a bottle of water
Course fee: £10 per walk
To enrol please quote the course reference either online at wea.org.uk or by ringing 0300 303 3464

**Meet at:
The Bog Visitor Centre.
Stiperstones,
Shropshire,
SY5 0NG**

Newsletter Donations. March 2018

Doreen & Les Bailey – Plox Green

Margaret Davies – Bog

Sylvia Jones - Snailbeach

*Many thanks also to those who sent us
anonymous donations.*

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Sammy's Email Corner



Sammy's Email Corner

Hi again, do you leave post in one big pile, the utility bills, the love notes, the junk mail and the pleading letters? When you are looking for something do you have to rummage through a heap of paper, envelopes and plastic wrappings? Probably not, even the least organised of us have a kitchen drawer where the more important items are stowed away, but mostly we have some files or plastic wallets which give us a chance of keeping track of our affairs. But what about our email program? I guess many of you have an unruly inbox with mails stretching back over many years, and have spent many fruitless hours looking for that lost important message.

All email apps whether online like Gmail or Yahoo mail or on computer like Outlook, Apple mail or Evolution have a way of letting you file every important mail into a folder (sometimes called a directory) with a label, and delete all the inconsequential ones. They also have many ways of helping you search for a mail, by its title, its sender or date.

Let's start with online mailboxes. I'll talk about Gmail but other apps are similar. As soon as mail comes in, it is sorted into 5 piles:-

Primary – this is the most important stuff, mail from friends, utility companies and replies from mails you have sent.

Social- these are the messages that come through from our social accounts, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest or Instagram.

Promotions – this is the stuff we have signed up to accidentally or on purpose, maybe tickets, holidays, Amazon deals or fashion bargains.

Updates – this is usually techy, nerdy stuff and if you are not a tinkerer you probably won't get much, although keeping all your programs and security issues up to date is usually regarded as a good thing.

If your mail isn't sorted this way, head over to settings (the cog wheel in the top right hand corner) and you can choose how your inbox is displayed. The last class of email is the dreaded spam. Gmail has a lot of built in spam protection rules, so you probably don't see the Russian wives, Viagra or pleading letters from

'rich' Africans. You can mark unwanted messages as spam and similar ones will be dealt with. By default spam stays in the spam or junk folder for 30 days. If an expected message hasn't arrived it is worth checking this folder (down the left hand column) and be aware if you send a message without a proper title it will end up in somebody else's spam tray.

Now delete all the messages that you don't want. If you are tired of one promotion scroll down to the bottom of the email and 'unsubscribe'. I know there are theories that doing so will increase your junk mail but I have not found this to be true, some senders seem to need prompting a few times but most honour your request.

Now put the stuff you want to keep in folders! When you select a message look above to the strip of icons; the folder and the label tag allow you to create folders and move mail into them. These folders will appear down the left hand column. One last tip if you are looking for more mails from the same source hover (keep the mouse pointer in the same place) over a message and a box will appear with the sender's address, at the bottom of this box select emails and you will be shown all the messages from this sender.

If you use Outlook, or Outlook Express then you don't seem to have the option of separating mails into primary, social etc. by default. However for the more intrepid of you there is something called 'rules'. Here you can define how your inbox treats mail in many ways. It's a bit too heady to explain here but well worth a visit to YouTube or help pages to explore this feature.

Outlook does allow the creation of folders and has its own spam (junk) folder. You can also quickly sort messages into order using any of the columns, 'from', 'to', 'title', 'date' etc. by clicking in the heading of that column. You can also reverse the search order (oldest first or newest first) by clicking in the heading again.

That's probably enough for this month. More on looking after your contacts in May.

Happy emailing, Sammy.
Geoff Sproson – Stiperstones

Does the Earth go round the Moon or does the Moon go round the Earth?

Both. They go round one another. The two bodies orbit a common centre of gravity located about 1,600 km (1,000 miles) below the Earth's surface, so the Earth makes three different rotations: around its own axis, around the Sun and around this point. Confused? Even Newton claimed that thinking about the motion of the moon gave him a headache.

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Scattered Rock

A Brief History of Stiperstones dedicated to
Professor Stephen Hawking

The next outcropping on the Stiperstones is known as Scattered Rock. It is a fairly descriptive name for this low lying collection of stones which the path winds through on its way south. These stones do not offer shelter from the wind, they aren't inhabited by wild men or giants and they don't hold any use for the Ordnance Survey teams, and so the only people you may meet getting excited about Scattered Rock are A-Level geology teachers trying to enthuse to their students about the Ordovician era. I decided therefore to use this month's segment to provide a brief history of the area, from a geological point of view.

Around about 500 million years ago, somewhere between a long, long time ago and once upon a time, the county of Shropshire was split into two very different geological regions, rather than the current day sociological Shrewsbury/Telford split however, this was a slightly less dramatic land/sea divide. There is a fault line running from North to South known as the Pontesbury/Linley fault - everything to the East of this fault line was land whilst everything to the West was sea; so we really did have a beach - though it was before snails had been invented! The Stiperstones Tors are the visual representation of this fault line with the usually deeply bedded Quartzite stone rising to the surface to form the rocky outcroppings.

Whilst the tectonic plates were busy roaming around the globe deciding where to settle down Britain bounced off North America and Scandinavia before drifting off to join up with Scotland. This session of bumper continents caused a fair bit of movement along this Pontesbury/Linley fault line as the rock strata were folded over each other creating the structure we have today.

Later, whilst the neighbouring Long Mynd was underneath the glaciers of the last ice age, its softer sedimentary rocks being shaped into rolling hills in much the same way that a river rounds off a boulder, the top of the Stiperstones stayed just clear of the ice. The Stiperstones Tors, therefore, were subjected to years of freeze/thaw conditions, eroding away any remaining softer stones and allowing the ice to shatter the exposed quartzite. As this was an ice age, most of the ground around the Stiperstones remained frozen all year round, with only the top few metres melting during the summer months, this thin layer of defrosted waterlogged ground would move slowly downhill carrying with it the large heavy pieces of quartzite which had been broken off during the winter months creating the 'streams' of boulders we see today and leaving us with structures like Scattered Rock.

This of course is only one explanation for how our hills were formed, next month we'll consider the far more entertaining giants, devils and who knows - maybe even aliens

©Lara Sproson-Jones – Stiperstones – March 2018



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Mr. Quips Corner



- Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- I love defenceless animals, especially in a good gravy

- I intend to live forever - so far, so good.
- Sometimes when you are arguing with a fool, he's doing the same thing!
- Give authority to some people and they grow; give it to others and they swell.
- An autobiography is a book that reveals nothing bad about its writer except his memory.
- My dad died when we couldn't remember his blood type. As he died, he kept insisting for us to "be positive," but it's hard without him.
- Retirement is wonderful. It's doing nothing without worrying about getting caught at it.
- I hate people who use big words just to make themselves look perspicacious.
- When I found out that my toaster wasn't waterproof, I was shocked.

The Bog Visitor Centre



The Visitor Centre is organising several creative workshops during the course of 2018 involving silk painting, felt making, jewellery and print making.

Felt Making with Maxine Smith

Tuesday 15th May 10.00am - 12.00am

Work with local textile artist Maxine Smith to create a brooch using hand felting and embroidery. - £20

Jewellery Making with Lin Brown

Tuesday 3rd July 10.30am - 12.30am

Create a necklace, earrings or bracelet with semi-precious lamp work and glass beads, using a pattern of mine or your own design. Bring your own beads/necklace to repair or recreate. - £15

To book a place on either of these courses call 01743 792484 or call into the Visitor Centre



- *Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it? - Mark Twain.*

- *A lot of people are afraid of heights. Not me, I'm afraid of widths - Steven Wright.*
- *If everything seems under control, you're just not going fast enough - Mario Andretti.*
- *He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up. - Paul Keating.*
- *We are all worms, but I do believe I am a glow worm - Winston Churchill.*
- *Start every day off with a smile and get it over with. - W. C. Fields*
- *In California, they don't throw their garbage away - they turn it into TV shows - Woody Allen.*
- *I know why the sun never sets on the British Empire: God wouldn't trust an Englishman in the dark - Duncan Spaeth.*
- *Any man who afflicts the human race with ideas must be prepared to see them misunderstood - H. L. Mencken.*
- *I am not afraid of death, I just don't want to be there when it happens - Woody Allen.*



Introduction to alpine scything at the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve

5th July 2018



Learn the joy of scything at this one day course run by Natural England site manager Simon Cooter. The course will include how to set up, sharpen and use the scythe in different conditions, as well as the principles of hay meadow management.

The course precedes the Hay Meadow Festival on the Saturday.

Cost £50 includes equipment and refreshments.

Contact Simon on 01743792294 or stiperstones.events@naturalengland.org.uk



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Frozen Green Tripe chunks	1kg £3.00
Dried Green Tripe sticks	100g £1.50

If you are interested in trying this diet for your dog and have any questions about Raw Feeding please give me a call I am more than happy to discuss it with you and help you take the plunge.

No minimum order. Free local delivery, or Collection available.

LIVER CAKE RECIPE

1lb liver 1lb flour
2 eggs 2 cloves of garlic

- The ingredients need to be well blended together, if available use an electric blender. The mixture should resemble a pate consistency.
- Grease a microwave proof dish and place in the mixture, ensure that the dish is big enough to allow a couple of inches of expansion.
- Microwave on full power for 15 minutes.
- Allow to cool completely, then remove from dish and cut into 1cm cubes
- The treat will keep for several days in the fridge in an airtight container or you can divide it into smaller bags and freeze until required.



Deb Gallimore APDT 01189

Heather Kidd's Report - April 2018



SCHOOLS: Governors of both the Chirbury and Stiperstones Federation and Norbury Primary School have decided to consult about the possibility of forming a federation between all three schools in order to secure good or outstanding education for all children, now and in the future. All our primary schools, especially rural ones, are facing tough challenges at the moment including falling rolls and a huge shortfall in funding from Government. Working together gives our schools the best chance of continuing to deliver quality education to our children.

WESTERN POWER: Signs appeared recently stating that the road through Snailbeach and Stiperstones would be closed for 10 days from 3rd April. This was news to most people including me. It appears that Western Power want to do work on poles and lines along the road They should have put out letters to residents about this work and the road closure (very few have received one and those who have found them difficult to understand). As we go to press Officers at Shropshire are speaking to Western Power to make this closure as painless as possible. I have stressed the disruption this will cause the residents and businesses and they are looking at negotiating only closing the road when work is actually underway on the poles and amending the signs to say that businesses will be open as per normal.

ROADS: The snow has played havoc with our roads and the potholes which already existed are now very bad indeed and a whole batch of new ones. Please report them to me and to Shropshire Council on 0345 6789006 or visit the website at <https://shropshire.gov.uk/roads-and-highways/report-a-fault-or-concern/> Damage to cars for potholes that the Council was aware of and have not been filled in a reasonable time should be claimed from the Council.

The Council Tax has been set at a 5.99% rise this year for Shropshire Council, 3.94% for the Police and 2.99% for the Fire Authority. A Band D property in Worthen and Shelve Parish will be charged £1675.44 overall.

Best wishes,

Heather Kidd,

Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen Division Tel. 07980635518

heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk - www.heatherkidd.org.uk



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Pontesbury and Rea Valley District Branch

This local Branch of the U3A is One Year Old this month. We hope to celebrate by welcoming our 140th Member and starting our 20th Activity Group.

U3A is for those who are retired or semi-retired. We offer the following activities of interest, in an environment where all feel free to participate in the manner and at a pace with which they are comfortable.

Monday	Family History. (2) Walking 1 (<3 miles). (F) History (3)	Art history & Appreciation. (3) Table Tennis. (1) (3) Play Reading. (1) (3) Folk Music. (F)
Tuesday	Tai Chi (W) Cycling (F)	Local History. (3) Painting & Drawing. (2) (4)
Wednesday	Geology. (1)	English Literature. (2) Gardening & Garden Visits. (F)
Thursday	Walking 2 (6+ miles). (F) Italian. (2) (4) Writing (1) (3)	
Friday		Astronomy. (L)

(-) Week of month (F) Fortnightly (L) Last week of month (W) Weekly

There is an annual subscription of £15, after which all participation in Interest Groups is free for members. This could be the best investment you, or an acquaintance, ever make!

If you wish to know more about this local U3A, or to receive our e- Newsletter, please contact jbalmund@btinternet.com Tel 01743 790403.

John Balmund



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Snailbeach & Stiperstones

Baby & Toddler group

Every Thursday at

Snailbeach Village Hall

10am – 12midday

£2 per family

Everyone welcome from babies

to pre-schoolers



This month in the garden...



Week 1.

...plant a pot of lilies...

Now is an ideal time to plant lily bulbs. Put plenty of crocks at the bottom of your pot to help drainage and use John Innes No.2 compost. Water sparingly. Weed borders, taking care not to disturb clumps of scillas, muscari and other small flowering bulbs. Leave them to seed themselves and spread.

Week 2.

...plant up the gaps...

Most plants will have made themselves visible by now and you will be able to see what you have lost during the winter. Fill empty gaps with annuals or bedding plants. Support tall delphiniums at the back of the borders with bamboo canes and use twiggy pea-sticks for clumps of weak-stemmed plants.

Week 3.

...April is one of the busiest gardening months...

Complete pruning roses as soon as possible. Mulch established plants generously with a thick layer of well-rotted manure or compost to encourage the growth of healthy new stems. Water pot-grown roses frequently as they start to grow vigorously and feed them regularly.

Week 4.

...don't forget to water...

Now that days are becoming warmer, extra care must be taken to ensure that the soil in your containers does not dry out. Water regularly in dry weather and give weekly liquid feeds to promote strong healthy growth early in the season. Tie in climbing and rambling roses.

©Judith Glover - "Garden Days"

You can buy Judith's 2018 "Garden Days" calendar at her website shop - www.judithglover.com




PLANT SALE

Saturday 28th April
10am to 1pm
at Pontesbury Library

PLANTS, SEEDLINGS, GARDENING PRODUCTS, BOOKS, MAGAZINES

TEA, COFFEE & CAKE & RAFFLE

Donations of plants, books, cakes and raffle prizes are most welcome during library opening hours and from 2-4pm on Friday 27th April. Plants can also be left from 9 am on Saturday 28th April.

For further information: tel: 01743 791171
info@pontesburylibrary.co.uk www.pontesbury.co.uk



We're raising ££££'s to update

Snailbeach play area came into being over 20 years ago with the donation of land from Doug Challinor and the hard work of parents and grandparents who raised money and gave their time to create a safe fun place for the village children to play.

Over the years the land has been maintained by volunteers and essential repair work has been done to keep the play area going, but sadly some pieces of equipment are now beyond repair and a revamp is required to provide another generation of children with a place to play, and meet friends.



To get some idea of the task we're up against, a mid-range see saw is approximately £2,000 so raising funds for a few different pieces of equipment may take us a while. However, it is true that every little bit does help and so you will see over this year that many of the Village Hall and Stiperstones Inn Charity events will be raising money specifically for the play area.

I'm not sure how much time you have spent in the Snailbeach Playground recently, but despite

the valiant efforts of the fabulous volunteers who have cleaned, painted, repaired and replaced over the years a few pieces of equipment have still reached the end of their useable life and it is time to bite the bullet and replace with new!

Unfortunately these things do not come cheap, but as we can see from experience they do last a long time when looked after properly. The pieces that are there at the moment have lasted over 18 years.

There will be a few fundraising events for the play area over the course of this year, starting with the Easter Fun Day on Easter Saturday at the Village Hall where the Stiperstones Inn raffle will be drawn for a basket of 'goodies' kindly donated by Sean and Karen and others.

We are aware, however, that some people who are no longer in the area are still keen to support us, and others would simply rather donate from the comfort of their armchair.



Snailbeach Playground Equipment

So with that in mind Lara Sproson-Jones has started an online 'Just Giving' campaign allowing you to do just that.

Just think back to happy memories from early childhood roundabouts and see saws through to teenage kisses on the swings and give us a little money to help another generation of kids have the same opportunities. And before you say it - I know we didn't have a play area when we were kids, but apparently old spoil heaps and abandoned mine buildings are simply not considered suitable these days!



Please help us by going to: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lara-sproson-jones

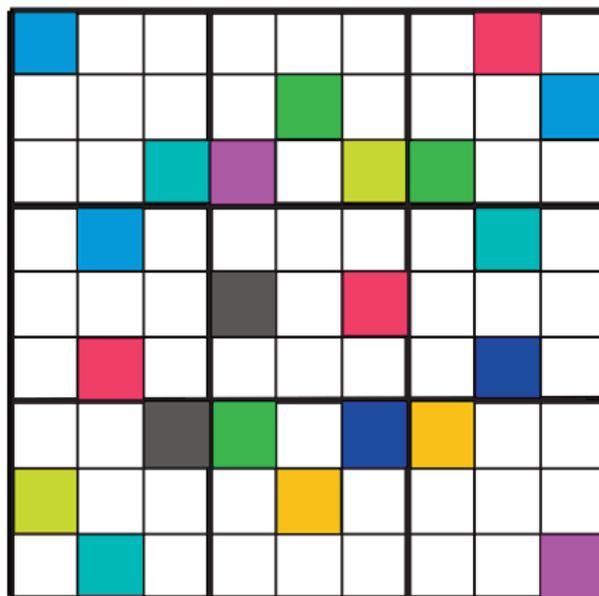
In addition to a warm fuzzy feeling and a tremendous sense of wellbeing, by donating you will be helping children of the village to play safely, today and for years to come, in an area that is out of harm's way.

Thank you.

Wonder Woman Colouring



Colouring Sudoku



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Brilliant colouring this month from Suzie Jackson & Thomas Evans, who both win prizes!

Mary Haines whose shading overshadowed last months winner Caroline Chidley wins this months senior's prize. ;-)

Try colouring Wonder Woman to see if you could win a prize.

Please hand your entries to Phil at The Stiperstones Inn.

Wonder Woman, Wonder Woman.
All the world's waiting for you,
and the power you possess.

In your satin tights,
Fighting for your rights
And the old Red, White and Blue.

Wonder Woman, Wonder Woman.
Now the world is ready for you,
and the wonders you can do.

Make a hawk a dove,
Stop a war with love,
Make a liar tell the truth.

Wonder Woman,
Get us out from under,
Wonder Woman.
All our hopes are pinned upon you.
And the magic that you do.

Stop a bullet cold,
Make the Axis fold,
Change their minds,
and change the world.

Wonder Woman, Wonder Woman.
You're a wonder, Wonder Woman.

NATURAL ENGLAND

Notes from the hill

I must have spoken to soon in the last 'Notes from the Hill', as the singing dunnocks lulled me into thinking that spring was just round the corner. Instead we had blizzard conditions and some of the largest snow drifts that I have witnessed since working here. Our main concern at these times is to look after our grazing animals. Our Hebridean sheep have been brought off the hill for the winter so are at least close at hand, but the Exmoor ponies remain on the Gatten heathland all year round, so we have to get out to them to give them a bit of hay, which we carry in back pack style, across the snow drifts.

Anyhow the birds are once again telling me that spring is not far away, although we have seen snow fall in April before now. The skylarks are returning and have started singing although mostly from the ground rather than their characteristic aerial song flights. British skylarks don't tend to migrate but they will move to better feeding grounds during the winter, with upland birds moving down onto farmland to eat seeds and grain. They can then be one of the first birds to move back onto their breeding territories which means that they can rear as many as three broods in a year.

Some of our meadow pipits, which are the commonest bird on the hill, will migrate or move to the lowlands and others remain all year. The birds that remain have done well over the last few years due to the mild winters, however it will be interesting to see the effect of this year's weather. The BTO have analysed the effects of mild winters on meadow pipits and seen up to a 69% increase after mild winters. However despite their ability to bounce back the meadow pipit is showing a long term decline particularly when the number of birds per kilometre is looked at. A loss of 'good quality' land, suitable for breeding is thought to be a contributing factor in their decline.

We started heather burning just before the snow came, but are now awaiting some drier conditions again. However we did get some good burning done on the east side of the hill. The big excitement was when we disturbed four short-eared owls roosting in some old heather, another reason for not cutting and burning all of the hill. They were very well concealed and didn't move until we almost trod on them. They then lazily flew away about a hundred yards and dropped back down into the heather. We have been back in the evening to see if we can see them feeding, but have not caught up with them again. They are crepuscular birds, generally feeding at dawn and dusk on small mammals, particularly voles, so they tend to be seen feeding over rough tussocky grassland where there will be a good vole population. These are usually the places where you might also see kestrel and barn owls feeding on the same prey.

The felling of the conifers is now complete at Bergam Wood and we are looking into the next stage which is the removal of the brash. Our volunteer group will also be given the task of improving the path that runs through the site, but that will be a good spring/summer task. There is also a new fence, gates and signage to think about.

The first opening day for the Blakemoorgate cottages is the 1st April, Easter Sunday, 11am to 3pm.

Simon Cooter for Natural England staff at Rigmooak.



*“Always remember that you are absolutely unique.
Just like everyone else”. Margaret Mead*

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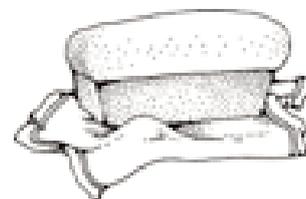
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Letter from Westminster

April 2018

With Easter upon us, and after last month's cold snap, spring has well and truly sprung and with it all those things we associate with this time of year – lighter mornings, daffodils and young lambs in the fields. It is a time where the natural beauty of South Shropshire looks at its very best. But it is also a time for those of us who care about the environment to take steps to keep it so.

Last month's remarkable late snowfall stopped many community activities, including several litter picks around South Shropshire. The Great British Spring Clean – a campaign by Keep Britain Tidy - was extended to 25th March to give more people time to get out and help clean up their communities.

But now with milder weather to come, we all have the chance to do our bit and maintain the momentum of the Spring Clean by ensuring our streets, verges and wider countryside are free from litter. There are regular community litter picks in towns across South Shropshire, so consider giving some time if you are able.

Encouragingly, the government is giving appropriate focus to what it can do to help reduce litter and pollution across Britain. Thanks to remarkable programmes like Blue Planet 2 and other widely seen media, there has been an enormous awakening of public awareness and a welcome shift in the approach we take to tackling litter and waste – from a previously reactive solution, to a now much more proactive approach.

This is something I have noticed since taking up my new role as a member of the Environmental Audit Committee in Parliament. In recent months our committee has been undertaking an enquiry into plastics, to help recommend what steps government can take to reduce our reliance on single-use plastics. The plastic bag charge has shown how quickly behaviour can change with an 83% reduction in plastic bag consumption in the first year. So by reducing our consumption of single-use plastic products, we can help stop at source the growing plastic contamination of our oceans and waterways.

Last month I met students from Bishops Castle Community College to talk about this issue, and was inspired by their clear commitment to improve marine health by reducing plastic consumption. These students visited Aberystwyth to clean the beach of litter and collect samples, and I believe are the first school in the country to survey their findings and submit this data to the Marine Conservation Society for their database.

Of course, when protecting marine health, there are limits to what we can achieve in our country without international cooperation. Globally, just 10 rivers carry 90% of the plastic entering oceans, eight of which are in Asia, and two of which are in Africa. But by taking new steps, the UK will demonstrate international leadership, doing more to help developing nations tackle pollution and reduce plastic waste, including through UK aid.

Back here in Shropshire, I am confident our rivers will benefit from the new pollutant management rules for farmers introduced from this month. This requires good farming practice, so that farmers manage their land both to avoid water pollution, including managing fertilisers and manures, taking reasonable precautions to prevent pollution from runoff or soil erosion, and requiring soil tests at least every 5 years. Farmers have a responsibility to help keep our waterways free of fertilizer and pesticide pollutants - I speak as a tenant farmer myself along the River Clun, taking steps to reduce runoff - so these rules to encourage more widespread adoption are welcome.

Finally, our environment is there for us to enjoy, so I encourage constituents to get outside and make the most of South Shropshire's beautiful surroundings – perhaps by taking in some of the great walks in our local area!

Philip Dunne MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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The Stiperstones Inn's

Bingo

8.00pm

Monday 9th April

And the 2nd Monday of every month
check out Stiperstonesinn.co.uk/events
for future dates

£10

Includes 8 Games of Bingo
the more players the better the prizes!



The Stiperstones Inn's

Pub Quiz

8.00pm Monday
30th May 2018

£5.00 per team of up to 6 people!
Cash Prize!

The Pontesbury Muheza Link

The Pontesbury Muheza link was formed in 1994 with the objectives, stated on the trust deed of the charity - To enable the provision of medical services in the Tanga region of Tanzania, including education and support of medical personnel, and the relief of hardship in the region.

If you live in a rural area in Tanzania there are no GP's. If you become ill there may be two Village Health Workers in your village that have been trained to recognise a few basic conditions such as sickness and diarrhoea, eye or skin infections, and have basic medicines to treat patients. These health workers are volunteers but receive payment for the medicines. If the Health Worker cannot help, the patient has to travel to the nearest dispensary which hopefully has some antibiotics or other medicines to treat the condition, or they may have to go to a Health Centre for more complicated treatment. This will involve the expense of transport, sometimes for many tens of miles on dirt roads. All medicines must be paid for.

Dr Ian Bradley a retired GP from Pontesbury first went out to Tanzania in 1994 to investigate how primary health care in rural areas could be helped and he has been out to Muheza at least once a year to oversee the projects of the charity, and he has never claimed any expenses.

The first project was to establish a network of Village Health Workers (VHW's) who are given very basic training in health education and medical care. There were no active VHW's in 1994, there are now over 200. The Link now pays about £3000 a year for revision seminars for these Health Workers. Last year they were taught how to test for malaria using the most current method.

The link has sponsored 18 people over the years to improve their qualifications, including four to become equivalent to doctors, and many to become qualified nurses and one teacher. During the 1990's three people from Tanzania visited the area to observe medical care in Shropshire. At present we are sponsoring Martin (an Aids orphan) who is in his final year training to be a Clinical Officer. His fees are £2000 this year.

- Money raised over the years has enabled new wards, an operating suite and toilets to be built at one Health Centre called Maramba, which has now been upgraded to a regional hospital.
- The Link pays the salaries for two medical attendants at Maramba (total £4000 a year.)
- Previous projects include a water-harvesting scheme and paying for wiring when electricity arrived at a health centre called Mkusi; (before there was electricity, the scouts in Pontesbury sent torches to Mkusi to enable the health assistants to deliver the babies by torchlight).
- Bicycles and motor cycles were bought for health workers.
- Transport for staff was funded for several years to enable Mobile Clinics to visit 10 villages a month and for an ambulance at a remote village in the mountains in the north of the region.
- Over 800 serviced sewing machines together with carpentry and plumbing tools have been sent out to vocational schools enabling people to earn a living after training.
- Teddies for orphans, sheets and blankets for health centres were also sent in a container organised by a link at Hereford Hospital.

The situation has improved in Tanzania over the years and our aim now is to continue to support the Village Health Workers, to sponsor as many people as we can afford to gain qualifications for health care and to continue paying the salaries of Prisca and Musa, the medical attendants at Maramba until they retire.

Pontesbury Muheza Link is a registered charity. The small committee meets three times a year and arranges three fundraising events (two coffee mornings and an Update meeting)
We thank all our loyal supporters for enabling this good work to continue.

We would welcome new members to the committee.
Sheila Waddington-Feather - 01743 872177



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Tel. 01743 792 548

Planning Applications and Decisions

Reference: 18/00088/FUL
 Alternative Reference: PP-06644644
 Application Validated: Mon 08 Jan 2018
 Address:
 Proposed Dwelling South Of Stonebatch 19 Pennerley
 Shropshire
 Proposal:
 Erection of open-market dwelling and detached garage
 Status: Granted
 Decision: Grant Permission
 Decision Issued Date: Mon 05 Mar 2018
 Appeal Status: Unknown
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

Reference: 18/01008/DIS
 Alternative Reference: PP-06781330
 Application Validated: Thu 01 Mar 2018
 Address:
 Proposed Dwelling South Of The Sidings Snailbeach
 Shropshire
 Proposal:
 Discharge Conditions 4 (walls and terraces method statement), 5 (archaeological work), 6 (archaeological inspection), 7 (construction management plan), 8 (biodiversity conservation plan), 9 (contaminated land), 10 (parking/turning areas), 11 (vehicular access) and 12 (drainage) of outline planning permission No. 14/05151/OUT (for erection of dwelling and alterations to existing vehicular access)
 Status: Awaiting decision
 Appeal Status: Unknown
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

Reference: 18/00924/OUT
 Alternative Reference: PP-06767050
 Application Validated: Wed 07 Mar 2018
 Address:
 Proposed Dwelling To The South Of Pennerley Shropshire
 Proposal:
 Erection of dwelling (outline application to include means of access, but with matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale reserved)
 Status: Awaiting decision
 Appeal Status: Unknown
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

Reference: 17/06003/FUL
 Alternative Reference: PP-06573212
 Application Validated: Tue 16 Jan 2018
 Address:
 Land Adjoining Disused Railway Line Snailbeach Shropshire
 Proposal:
 Siting of residential caravan
 Status: Refused
 Decision: Refuse
 Decision Issued Date: Tue 13 Mar 2018
 Appeal Status: Unknown
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

Shropshire Hills Hay Meadow Festival

Following our successful Hay Meadow Festival last year, we've set the date and are planning this year's event. It coincides with National Meadows Day, Saturday 7th July, at the Bog, Pennerley. You have a few months to get practicing for all our competitions... scything, hay rick building and hay bale tossing!

New for this year is a 'talk tent' to hear different people speak about what's happening locally to conserve and enhance our wildflower meadow and wildlife. If you're interested in having a stall, or helping out on the day, please get in touch with Alison Kay, email alison.kay@shropshire.gov.uk or call 01743 254740.

Worthen with Shelve Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting

**Monday, 30th April 2018 07:00pm
Stiperstones School**

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend any meetings of the Parish Council, although there are occasions when meetings must go into private session when dealing with matters of a confidential nature.

Speaking at a Meeting - If you wish to speak at any Parish Council meeting it would assist the planning of the meeting if you could notify the Parish Clerk prior to the meeting and give some details of the subject you wish to bring to the Parish Council's attention, However there is an open Public forum at the start of all PC meetings where any members of the public are free to speak. You do not have the right to speak at a meeting unless invited to do so by the Council.

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FOOTBALL FUN!

“Stanley Matthews lacks the big match temperament. He will never hold down a regular first team place in top class soccer”
 Unsigned football writer when Matthews, the future captain of England, made his debut at the age of 17.

For those of you watching in black and white, Spurs are in the yellow strip.
 John Motson, BBC Commentator



 Football manager Ivor Powell
 Ivor a Welshman, who successfully managed Bradford City and Carlisle allegedly uttered these words after a good season on the field, “Without doubt, one of the secrets of our successful season was the harmonium in the dressing room.”
 After a celebratory dinner he was heard to say, “We had a lovely meal. Lovely. We had a big steak with all the tarnishings.”

“Well Kerry, you’re 19 and you’re a lot older than a lot of people younger than yourself.” – Mike Gray.

“We must have had 99 percent of the game. It was

the other three percent that cost us the match.” – Ruud Gullit following a defeat.

 “Julian Dicks is everywhere. It’s like they’ve got eleven Dicks on the field.” – Metro Radio, Football.

“Football is a simple game; 22 men chase a ball for 90 minutes and at the end, the Germans win.” – Gary Lineker after losing the 1990 World Cup semi-final to Germany on penalties.

“I don't like to see players tossed off needlessly”
 -- Andy Gray

 “Is the Pope Catholic. No I'm serious, is he? I really need to know” - when asked if he might be moving to AS Roma
 --David Beckham

 “We lost because we didn't win.”
 ---Ronaldo



Snailbeach Village Hall

Snailbeach Village Hall Booking Fees

HIRE CHARGES FOR PLEDGE SCHEME MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS		
Community groups/activities (per session of up to 4 hours day or 6 hours evening)	Normal rate (£)	Pledge Rate (£)
Private hire for meetings as above	20.00	12.50
Hire of hall and all catering facilities	30.00	20.00
Hire of hall with full bar facilities	40.00	25.00
	90.00	60.00

To book the Village Hall please contact Marg Price on **01743 791 633**

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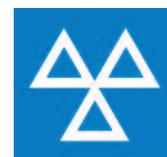
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Pontesbury & District Gardeners Association

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 6 March. In his annual report the Chairman praised the dedicated group of volunteers who not only help at the Trading Post on Saturday mornings, but also help to unload delivery lorries during the week, work on maintenance of the building, and help out at events such as Spring into the Garden and the Annual Show. The Treasurer reported a healthy surplus from the trading account and increased membership which allowed us to increase the level of charity donations made as part of the Association's 75-year celebrations. The trading Secretary also commented on the increased activity at the Trading Post and thanked all the volunteers who keep the Association running.

The Officers, Committee and Trustees were re-elected en bloc, and one new member joined the Committee.

Officers and Committee of the Association re-elected were:

President – Bill Neil

Vice-President – Chris Neil

Chairman – Rob Dixon

Vice-Chairman – Geoff Manley

Secretary – Pauline Stopford

Treasurer – Kathy Hall

Trading Secretary – Neville Lewis

Publicity – Rob Dixon

Committee – Joyce Dixon, Neil Williams and new member Sue Lambert

Trustees – Kathleen Hartshorne, Yvonne Holyoak, Mike Pugh

The meeting was followed by wine and cheese, and many informal discussions on gardening and gardeners.

Potatoes

This month in the garden is the time for potatoes to be planted. Traditionally it was Good Friday when this happened, that day being the first one in the spring when the workers had a day off. The date for Easter is variable so it might seem a bit haphazard, especially as it falls quite early this year. However the date for Easter is determined by the lunar calendar; there are many gardeners now who plant and harvest by the phases of the moon, so both approaches seem to tie in well together! Whenever you decide when to plant them we probably will still have some seed potatoes in stock when you read this so if you want to grow your own, either in the ground, as is traditional, or in a bucket, bag or pot then come along and get a supply.

Spring into the Garden

Don't forget the social evening at 7.30 on Thursday 17 May in the Public Hall. Admission is free, as are the refreshments, so all you have to pay for is anything that you buy from the plant stalls and garden-related stalls that will be there. More information will be in the next Newsletter.

The Trading Post

The Trading Post in Station Road, Pontesbury, is open every Saturday morning from 9.30 to 12 noon. It is now well stocked up with multi-purpose compost, grow-bags, and all other garden essentials.

Parents Give a Great Send-off

Young Tony was with his parents and they were taking refreshments in the bar at Manchester station when they heard a whistle. The three of them rushed out of the bar onto the platform only to discover that they had just missed the train.

'The next train is in one hour,' intoned the stationmaster.

The three went back into the bar. The parents had another drink, Tony had a coke. Again they heard a whistle, rushed out and discovered the train pulling away.

'Next one is sixty minutes from now,' grunted the stationmaster.

An hour later, Tony, with his mum and dad, raced out onto the platform, and his parents leaped onto the train as it pulled away. The boy was left standing on the platform and began to laugh uproariously.

'Your parents just left you,' said the stationmaster.

'Why are you laughing?'

Tony smiled, 'They only came to see me off.'

Waste Collection Schedule

February				
Tue 6th	Tue 13th	Tue 20th	Tue 27th	
Recycling Boxes Rubbish	Garden Waste	Recycling Boxes Rubbish	Garden Waste	

March				
Tue 6th	Tue 13th	Tue 20th	Tue 27th	
Recycling Boxes Rubbish	Garden Waste	Recycling Boxes Rubbish	Garden Waste	

Mobile Post Office Opening Times

Wednesdays 9.30am - 11am

Perkins Beach Methodist Church, Stiperstones

Post Office telephone number:

08457 22 33 44 (central customer services)

Stiperstones Stores Opening Times

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PCSO Shaun Culliss regrets that he is unable to supply us with our local crime statistics this month. We've decided to publish this topical report from West Mercia police instead.

Police and partners urge public to 'Tell Someone' if you recognise a child or young person is being sexually exploited.

West Mercia Police and partners supported the National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day on 18 March 2018 by running an awareness week across social media and conducting local activities designed to encourage participation in the campaign that began on Monday 12 March 2018.

West Mercia Police and partners will be using the www.tell-someone.org campaign to raise awareness of the signs to look out for and urge people to come forward to report any concerns to police or partners.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of child abuse. It happens when a young person is encouraged, or forced, to take part in sexual activity in exchange for something. The reward might be presents, money, alcohol, or simply just the promise of love and affection. The young person may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual.

It might seem like a normal friendship or relationship at the beginning, but the young person might be persuaded to do sexual things they don't want to do in return for something.

Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact, it can also occur through the use of technology and without the child or young person's immediate knowledge.

Abusers can be very clever in the way they manipulate young people. That is why everyone can play a role in keeping children and young people safe.

Parents, carers, and other adults should look out for the warning signs and tell someone if they have any concerns.

Warning signs of grooming include unexplained gifts, unexplained changes in behaviour or personality, changes in physical appearance such as weight loss, being absent from school, staying out late, being secretive about where they are going, going missing, being overly familiar with friends that you don't know and a lack of interest in activities and hobbies. Visit www.tell-someone.org to learn more.

Trust your instinct, if you have concerns, tell someone, call police on 101 or contact a support agency. Details can be found on www.tell-someone.org

Useful Numbers

Shrewsbury Hospital
01743 261 000

Shrop Doc
0333 222 6655

Pontesbury Medical
01743 790 325

Worthen Medical
01743 891 401

Pontesbury Chemist
01743 790 273

Police
0300 333 3000

Severn Trent Water
0800 783 4444

Western Power
0800 328 1111

British Telecom
0800 023 2023

Stiperstones Primary
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Minsterley Motors
01743 791 208

Councillor H Kidd
01938 561 651

Philip Dunne MP
01584 872 187

Village Hall Bookings
01743 791 633

Stiperstones Oil Coordinator
01743 792 204

Snailbeach & District News
01743 790 049

Stiperstones Stores
01743 790 594



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(8am - 5pm Monday to Friday)

Email Address: john@minsterleymotors.co.uk

Website: www.minsterleymotors.co.uk

From Bishops Castle to Shrewsbury - Monday To Saturday

Notes	Sch	Sch																
BISHOPS CASTLE			07:30					09:40		12:18	13:30					15:40		
Lydham, Church			07:35					09:45		12:24	13:35					15:45		
Bromleys Mill			07:37					09:47		12:26	13:37					15:47		
Llan, Turn			07:40					09:50		12:29	13:40					15:50		
White Grit, Turn			07:44					09:54		12:33	13:44					15:54		
Gravels			07:47					09:57		12:37	13:47					15:57		
Hope			07:50					10:00		12:40	13:50					16:00		
Pennerley						08:19												
Stiperstones	06:48	07:20	07:48			08:23			11:15					14:35				16:53
Snailbeach	06:52	07:22	07:52			08:27			11:18					14:38				16:57
Plox Green	06:55	07:25	07:55	07:55	08:30			10:05	11:21	11:55	12:45	13:05	13:55	14:42		16:05	17:05	
MINSTERLEY	06:58	07:28	07:58	07:58	08:33	08:48	09:25	10:08	11:24	11:58	12:48	13:08	13:58	14:45	15:18	16:08	17:08	17:32
Pontesbury	07:03	07:33	08:03	08:03	08:37	08:53	09:30	10:13	11:29	12:03	12:53	13:13	14:03	14:50	15:23	16:13	17:13	17:37
Mary Webb					08:40										15:26			
Hanwood	07:11	07:41	08:11	08:11		09:01	09:38	10:21	11:37	12:11	13:01	13:21	14:11	14:58	15:31	16:21	17:21	17:45
Radbrook Rd	07:18	07:48	08:18			09:08	09:45		11:44	12:18		13:27		15:05	15:38		17:28	17:52
Hospital				08:17				10:27			13:07		14:17			16:27		
Copthorne Rd	07:23	07:53	08:23	08:23		09:13	09:50		11:49	12:23	13:13	13:33	14:23	15:10	15:43	16:33	17:33	17:57
BUS STATION	07:30	08:00	08:35	08:35		09:20	09:57	10:40	11:56	12:30	13:20	13:40	14:30	15:17	15:50	16:40	17:40	18:04
Notes																		
Sch	School days only																	

From Shrewsbury - Bishops Castle - Monday To Saturday

Notes	Sch	Sch																
BUS STATION	07:35	08:10	08:50	10:05	10:30	11:00	12:00	12:30	13:30	14:00	14:45		15:45	16:25	16:25	17:00	17:40	18:05
Copthorne Rd	07:42	08:17	08:57	10:12	10:37	11:07	12:07	12:37	13:37	14:07	14:51		15:51	16:31	16:31	17:06	17:47	18:12
Hospital				10:18			12:13			14:13				16:37				17:53
Radbrook Rd	07:47	08:22	09:02		10:42	11:12		12:42	13:42		14:57		15:57		16:36	17:12		18:17
Hanwood	07:54	08:29	09:09	10:24	10:49	11:19	12:20	12:49	13:49	14:20	15:04		16:04	16:44	16:44	17:19	17:59	18:24
Mary Webb		08:40											15:20					
Pontesbury	08:02	08:42	09:17	10:32	10:57	11:27	12:27	12:57	13:57	14:27	15:12		16:12	16:52	16:52	17:27	18:07	18:32
MINSTERLEY	08:07	08:47	09:22	10:37	11:02	11:32	12:32	13:02	14:02	14:32	15:17	15:27	16:17	16:57	16:57	17:32	18:12	18:37
Plox Green	08:09			10:39	11:04	11:34	12:34		14:04	14:34		15:29	16:19	16:59	16:59		18:14	18:39
Snailbeach					11:07				14:07			15:32	16:22		17:02			18:42
Stiperstones					11:11				14:11			15:36	16:26		17:06			18:46
Pennerley												15:40						
Hope	08:14			10:44			12:39			14:39				17:04				18:19
Gravels	08:16			10:46			12:41			14:41				17:06				18:21
White Grit	08:20			10:50			12:45			14:45				17:10				18:25
Llan, Turn	08:24			10:54			12:49			14:49				17:14				18:29
Bromleys Mill	08:27			10:57			12:52			14:52				17:17				18:32
Lydham, Church	08:29			10:59			12:54			14:54				17:19				18:34
BISHOPS CASTLE	08:35			11:05			13:00			15:00				17:25				18:40
Notes																		
Sch	School days only																	

745 Mondays and Fridays only

Pontesbury Shop	8:50	Ludlow Assembly Rooms	13:15
Minsterley	8:55	Craven Arms	13:30
Hope	9:00	Long Meadowend	13:35
Gravels	9:03	Aston on Clun	15:17
White Grit	9:05	Lydbury North	13:50
Lydham	9:10	Little Brampton	14:00
Bishops Castle	9:15	Clunton	14:02
Colebatch	9:20	Clun	14:10
Clun	9:35	Colebatch	14:20
Clunton	9:38	Bishops Castle	14:25
Little Brampton	9:40	Lydham	14:30
Lydbury North	9:50	White Grit	14:35
Aston on Clun	10:03	Gravels	14:37
Long Meadowend	10:05	Hope	14:40
Craven Arms	10:10	Minsterley	14:45
Ludlow Assembly Rooms	10:25	Pontesbury	14:50

Dose not run on Bank Hoilday accept Good Friday

775 Tuesdays only

Pontesbury Shop	9:30	Newtown	13:50
Minsterley	9:35	Kerry	14:00
Plox Green	9:38	Sarn	14:10
Hope	9:40	Blue Bell	14:15
Gravels	9:45	Church Stoke	14:20
White Grit	9:48	Bishops Castle	14:40
Llan Turn	9:51	Lydham	14:43
Bromleys Mill	9:55	Bromleys Mill	14:45
Lydham	9:57	Llan Turn	14:49
Bishops Castle	10:05	White Grit	14:52
Church Stoke	10:20	Gravels	14:55
Blue Bell	10:25	Hope	15:00
Sarn	10:30	Plox Green	15:02
Kerry	10:40	Minsterley	15:05
Newtown	10:50	Pontesbury	15:10

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April			£20
Monday 9th	The Royal Mint Experience	Wednesday 18th	Mystery 2 Course Lunch Trip
	£30		£25
Wednesday 18th	Mystery trip with 2 course lunch	Thursday 26th	Trentham Gardens
	£25		£22
Monday 23rd	Bridgmere Garden Centre and Dagfields Crafts & Antiques	August	
	£10	Thursday 2nd	Warwick & Warwick Castle (Coach only) £18
May		Friday 10th	Upton Upon Severn River Cruise with Fish & Chips £32
Sunday 6th	Llandudno Extravaganza & Transport Fair (coach only) £18	Wednesday 15th	Portmeirion & Porthmadog £28
Wednesday 16th	Mystery trip with 2 course lunch	Monday 20th	Chester Zoo or Cheshire Oaks (Coach only) £16
	£25	Thursday 30th	Hampton Court Castle & Gardens with entry £25
Saturday 26th	Liverpool Three Festivals Tall Ships Regatta £15	September	
June		Wednesday 5th	Llangollen & British Ironworks £14
Tuesday 5th	National Trust Biddulph Grange	Tuesday 11th	Betws-y-coed & Caernarfon £19
	£12/£21	Friday 21st	Black Country Living Museum with entry £27
Wednesday 13th	Mystery trip with 2 course lunch	Tuesday 25th	Brecon Mountain Railway & Monmouth £34
	£25		
Monday 18th	Stratford upon Avon		
	£15		
July			
Wednesday 4th	Mystery 2 Course Lunch Trip		
	£25		
Monday 9th	Northern Cotswold		

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T: 01743 790600

M: 07795 592716

Evenings: 01743 791935

E: sue.lindsay@stiperstones.net



Baptist Services



Sunday services: 10.30am & 3.00pm

Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

Wednesday 7.15pm

Held in the School Room, Snailbeach

Elder: Mr Joe Evans 01743 790 979

All are welcome!

Quaker Meetings

Shrewsbury Quaker Meeting House

Corporation Lane, Coton Hill,

Shrewsbury, SY1 2NU

10.30am every Sunday

Clun Valley Quaker Meeting

The Community Centre

Grange Road, Bishop's Castle

10.30am every Sunday.

The Methodist Church



Snailbeach Methodist News

**1st. April Easter Sunday
Service at 2.45 pm**

**2nd, 8th, 15th, April
Service at 2.45 pm**

**29th April
Service at 10.30 am**

Everyone welcome!

Stiperstones Group – C of E Service Rota April 2018

Date	Haberley St Mary's	Hope Holy Trinity	Minsterley Holy Trinity	Shelve All Saints	Snailbeach St Luke's
1st Sunday 1st April Easter Day Gold/White	10.30am Holy Communion Revd Christopher	10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Christine	10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Giles	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Pam	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Giles
2nd Sunday 8th April Easter 2 White	6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer No service	10.30am Holy Communion Revd Christine	10.30am Holy Communion (instead of All Age Service) Revd Christopher		
3rd Sunday 15th April Easter 3 White			10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Giles	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Giles	
4th Sunday 22nd April Easter 4 White	10.30am Holy Communion Revd Pam	9.00am Morning Prayer Revd Giles	10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Giles		
5th Sunday 29th April Easter 5 White	10.30am Group Holy Communion St Mary Haberley Revd Giles				

What's On...

Marches Meadow Group

Talk by Tim Selman
CE of Wyre Community Land Trust
Sunday April 22nd 10.30 am - 1.00 pm
Norbury Village Hall
£3 non-members, free to members

Cupcake Day

Saturday 9 June 2018
To be held at
Nant-Isa, Pennerley
In memory of Barbara Jones

Flower Arranging Evening

With demonstrator Jane Pugh
"The Singing Florist"
At Hope Village Hall
Thursday 26th April 2018 7.30pm
Followed by Posh Puds
Tickets are £7.50
Contact Jo on 07905636569

Sunday Lunch

6th May
Priest Weston Village Hall
12.30 for 1.00pm
Tickets £10.00 from
Judy Vicary 01938561364 or
Rachel Brook 01938561245
Bar. Vegetarian option available.
In aid of Middleton and The Marsh

Pontesbury Library Book Club

April 12, 2018 @ 6:30 pm
Pontesbury Library
This is an informal and friendly
group, meeting on the second
Thursday of the month.

Spring Plant Sale

Saturday April 28, 10am - 1pm
Pontesbury Library
Plants and seedlings from local
gardeners
Refreshments served in the Library
Raffle and bookstall.



The Methodist Church

PARKING NOTICE STIPERSTONES METHODIST CHAPEL.

Stiperstones Methodist Chapel is part of the Shropshire and Marches Circuit as part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The land and building was generously donated to the Methodist Church and is maintained, and operated by the Rea Valley Methodist cluster as a chapel and retreat centre. Recently, there has been some property damage due to heavy use of the car park, which has required us to create some terms and conditions for parking while respecting the needs of the community and our legal obligations. A notice stating this information has been placed in the car park on two occasions and has been removed by someone other than representatives of the chapel. We hope that folks will cooperate with these conditions as we do not want to close the car park, but may need to reconsider if conditions are not respected. The future of the availability of the car park is entirely dependent upon the community respecting these guidelines, which have been carefully considered with mutual respect for the community and the Methodist Chapel. We recognise that the property has not been used to the full potential, however, there is a growing demand for chapel use.

Parking is permitted, without liability to the Methodist Church, when not required by the chapel.

Parking during events is open to those who attend such events and church business. A notice of events will be placed on the notice board. Please check frequently.

The car park is not available for short term or longer term car parking during the following times, and are subject to change.

April 28th - 8am to 5pm

May 21st - 8am to 6pm

May 10th - 5pm to 9pm

May 24th - 8am to 6pm

June and September Saturday and Sunday 11am-4pm

July and August Friday through Monday 11-4pm

We appreciate your assistance on this community matter. To help maintain the car park (such as grading) donations of time or financial resources are most welcomed in addition to your assistance. Thank you kindly for your cooperation.

Coffee morning- Stiperstones Methodist Chapel, part of Rea Valley Methodist Cluster, invites you to a 25th Anniversary Coffee morning on May 9th between 10:00-11:30 for coffee and nibbles. Photos and more memorabilia will be on display. All welcomed!

A 25th Anniversary and Ascension Day Service at Stiperstones Methodist Chapel, part of the Rea Valley Methodist Cluster, will be held on May 10th at 7pm. Come join us for a short worship service and light refreshments. Bring any photos or stories you wish to share. All welcome!

"We don't like their sound. Groups of guitars are on the way out." Decca Recording Company when turning down the Beatles in 1962. The group was also turned down by Pye, Columbia and HMV. (p.s. they were right PSJ ;-))

Editor: Patrick Marks - Editor.SDN@mail.com

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or drop things into the Stiperstones Inn by the 20th of each month.