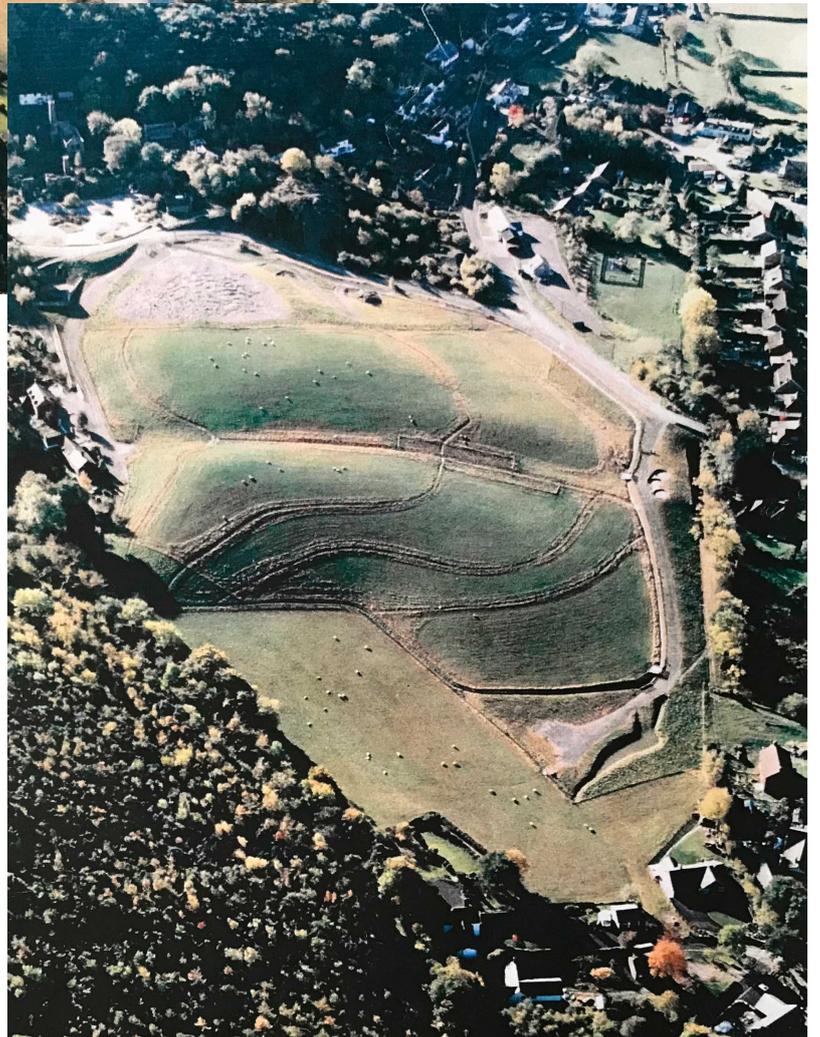
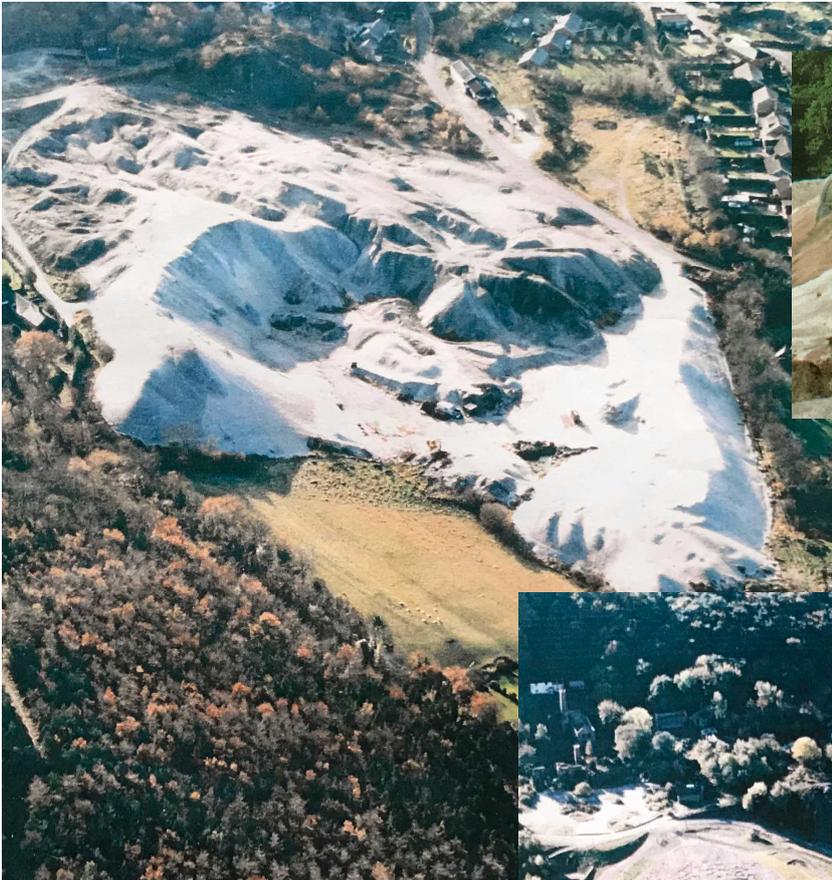




# SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

July 2023  
Seen from space

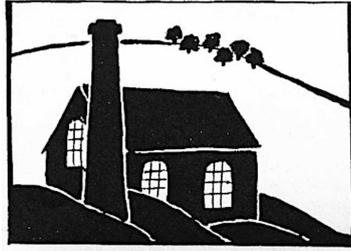
Free



*The White Hillocks  
as remembered by  
some of us.  
Images from space  
before and after the  
reclamation.  
See inside for more.*

In May's Issue

- 3. Heather
- 5. Church News
- 7. Notes from the hill
- 9. Letter from Westminister
- 11. Hay Meadows
- 13. Looking at the world
- 15. Pontesbury bits
- 16. The Hillocks white or green
- 21. Crimewatch
- 25. Heather Kidd



Summer again, and our last issue until September. I will be working through some of the pictures that we collected and as a start you can see the remarkable change that happened to the then white now green hillocks at Snailbeach. Doug and Margaret's kind response got me thinking. It was always said that we could be seen from space and so our trivia this month looks at some of the wonders (man made and natural) that an astronaut could see through his space station window. (with thanks to BBC bitesize)

Many of this week's images are better viewed in colour but we can only afford a few such pages. So take a look at us online [www.snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk](http://www.snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk) for the full effect.

Next deadline will be August 21st and our contacts are [sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk](mailto:sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk)  
Geoff on 07881402231 or 01743 791999  
and the red post box on the Stiperstones Inn car park  
Appletree, Stiperstones SY5 0LZ

We are sorry to report the sad news of the unexpected deaths of Verna Lewis and Corinne Richardson.

Verna's door was always open and she loved to chat; we have lost a wonderful store of local knowledge and a great supporter of our community. Verna was recovering from a fall, when she died at St Nicholas house, Churchstoke.

Our neighbour Corinne (Tilly) was found in bed having passed away peacefully during the night. Corinne along with her recently deceased husband Derek were also great players in the lives of our villagers and will be missed by the many friends they made since coming to Stiperstones. There will be a buffet in the Stiperstones Inn on 12th August 2-4pm where friends and family can raise a glass and say goodbye.

## SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR AWARDED MBE

Heather Kidd, Lib Dem Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen, has been awarded an MBE in the Kings Birthday honours list published today (17th June).

The citation says that Heather was given the honour for her service to rural communities

Heather said: "This award recognises that rural communities need a voice. I'm accepting this award not just for my self but for all those who work tirelessly, often in a voluntary capacity, for their communities across Shropshire and seldom get any recognition."

Heather has a reputation for pushing for greater resources and great recognition for the needs of the countryside. She was the Leader of South Shropshire District Council from 2001 to 2007 which saw the introduction of many innovative schemes including a ground breaking initiative to provide affordable homes for local people.

Heather was South Shropshire District Councillor for Chirbury 1997-2007 and Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen from 2009 to the present. She currently mentors Councils undergoing transition for the Local Government Association and has a record for fighting for fair health services across Shropshire.

Heather Concluded: "Having spent 25 years trying hard to stand up for this sparsely populated area, I am delighted to accept this award. There has never been a more important time to highlight the problems of rural people in Shropshire".



**Summer Holiday Fun and Food in Shropshire**  
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Spaces are available on the Summer HAF programme.

From 25 July to 1 September 2023, eligible children and young people are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening at 57 holiday clubs from across the county.

To find out more please go to:  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf)

Shropshire Council  
Department for Education

## Visit to Rob Lee's RL Wildflower Seeds Nursery

Saturday 1st July, 10.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.

Celebrate National Meadows Day with a visit to see the stunning single-species meadow plant plots at the Rob Lee's wildflower seed nursery. Following the tour Rob will supply a 200 cell tray into which you can sow a selection of seeds such as Cowslip, Betony, Devil's-bit Scabious, Sneezewort etc.

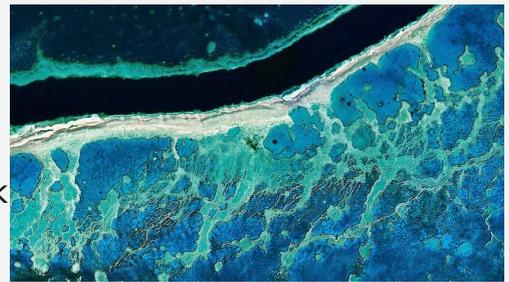


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Marches Meadow Group.  
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Richard Small <richard.w.small@gmail.com> (members only)

### The Great Barrier Reef

The 2253 kilometre long reef off the north-east coast of Australia is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. It's home to lots of different sea creatures and animals, including the humpback whale - it's one of their breeding sites.



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## **WELCOME TO STIPERSTONES CHURCHES**

The churches are Holy Trinity  
Minsterley, Holy Trinity Hope, All Saints'  
Shelve and St Mary's Habberley with a  
festival church at St Luke's Snailbeach.



### **From Revd Fran Brealey**

Mary Webb School

Thank you for your prayers for Mary Webb during its Ofsted, which I am confident the Lord heard. The results will be made known in due course.

Choir

As many will know Dr Paul Bracken has resigned as choirmaster and organist at St George's. We wish to place on record our thanks to Paul for his gifted leadership of the St George's choir over the last two years. Going forward, we are grateful to those who have agreed to accompany the worship on a rota basis. We are also grateful to Carolyn Lewis who has agreed to act as choir secretary and should be contacted if a message needs to be conveyed to the whole Pontesbury choir.

Benefice Choir

Following on from the above, we are keen to establish a benefice choir to lead worship at Group Services and on other occasions. Please let Greg know if you would like to join.

Richard's Ordination

Richard will be ordained priest at Hereford Cathedral on Saturday 1st July at 10 a.m. If you are not able to attend the ordination (everyone is welcome), you are warmly invited to The Deanery that evening at 6 p.m. for a BBQ to celebrate this milestone. Anyone is welcome to come along, but please put your name on a church signup sheet or contact Greg & Fran so that we can cater accordingly.

Hope and Shelve churches are now administered by one Parochial Church Council.

Services are held at 9.00am as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Holy Communion Shelve    2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Holy Communion Hope

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Morning Prayer Shelve    4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Morning Prayer Hope

Parish Officers - Barbara Venables - Church Warden of Hope and Shelve;

Sara Young - Secretary and Kevin Bowers - Treasurer.

House for Duty Priest – Rev. Fran Brealey was licensed by Bishop Richard on Tuesday 13 June at Holy Trinity Hope. The service was attended by members of churches from the Pontesbury and Stiperstones benefices and was followed by a welcome reception in Hope Village Hall. Rev. Fran is now leader minister for the pastoral care of the parish of Hope and Shelve having taken her first service on 25 June at Hope.

Harvest Supper – carrying on recent tradition there will be a joint supper and auction at Hope Village Hall on Wednesday 4 October.

Harvest Festival services - Shelve - Sunday 1 October. Hope - date to be confirmed.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our services and sharing coffee afterwards in our lovely churches!

All enquiries about Hope and Shelve Churches should be made to Rev. Fran Brealey  
Tel.07982324760 email revfran@btinternet.com



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### Hurricanes

The ISS tracks weather systems all over the globe, in order to allow countries to protect themselves from them. Hurricanes are one of the things the ISS looks out for. They are a type of tropical storm, and need a lot of heat to form, so only happen where the sea temperature is above 26°C.



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## NATURAL ENGLAND



### Notes from the hill

July on the hill sees the bird song reducing as they generally have more important things to do like feeding their young. For us its all about bracken cutting and hay making. Generally, our hay meadows are closed up in May and allowed to grow until after mid-July when they are mown. Some of the flower-rich meadows are cut for green-hay which is used to help others create hay meadows, as it is a way of transporting the seeds from one site to another. We keep a certain amount of hay for our sheep and ponies in case of poor weather in the winter. However, our animals are hardy primitive beasts that don't generally require feeding in the winter, so we also sell some of our hay locally.

We will be out with volunteers throughout July cutting bracken with scythes. We have found the Austrian scythe to be a very useful tool for this, particularly on some of the more inaccessible and steep grasslands around the hill. Being light scythes are easily transported and carried up the hill, less cumbersome than brushcutters, needing no protective equipment like ear defenders and visor and much more enjoyable to use.

If you still require convincing, then you should come along to the Shropshire Hills Hay Meadow Festival at the Discovery Centre in Craven Arms on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. There you can see the scythe in action, have a go and even purchase your own.



The dry weather looks like it going to persist so please avoid any action that might be likely to start a fire and if everyone can keep their eyes out for fires and call the fire brigade if any signs are seen that would be much appreciated.

Our next public event is our bat and moth evening on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of August 8.30pm until late. This will be a drop in event at the reserve car park with free admission and no booking required.

*Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmooeak*



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## ***Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP's Westminster Office***



This is the first opportunity I have had to confirm to readers of this magazine my decision not to seek the Conservative nomination at the next General Election. I have been moved by kind words expressed in the messages I have received, whether they came from those who supported me through the ballot box or otherwise.

This has been a difficult decision. I'm still loving the role as your Member of Parliament, so it's not because I've lost interest or am exhausted, nor do I fear losing the election. In fact, I believe the Conservatives under Rishi Sunak's leadership, will be highly competitive at the next election.

Throughout my working life, whether by coincidence or not, it has divided into ten-year chunks. I have proudly served as the Parliamentary Spokesman for the Ludlow constituency for over 20 years, at the time of the next election, I will have served nearly 20 years as your Member of Parliament. I spent close to 10 years on the frontbenches and another 10 years on the backbenches, half of which I have served on the Environmental Audit Committee and will do so for five years as Chairman.

When I was first elected as your MP, I was 46 years old. Next month, I will turn 65. I still hope to have another decade ahead to remain active. However, the role of an MP demands a significant level of energy and commitment, both in assisting thousands of constituents each year and in advocating for important issues within Parliament and beyond.

After careful consideration, I have come to the realisation that I cannot be confident of maintaining the required vitality, motivating both myself and others to the necessary level throughout the entirety of the next Parliament, especially as I enter my 70s.

It is important to me to be honest and transparent about the reasons behind my decision. Over the years, I have been incredibly fortunate to have received huge support from many residents of South Shropshire. I am immensely grateful for the approximately 500,000 letters, emails, and calls that I have had the pleasure of responding to during my tenure spanning two decades.

I will continue to serve to the full and to the best of my abilities until the dissolution of this Parliament, as determined by the Prime Minister.

Being the MP for the Ludlow constituency has been the greatest honour of my life. I am eternally grateful to all those who placed their trust in me, allowing me the privilege to represent them. Thank you for entrusting me with this great role.

As editor, I would like to thank Philip for his continued support for our newsletter, his prompt response to any queries and his unstinting efforts to keep our waterways clean.



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### The Palm Islands

These massive artificial islands were started off the coast of Dubai in 2001. Palm Jumeirah archipelago is built from roughly 110 million cubic metres of sand. There are islands nearby shaped to look like a map of the world, and there’s talk that some more will be created that will resemble the Solar System. If that happens, you’ll be able to see space from space.



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To apply, please contact  
 Tammy Shurmer at the Discovery Centre via post or  
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 by Wednesday 31st May:  
[tammy.shurmer@growcooklearn.co.uk](mailto:tammy.shurmer@growcooklearn.co.uk)  
 For further information, please give us a call on 01588  
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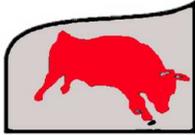


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***The full programme for the 30th Festival at the Edge is online now!***

Our 30th Birthday celebrations take place at Hopton Court Estate, Shropshire, England. Remember that on Saturday evening we are going into full party mode with Transglobal Underground providing the music and the perfect celebratory ambience. Party along and get on your 70's GLAM glad-rags to join in the fancy dress fun.

We are making this year's festival distinctive by merging the Green and Silver Marquees into a new big Purple Marquee! FatE's artistic vision this year has focused on bringing storytellers and musicians into even closer harmonisation by blending some of their performances on one stage in Trading Tales and Tunes. These exciting creative collaborations mean you can see spontaneous and unique performances from our artists. Where else can you see Angeline Morrison with Tamar Eluned Williams, or Xanthe Gresham-Knight with Pete Morton. We will also still have plenty of solo storytelling and music performances. The Red Marquee will be slightly larger and will be dedicated to storytelling performances - as always, keeping stories at the heart of our festival. And, of course, we also have the return of our Children's Marquee with its dedicated story and song performances.



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**The Pyramids of Giza**

Most Egyptian pyramids were built as tombs for Pharaohs, and their extended family. They would be buried with mountains of treasure, and so have been targets for raiders over the years. It's no wonder you can see the pyramids in Egypt - they're huge! The Great Pyramid was built by King Khufu around 2500 BC, and is 230 metres squared and 146 metres high. That's taller than 29 double-decker buses.



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Our perspective on Earth can be very narrow. We may not see the effects of



one tree that is cut down. Only by expanding our perspective can we see entire rain forests that have been devastated. Humans can destroy in a matter of days that which nature took thousands of years to create. We might ask what harm can one factory do to the environment by not meeting proper pollution controls. The effect from space is obvious. Pictures taken by Gemini astronauts almost 30 years ago are much clearer than those taken by space shuttle astronauts today.

The following quotations are taken from astronauts who have gone into space and the effect that it had upon them:

#### Quotes From Astronauts

For those who have seen the Earth from space, and for the hundreds and perhaps thousands more who will, the experience most certainly changes your perspective. The things that we share in our world are far more valuable than those which divide us.

- Donald Williams, USA

My first view - a panorama of brilliant deep blue ocean, shot with shades of green and gray and white - was of atolls and clouds. Close to the window I could see that this Pacific scene in motion was rimmed by the great curved limb of the Earth. It had a thin halo of blue held close, and beyond, black space. I held my breath, but something was missing - I felt strangely unfulfilled. Here was a tremendous visual spectacle, but viewed in silence. There was no grand musical accompaniment; no triumphant, inspired sonata or symphony. Each one of us must write the music of this sphere for ourselves.

- Charles Walker, USA

Looking outward to the blackness of space, sprinkled with the glory of a universe of lights, I saw majesty - but no welcome. Below was a welcoming planet. There, contained in the thin, moving, incredibly fragile shell of the biosphere is everything that is dear to you, all the human drama and comedy. That's where life is; that's where all the good stuff is.

- Loren Acton, USA

The Earth was small, light blue, and so touchingly alone, our home that must be defended like a holy relic. The Earth was absolutely round. I believe I never knew what the word round meant until I saw Earth from space.

- Aleksei Leonov, USSR

The sun truly "comes up like thunder," and it sets just as fast. Each sunrise and sunset lasts only a few seconds. But in that time you see at least eight different bands of color come and go, from a brilliant red to the brightest and deepest blue. And you see sixteen sunrises and sixteen sunsets every day you're in space. No sunrise or sunset is ever the same.

- Joseph Allen, USA

The Earth reminded us of a Christmas tree ornament hanging in the blackness of space. As we got farther and farther away it diminished in size. Finally it shrank to the size of a marble, the most beautiful marble you can imagine. That beautiful, warm, living object looked so fragile, so delicate, that if you touched it with a finger it would crumble and fall apart. Seeing this has to change a man, has to make a man appreciate the creation of God and the love of God.

- James Irwin, USA

Suddenly, from behind the rim of the moon, in long, slow-motion moments of immense majesty, there emerges a sparkling blue and white jewel, a light, delicate sky-blue sphere laced with slowly swirling veils of white, rising gradually like a small pearl in a thick sea of black mystery. It takes more than a moment to fully realize this is Earth . . . home.

- Edgar Mitchell, USA

My view of our planet was a glimpse of divinity.

- Edgar Mitchell, USA

For the first time in my life I saw the horizon as a curved line. It was accentuated by a thin seam of dark blue light - our atmosphere. Obviously this was not the ocean of air I had been told it was so many times in my life. I was terrified by its fragile appearance.

- Ulf Merbold, Federal Republic of Germany

A Chinese tale tells of some men sent to harm a young girl who, upon seeing her beauty, become her protectors rather than her violators. That's how I felt seeing the Earth for the first time. "I could not help but love and cherish her.

- Taylor Wang, China/USA

The 'blue marble' earth image was taken by the crew of Apollo 17 .

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The River Thames

Ever wanted to see the Eastenders image in real life? Well, get yourself over to the ISS, as that's exactly what astronauts on board can see when flying over London. It can be seen at night too, with the river outlined by the glowing lights of the city around it. In fact, most big cities across the globe can be seen at night from the station, and it makes for some truly beautiful photos.

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**Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a – “Living in Brittany”**



Ever fancied knowing what it really is like to “live the dream”?

Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a is holding its next Open Meeting on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2pm – 4pm at Minsterley Parish Hall** where our own membership secretary, Steve Anderson, will be recounting the stories from 13 years of living in France – and to get you into the right mood, refreshments will be wine and cheese!

Please come along and join us for a fun-filled talk. Members and non-members all welcome! There will be the AGM beforehand which will be kept as short as possible so we can then proceed promptly to the presentation.

The u3a promotes lifelong learning across a wide range of activities and subjects and fosters friendship and fun, open to anyone who is older, retired or not in full-time employment. Website: [u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley](http://u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley).



**Some out of this world crackers**

Q: Where do astronauts keep their Snacks ?

A: In their launch box.

Q: What was the first animal in space?

A: The cow that jumped over the moon!

Q: Why did the people not like the restaurant on the moon?

A: Because there was no atmosphere.

Q: Why couldn't the astronaut book a room on the moon?

A: It was full!

Q: Why didn't the Dog Star laugh at the joke?

A: It was too Sirius.

Q: What did the astronaut say when he crashed into the moon?

A: I Apollo-gise.

**County lines**

County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas.

They exploit vulnerable people, including children and those with mental health or addiction issues, by recruiting them to distribute the drugs, often referred to as 'drug running'.

OCGs often use high levels of violence and intimidation to protect the 'county line' and control them.

There are several signs to look out for that may indicate someone is involved in county lines:

- Repeatedly going missing from school or home and being found in other areas
- Having money, new clothes or electronic devices and they can't explain how they paid for them
- Getting high numbers of texts or phone calls, being secretive about who they're speaking to
- Decline in school or work performance
- Significant changes in emotional or physical well-being

If you're concerned about drug-related crime in your area or think someone may be a victim of drug exploitation, please call us on [101](http://101).

**West Mercia Police**  
**BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL**  
**Safer Neighbourhood Team**



**Sabrina Mobile Library**  
 The van comes to our area on alternate Wednesdays

**12th and 26th July**

Hope Village Hall	1.00pm
Snailbeach Hall	2.00pm
Stiperstones Inn	2.30pm
Tankerville Pottery	3.15pm
Shelve Lower Farm	3.45pm

**Pontesbury Open Hours**  
 Mon 10.00 - 1.00

Tues 10.00-1.00, 2.00 - 5.00

Thur 2.00 - 5.00

Sat 10.00 - 1.00

Closed Wed & Fri

## Our own man made wonder seen from space

Recently Doug and Margaret Boulter showed me some remarkable photographs showing the White Hillocks before and after their transformation in the 1990s.



*The White Hillocks as they were*

More than a source of income though the hillocks had become a focus for sport and play for villagers old and young. A large flat area was just the right size for a football pitch, the rough surface restricted sliding tackles and also wore out the old casey football very quickly.



*Collecting and processing the minerals continued*

Not everyone now remembers the hillocks as they were. We were always told they could be seen from space, they could certainly have been seen from a long way away. The hillocks are the waste material dug from what were once the deepest and most productive lead mine in Europe. Still rich in barytes, a chemical used in the paint industry and by the Windscale Nuclear Energy Plant the hillocks were still being worked until the 1970s although underground mining had stopped before the war.



*There was unrestricted access to the site*

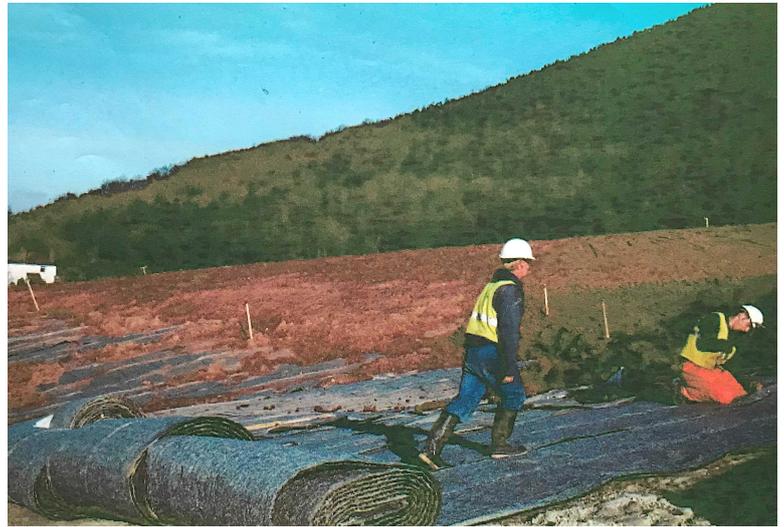
When the 'Chariots of Fire' exploits of British athletes were happening in Paris, young Snailbeach men supposedly created their own Olympic games on the 'sludge'.

Sprints and longer running races were augmented with throwing and jumping events and even boxing.

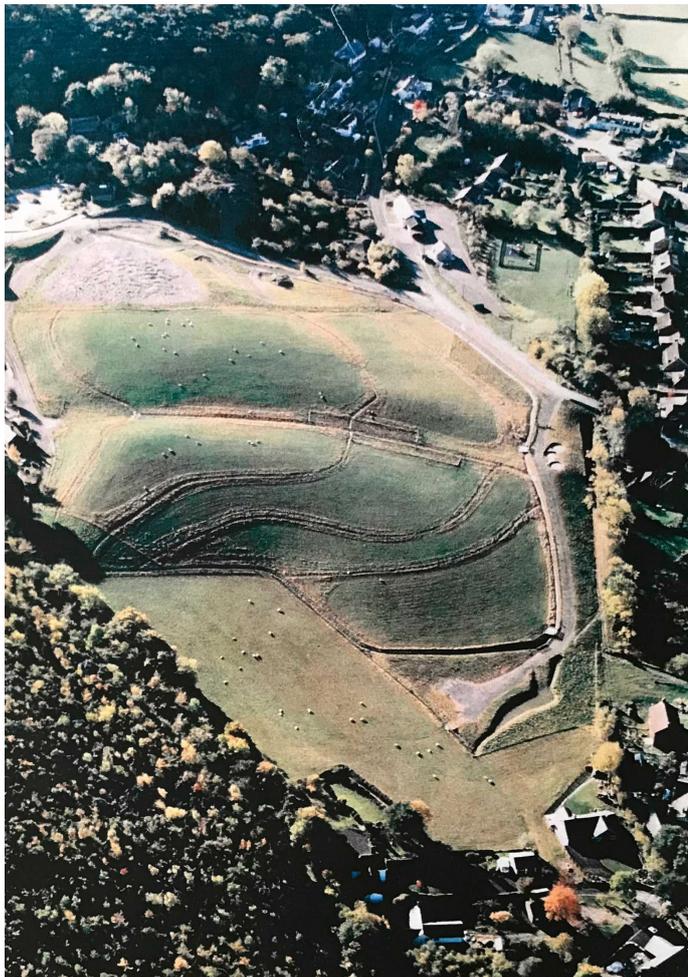
In the fifties children engineered rainwater runnels in the slopes into monster slides and my wife talks of digging into this poisonous material to create houses and secret hiding places.

It wasn't just the spoil that offered a huge adventure playground, the old buildings left open to decay were used as climbing frames with the bravest leaping from window to engine slab. Metal rails crossing Shop Lane were left exposed as the sleepers fell away providing balancing bars for those who dared.

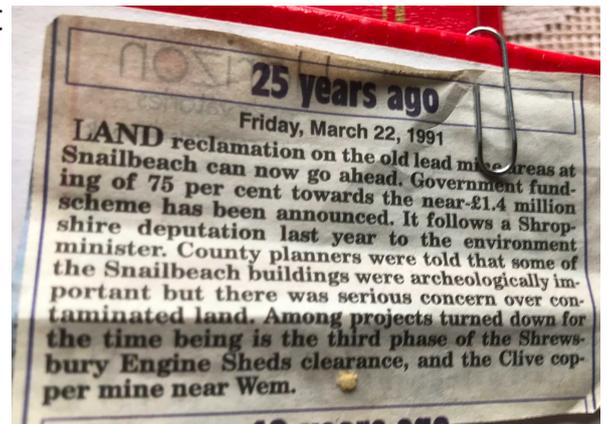
By the 70's the new breed of BMX bikes and Choppers could be seen speeding and skidding down the steep slopes to the despair of mothers more worried about worn out clothes and shoes than having to treat the inevitable cuts and grazes.



*The poisonous ground was covered in membrane*



*Only a small area of spoil now remains*



*From the Shropshire Star*

When the council finally decided that the area was unsafe the original plans for complete demolition were halted by locals and mining enthusiast alike. Buildings were restored and made safe (no more slab jumping) but the hillocks still had to go.

An elaborate process involving reshaping, covering, and seeding has left us with what we see today; Doug's sheep quietly munching on the once bare football pitch.

# Computer Problems?



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Setting up a PC out of the box can be challenging, it often ends up in confusion resulting in a machine that is a pain to use. The manufacturers don't make it any easier, bombarding the user with multiple choices and unnecessary software.

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**Contact: Rob**  
**Tel: 01588-650567**  
**Mobile: 07765-240718**  
**Email: robwestonnet@aol.com**

## The Himalayas

Quite a few mountains ranges can be seen from space, but perhaps the most impressive are the Himalayas. It covers about 75% of Nepal, and gets its name from Sanskrit: hima means snow and alaya means abode. It's home to the tallest mountain in the world, Mount Everest, which is roughly 8850 metres high. Everest has a couple of different names - in Nepali it's Sagarmatha, and in Tibetan it's called Chomolungma.



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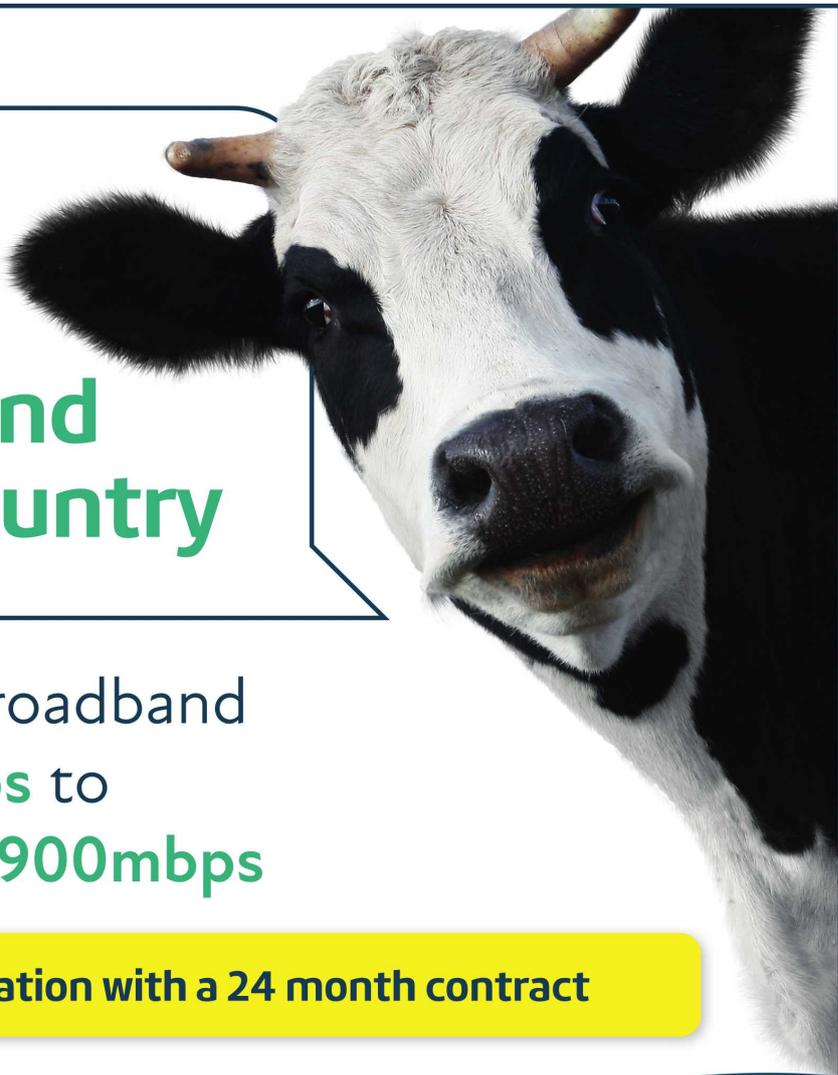
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The greenhouses at Almería in Spain

This 350 square kilometre sea of plastic grows vast amounts of tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers every year. In fact, a councillor in Andalucía said in 2017 that 70% of tomatoes exported to the EU came from here and Granada.



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# West Mercia Police

## BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL Safer Neighbourhood Team

### Team details

**Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant:** Sgt 0640 Jenni Price  
**Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable:** PC 3331 Stuart Cooté  
**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss  
**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown  
**Team Email:** [bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

### West Mercia Police contact numbers

**Emergency:** 999 **Non Emergency:** 101

**Bishops Castle Police Station (not for reporting):** 101, Extension 7704901

**Report online:** [www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/)

**Crime stoppers:** 0800 555 111

**Website:** [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

**Twitter:** @SouthShropCops

**Facebook:** Bishop's Castle Policing Team Rural Watch



### CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE

15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Public order		Stiperstones	
Theft	Wooden field gate stolen	Meadowtown	During the evening of 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Dog dangerously out of control		Bentlawnt	
Harassment		Worthen	
ASB	Goal posts thrown on top of play equipment	Chirbury Primary School	Occurred on the evening of 8 <sup>th</sup> June

### Neighbour Disputes

The summer months often sees a rise in reports of neighbour disputes with the majority of them stemming over a civil matter such as boundaries or rights of access. For the local officers these reports tend to be very time consuming as we engage and listen to both sides of the issue and gauge if there are any offences. In many cases there are other agencies who the issue should have been reported to in the first instance, such as a landlord, Shropshire Council or a solicitor.

Consider discussing any issue with your neighbour informally in the first instance. Tell your neighbour how their behaviour is affecting you and what would help. Listen to your neighbour and see if you can reach a compromise together. Calling the police on your neighbour can make a small issue worse and just cause deeper wounds between both parties.

Further advice can be found on the Citizens Advice website.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/problems-where-you-live/complaining-about-your-neighbour/>

Contact the police if you think your neighbour has broken the law - for example, they've been violent or threatening

## **Images from Space**

The first pictures of the earth were taken from the German V2, a single-stage ballistic missile in the 1940s.

Little more happened until February 1959 when the Vanguard, a US orbital satellite, took very poor images of our planet using its single photocell.

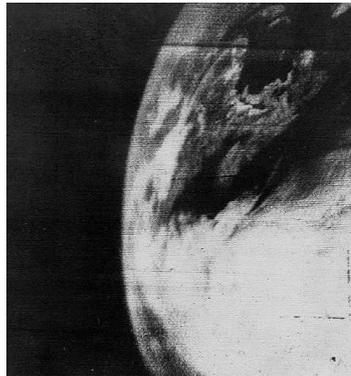
By the summer of 1959 NASA's Explorer satellites were beaming back photos of earth and the radiation belts around it and

in 1960 Tiros sent the first television and weather images back to earth. First image of Earth from space

taken by a person, first color images and first movie of

Earth were by Soviet

cosmonaut Gherman Titov aboard Vostok 2.



*Right a German V2 rocket  
Left an early image from the  
NASA Tiros satellite*

The Grand Canyon

At its widest point, the Grand Canyon is 29 kilometres across.

Whilst impressive to see in person, if you want to see the whole thing at once, you need to pop out to space. The Grand Canyon, another one of the seven wonders of the natural world, can be found in Arizona, USA. It is 446 kilometres long.



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### *Upcoming Events* 2023

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*10am Every Tuesday!*

***Post Office***

*12.15 - 2.15 Every Tuesday!*

---

***Big Money Bingo***

*7.30pm Monday 3rd July*

***Board Games Night***

*7.30pm Monday 17th July*

***Pub Quiz***

*8.00pm Monday 31st July*

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***Big Money Bingo***

*7.30pm Monday 7th August*

***Board Games Night***

*7.30pm Monday 14th August*

***Pub Quiz***

*8.00pm Monday 21st August*



Google (52°37'03"N 2°55'31"W) 1 km

**Google Earth** is available on smart phones, tablets and laptops, it provides images from space of every corner of the world. The photographic maps available on Google Earth come primarily from two sources: satellites and aircraft. Because the data comes from different sources, its often provided at different resolutions, which is why some pictures are really clear but those of remote places are blurry. Google is striving to have as much high-definition coverage of the world as possible. When you use Google Earth, you're not viewing the imagery as it is now but sometime in the past when the image was last captured. According to Google, the information is no more than three years old and is continually being updated as new data becomes available.

This image show the hillocks from my phone last week.



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Email:

heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk

Facebook: Heather Kidd

www.heatherkidd.org.uk

## BISHOP'S CASTLE HOSPITAL

Around 150 packed the Community College's Hall on 5th June to grill representatives of local health bodies (Integrated Care Board and Shropshire Community Hospital Trust (ShropCom) about their second attempt to close the hospital by stealth in the last 18 months.

It was pretty clear that the representatives of the Care Board and Shropcom were shocked at the strength of feeling amongst local residents and irritation about the way that they have handled this.

I think we made an impact on the officers present. Certainly they are now promising to change the way they 'engage' with the community but there are still considerable problems.

What is important is that as many of us as possible take part in this 'engagement' (Consultation in other words) as possible. You can go online at this link:

[www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/bishops-castle-community-hospital](http://www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/bishops-castle-community-hospital)  
or if you want a paper copy phone Heather.

This engagement runs until 19th July,

## ROADS

- i. Chirbury Parish Council and myself will be meeting with Shropshire's portfolio holder to discuss the state of the Parish's roads on 22nd July.
- ii. Worthen, as a village with a school, has been selected to have a 20mph speed limit. I will let everybody know when/where as soon as I learn to details
- iii. A488 Hope Valley. There was another shambles this month with the Council's contractors failing to give notice, refusing to allow access for school vehicles and failing to put up adequate diversion signs. I have made a strong complaint (again) to Shropshire.

## AFFORDABLE HOMES

- i. Brockton. The three homes under construction in Oakfield Cottages should be ready by September. They could well be advertised by Homepoint this month.
- ii. Chirbury. The legal documentation has now been signed and work will start once a construction firm is found.  
Best wishes Heather

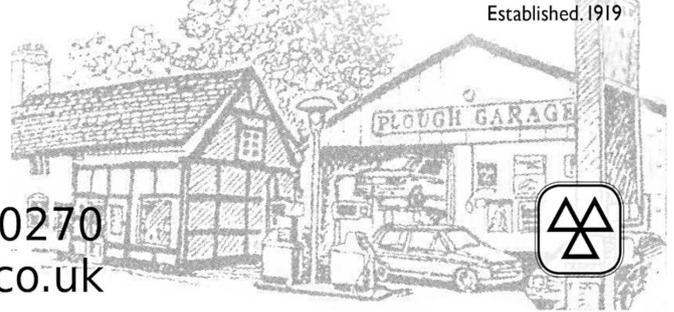
## Key Phone Numbers

Pontesbury & Worthen Med	01743 790325
Westbury Medical Centre	01743 884727
Bishop's Castle Med Pract	01588 638285
Montgomery Medical Practice	1686 668217
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital	01743 261000
NHS Non-Emergency Helpline	111
Samaritans Helpline	116 123
Shrop Customer Services	0345 6789000
Shrop Council Benefit	0345 6789002
Shrop Council Welfare	0345 6789078
Shrop Council Bereavement	0345 6783028
National Grid	0800 6783105
Environment Agency	0800 80 70 60
Severn Trent Water	0800 7834444
Shrop Highways	0345 6789006
Shrop Citizens Advice	0808 2787894
Shrop Rural Support	0300 1232825
RABC	0800 1884444
Farming Community Network	01788 510866
Universal Credit Helpline	0800 3285644
Child Benefit Helpline	0300 2003100
Pensions Helpline	0800 7310469
Business Support Helpline	0300 4563565
Keep Shrop Warm	0800 1123743
Barnabas Money Advice	07507 663251
A4U	01743 539201
Age UK Shrop,	01743 233123
Just Credit Union (	01743 252325
Christians Against Poverty	(01274 760720
Shrewsbury Samaritans	0330 0945717
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Shrop Domestic Abuse Serv	0300 3031191

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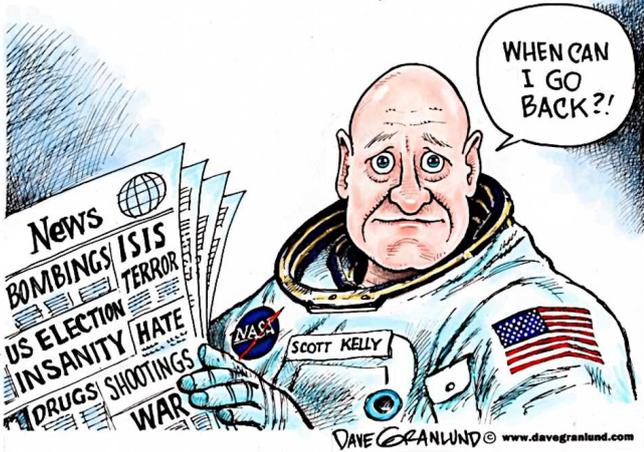
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**The first space walk**

In March 1965, at the age of 30, Soviet cosmonaut Alexei Leonov made the first spacewalk in history, 3 months ahead of ahead of his American rival Ed White on Gemini 4 . Floating outside his tiny Voskhod 2 capsule for 10 exhilarating minutes, Leonov wrote that he felt, “like a seagull with its wings outstretched, soaring high above the Earth.” In keeping with the secrecy of the Soviet space program, few people, not even his family, knew about the spacewalk before hand. When my four-year-old daughter, Vika, saw me take my first steps in space, I later learned, she hid her face in her hands and cried.

**Astronaut returns from year in space...**



“What is he doing? What is he doing?” she wailed. “Please tell Daddy to get back inside.”

My elderly father, too, was upset. Not understanding that the purpose of my mission was to show that man could survive in open space, he expressed his distress to journalists who had gathered at my parents’ home.

“Why is he acting like a juvenile delinquent?” he shouted in frustration.

“Everyone else can complete their mission properly, inside the spacecraft. What is he doing clambering about outside? Somebody must tell him to get back inside immediately. He must be punished for this.”

As I pulled myself back toward the airlock, I heard Pasha talking to me: “It’s time to come back in.” I realized I had been floating free in space for over 10 minutes. In that moment my mind flickered back for a second to my childhood, to my mother opening the window at home and calling to me as I played outside with my friends, “Lyosha, it’s time to come inside now.”

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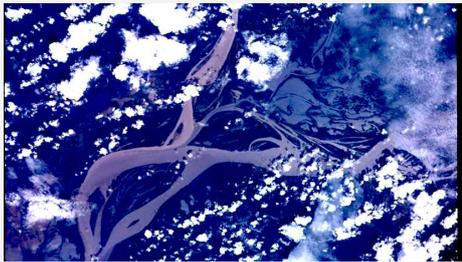
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### The Amazon River

About 2500 different types of fish live in the Amazon river, and people believe many more are undiscovered. There's a lot of debate over where the Amazon River actually starts and finishes - but it is at least 6437 kilometres long, which is the equivalent of flying from Manchester to Lahore in Pakistan. It used to flow in the opposite direction 130 million years ago.

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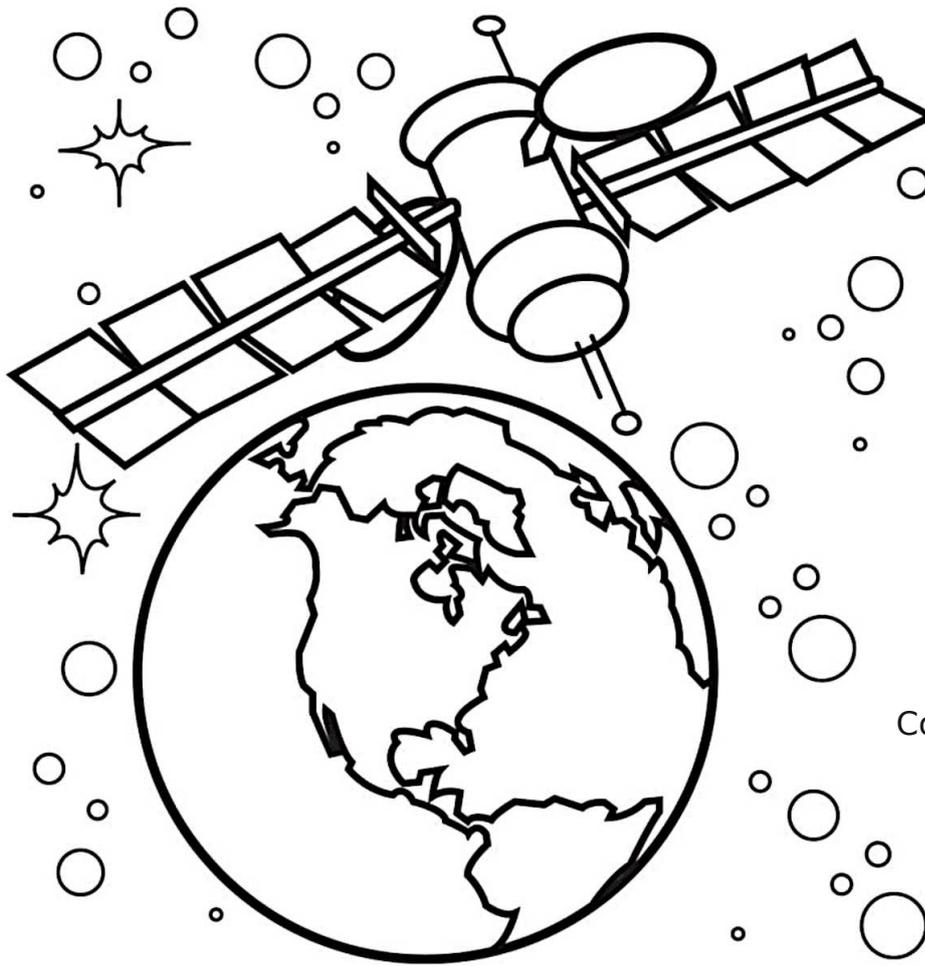
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 Z F O I Z A F L H E R G R A N D C A N Y O N Z W  
 M Q Y E A F E S E V E N F G E D D B Y V A N E O  
 R E E F Z T Y X Y R G H K F X Y H X G J Y X B K  
 N A T U R A L F U U C V N Z F W D G V Z K F T G  
 K K Y O Y H B X C D R Q O I L L B Q G Q H F I O  
 F A L H C I P Y T W F D R S T F C U L C V C Y J  
 J D B D K T C Z X S D F T X H H V O L C A N O T  
 M D D L Q M M K P X N H H M N P K G J C H X R T  
 B X C T O U R I S M V X E D S P K H R E N R P K  
 Y N J R A T F J N O D A R H Z U I B D H I V H X  
 G O I Y B R H A A L Z K N O H X Z N A A W I R G  
 D O L H U A S D W D Y P L R W O N D E R S C H G  
 V X U E F V S E C C O Q I B G I Y B P G M T Y W  
 T R H T Q E F P G B O X G A L R L F J A I O N Y  
 T X Y C I L Z W T G E Y H R L E C X W E L R F U  
 H L L E N A R Y Z S C J T V J U P S O K X I R T  
 J P Y V J Z N K V H W B S Y R T C M R T E A T R  
 R H X E Z T P R I Z Q D D N N K J O L F T F Z R  
 Z G B R T M V R I D C V L K K O G Z D F D A F Z  
 A T M E N R R K L N J E K Q Z N A G V R Z L H W  
 L C X S V A U I J R G W X X E T T G A Z S L F G  
 T C F T A U R O R A S C O N T I N E N T X S Q F

northern lights  
 continent  
 Grand canyon  
 Reef  
 volcano

tourism  
 Aurora  
 Horbar  
 seven  
 wonders

travel  
 Everest  
 Natural  
 victoria falls  
 world

## 552/553 Bishops Castle Stiperstones Shrewsbury Monday - Friday

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

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

552/553  
Saturday

	07:30		09:30		12:15			15:50	
	07:32		09:32		12:17			15:52	
	07:36		09:36		12:21			15:56	
	07:40		09:40		12:25			16:00	
	07:44		09:44		12:29			16:04	
	07:47		09:47		12:32			16:07	
	07:50		09:50		12:35			16:10	
07:05		09:20						14:45	
07:09		09:24						14:49	
07:11	07:56	09:26	09:56	11:40	12:41	14:00	14:51	16:16	16:55
07:13	07:58	09:28	09:58	11:42	12:43	14:02	14:53	16:18	16:57
07:18	08:03	09:33	10:03	11:47	12:48	14:07	14:58	16:23	17:02
07:23	08:08	09:38	10:08	11:52	12:53	14:12	15:03	16:28	17:07
07:26	08:11	09:41	10:11	11:55	12:56	14:15	15:06	16:31	17:10
07:28	08:13	09:43	10:13	11:57	12:58	14:17	15:08	16:33	17:12
07:33	08:18	09:48	10:18	12:02	13:03	14:22	15:13	16:38	17:17
07:38	08:23	09:53	10:23	12:07	13:08	14:27	15:18	16:43	17:22
07:45	08:30	10:00	10:30	12:14	13:15	14:34	15:25	16:50	17:29

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

**Minsterley Motors**  
Telephone 01743 791208

**745 Mondays and Fridays only**

Pontesbury to Clun 745 A		Ludlow to Clun 745 B	
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	13:37
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	09:30		

Clun to Ludlow 745 B		Clun to Pontesbury 745 A	
Clun	09:35	Clun	14:10
Clunton	09:38	Colebatch	14:20
Little Brampton	09:40	Bishops Castle	14:25
Lydbury North	09:50	Lydham	14:30
Aston on Clun	10:03	White Grit	14:35
Long Meadowend	10:05	Gravels	14:37
Craven Arms	10:10	Hope	14:40
Ludlow Assembly Rooms	10:25	Minsterley	14:45
		Pontesbury	14:50

Does not run on Bank Holiday except Good Friday



**775 Tuesdays only**

Pontesbury to Bishops Castle 775 A		Newtown to Bishops Castle 775 B	
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		
Bromleys Mill	09:55		
Lydham	09:57		
Bishops Castle	10:00		

Bishops Castle to Newtown 775 B		Bishops Castle to Pontesbury 775 A	
Bishops Castle	10:05	Bishops Castle	14:40
Church Stoke	10:20	Lydham	14:43
Blue Bell	10:25	Bromleys Mill	14:45
Sarn	10:30	Llan Turn	14:49
Kerry	10:40	White Grit	14:52
Newtown	10:50	Gravels	14:55
		Hope	15:00
		Plox Green	15:02
		Minsterley	15:05
		Pontesbury	15:10

**Minsterley Motors**  
Telephone 01743 791208

Please join us to celebrate the life of

# Maxine Hall

1970 - 2022



Max requested not to have a formal funeral, but a gathering in her memory, to which all are welcome.



There will be a slide show of pictures of and by Maxine projected throughout the afternoon and a collection to support Severn Hospice, who cared for her so beautifully in her final weeks.

Please RSVP to Reuben on 07891 136 078 if possible to give us an idea of catering numbers, but do not think you can't turn up if you haven't responded. We want everybody to come to all, or part of the event as they please, or come in and out through the afternoon and evening. Dress smart/casual/colourful.

A FUN FILLED FAMILY DAY  
AT THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS DISCOVERY CENTRE  
TO CELEBRATE  
WILDFLOWER MEADOWS & THEIR WEALTH OF WILDLIFE

**Flay MEADOW FESTIVAL 2023**

**SAT 15TH JULY**  
11AM - 7PM  
INCLUDING:  
SCYTHING COMPETITIONS / HAVE A GO  
WILDLIFE DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES  
RURAL ARTS & CRAFTS  
ECO TALK TENT  
MUSIC, MERRIMENT & REFRESHMENT

Tickets available in advance from the Discovery Centre, please call: 01588 676060

In advance : £7.00 adults; £3.00 Children; £17.00 family  
On the day: £8.00 adults; £4.00 children; £20.00 family.  
Under 5's free

Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre  
The Home of Grow Cook Learn  
CRAVEN ARMS - SY7 9RS  
Tel 01588 676060

Green Recovery Challenge Fund

www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk

## Meadow Monoprinting Printing by hand with plants

Tuesday 1st August, 10am to 1pm  
New Invention

Come for a summer morning printmaking session in the Redlake Valley using plants.

Use meadow grasses, flowers and beautiful so-called "weeds", to make unique monoprints on paper or card using gelli plates and water based inks (no press).

Aimed at beginners, you do not need any previous art experience just some patience, curiosity and a willingness to experiment. There is no right or wrong way and happy accidents often occur!

The workshop will take place outside or in our newly-restored (small) field barn if the weather is not reliable.

£20 per person (includes a contribution to materials - ink and paper - and tea/coffee & cake. Bring your own lunch). 4 people max per workshop. If people wish to carry on in to the afternoon that is possible.

This event is open only to members of the Marches Meadow Group.

To book: contact Sarah Jameson  
(01547 528546 / images@sarahjameson.co.uk)



www.sarahjameson.co.uk

Living in Brittany  
France

Wed 19 July 2023  
2pm to 4pm  
Minsterley Parish Hall

**Programme**  
Annual General Meeting  
"Living in Brittany" - Steve Anderson  
Cheese & Wine

OPEN MEETING  
Members & non-members welcome

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

The Snailbeach District News posts notifications of events free of charge. Send good quality images to sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk. We are more than happy to receive donations for this service. Snailbeach District News Sort Code: 09-01-54 Account No: 05629702