



Pontesbury Parish Newsletter



**Pontesbury
Festival**
27 - 29 June 2025
Save the Dates

Festival events & Activities include

- Drama
- Music
- Art
- Craft
- Sport
- Dance
- History
- Family Fun
- Photography
- Gardening
- Street Food

and plenty of community spirit!

Look out for more information in this column in the coming months.

For more details contact:

rectorpontstip@gmail.com
walshjanet601@gmail.com

Rea Valley Transport Scheme

The churches of the Rea Valley have obtained funding to operate a transport scheme to enable residents of the area to access medical appointments including Pontesbury & Worthen surgeries; and Shrewsbury, Telford and Oswestry hospitals.

We hope to launch the scheme in May and to this end, are seeking to recruit a team of volunteer drivers. A volunteer driver must have no more than 3 points on their license, be willing to undertake a DBS check and be willing to transport patients to medical appointments with expenses paid; and provide the Scheme administrator with an email address and telephone number.

No commitment to a particular day or frequency is required. Each time a request is received, the whole team will be contacted and whoever is first to respond will be allocated to the patient. Drivers will not be expected to do any lifting of patients.

There is a briefing meeting at The Pavilion In Pontesbury on Monday 24th March at 7 p.m. for anyone who would like to know more. No commitment will be expected at this meeting: it is for information only.

If you have any questions in advance of this meeting, please contact Greg Smith at rectorpontstip@gmail.com

DEADLINE for April 2025 issue is: Friday 14th March 2025

Coloured copies of the newsletter can be read at www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk/pontesbury-newsletter

People from outside the Parish are interested in what's going on in our vibrant parish, so please bring your newsletter back to the Pavilion to be reread. Many thanks

Pontesbury Parish Council

Councillors would like to assure residents that they support ALL residents in ALL areas of the parish. There are issues of concern currently that are not within the power of the parish council to enforce action, however, councillors/parish council staff are working hard to lend their support to the community. The parish council regularly contacts Shropshire Council departments to raise concerns of local residents and to demand action. Parish Councillors work closely with Shropshire Cllrs Nick Hignett and Roger Evans who represent the parish within Shropshire Council, and with the local policing team and MP. We will continue to do this until matters are resolved.

Planned Capital Projects

Hopefully by the time you read this the solar panels on The Pavilion roof will be up and working hard to provide energy for this well-used community building.

A task group within the council have also started to seek quotes for the refurbishment of the public toilets – watch this space!

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Local Elections in 2025

2025 will also bring local elections at parish and county level. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please come and find out more at one of our council open days, planned for Spring 2025. These will be advertised in forthcoming newsletters.

Streetlights

Councillors approved the annual condition survey of the streetlights in Pontesbury. This is a survey of the poles as well as the lanterns and a mandatory inspection for insurance purposes. If you see a streetlight on one of the estate roads or pavements which is faulty please report this to clerk@pontesburypc.org.uk and the Parish Clerk will pass the issue onto the streetlight contractor. Streetlights along the A488 are the responsibility of Shropshire Council and can be reported on www.shropshire.gov.uk

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be the

Annual Parish Meeting

held on **Monday 10th March 6.30pm at Pontesbury Public Hall.**

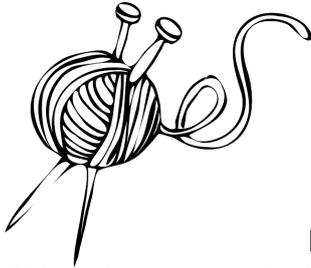
This is your chance to come and hear about a number of community organisations locally and their activities to support the community during the previous 12 months. The councillors encourage local residents to come along and voice any concerns that they have about life in the parish.

The next **Planning Committee meetings** will be held on Monday 3rd March and Monday 7th April 2025 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

Rea Valley Probus Club

All meetings are at Arscott Golf Club, on the second Wednesday of each month at 1pm. For further information and contact details please visit our website, www.reavalleyprobus.org.uk.

Next meeting: 12th March 2025



We hope to see you at the new time for
'Get Creative Group':

**at The Pavilion from 2-4pm on
Mondays 3rd & 17th March 2025**

Drinks and biscuits are provided and there is no charge.

Bring along any project you are working on and have a chat with fellow creators. Everyone welcome.



 **Rhyme Time** 

Thursday 13th March 2025

at 2pm to 2.45pm

Pontesbury Library @ the Pavilion

Rhymes, stories and songs for
children under five years old

**Pontesbury Carers Support
Group**

Friday 28th March 2025

Join us in a relaxed and informal meeting
where we share information and chat with a
cuppa and cake, starting 10.30am. It's all free
with experts on hand to answer questions.



Pontesbury Dementia Support Group

Alternate Wednesdays in the Pavilion

5th & 19th March 2025
at the new time of 2- 4pm

March in the Library



This month, on 20th March it will be the Very Hungry Caterpillar's 50th birthday! (Who knew a caterpillar could live so long?)

We have been gifted some very special display and activity materials by the @readingagency and @puffinbooks. Why not pop into the library after school on Thursday 20th, there will be some colouring and crafting, and perhaps an extra treat!

I usually get very excited about the start of spring. In March I look forward to having displays of daffodils and Welsh dragons. This year the library and Friends (FoPL) will be launching the Pontesbury Festival Writing Competition. More details on page 4 & at the FoPL coffee morning, therefore this month's display will be a collection of books to inspire our local writers. Local histories, myths and themes, fact and fiction. We will all look forward to reading and judging the entries.

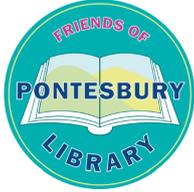
Rhyme Time will be 13th March at 2pm

The Library Owl.



Pavilion Powered by Solar The Parish Council are pleased to confirm that solar panels have now been installed on the Pavilion roof thanks to funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UK SPF). We have separately purchased batteries to catch the solar power we do not use, and this can be used during the evenings to assist with electricity payments.





News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

SPECIAL LAUNCH: WRITING COMPETITION

Saturday 1st March Coffee Morning will see the launch of the **Pontesbury Festival Writing Competition organised by FOPL**. There will be **PRIZES** for each category! Entries are invited on a theme of **'It happened in Pontesbury . . .'** **max 500 words**. We hope to receive a wide variety of genres – fact, fiction, romance, adventure, fantasy, historical, sci-fi, poetry, rap - let your imagination roam!

There are four categories

1. **Primary children - up to 11 years**
2. **Secondary students – 11-16 years**
3. **16-18 years**
4. **Adults**

Entry forms are available in the library and on the website pontesburylibrary.co.uk . **Deadline for entries 31st May** Winners to be announced in the Pavilion during **Pontesbury Festival weekend 27th - 29th June**.

As part of the launch, it will be **'storytime'** during the coffee morning when members of the U3A Creative Writing Group will amaze, entertain, and thrill you with a variety of short stories they've written.

COFFEE MORNINGS in February & March At the February coffee morning, enjoyed by many, the lottery winners were: *First* Pat Fear, *Second* Steve Winwood, *Third* Simon Tune

Forms to join the Library Lottery are available in the Library and can also be downloaded from the website pontesburylibrary.co.uk . Setting up a standing order with your bank, for as little as £1 per calendar month, is the easiest way to join.

Library coffee mornings, at which the lucky winners of the lottery are drawn, are held every first Saturday in the month and are open to all. For the modest price of £2.50 you can enjoy tea or coffee and delicious home-made cakes in warm and friendly surroundings. Look forward to seeing you there!

Art/Craft Workshops -

Saturday 8th and Saturday 22nd March 10.30 – 12.30

Spring decorations for the library and/or to take home. Everyone welcome but **children** must be accompanied by an adult. A free event, all materials provided. Donations towards keeping our Library open always welcome.

Advance notice

Discovering Lily Chitty, Pontesbury Library, 1-30 April 2025

A pioneering archaeologist and long-time Pontesbury resident, Miss Chitty is definitely having a well-deserved moment! Curated by the Young Collective from Shropshire Museums, this fascinating display and short film follows on from our own exhibition and coffee morning talk in the Library in November 2023 by FOPL committee member Caroline Wright.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Saturday 3rd May is the amazing **FOPL Plant Sale** so when you're gardening please remember to save some plants, seedlings and cuttings if you can during these winter months ready for the sale. All plant-related donations very welcome. Look out for **THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR WEEK** in March from the 20th. Colouring packs (free) and extra copies of the book available for children to borrow to celebrate the author Eric Carle.

Thanks to everyone who supports the library!





**Community
Good
Neighbours**
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

News & Events

March 2025



Future Events For all upcoming events & updates please view our Facebook page.

Coffee Morning - Friday 14th March 2025 All are welcome to come along 10:30am to 12:00pm at The Plough Inn

Gentleman's Club Play cards, read the paper and catch up with other men. Now running fortnightly Call Rob Davies on 07720 010353 for more info.

..... other community news

MINSTERLEY MEADOWS

Celebration Day

Friday April 25th

at MINSTERLEY PARISH HALL

With everybody's help we now own the meadows for the benefit of wildlife and the community.

All welcome to come and share in the celebrations!

More details to follow from Middle Marches Community Land Trust

FREE

CLIMATE WORKSHOP

Free Climate Fresk workshop hosted by Pontesbury Climate Emergency Group

The Climate Fresk is a **LEARNING** workshop led by a community of Freskers, based on a game with 42 cards taken from the scientific reports of the IPCC*. The game raises **AWARENESS** about **CLIMATE CHANGE** in a playful and collaborative way.

For more info, contact 07553 313012

*The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Pontesbury Repair Cafe Saturday 8th March 10.00-12.00 St. George's Church.

Repairs need to be brought early to give the volunteers chance to repair while we are open.

Pontesbury Public Toilets

Following the recent vandalism of the public toilets on School Green, which caused more than £3000 worth of damage, the parish council has organised repairs and made the decision to re-open the toilets on limited hours. The doors will be open between 8.30am and 3.30pm daily. The Parish Council will review the use of the toilets, but if there is further vandalism the council may have to consider permanent closure of this essential community facility. Please contact the Parish Clerk 01691 661157 clerk@pontesburypc.org.uk if you witness any incident or have any concerns about the toilets.

Thank you.

St. George's Church

www.st-george.org.uk



Services and activities for March 2025

- 2nd 10.30am Holy Communion
- 4th 2.30pm Tea Service
7pm Beetle Drive (Shrove Tuesday) See Poster
- 5th 7pm Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Minsterley.
(Ash Wednesday)
- 6th 3.30pm Messy Church
- 9th 10.30am Morning Worship without communion
- 16th 10.30am Holy Communion
- 23rd 10.30am Holy Communion (Group Service)
- 30th 10.30am. All Age Family Service. (Mothering Sunday)

Coffee Stop every Friday 10-12noon

Pontesbury Baptist Church

www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk

March Preachers

We have services twice every Sunday - at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm - where we sing hymns of worship, hear the Bible read, pray, and listen as God's Word is preached.

10:30 AM 6:30 PM

- Sunday 2nd March Mike Wells SONGS OF PRAISE
- Sunday 9th March Mike Wells Ben Jack
- Sunday 16th March Rod Ward Mike Wells
- Sunday 23rd March Mike Wells Rob Jack
- Sunday 30th March Mike Wells Mike Wells

WORLD DAY of PRAYER

Prepared by Christian women from THE COOK ISLANDS

"I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made"

Psalm 139:14

Pontesbury Methodist Church

Friday 7th March 2.30pm

Followed by refreshments - Everyone is very welcome!



SONGS OF PRAISE

Pontesbury Baptist Church

Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

Sunday 2nd March 6:30 pm

Discover the extraordinary stories behind the hymns!

With Pastor Mike Wells

Light refreshments served free of charge!

www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk

The Methodist Services March 2025

- 2nd Mar 10.45 am Rev Richard Hall
- 9th Mar 10.45 am Rev Brian Spencer
- 16th Mar 10.45 am Mr Wes Morris
- 23rd Mar 10.45 am Rev Kim Stilwell
- 30th Mar 10.45 am Rev Richard Hall

PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2nd Mar 10am Shrewsbury Youth for Christ

Sunday 9th Mar 10am Rev. Debbie Martin

Sunday 16th Mar 10am Deacons

Sunday 23rd Mar 10am Rev. Debbie Martin

Sunday 30th Mar 10am Rev. Debbie Martin

Tuesday's 10am Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

Wednesday's 10am Warm Space/Coffee and Chat

All are welcome

Don't forget:

Mothering Sunday -

Sunday 30th March 2025



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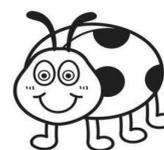


66

Beetle Drive

with

Pancakes



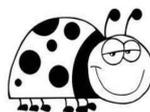
Tuesday 4th March

West End Room

St. George's Church

7pm

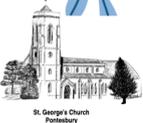
£5 per ticket - available from



Val 790587
Mary 791069
Heather 790359



St George's Church Pontesbury



Free

Messy New Year

Weekly on Thursdays
starting 16th January
3.30pm - 4.45pm

For families and friends to
enjoy stories, crafts and fun.

Followed by shared hot food

Free

A Welcome Brew

COMMUNITY DROP-IN

Tuesdays 10.30am - 12pm

A place to come along, grab a drink
and have a chat. Free refreshments
and activities.



All ages welcome



Welcome to The Coffee Stop



Fridays, 10 - 12 Noon

St George's Church
Pontesbury



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Pontesbury WI

We met on the 10th February when we welcomed Chris Eldon Lee who spoke to us about "Serious Name Dropping". In four

decades of broadcasting Chris has met many famous and fascinating people. He spoke about meeting the Queen, Ken Dodd, local celebrities along with other famous names. He had us all laughing with his many anecdotes, he had so many amusing tales to tell.

He certainly had us all entertained.

Pontesbury WI craft club will be held on 18th March at The Cock Inn Hanwood at 10 am. Non members are most welcome.



Our next Pontesbury WI meeting will be held on 10th March, our guest speaker will be Phil Lambert talking about "Queen Mary's Dolls House".

If you would like to join us please contact our president Irene Windows on 01743 791903 for further information.

Maxine Pittaway events organiser.



Pontesbury Women's Club

If you would like an entertaining Tuesday evening come along to our meetings

Tuesday 11th March
Amanda Roberts 'Mindful Matters'

Tuesday 8th April
AGM

Details of this meeting will be available later

PWC usually meets at 7.30pm on
The second Tuesday of the month
At Pontesbury Public Hall
Visitors and New Members are always
welcome

Deadline for April 2025 edition is Friday 14th March 2025 please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to deputy@pontesburyipc.org.uk. When submitting an article, please remember the 250 word limit and a photograph if you have one. Please only send .jpg, .png or Word pictures - no .pdfs please!



Free Climate Workshop



Saturday 15th March



1pm - 4pm



Pontesbury Pavilion



Free refreshments

Hosted by Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group



Another Round

Cert: 12a - 117 mins



Fri 14th Mar - 7.30 pm

Habberley Village Hall

Admission: Adults: £6 Child: £4
Enquiries: 07977 127161

Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Refreshments: licensed bar available, popcorn, tea/coffee and traybake.

Oscar winner Another Round tells the story of four friends, all teachers at various stages of middle age, who are stuck in a rut. Unable to share their passions either at school or at home, they embark on an audacious experiment from an obscure philosopher: to see if a constant level of alcohol in their blood will help them find greater freedom and happiness.

Starring: Mads Mikkelsen, Thomas Bo Larsen, Magnus Millang



West Shropshire Flower Club Meeting Dates 2025:

Wednesday 26th March – Jackie Jones – It's a dog's life

Wednesday 23rd April – Lyne Rowlands – Flowery Adventures

Wednesday 28th May – Jane Cowan – Animal magic

Wednesday 25th June – Visit

Wednesday 23rd July – Sioned Hughs – It's a wonderful world

Wednesday 27th August – Workshop

Wednesday 24th September – Anne Russell – A walk in the park

Wednesday 22nd October – AGM

Wednesday 26th November – Vanessa Wellock – Glad tidings

All meetings at Westbury Village Hall and start at 7.30pm

Shropshire Council Report from Cllr Roger Evans.

Present Shropshire Council issues include:

This year it is being predicted that the council will overspend its agreed budget for 2024-5 by around £35m. Also permission is being sort from government to borrow a further £26m to pay the costs of employing the PwC consultants and meet both the redundancy and other transformation costs. Finally it is being predicted that the General Reserves held by the council will fall again and finish up at just under £4m.

NWRR. At present it is predicted that the full business case of the North West Relief Road (NWRR), showing its updated costs, is to be published and then, if approved will be sent onto Government asking them to substantially increase its financial contribution.

The next issue concerns the updated Local Plan. The nationally appointed planning inspectors have expressed a number of concerns and told the council to make improvements to it. The council admits it is now not able to meet the required 5-year housing target. It is hoping to deliver the required modifications within the next 6 months.

Finally the government has stated that it aims to have Mayors elected and in place covering all of England together with Unitary Councils. These latter ones would be elected by a minimum of 500,00 electors. Shropshire Council at present looks after approximately 260,000 electors, more information is awaited.

Please contact Roger Evans on 07811 992349 if more information on any council issue is wanted.



Minsterley Eisteddfod takes place on the weekend of Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd of March at Minsterley Parish Hall.

On Saturday our stage will see hundreds of competitors displaying an amazing array of talent starting with children as young as four going through to adults in the evening. We have classes for reciters and singers both solo, groups and choirs as well as instrumental classes which always presents a wide variety of instruments.

Come and be entertained, the performances are guaranteed to make you smile, soothe your soul and bring a tear to your eye and we are open to the public all day long. We have plenty of parking and a café providing hot & cold beverages, cakes, snacks and freshly made sandwiches. Also, in the café you will find all our written work on display for you to enjoy.

The last class of the evening is the Open Choirs Competition which is always a glorious celebration of music and a fitting climax to the day.

On the Sunday the Cantorion Sirenian Singers will lead our celebrity concert with soprano Chloe Hare-Jones and local artist, tuba player Annie Morris. The concert starts at 6.30pm and doors will be open at 5.45pm. All tickets are reserved at £20 & £15 and are available from Jill Blyth on 01743791908.

Details of all that Minsterley Eisteddfod has to offer are available on our website minsterleyeisteddfod.com and you can email us at minsterleyeisteddfod@gmail.com with any enquiries.



March
19

Wednesday 2pm
Minsterley Parish Hall
A488, Minsterley, SY5 0EH
Refreshments available
Free entrance

**learn,
laugh,
live**

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a invites members & non-members to the Open Meeting on the 19th March, where our speaker is the delightful **Mal Brown**, coordinator of our u3a music group, talking on **Folk Music - Fact & Fiction**.

Folk Music is not quite what you think! Come along and be educated and thoroughly entertained by Mal who will dispel urban myths surrounding 'folk music' (e.g. it is men in Aran sweaters singing about dead sailors, they all have beards etc.) and perform examples of songs & tunes to illustrate his findings.

Afterwards will be followed by refreshments.

Our u3a is a UK charity which helps retired and semi-retired people come together and learn for fun, with over 20 interest groups.

u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley 

**FOLK MUSIC
- FACT & FICTION**



**Presented by
Mal Brown**

OPEN MEETING

Members & non-members welcome



u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association The Trading Post re-opened on Saturday 1st February and the bulk delivery of multi-purpose compost, both reduced-peat and peat-free, has arrived and a special offer on three bags or more of the peat-reduced compost is in place. As well as our opening date of 1 February here are more dates for your diary:
11 March: Annual General Meeting, held at 7.30 pm in the Len Simpson Room of the Public Hall, where refreshment will be provided after the main business of the evening has been concluded..



Pontesbury Primary School

Happy New Year to all (I'm not sure anyone is still saying that in March).

We finished last term with fantastic nativity performances from our EYFS, Y1 and Y2 classes, and a wonderful Carol Service from our older children supported by parents and St George's Church.

We also held a 'Carols around the Tree' evening for the first time which was well attended despite the weather. Our thanks go to Arscott Farm for the kind donation of our school Christmas Tree.

We also invited our volunteer readers and governors to our school to join us for a delicious Christmas dinner, cooked by Jo and her team on site, as a thank you for all of their support.

This year, we have been working on improving our playtimes for the children. During their time at school, children spend the equivalent of 1.4 years playing during break and lunchtimes, and we are seeking to give the best possible opportunities for our pupils. At the start of this term, we have been able to put some areas into place for the children to use. So far, we have opened up: a small world area (full of Lego, cars etc); a comfy area; a quiet zone (for reading, crafts, drawing etc); a village area (with little huts); a dance area; a dressing up box and a large wooden vehicle to play on. We plan for even more and I hope to keep you updated on this in the near future.

Can you help us? We are seeking donations of the following:

- Tarpaulins or other sheets etc for den building equipment.
- Any colourful garden paint or acrylic paint - even half used tins/tubes is fine.
- Anyone with spare time who is able to make a mud kitchen from pallets (we do have some pallets already).

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer reader (*subject to relevant checks*) or have any donations for our playtimes, please contact the school office, 01743 790226 or pop in to see us. *N.B. This will be subject to relevant checks.*

The Marches Choir present Puccini's *Messa Di Gloria*

The Marches Choir are preparing a musical feast with a distinct operatic flavour, to be performed at their upcoming concert on Saturday 5th April at St John's Church, Bishops Castle. Although the main work, the "Messa di Gloria" by Puccini, is a setting of the Mass, it is not specifically liturgical. Rather, like the "Requiem" by Verdi, it uses a highly indulgent, dramatic and passionate musical language not usually found in church music.

The "Messa" abounds in wonderfully uplifting melodies and an exuberant harmonic palette, sometimes subtle, sometimes impassioned, and always engaging for listeners and performers, which include Welsh tenor soloist and rising operatic star, Osian Wyn Bowen, and seasoned operatic bass, Nicholas Morris, who has performed with The Marches Choir on numerous previous occasions.

Other works on the programme include "Grand March" from "Aida" by Verdi, providing a stirring opening to the concert from the combined forces of the Choir and Marches Sinfonia, as well as the heartrendingly beautiful "Au fond du temple saint", the tenor/baritone duet from Bizet's opera "The Pearl Fishers". As always, the inspirational venue of St John's Church in will provide the perfect setting for this music, with its acoustic ringing with the sounds of great music.

The concert starts at 7.30pm, and tickets (£15, children and students free) are available by calling 07806 433394 or online via www.ticketsource.co.uk, and can also be purchased from choir members or on the night.

NATURAL ENGLAND

Notes from the hill

February and March are a quiet time on the hill for wildlife, particularly as the weather has been cold of late. The Long Mynd have been reporting flocks of golden plover and we usually get some over this way particularly on areas where we have carried out recent heather burns.



March is traditionally the month in which we carry out controlled burning of the heather. This is to give the heath a more varied structure, provide young shoots for the red grouse and to reduce the fuel load in case of a summer wildfire.

Sunday the 6th April is our first event this year, which is for any scythes out there wishing to get their blades in good condition for the coming year. The peening workshop will be at our reserve base from 10am-1pm.

Although we still use some traditional tools like scythes when managing nature reserves we also embrace technology in conservation. We use drones to carry out aerial photography allowing us to monitor things like the extent of bracken and gorse or management practices like the burning and cutting of the heather. Recently the use of thermal imagery from drones has given us a much better idea of how many deer and also used to spot nesting birds such as curlew. Simon Cooter & the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak.

Sports & Activities

Pontesbury Sports Association are gearing up for a busy Summer, with Football, Cricket, Bowls & Rounders.

Work has continued through the winter with work at the building which has included a Fire Risk Assessment, Legionella Inspection & all the electrical work has been done to ensure the building is safe and meets requirements.

There is working CCTV and alarm system now in place.

We also have a working Defibrillator on site.

Unfortunately there is still a huge problem with drainage which has prevented the Football from taking place every week but we are working hard with The Parish Council - Cllrs Fletcher, Lewis & Hignett to find a solution.

We would like to thank Matthew Dorricott (excavation man), The Parish Council, Good Neighbours, Wickes and everyone who has organised and attended our fund-raising events - we still have a long way to go to complete 'The Vision' but we are on the right track.

Monday Night Badminton Club

£28 per term

Mary Webb School Pontesbury
SY5 0TG

7-9pm
in the Sports Hall.

A fun social club, a small amount of Badminton experience required.

Members must be 16 or over.

Please come along and give this fun club a go.

'Talking Tourism', the Visit Shropshire Hills Tourism Information Exchange

We are excited to invite you to 'Talking Tourism', the upcoming Visit Shropshire Hills Tourism Information Exchange.



Shropshire Hills
National Landscape

Wednesday 19th March 2025, 10:30 -15:00 at Acton Scot Heritage Farm.

This is a unique opportunity for local businesses, attractions, and tourism providers to connect, showcase, and promote what makes the Shropshire Hills so special.

You'll have the chance to:

- Learn about the latest developments in tourism within the Shropshire Hills
- Network with fellow Visit Shropshire Hills members and local businesses
- Build valuable relationships with other stakeholders in the tourism industry
- Stock up on leaflets and print.

The programme includes workshops on **Shropshire's Great Outdoors Campaign, Nature Positive Tourism and Dynamic Destinations.**

For more information and how to book your free place visit our website [Visit Shropshire Hills Tourism Information Exchange](#) To book a stall, please email shropshirehills-nl@shropshire.gov.uk.

The event is supported by Shropshire Council UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Shropshire Hills National Landscape Team.



Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group

Celebrating wildlife in Pontesbury; Minsterley, Pulverbatch, Stiperstones and the Hope Valley Areas.

The Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) met for our inaugural monthly wildlife walk. After a friendly introduction we set out to explore around the Lead Mines at Snailbeach – an interesting site managed by the Shropshire Mines Trust. Continuing up along the top of the Hollies Nature Reserve to Blakemoorgate cottages at Stiperstones then circling back down through Resting hill wood to the start point at Snailbeach.

Highlights of fungi including collared earthstar; black earth-tongues, witches' butter, turkey-tail and scarlet elf cup, and giant puff ball as well as liverworts, lichens, and mosses such as: white earwort (a first iRecord in our area); ciliated fringewort, dog lichen and big shaggy moss! For the botanists among us – seeing spurge-laurel in flower was a lovely highlight. The non-botanist among us saw plenty of birds including raven, jay, nuthatch, blue and great tits. Towards the end of the walk most of us were happy to glimpse a fox at the top of the hill. A successful walk for a cold January day!

Each walk is free to attend, and no booking required. The next walk takes place Saturday 22nd March at Gatton Daffodil Car Park.

Joining the RVCWG is free and open to anyone who lives or works in the area and has an active interest in nature. We have botanists and birders, moth and butterfly fanatics, reptile and mammal lovers and general natural history enthusiasts. Email the secretary at reavalleycwg@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list or WhatsApp group.



REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

EVENTS : 2025

Join other friendly members at our specialist events - discovering local flora and fauna together. Experts will be on hand to help us identify and understand what we are seeing.

Free to attend but booking essential. Book via reavalleycw@gmail.com
Donations welcome.



25th January
Winter Visitors - a beginners guide to winter ducks
10-1pm
Venus Pool Car Park
washing.spud.spiking



26th April
Wildflower Walk-at Pontesford & Earls Hill
10-1pm
Pontesford Hill Car Park
hoot.signed.cobbled



9th May
Bat Walk - evening walk at Minsterley Meadows
8:45pm - dusk
Minsterley Meadows
leafing.hopefully.helpful



30th May
Bat Walk- evening walk at Snailbeach old mine works
9:15pm - dusk
Snailbeach Car Park
prematire.picnic.completed



29th June
Butterfly Walk - Transect - Mitchell's Fold & Black Marsh
10-1pm
Mitchell's Fold Car Park
snaps.scarecrow.rods



7th July
Swift Walk with Carol Wood - Shropshire Swift Group
8pm - dusk
Ford Village Hall
shaver.songbirds.rare



11th July
Swift Walk with Carol Wood - Shropshire Swift Group
8pm- dusk
Hanwood - Caradoc View
hugs.possibly.lushly



4th September
Pond Dipping & dragonfly spotting
6.30pm - dusk
Meadow House, Habberley
absorbing.rigid.national



Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycw
More Information
www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/



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Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable:
PC 21125 Rich Walters

Police Community Support Officer:
PCSO 6043 Jaqueline Baldwin

Police Community Support Officer:
PCSO 6795 Sarah Edwards

Team Email:
Shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.police.uk

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**Deadline for April 2025 edition is Friday 14th March -
please send all articles, requests for adverts and event
dates to deputy@pontesburyipc.org.uk.**



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You can advertise for one month to a full year of 10 months (there is no newsletter in August and one newsletter for December/January) - you choose how many adverts.

MARCH 2025 DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Regular Weekly Events			
Every Mon	6.30-7.30pm	Pontesbury Runners (advanced/intermediate)	Meet corner of Brookside & Minsterley Rd
Every Mon	6.00-7.15pm	Yoga	Ponts Congregational Church
Every Mon	7.00-9.00pm	Monday Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Tue	10.00 - 12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	Holy Trinity Minsterley
Every Tue	10.30-12.00	A Welcome Brew	Baptist Church
Every Tue	2pm	Tai Chi	Public Hall
Every Tue	8—9 am	Pilates for Core Strength	Public Hall
Every Wed	10.00-12.00	Sea Change Drop-In for parents/carers of under 5s - free session with refreshments	Pavilion - Term-time only
Every Wed	10.30-12.00	Coffee/Chat and Fellowship	Pontesbury Congregational Church
Every Thu	10.00-12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	St George's Church
Every Thu	2pm	Short mat bowls	Pontesbury Public Hall
Every Thu	3.30-4.45pm	Messy Church	St George's Church
Every Thu	7-9pm	Rea Valley Woodcarvers (Term-Time Only)	Minsterley Parish Hall
Every Thu	7-9pm	Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Fri	10.00	Walking Local Footpaths	Meet at School Green
Every Fri	10.00-12.00	Coffee Stop	St George's Church
Every Sat	7.30pm	Whist Drive	Yockleton Village Hall
Monthly Events			
Sat 1st	10.30 -12.30	FoPL Coffee Morning - "Lily Chity Exhibition"	Pontesbury Pavilion
Sun 2nd	6.30pm	Baptist Songs of Praise	Baptist Church
Mon 3/17th	2-4pm	Get Creative Group - free & refreshments	Pontesbury Pavilion
Mon 3rd	6.30pm	Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting	Pontesbury Pavilion
Tue 4th	7pm	Beetle Drive	St George's Church, West End Room
Wed 5/19th	2-4pm	AGE UK Dementia Support Group	Pontesbury Pavilion
Sat 8th	10-12 noon	Repair Café	St George's Church
Sat 8th	10-12 noon	Shrewsbury Seed Swap	St Mary's Church, Shrewsbury
Mon 10th	2pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Mon 10th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Annual Parish Meeting	Public Hall
Tue 11th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
Tue 11th	7.30pm	Pontesbury & District Gardener's Club AGM	Public Hall
Wed 12th	1pm	Rea Valley Probus Club	Arscott Golf Club
Thu 13th	2pm–2.45pm	Rhymetime for children 0-4years/parents	Pontesbury Library in the Pavilion
Fri 14th	10.30-12.00	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	The Plough, Pontesbury
Fri 14th	7.30pm	Film Night - "Another Round"	Habberley Village Hall
Sat 15th	1-4pm	Climate Change FRESK event	Pontesbury Pavilion
Wed 19th	10.30-3pm	Talking Tourism	Acton Scot Heritage Farm
Sat 22nd	10am - 1pm	Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group Walk	Gatton Daffodil Car Park meeting place
Wed 19th	2pm	u3a talk "Folk - Fact & Fiction"	Minsterley Parish Hall
Fri 21st	7pm	Flicks in the Sticks "Kinky Boots"	Marion Village Hall
Fri & Sat 22nd/23rd	Various - see page 9	Minsterley Eisteddfod	Minsterley Parish Hall
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Flower Club - Jackie Jones – "It's a dog's life"	Westbury Village Hall
April 2025			
Sat 5th	7.30pm	Marches Choir present Puccini's Messa Di Gloria	St John's Church, Bishops Castle
Fri 25th		Minsterley Meadows Celebration Day	Minsterley Parish Hall