



SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

APRIL 2019

FREE!

Litter pickers pick a lotta litter



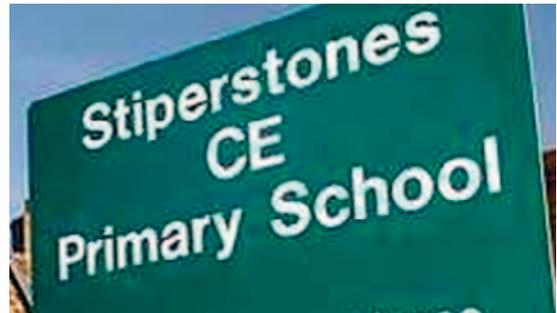
Full story: Pages 19, 20 and 21

Your Village Hall Needs You!



Chairman Ray Harper reports: Page 9

The Consultation is under way



An extract from the proposal:

"Governors have a vision for the future which aims for outstanding education and opportunities for all children. Our aim is for four classes on both the Norbury and Chirbury sites, accommodating between 100 and 120 children in each site, which we believe would retain the small school ethos, whilst ensuring sufficient funding to maintain excellence."

**More news:
Pages 3, 5 and 31**



April CONTENTS

All our usual features PLUS:

Come on a nostalgic journey with Elsie



Elsie Rowson, who died in 2013 aged 89, was the last postwoman to deliver on foot to cottages on the Stiperstones. The 11.5-mile route took her over four hours every day except Sunday and in all weathers. Her daughter Pat Carr invites you to retrace Elsie's footsteps.

Page 31

SOS for St Luke's

Cheryl Bromhead reports on the urgent problem facing the church and seeks help to keep it open.

Page 11

Gone phishing

Plagued by emails promising you the earth? Geoff Sproson has some warnings and advice.

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News from Windy Corner

Where is it... and what is the new plan for it?

Page 27

Double diamond

Two couples had a special reason to celebrate a very big day in their lives.

Page 35

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Notes from THE EDITOR



After requests from some of the older readers of the SDN I have restored the original SDN logo as it appeared on the very first edition back in June 1987. This logo went on to grace the masthead for many more years but somehow, for whatever reason, disappeared during 2013. I think it looks superb and I intend keeping it there for many more years to come.

A reader has written to me pointing out what he believes to be two errors in my answers to the Puzzles & Posers of March. After careful scrutiny I have to acknowledge that one of the answers was, indeed, incorrect. A careless typo, for which I crave your pardon. The answer should have been 40 degrees, not 50. The second challenge was to the question about bags of black and white marbles. As the reader himself was not entirely sure of his own answer we agreed to take the puzzle to arbitration. After the considered opinion of perhaps the greatest mathematical mind that Snailbeach has ever seen, it was agreed that my original answer was probably the correct one. The explanation from our arbitrator was, however, way beyond both mine and the reader's comprehension. If you wish to see this explanation then I would be happy to send it on to you.

By popular demand, I've introduced Sudoku as a regular item. The puzzles I've chosen are reputed to be of medium difficulty. If you are finding them too easy, then please let me know and I'll happily print some really hard ones!

There's a bit of an anti-litter theme going on this month following on from the successful 'litter pick' organised by Lara Sproson-Jones. More than 30 people turned out in appalling weather to clean up the litter that has managed to find its way along the verges of our villages. Remember, there is no such place as 'away' where we can throw things any more...

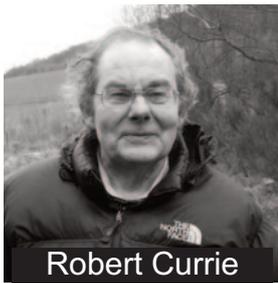
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NEWSBRIEF



Robert Currie sleeps rough!

As part of Holy Trinity, Minsterley's effort to support the work of Christian Aid this year, Robert Currie has decided to engage in a sponsored 'sleep out'. His idea is to

sleep in the porch of St. Luke's on the night of **Tuesday April 23rd**, and hope not to be arrested!

He says, "Compared to some sponsored efforts, it's not much of a feat, but I hope it will draw attention to the plight of those who are made homeless by war or natural disaster, and whom Christian Aid helps."

Robert will be most grateful for any sponsorship. "Better still, if anyone feels like joining me, I shall be glad of the company"

Robert will be taking his sponsorship forms to Minsterley church whenever he goes and a copy will also be available in the Stiperstones Inn.

Alternatively, if anyone would like to phone him or email him with a pledge, he would be glad to hear from you.

Robert can be contacted on **01743 790123** or email Robert at **robert.h.currie@gmail.com**

Rufus makes the grade

Malcolm Dunbar of Stiperstones is delighted to report that his dog, Rufus, has passed all his tests and is now registered as a fully qualified 'Pets As Therapy' (PAT) dog. Subsequently he and Malcolm have begun their visits to those establishments where a dog can give so much pleasure to the sick, disabled, elderly or anyone who would benefit from meeting a friendly dog with a waggy tail and good 'manners'.



Rufus

If any SDN readers know of an organisation or charity that would be interested in a visit then please either contact Malcolm on **01743 790966**, or *Pets As Therapy* by calling **01865 671440**.

Visit online at **www.petsastherapy.org** or email **reception@petsastherapy.org**

When is a school not a school?

As Spock is so frequently misquoted as saying, "It's a school, Jim, but not as we know it..."

But a few pupils now remain in the proud Gothic building in Stiperstones that has educated children for more than a hundred and forty years.

Changes in government policy, low pupil numbers, together with a paucity of government funding had unfortunately resulted in a proposal and a public consultation that threatened the teaching of children in the tiny village school clinging to the side of the Stiperstones hills.

The consultation was launched on the 12th March 2019. It proposed changes to the way that the children of Stipertones, Snailbeach and the surrounding areas would be educated.

The proposal is to move the less than thirty remaining children to the other two schools within the existing federation - Norbury and Chirbury. It is further proposed that Norbury would, as a result, have a new purpose built nursery and reception classroom to accommodate the additional numbers. Planning permission has already been granted for this should the need arise.

The consultation is due to end at noon on the 9th April. The school governors will be presented with the views of the consultation on the 10th April.

Although this proposal has been made by the Governing Body of Shropshire Hills Federation, in consultation with the Local Authority and Hereford Diocese, the final decision will be made by the Cabinet of Shropshire Council on 22nd May 2019.

If the proposal is approved at this time, building of additional accommodation space at the Norbury site will commence in June 2019 with a planned transfer of pupils from the Stiperstones site in January 2020.

So what would happen to the Stiperstones building?

This is a complicated issue. The building is held in an educational trust by the founding site trustees. It is what is known as a "reverter site". This means that neither Shropshire Council nor Hereford Diocese own the site and should it stop being used for its intended purpose, it is handed back to the original trustees or their descendants, whoever or wherever they may be.

If you wish to make your views known, the consultation document can be obtained from the Stiperstones school.

See also pages 5 and 31 for more details about the consultation.

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Proposing Changes to Preserve Excellent Education.

From Les Ball, Headteacher

On 12th March 2019, the governing body of Shropshire Hills Federation (Stiperstones CE, Chirbury CE and Norbury Schools) launched a consultation to make significant changes to the way that we educate the children of Stipertones, Snailbeach and the surrounding areas.

To ensure that we can fund excellent education for all of our children, for many years to come, we have proposed that the two schools of Stiperstones and Norbury, should work together on one site, at Norbury, with parents having the option of educating their children on the Norbury site, or at Chirbury. **We propose a new purpose built Nursery and Reception classroom be built to accommodate the additional numbers.**

In July 2018, our three schools federated, which ensured that Stiperstones would have the funding

and time to carefully plan for the best possible future. At this time, the school would have needed an additional £85,253 for 2018/19 to be able to provide everything that we wanted to ensure excellent opportunities for all children. As part of the federation proposal, we asked all interested parties to put forward other options for funding, to ensure that the school could remain as it was but none were forthcoming. Since then, the Federation has made huge savings across all three schools, and improved provision at the same time (Stiperstones recent Ofsted was "Good" and "Outstanding"). However, to remain as we are on three sites, Stiperstones would still require an additional £25,000 to set a budget for 2019/20, and an increasing amount each year thereafter. It is clear that this funding will not be available. It should be made clear that this is due to low pupil numbers and central government policy on funding. Governors and Shropshire Council are doing all that they can with the money that they have.

This does not mean that Stiperstones School is closing; far from it. It will mean that education in our area will go from strength to strength and be sustainable for future generations. It will be different, but we will work hard to make it better than ever.

Please contact the school office on 01743 791207 or admin@stiperstones.shropshire.sch.uk to request a copy of the full consultation document, and then have your say on the proposal.

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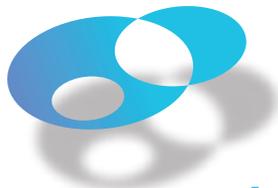
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- When Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs won a special award at the Academy in 1939, Walt Disney got a regular sized Oscar followed by seven miniatures.
- *Loganarnosis* is an obsessive searching for a forgotten word.
- A glass of Calvados contains seven apples.
- The word for 'the inside of the elbow' is *chelidon*.
- All Olympic curling stones come from one uninhabited island 10 miles from Glasgow.
- Eyebrows evolved to make humans look friendly to one another.
- The Hitler Youth only drank decaf coffee.
- The palm trees in Los Angeles are the result of a job-creation scheme in the 1930s.
- The Queen practises wearing her crown for a week before the Queen's Speech.
- If all the plastic in the world were cling film, it could wrap the Earth.
- There is enough plastic in the world to make 25,000 Empire State Buildings, 80 million blue whales or a billion elephants.
- The Queen has banned plastic straws from the royal estates.
- The 'coffee break' was invented in 1952 by the American Coffee Bureau.
- 'Bacon and eggs' was invented by Sigmund Freud's nephew.

Newsletter Donations

Many thanks to those who sent us donations over the last month including:

Roy & Sylvia Anderson
Lords Hill Baptist Church
Don & Gloria Rowson

If you wish to donate anonymously by direct bank transfer our details are:

Sort code: 09-01-54
A/C no: 05629702

Otherwise donations can be left with Phil or Lara at the **Stiperstones Inn** or with Patrick at 5, Lower Works, SY5 0NY

Help us to stay a free, secular and independent publication serving the local community. Thank you.

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 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

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

©Judith Glover - "Garden Days"
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www.judithglover.com

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WHAT'S ON

Saturday, 6th April
Pontesbury Public Hall
10.00am to 12.30pm

Table top sale & coffee morning
In support of Severn Hospice

Saturday 6th April, 7.30pm
St John's Church, Bishop's Castle
The Marches Choir and Sinfonia
£12 (children and students free)
01588 650448, or on the door

Sunday, 7th April from 2pm - 6pm
Snailbeach Village Hall
Clothes Swap Party
A benefit for the
Jatinga Valley School, Assam
Tickets £6 include a glass of fizz

Saturday, 20th April,
Snailbeach Village Hall
Easter Fun Day
11.00am to 3.00pm
Easter bonnet competition
Children's Easter egg hunt

Tuesday, 23rd April
Robert Currie's Sponsored
'Sleep Out'
in the porch of St. Lukes Church
In support of Christian Aid

Sunday 28th April
Shirehall
Snailbeach White Stars FC
CUP FINAL!

Wednesday 8th May 10.30-12.30
The Bog Visitor Centre
Willow Weaving
with Cathy Preston
£20
Call 01743 792484 or
drop in to the Visitor Centre

Saturday, 18th May,
7.30pm 'til late
Snailbeach Village Hall
Jordan Brown Accoustic
& Disco
£10 adult - £5 children
Bar and raffle
Tickets available in advance from **Claire**
Corfield 01743 792307, 07773 628025
(text) or facebook messenger
In support of FoSS



Chairman's report from Ray Harper

This month the Village Hall has seen a small working party painting the internal walls as well as undertaking the run of the mill jobs like replacing a broken toilet seat and cleaning the filters for the heating system. We are also trying to arrange for the external painting of the rendering and roof sheets (weather permitting). In addition we are discussing the maintenance of the car park – there is a manhole cover that requires a new concrete surround and the trees need trimming, mainly so they do not encroach on the parking area but also hopefully to allow more light on to the play area. Graham McMillan, who kindly volunteers his time and effort to keep the grass cut, has reported that the ride-on mower is reaching the end of its useful life. We therefore need to start thinking about replacing it.

Not a very exciting report but the fact is we want the hall to remain an attractive venue for the members of the community to use and for those organisers of yoga, aerobics, band, dancing, toddlers group and W.I., who provide the services/pastimes that our community wants. The hall is here for you and our job is to make sure that continues. In order to do that we have to constantly deal with the mundane tasks of maintaining the hall and its surrounds and raising the funds to do so.

If you can offer any help or support, please contact any village hall trustee (details on the village hall supporters' scheme form enclosed – you might also like to complete the form and pledge your support in that way).

There will be a combined Easter Fun Day and Supporters Day on Easter Saturday, 20th April, when we hope to receive your support and raise funds for the coming year. Of course if you have any suggestions regarding other fund raising activities please don't be shy, let us know.

On a more exciting note, last month I reported that an inspection of the play area was to take place and it did. As a result things are moving on quite rapidly. We have received a number of quotes for the provision of one or possibly two pieces of equipment. The committee has agreed to place an order by the end of this month for the installation of at least one piece (the final decision will be made after a couple of checks being undertaken). Stage 1 in the improvement of the play area will soon be taking place. I would like to thank Anita Evans and Aimee Rutter for the work they have put in to help us to this point (it appears that Anita's husband has also been recruited to assist and his contacts are proving helpful – more to follow).



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St Luke's Church going forward.

Cheryl Bromhead, Treasurer writes

At the Holy Trinity Minsterley and St Luke's Snailbeach PCC meeting held on 26th February, St Luke's Church was discussed, as it has now been a Festival Church for one year. Rev. Giles reported that the

Festival services had been well attended (with between 20 and 40 people) and the finances have improved due to people giving generously at the services, the hard work put in to fundraising by a small number of individuals and the reduction in the Diocesan Parish Offer that Rev. Giles negotiated.

However there is a third part of the jigsaw of keeping St Luke's as a viable church that is missing, and that is a lack of volunteers who are willing to commit to the practical tasks of maintaining the churchyard, cleaning the church and maintaining the fabric of the church. The small group of dedicated individuals who have carried out these tasks for many decades have now decided it is time to hand the batten on to a new generation. As from 1st March we will therefore need a new group of volunteers who are willing to play their part in keeping St Luke's open.

If you value St Luke's and want it to continue to remain open, please do consider if you can help in any practical way on a regular basis.

Please email me woofdog@hotmail.co.uk or leave a landline message 01743 791106 with a brief mention of what you would like to help with; for example, grass cutting, cleaning, flower arranging etc. and I will organise rotas which can be swapped /dates altered to suit when you are available. These can be relatively infrequent if we have enough people volunteering!

Once the Church closes it will not be re-opened and I know nobody really wants that.

Many thanks

Cheryl Bromhead



Snailbeach Village Hall

EASTER FUN DAY

Saturday 20th April 2019

11am - 3pm

Easter Bonnet Competition

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Craft Activities

Refreshments

A good opportunity to sign up for the Village Hall Supporters Scheme.

Forms will be available.



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THE SAMMY MAIL COLUMN - with Geoff Sproson



"Gone phishing instead of just a wishing."

So went this Bing Crosby oldie. Bing probably didn't get emails so probably knew nothing of this

modern take on an age old pastime.

If you do email and have never come across 'phishing' messages then you are lucky. Such messages are scams which try and trick you into divulging personal information such as account numbers or passwords so that the perpetrators can try and steal from you or give you grief on social media.

A recurring phishing email is the '419 Nigerian letter'. These letters seem to have originated in Nigeria but now come from all over the world. 419 refers to a law in Nigeria meant to criminalise the sources of these messages. The letters are long, usually badly spelt with poor grammar, they end with a message like this:-
"The last of my money which no one knows of is the huge cash deposit of twenty four million dollars that I have with a Security Company in Europe for safe keeping. I will want you to help me collect this deposit and disburse it to some charity organizations and to the less priviledged. Please send me a mail to indicate if you will assist me in this disbursement. I have set aside 10% for you for your time and patience."

The bait is a large sum of money but on entering into such a negotiation you would find that an initial deposit from yourself was needed to get the ball rolling and of course there is nothing for you in the end. It seems these scams are still netting up to 50,000 dollars a year for the senders.

Another more believable begging letter pretends to come from someone you know, even a friend or relative. It appears this person is on holiday and has had their wallet stolen and needs money to get home. What has really happened is that the email addresses from this friend have been hacked and the request is from the bogus hacker. Here in the UK recent emails from TV licensing claiming your licence has run out, or from HMRC offering a nice juicy tax rebate are only too common. A more frightening phishing mail takes

the form of a blatant blackmail threat. Here the sender pretends they have damaging or embarrassing information about you or the websites you may or may not have visited and an online payment is demanded. Sometimes these emails seem to come from the police or an official organisation.

Promises of prizes such as holidays, sports or concert tickets, free gifts or discount are prolific. One US research agency reported that half of emails received in their country are a scam of one sort or the other.

What should you do if you receive an unsolicited email such as those I have mentioned. Firstly don't panic. Secondly if there is any sort of attachment or a link to a website DO NOT OPEN IT. If it offers something for nothing it is almost certainly a scam, so delete the email and empty your trash bin. If you are suspicious but want to know a bit more, go on to Google and enter the title of your email as a search. If others have received the same message it is likely there will be a message-board item with more information. Still not convinced? Then contact the person or organisation you think sent the email but do NOT NOT NOT reply to the message you receive. If it seems to be from a friend or family then contact them directly by phone or email from your address book. If it seems to be from a Government organisation, the bank, the police or a company then either telephone them, which is often not easy, or go first to their official website. It should start with *https* and not just *http* and your browser may show a security padlock next to the title.

Finally if you think you have been compromised in any way don't be embarrassed for you are not the first. Google themselves lost several million by paying out on a bogus equipment invoice. Report the offence and if you have lost money contact Paypal, your credit card company or bank to see if you can get the money refunded. If the scam is a convincing one and you have not just tossed your banking passwords to the winds you may find them on your side. Finally, of course, change all your important passwords. But you all do this regularly don't you?

Take care, Sammy.

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Mr. Quips Corner

- I saw an advert for burial plots and thought to myself "This is the last thing I need".
- At what age is it appropriate to tell my dog that he's adopted?
- The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
- It was only when I bought a motorbike that I found out that adrenaline is brown.
- My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.
- When my boss asked me who is the stupid one, me or him? I told him everyone knows he doesn't hire stupid people.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list.
- My email password has been hacked. That's the third time I've had to rename the cat.
- Ok, what's the latest possible date that I can still make something of my life?

I wish I'd said that...

- The secret of a happy marriage remains a secret - *Henny Youngman*.
- The Wedding March always reminds me of the music played when soldiers go into battle - *Heinrich Heine*.
- When a girl marries, she exchanges the attentions of many men for the inattention of one - *Helen Rowland*.
- When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife - *Prince Philip*
- When a man steals your wife, there is no better revenge than to let him keep her - *Sacha Guitry*.
- I think the next best thing to solving a problem is finding some humour in it - *Frank Howard Clark*.
- If I had no sense of humour, I would long ago have committed suicide - *Mahatma Gandhi*.
- If you could choose one characteristic that would get you through life, choose a sense of humour - *Jennifer Jones*.
- There is only one difference between a long life and a good dinner: that, in the dinner, the sweets come last - *Robert Louis Stevenson*.
- What we play is life - *Louis Armstrong*.



What does your local U3A offer? Jane Rice reports

We have 25 established Interest Groups, providing creative daytime leisure activities for people no longer in full time work.

In addition there are some exciting new groups which may be of interest:

- * **The Photography Group** members hope to concentrate on landscape and nature photography, although they are open to other ideas and anyone is most welcome. The initial members all use digital cameras. If you would like to contribute to this group, then please join us. All ideas and experience would be most welcome.
- * **Diner's Delight** should appeal to anyone who enjoys fine dining, good company and conversation over a leisurely meal. We will meet monthly to visit restaurants both in Shrewsbury and a bit further afield.
- * **Recorded Music Appreciation Group**. We will meet to listen to recorded music which would be predominately classical although we will warmly welcome any genre. The format could be either a presentation by one member for that meeting or several members bring along their recordings to be played at a session. Meetings would be about two hours long in the afternoon (including refreshments) at a local venue.
- * **The Virtual Crafting Group** has circulated their first Bulletin listing many ideas for crafting courses and activities. The initial Bulletin resulted in an offer of a venue to meet and craft when the group plans a local session. Other U3A members have contacted the group with facilities or skills that they would be happy to share.

For more information about any of these, pick up the phone to speak to Jane on **01743 792500** or check out our website on: u3apontesburyreavalley.org.uk/index.htm



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NEWS FROM

PONTESBURY LIBRARY
from Beverley Link



National gardening week was launched 8 years ago by the RHS, it is the country's biggest celebration of gardening, Monday 29 April - Sunday 5 May 2019. How fortuitous that we will be holding our annual plant sale on Saturday 27th April. The FoPL will be selling plants and books with a raffle, tea and cake. The monthly collection of fiction will have a garden theme, we hope there will be plenty to inspire you in your gardens this spring.

The U3A Family History group will be displaying some of their research, well worth a look if you need some motivation to start your tree. You can also now get access to the free library ancestry, using the library Wi Fi on your own devices. We will be holding a special Rhyme Time in April. It will be a Teddy Bears picnic! Come along with your fluffy friends on Thursday 18th April at 2.30pm. It is during the school holidays and will be suitable for under 5's.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter, hope the sun shines.

The Library Owl.

QUIZ TIME

from **Jenny Alldrige**

On going to Norbury for the quiz on Friday, 1st March, we were in second place in the second division. Dave Fitzhugh, Susan Bates, Julian Bromhead and I were on the team. We came top out of ten teams with 55 points again, but Hope with 54 points were awarded the wine because we won it last month. Bayston Hill and Cruckton were close behind with 52 points.

Radbrook Green 'B' won the fun quiz in the interval with 18 points; we had 16.

The final quiz of the season will be held at **Minsterley on Friday 5 April**. In addition to myself, the team on that night will consist of Dave Fitzhugh, Julian Bromhead and Ray Harper. All 42 teams involved in the quiz are expected to be there at the same time - there will be no time for a fun quiz that night!

Onwards and upwards, Jenny! We all wish you the best of luck, and a run of favourable questions for the final.

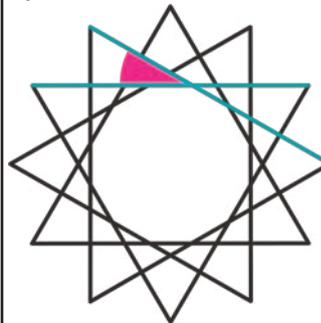
PUZZLES + POSERS

1) Frank's father has 5 sons. If the names of his 4 sons are Fefe, Fifi, Fofu, Fufu, respectively, then what would be the name of his 5th son?

2) Estimate the amount of the tip by rounding the bill to the nearest pound before calculating. 15% tip on a bill of £83.41

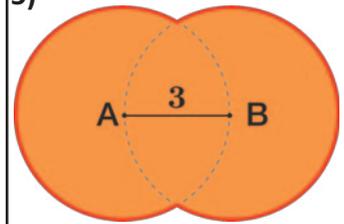
3) Eva is making fruit baskets. She has 18 apples and 8 oranges. Eva wants to make all the fruit baskets identical without having any pieces of fruit left over. What is the greatest number of fruit baskets Eva can make?

4)



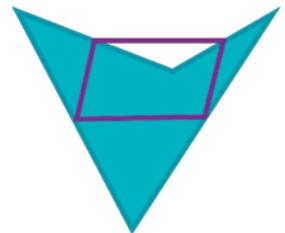
This twelve pointed star is made by extending the sides of a regular 12-sided polygon (a dodecagon). What is the measure of the shaded angle?

5)



What is the length of the perimeter of this figure? (The line segment AB is the radius of both circles, and the circumference of a circle is $2\pi r$)

6)



Connecting the consecutive midpoints of the four sides of any simple quadrilateral makes a parallelogram. True or false?

7) Are the ratios 1:2 and 7:14 equivalent?

8) Simplify the expression: $(1 + 6b)(4)$

9) What value of q is a solution to this equation?
 $q + 12 = 18$

10) Find the number that makes the ratio equivalent to 1:5.
6:?

Apologies for the typo last month. Q2 answer should have been 40 degrees. Easy this month! Last four taken from Year 8 National Curriculum.

Answers to PUZZLES + POSERS

- 1) Frank is the 5th son! 2) £12.45 3) The greatest number of fruit baskets Eva can make is 2. 4) 30 degrees. 5) 8π 6) True 7) Yes 8) 4 + 24b 9) q = 6 10) 3:6



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Spring clean time in the hills

Lara Sproson-Jones
reports on the village 'litter pick'



A well known local litter Womble

from Nant Isa to The Bog will hopefully be tackled on a slightly warmer day).

On a rather chilly St. Patrick's day morning over 30 people turned out to pick up litter like a band of Wombles on holiday. We split up and spread out armed only with empty bin bags, Hi-Viz jackets, gloves and some long handled litter pickers. We were able to cover the road from Plox Green up as far as the Nant Isa turning, including many of the dingles, lanes and paths along the way. (The stretch

bags were definitely in evidence. *(On one stretch of a bridleway in Snailbeach a group of litter pickers reported that they came across a substantial amount of dog poo that was not even in bags, posing a real nuisance and possible health threat to the two young children helping out with the litter pick that day. Come on dog owners; DO THE RIGHT THING! Editor.)*

62% of people in England drop litter, although only 28% will admit to it.

I think many of us were surprised by how much hidden

rubbish lies in our verges. A first pass will remove the obvious litter; the blown away milk bottle, the McDonalds bag and the tin can. But a closer look could often reveal a small corner of brightly coloured plastic, which indicates a hidden crisp packet, tobacco pouch or even an entire carrier bag of Budweiser bottles slowly being buried under the leaf mould.

Over 69,000 animals killed or injured by litter last year in Britain

Many thanks to all who turned out, young and old. We gathered 14 full bags of rubbish weighing in at some 46kg. Some of this litter had obviously been there for a long time. I for one was pleasantly surprised by the courtesy of passing motorists who all seemed very aware of slowing down and giving plenty of room (and a few words of encouragement) as they passed.



Another well known local litter Womble

There were no reports of serious fly tipping along our verges. Whilst some of the rubbish was almost certainly thrown out of car windows, much appeared to be accidental littering - broken highway signage, light plastic wrapping, windblown recycling, and farm waste. However, the ubiquitous dog poo



A shuffle of litter Wombles

If you missed the litter pick but want to have a go then there's no need to wait for another organised event - litter picking is always free, always needed and will fill you with an enormous sense of well being and general smugness for the rest of the day. And remember - bin bags will always be given at the Stiperstones Inn for those who ask for them.

25% of smokers do not think discarding a cigarette butt is littering.



See pages 20 and 21



Patrick Marks reports

Litter is ugly. It blights our beauty spots, it's harmful to the environment, it's harmful to health, and to wildlife and yet 62% of people in England drop litter, although only 28% will admit to it.

More than two million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day. Over 30 million tonnes of litter are collected from Britain's streets each year. The cost to the taxpayers for street cleaning is estimated to be almost £1 billion a year.

Litter is anything from a crisp packet or cigarette butt to a bag of rubbish. Litter is unsightly and makes our local areas look unattractive and uncared for. And yet every day we see fast-food packaging, sweet wrappers, drinks cans, bottles and cigarette butts strewn alongside our hedgerows. In fact cigarette butts were the most commonly found item at 83% of sites where the **Litter Action** volunteers work, followed by confectionery packaging at 69% and soft drink cans and bottles at just over half.

The Litter Action group said 59% of its volunteers reported the problem of rural litter was "more than they could deal with" in 2014, up from 46% in 2012.

So who are the 'litter louts'?

"The crux of the problem is that all sorts of people litter all sorts of items for all sorts of reasons" says Samantha Harding, the director of the **Campaign to Protect Rural England's** litter campaign. "Men aged 18-25 often see it as cool to drop litter, but hauliers, smokers, users of fast food outlets and drive-through takeaways and commuters are all groups of society who litter".



So while many people would not dream of littering, there is a small but significant minority who would not think twice about dropping litter and research has found that bottles and wrappers dropped on the ground tend to attract other rubbish – because litter louts feel they have 'tacit approval' to follow suit. Ros Coward of **The Guardian** comments in March 2018:

"While littering of the oceans is now at the forefront of public concern, general littering of the countryside and communities is barely on the national radar. Yet the amount of "eyesore" litter, not just plastic, is increasing exponentially on roadsides, in rivers, in public spaces and in the countryside and has a hugely negative impact on people's lives. Undoubtedly part of the explanation for this rising tide of rubbish is behavioural and generational. Those who have grown up in a disposable society have a tendency to, well, dispose. The sight of an army of litter pickers collecting abandoned tents, clothes and camping equipment after festivals speaks volumes, as do skips of still-functioning equipment left behind by students after term's end. The British, especially the younger generation, are also Europe's largest consumers of food and drink on the move, and food containers are the most numerous objects in any roadside litter-pick." No doubt in which direction he is pointing the accusing finger!

Litter does not clean itself away. It can take years to degrade, causing harm to wildlife and habitats. The **RSPB** and **Keep Britain Tidy** say shrews, bank voles, wood mice and other animals can get stuck or die within discarded bottles; they can also choke on 'yokes' – the ring pulls on cans. New research on roadside litter by the **RSPB** and **Keep Britain Tidy** found more than 8% of bottles and almost 5% of the cans contained remains of some of our rarest native mammals, including shrews, bank voles and wood mice.



The effect of litter on wildlife

Dropping litter is illegal. People who drop litter can be fined or face prosecution in court. Authorised officers have the power to issue a fixed penalty charge of up to £150 for a litter offence, as an alternative to prosecution. If the offender is prosecuted and convicted in court, the fine could rise to £2,500.



More litter from Snailbeach verges

Funding for cleaning rural roads and roads other than major highways was cut by £74m between 2010 and 2014.

Whilst local authorities employ litter pickers to clear city streets, this is impractical in the wider reaches of the countryside where there is little, or no, funding and so if someone drops a bottle on a street in a city, someone is paid to pick it up. The chances of a bottle in a hedgerow being collected is almost zero.

It would be lovely to think that Dougie Boulter would no longer have to do his own litter pick between the Village Hall and Plox Green every month, but I'm afraid it's looking bad for Dougie and I suspect that we all shall have to continue with our local volunteer litter picks for some time to come unless or until we can educate people not to drop litter. A long uphill struggle, methinks.

- 226 million cigarette butts are discarded in England every year
- £1 billion – the estimated cost of picking up litter in Britain in 2015
- 11,212 bottles and cans were collected in 2018's month-long CPRE Green Clean Campaign
- 2.25 million pieces of litter are dropped on the streets every day [source: Symphony Environmental].
- 180,000 sacks of litter are cleared from motorways and major A roads each year by Highways England.
- £2.3 million is spent by Network Rail annually to clear fly tipping from its land.



Thanks and acknowledgements to BBC Countryfile magazine, Keep Britain Tidy and The Guardian.

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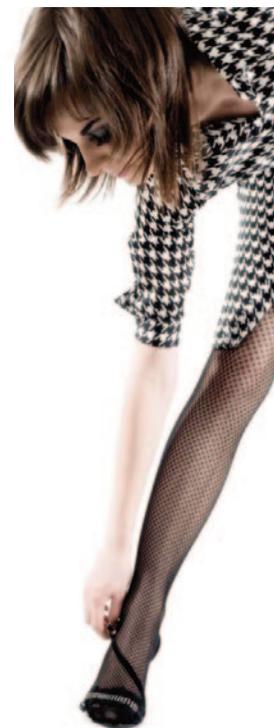
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Letter from Westminster

April 2019

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Persecution of Christians

As Easter approaches late this month, for many Christians it is a time to renew faith and reflect on the role of Jesus in bringing Christian values to life. But it is a sad fact that, just as Christ was persecuted for his beliefs, many Christians around the world are not free to practice their religion as they wish.

Nearly a quarter of a billion people are suffering persecution today because of their Christian faith. In addition, 80 per cent of people who suffer persecution because of their faith, are Christian.

I know this is an issue of great concern to the Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt MP, who has acted to boost the UK's role as a defender of Christians facing persecution overseas. As part of this renewed focus, he has asked the Bishop of Truro to conduct an independent review into the UK's response to the persecution of Christians abroad.

This review aims to map levels of persecution and other discrimination against Christians in key countries around the world. It will provide an objective assessment of the impact and levels of Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) support, and make recommendations to the Foreign Secretary.

That is not to say no action has been taken so far. In fact, the UK has played a leading role in bringing together other countries that share our values and giving a voice to those who do not have one. The Church of England also meets the FCO regularly to discuss freedom of religion and belief. But the outcome of this review should be for the FCO to gain a deeper understanding of what it can do better in this arena.

I look forward to reading the reports emerging from this Review, which the Bishop intends to focus on evidence and consultation with a range of participants, including survivors and victims, civil society institutions, the diplomatic community, governmental and multilateral entities. The Initial Report to the Foreign Secretary is expected by the end of April, with briefings for MPs in the following month, which I hope to attend.

Interestingly, the place and type of religion in Parliament came to the fore recently, when there was discussion about whether the day should still begin with 'prayers'. In both Houses of Parliament, sittings begin with prayers that follow the Christian faith, though there is no compulsion to attend. I and many of my colleagues appreciate the opportunity for a few minutes calm reflection before the formal business of the day begins - not least during this critical period in our country's history. So I will not be supporting removal of daily prayers from our proceedings.

In more local news, I was pleased to welcome the former Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev James Jones KBE, to Ludlow last month for a service of thanksgiving in St Laurence's, Ludlow for Mortimer Forest. The Bishop had worked with the Forestry Commission to produce an Independent report in 2012, so was a most relevant speaker for what was a very positive service.

I hope all readers have a restful Easter break over the longer weekend, and that people across the country embrace the sense of renewal that Easter and the natural world at this time of year inspire.

Philip Dunne

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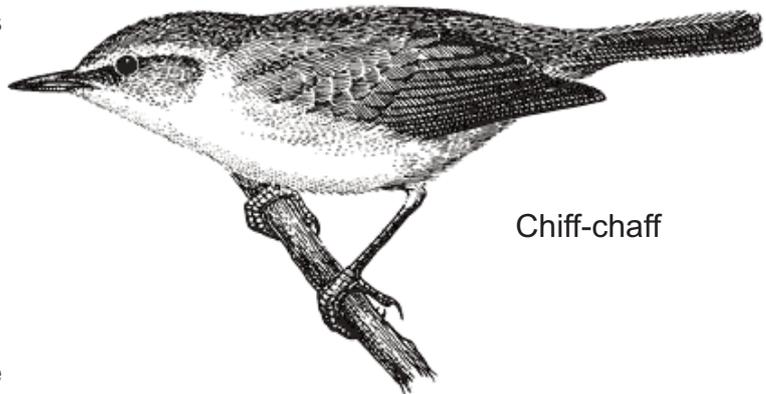
Notes from the hill

Simon Cooter for Natural England staff at Rigmooak.

The first curlew heard from the reserve this year was on the 19th February but we should be hearing them in full cry very soon, as they return to their breeding sites. I reported on the rearing and release of 21 chicks last year by the Curlew Country project, but a handful were also reared in the previous year, so it will be exciting to see whether we get any returns of those first chicks this year. Generally they don't return to their breeding sites until two years of age, presumably staying where there is better feeding near the coast. All the birds that were released have colour rings on their legs to allow for easy identification. Curlew Country would like to know if any colour ringed birds are seen and they also have a fund raising campaign under way, for more information you can visit their website www.curlewcountry.org.

Curlews generally winter on UK estuaries although they can also travel as far as Europe. Many of our migrant birds travel much further south and the first ones we usually see or hear having returned are wheatears on the hill and chiff-chaffs in the woodlands on the edge of the hill. Both of these birds usually winter in the Mediterranean and North Africa.

Although we still have a few wheatears still nesting on the nature reserve their numbers have declined across the whole of lowland Britain and their range has restricted to the uplands. They were once numerous in lowland Britain, particularly on downland and heaths, so much so that they used to be a regular feature on the menu of fashionable hotels in places like Brighton.



Chiff-chaff

Unlike the wheatear, chiff-chaffs, in the last breeding bird atlas, showed a 20% increase due to their range expanding further north and into upland areas, no doubt a consequence of climate change. However they are unlikely to expand greatly on the hill as they inhabit wooded areas, and one of our main jobs in managing the hill is preventing trees from growing, as the internationally important heathland would rapidly succeed to woodland if left unmanaged.

After the successful purchase of Bergam Wood in 2017, we are going to launch a new Donate campaign in April with the aim of purchasing a piece of land, known as Windy Corner, next to the Shropshire Way, above The Bog. We aim to restore this parcel of land to heathland as an extension to the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve and as an important link in the 'Back to Purple' vision of restoring the Stiperstones ridge to heathland over which an emperor moth caterpillar could travel unhindered from one end to the other. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust have recently extended their reserve at Nipstone, so with the purchase of Windy Corner the gap will be slowly closing, and that caterpillar might yet make it. To donate towards this project please visit <http://easydonate.org/PURPLE>

The first opening day of the year for the Blakemoorgate cottages is the **7th April, 11am to 3pm**.

The Stiperstones bird walk will be run this year on **Sunday 5th May**, meeting at the Knolls car park, **9.30am to 12.30pm**. All welcome to this free event, no booking required. The walk covers a range of habitats and typical birds spotted include red kite, cuckoo, tree pipit and stonechat. 32 bird species is the record to beat.

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The Young Adults and Little People's Page

A page for all those who are young, or just young at heart

Art by Mariya Kovalyov, www.happyfamilyart.com



Big bloopers from English examinations - how many can you spot?

- In midevil times most people were alliterate. The greatest writer of the futile ages was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature.
- The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. He was born in the year 1564, supposedly on his birthday. He never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He wrote tragedies, comedies, and hysterectomies, all in Islamic pentameter. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couplet.
- Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.

Well done to Florence (of Stiperstones?) this month, whose wonderful 'colouring in' picture from last month deserves either the pen or the pint. I suspect that you'd prefer the pen! Get mum or dad to drop in to the pub to pick up either/or.

Please send all contributions for this page to editor.sdn@mail.com

We're looking for original writing (prose or poetry) and illustrations (cartoons, paintings, sketches)

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Email: schiansky04@yahoo.com

Tel: 01743 791742

First session a free trial one for newcomers.



Heather Kidd's Report

Stiperstones School.

As many of you will be aware from reports on the media, school budgets across England are under severe pressure following years of financial cuts from the Government. The Chirbury, Stiperstones and Norbury Schools Federation is suffering the same as the vast majority. 110 out of 138 Schools in Shropshire have had their money cut by the Government.

So far the parents, children and Governors have fought hard to maintain a high quality of education across all three sites. Unfortunately, we have no children due to enter Stiperstones School this year or next which brings the school roll down below 30.

Under the circumstance the Governors are, reluctantly, consulting on a proposal to concentrate the education of our children in Norbury and Chirbury.

Please note this is not a closure of the Stiperstones School.

Come what may I, as your Councillor, will fight very hard to maintain a school presence in Stiperstones.

For a copy of the consultation document and information on how to take part email/phone me or call at the school.

Planning.

I recently submitted to Shropshire Council a motion that would have made planning decisions on house building across the County more open and transparent.

One of the biggest complaints voiced by residents at the moment is the secretive, inconsistent manner in which Shropshire Council deals with planning applications. People, Parish Council and Councillors alike are incensed that there is no effective way to have an input into the later stages of the planning process. The time when controversial application will go to committee or not.

It was seconded by Cllr David Vasmer from Shrewsbury and supported by members of all parties bar the ruling Conservatives. At the

meeting they didn't say a thing. They offered no alternative view, just voted 'en bloc' against the motion. They simply had no defence and just hid their embarrassment. This really is not democracy.

This motion would have addressed these issues and helped heal the fractured relationship between Parish Councils and the County. Voting it down was pure tribalism on the part of the ruling Conservative group and not constructive.

Best wishes

Heather

Heather Kidd, Shropshire
Councillor for Chirbury and
Worthen

Tel: 07980635516

heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk

www.heatherkidd.org

ELSIE'S POSTAL WALK 2019

From Pat Carr of Snailbeach

Due to many requests to walk it again we will be leaving from the old

Snailbeach Post Office (No:22 Snailbeach) at 10:00 am on Saturday 6th April

Please bring a packed lunch, drinks, waterproof clothing and footwear (very muddy in places).

Approximate Total distance 8 ½ miles but it is possible to return to Snailbeach by several shorter routes if this is too far for some.

You do need to be reasonably fit, and the walk might not be suitable for small children.

Please use the **Village Hall Car Park.**

Looking forward to seeing you, everyone welcome. Any enquiries please phone Pat on :

01743 791607

New Zealand

Thanks to all who supported the event at Snailbeach Village Hall on Friday 8th March, when I gave a visual presentation of my recent holiday in New Zealand. It was a very enjoyable evening and raised over £360 for St. Luke's Church. Thanks to everyone who provided refreshments (which were lovely) or raffle prizes, or helped with publicity, setting up or organisation.

Robert Currie.

In 2016/17 it cost local authorities £682million or £29 per household to keep our streets clean.

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Join Val on Facebook @CrowningGloryPontesbury



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PONTESBURY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting was held on the evening of 5th March. All committee and officers were re-elected for a further year, ensuring a seamless continuation of our activities.

In May, our social evening, Spring into the Garden, will be on Thursday 16th May at 7.30 in the Public Hall; there will be plant stalls and gardeners selling jams and chutneys; Shropshire Wildlife Trust will have a display and there will be a special sale of toy animals. As usual entry is free as are the refreshments.

It is now that the garden is in full swing – it's time to be planting seed potatoes, as well as all other seeds that will give a good display, and good eating, during the summer. There is still a danger of frost until the middle/end of May so look after those tender plants and seedlings until then. If you don't have a greenhouse in which to shelter the smaller plants you can wrap them in horticultural fleece when frost is forecast. Looking further ahead to when your soft fruits are ripening, don't forget to protect them from marauding birds with fruit netting. You can make a protective cage using canes and netting – just be careful if high winds are forecast!

If you are looking for some new plants there will be a plant sale at Pontesbury Library on the morning of Saturday 27 April.

The Trading Post is situated in the Old Station Buildings on Station Road and is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon.

PONTESBURY MUHEZA LINK



**UPDATE MEETING
THURSDAY APRIL 25th 7.30pm
St George's Church Pontesbury
JOIN US FOR A BUFFET SUPPER AND
HEAR THE LATEST NEWS OF OUR
PROJECTS IN TANZANIA**

*Mobile Library times:
Alternate Wednesdays
March 13th & 27th - 2019
Snailbeach village hall - 14:00 - 14:20
Stiperstones school - 14:30 - 15:10*

By popular demand we now give you

SUDOKU



Sudoku:

A puzzle in which players insert the numbers one to nine into a grid consisting of nine squares subdivided into a further nine smaller squares in such a way that every number appears once in each horizontal line, vertical line, and square.

Good luck!

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

I have been assured that these are only 'medium' difficulty puzzles. If you find them too easy, then let me know and I'll give you some hard ones.

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

The modern game of Sudoku as we recognise it today was invented by Howard Garns, a freelance puzzle inventor from Connersville, Indiana, USA in 1979 when it was published in Dell Pencil Puzzles and Word Games magazine.



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Don & Gloria Rowson and John & Pauline Mansell...

would like to thank family and friends for joining us to celebrate our

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

and for all the beautiful cards, presents, flowers and donations we received.

The donations will be given to three charities that we have chosen - Cancer Research UK, Severn Hospice, and the cardiology wards at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. Altogether the donations amounted to £660.

Many thanks to Shirley, Gill, Hayley and everyone who helped in organising the party, decorating and preparing the hall and for the wonderful buffet.

Gill also did a special surprise for us by recording our favourite song with the help of Chris in his recording studio. It was played on the night for us to dance to.

We would also like to thank Neil for the speech he made for us, it was much appreciated.

We had a lovely evening and enjoyed every minute.



A picture of Don & Gloria and John & Pauline taken on their double wedding day in 1959. John & Pauline are on the left with Don & Gloria on the right. 60 years together. Well done to both couples!



THE BOG VISITOR CENTRE CIC

From Lin Brown - secretary

The Bog Visitor Centre at the Stiperstones re-opens for this season on **Wednesday, 27th March** and will then be open every day until the **3rd November**.

Opening times are **10 am to 5 pm** each day except **Mondays** which are **12 noon to 5 pm**.

We look forward to welcoming all our local visitors who will be interested and impressed with all the improvements we have been doing over the winter months, with help from an EU Leader Funding Grant.

This has enabled us to replace the window frames, put insulation in the roof, install a new heating system and lighting and have the lovely old wood block floor sanded and sealed.

It will make the Centre much more user friendly and enable us to hold events in the evenings. Local groups might also be interested in hiring it.

Do visit soon to enjoy the homemade cakes and quiches and see the various locally made crafts and books on sale.

Checkout our website on www.bogcentre.co.uk for more information and to see the Craft Workshops which will be held regularly throughout the season.

Bog Visitor Centre Stiperstones

Opportunities for part time paid staff and cake bakers
Please contact
01588 641019
bogcentre@hotmail.co.uk

Pontesbury - Ludlow - Pontesbury

745 Mondays and Fridays only

Pontesbury Shop	08:50	Ludlow Assembly Rooms	13:15
Minsterley	08:55	Craven Arms	13:30
Hope	09:00	Long Meadowend	13:35
Gravels	09:03	Aston on Clun	15:17
White Grit	09:05	Lydbury North	13:50
Lydham	09:10	Little Brampton	14:00
Bishops Castle	09:15	Clunton	14:02
Colebatch	09:20	Clun	14:05
Clun	09:35	Colebatch	14:20
Clunton	09:38	Bishops Castle	14:25
Little Brampton	09:40	Lydham	14:30
Lydbury North	09:50	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

Does not run on Bank Holidays except Good Friday

775 Tuesdays only

Pontesbury Shop	09:30	Newtown	13:50
Minsterley	09:35	Kerry	14:00
Plox Green	09:38	Sarn	14:10
Hope	09:40	Blue Bell	14:15
Gravels	09:45	Church Stoke	14:20
White Grit	09:48	Bishops Castle	14:35
Llan Turn	09:51	Bishops Castle	14:40
Bromleys Mill	09:55	Lydham	14:43
Lydham	09:57	Bromleys Mill	14:45
Bishops Castle	10:00	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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25th April	Woburn Safari Park	£40.00
30th April	National Tramway Museum	£29.00
11th May	Liverpool, Steam on the Dock	£18.50
14th May	Bodnant Gardens	£20.00/£
25th May	Gloucester Tall Ships	£28.50
30th May	Fleetwood Market & St Ann's	£23.00

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Sunday services: 10.30 am & 3.00 pm
 Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
 Wednesdays 7.15 pm
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 Elder: Mr. Joe Evans 01743 790 979
 All are welcome!

Quaker Meetings

Shrewsbury Quaker Meeting House
 Corporation Lane, Coton Hill,
 Shrewsbury, SY1 2NU
 10.30 am every Sunday

Clun Valley Quaker Meeting
 The Community Centre

Grange Road, Bishop's Castle

10.30 am every Sunday, **except 1st Sunday of month** Hazelhurst Community Centre, Hazelhurst
 Close, Clun SY7 8LQ

The Methodist Church Snailbeach Methodist Church News



Sunday April 7th at 2:45 Led by Congregation
 Sunday April 14th 2:45 Revd. Eaton- Challinor
 Good Friday April 19th for all Rea Valley
 Methodist Chapels at Worthen 7pm
 Easter Sunday April 21st 2:45 Revd. MacNeill
 Cooper
 Sunday April 28th 2:45 Mrs. Harmer

www.facebook.com/reavalleymethodist
 or visit Shropshire and The Marches Methodist
 Circuit for our chapel website

Please note that parking will not be permitted at
 the Stiperstones Methodist Conference Centre
 from 10am May 24 until 12pm May 26th. Thank
 you for your cooperation.

Stiperstones Group – New Service Rota April 2019

Date	Haberley St Mary	Hope Holy Trinity	Minsterley Holy Trinity	Shelve All Saints	Snailbeach St Luke
1st Sunday 7th April Lent 5 <i>Passiontide begins Purple</i>			10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Christopher <i>(Revd Giles taking 11am Holy Communion at All Saints Worthen)</i>	9.00am Morning Prayer Revd Giles	
2nd Sunday 14th April Palm Sunday <i>Red</i>	5.00pm BCP Evening Prayer Revd Giles	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Christine	10.00am Liturgy of the Palms at Crown & Thistle. Process around village to Church 10.30am Holy Communion Revd Giles		
Thursday 18th April Maundy Thursday <i>White</i>			7.30pm Holy Communion, foot washing & stripping of the altar followed by vigil. Revd Giles		
Friday 19th April Good Friday		12.00 noon Mid-day Prayer Revd Bill <i>(on Good Friday pilgrimage route)</i>	10.00am- 12noon 'Messy Easter' Children's Craft Morning at Callow Room, Minsterley Parish Hall Revd Giles, Barbara Norsworthy & volunteers	5.00pm Evening Prayer Revd Giles <i>(on Good Friday pilgrimage route)</i>	3.15pm Short devotional on Shepherds Rock Revd Giles <i>(on Good Friday pilgrimage route)</i>
3rd Sunday 21st April Easter Day <i>Gold/White</i>	10.30am Holy Communion Revd Giles	9.00am Holy Communion Rvd Christine	10.30 am Holy Communion Revd Carolyn	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Carolyn	9.00am Holy Communion Revd Giles
4th Sunday 28th April Easter 2 <i>White</i>	10.30am Holy Communion Revd Giles	9.00am Morning Prayer Revd Giles	5.00pm Common Worship Evening Prayer Revd Giles		

Waste Collection Schedule

April 2019

Tues 2nd	Tues 9th	Tues 16th	Wed 24th	Tues 30th
Black	Green	Black	Green	Black

Mobile Post Office Opening Times

As from Tuesday 12th February 2019 the Post Office is operating in the back room of **the Stiperstones Inn - 12:15 to 2:15.**
 Post Office telephone number:
 08457 223344 (central customer services)

Stiperstones Stores NEW opening times

Approximately 9.00am - 5.30pm daily
 Tel: **01743 790594**

Useful Numbers

Shrewsbury Hospital
01743 261 000

NHS (formerly Shropdoc)
111

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 School
01743 791 207

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

Stiperstones Inn
01743 791 327



Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:

PC3331 Stuart Coote
 PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss
 PCSO 40387 Calvin Brown

Local Police Team:
01743 264777

(Not to be used for reporting crime, incidents or emergencies)

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONES 16th January 2019 – 14th March 2019

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Criminal damage	Fencing damaged at building site	Snailbeach	During 13 th and 14 th March
Assault x 2		Chirbury	
Theft	2 large staddle stones stolen from properties front garden	Chirbury	Occurred 4 th March. Suspect vehicle stopped near Welshpool & items recovered, 2 persons arrested.
Burglary	Saw bench stolen from secure outbuilding	Hemford	Between 3 rd - 4 th March
Criminal damage	Fencing and trees damaged	Bentlawnt	Suspect identified
Theft	Local resident gave £20 to female to assist with shopping, female did not return	Worthen	
Theft	Makita impact driver	Outskirts Chirbury	6 th February. Item mistakenly left at scene by owner who was working at the location. On return it had gone.
Theft	Heating oil	Stiperstones	Between 21 st Jan – 5 th Feb
Attempted theft	Road Mirror	Hope	Suspect vehicle identified and occupants spoken to
Theft from motor vehicle	Tools stolen from works van (transit)	Chirbury	Overnight 16 th – 17 th Jan

Anyone with any information as to who carried out these crimes please contact Crimestoppers (0800 555111) or West Mercia Police on 101

CRIME STATS

Crimes, ASB and other incidents recorded in your area are now available on the website - www.police.uk

BISHOP'S CASTLE SNT ON FACEBOOK

For regular updates of local crimes, scams, incidents and suspicious vehicles you can follow or 'like' our Facebook page - Bishops Castle SNT Rural Watch.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Stiperstones Brass Rehearsals

Snailbeach Village Hall
Mondays 7.45pm
Term times only

Quiz Night

Stiperstones Inn
Last Monday 8.00pm

Knitter Natter

Stiperstones Inn
Tuesdays from 10.00am

Yoga

Snailbeach Village Hall
Tuesdays 10.00am

Iyengar Yoga

Snailbeach Village Hall
Tuesday 7.00pm

Snailbeach & Stiperstones Baby & Toddler Group

Thursdays 10am -12am
Snailbeach Village Hall

Ballroom Dancing

Snailbeach Village Hall
1st & 3rd Thursdays
From 7.30pm
Beginners call 01743 790308

Snailbeach WI

Snailbeach Village Hall
2nd Thursday - 7.30pm

Fit Club

Stiperstones School Playground
Every Sunday 9am
Aerobics Village Hall
6 -7 Wednesdays 80's aerobics
Minsterley Playground
Fridays 9.15 - 10.15am

Clothes Swap Party

Cakes n clothes: buns n buttons!

Sunday April 7th at 2 pm

Snailbeach Village Hall

Tickets £6 to
include a glass of fizz
from Stiperstones Inn
Tel 791327

- * swap womens and mens clothes and accesories
- * Teenagers rail too!
- * Music from Brian Carrington
- * Raffle
- * Afternoon Teas

A benefit for Jatinga Valley School,
Assam, India.

Snailbeach Village Hall

Snailbeach Village Hall Booking Fees

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

Usage	Normal rate	Village Hall Supporter Scheme
Community groups/activities (per session of up to 4 hours day or 6 hours evening)	£20.00	£12.50
Private hire for meetings as above	£30.00	£20.00
Children's Party	£30.00	£20.00
Funeral Tea	£30.00	£20.00
Hire of hall with catering facilities	£40.00	£25.00
Full Day Hire without bar facilities	£60.00	£30.00
Hire of hall with full bar facilities.	£90.00	£60.00
Commercial and corporate events - hire of the hall.	£150 full day £100 half day	N/A
Government bodies	£250.00	N/A

Editor/Publisher: Patrick Marks - editor.sdn@mail.com

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Deadline for inclusion is midday on the 20th of each month for pre-booked items

Visit snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk for the latest road closures and local news