

# SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

MARCH 2018

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## The *Beware! Beware! The Mad March Hare* Edition



*“Have some wine,” the March Hare said in an encouraging tone. Alice looked around the table, but there was nothing on it but tea. “I don't see any wine,” she remarked. “There isn't any,” said the March Hare.*

*Lewis Carroll – Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*



# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Local Girl Breaks 3 World records!



Dianne Carrington, 62, from Pontesbury, has broken the world record for the oldest female to row across the Atlantic as part of the 'Talisker Atlantic Challenge'. Along with her two team mates, Sharon Magrath and Elaine Theaker, both 54, they managed to row the incredible 3000 mile trip in just 60 days. In so doing they

also managed to take the records for the fastest female team and also the oldest female team to achieve this amazing feat. The team suffered moments of terror, misery and desperation along the way, capsizing twice in the final 24 hours. Dianne wrote an article for the SDN last summer during their preparation and I'm hoping to get her to write a follow up when she arrives back in Pontesbury. Well done ladies!

## A letter from Steve Corner about plastic waste.

I would like to comment on the piece written about Dougie Boulter and plastic waste.

Living in Pennerley I too go around locally picking up litter on the verge etc. I also noticed an increase lately but I don't think it is all down to litter from cars. Because of the strong winds the plastic/tin recycling has been blown out of the black boxes awaiting collection. I feel that VEOLIA should adopt a wheelie bin method for the recycling now that we can mix it all together and discontinue the black boxes. I have seen this adopted in other parts of the UK, so Shropshire needs to catch up. With the lid on the wheelie bin it should, hopefully, help reduce road side litter and make ours, and the bin men's, lives easier.

## The response about plastic waste from Shropshire Council

Heather Kidd approached Shropshire Council about the problem of wind blowing recycling waste out of the black baskets and received this response: "Both Veolia and the Council are keen on the idea of bins for the mixed recycling stream and we did a costing exercise in advance of the new service rollout in 2016. Unfortunately the cost of providing bins to over 135,000 households was difficult to justify due to the financial pressures on the Council as a whole when we already had the boxes out there. We are looking at other methods of introducing bins but the practicalities won't become clear until later in the year.

Nets and lids often end up being part of the problem as they also get blown away.

If we get enquiries about this we suggest stacking the boxes with the heavier items (mainly glass) at the top and sometimes put the bag on top of that."

Watch this space!

## Snailbeach Village Hall News

There have been a few changes to trustees of the Village Hall Committee. Committee is now as follows:-

Chairman – Philip Sproson-Jones

Vice Chairman - Ray Harper

Secretary- Pam Bickley

Treasurer – Maria Marks

Bookings Officer – Margaret Price

Trustees:-

Julian Bromhead, John Davies, Pam Davies, Caroline Harper, Tim Hockly, Jerry Hughes, Rosa McCombe, Lara Sproson-Jones, Sal Tonge

The committee meets approximately every 2 months, with occasional subcommittee groups meeting on specific projects.

With pledges and donations, room hire and the proceeds of events organized throughout the year, we have been able to make substantial improvements to your comfort when visiting the Village Hall. A new lighting system, improved heating, new dance floor and new tables to name just a few, with some new chairs on the way!

As a consequence room hire use is on the increase with fitness and dance sessions every week, and in the last month a toddler and babies group has started up. There are ongoing plans to improve the play area, and as funds become available, we are starting to implement them. Your support is always appreciated and if you have any skills we could use, or time to give on an ad hoc basis we would be most grateful. We are also at present looking to recruit a cleaner for a few hours a week, someone who has self-employed status and is flexible with working hours. Rates are very competitive. Please contact any of the named above if you have any queries, suggestions etc.

## The Pontesbury Muheza Link

There will be an update meeting and a buffet supper of the Pontesbury Muheza Link at St. Georges Church, Pontesbury on the Thursday, April 26th. Come and hear the latest news of the projects in Tanzania. All welcome.

## Coffee Morning at Hope Village Hall

Saturday, 17th March 10am – 12 noon in aid of village hall funds. Raffle, cakes, Bric-a-Brac, Tombola, handmade cards. Please call Joyce 01743 890901 or Debbie 01743 891414 if you can help in any way.

## Regular Local Activities

### **Stiperstones Brass Rehearsals**

Snailbeach Village Hall  
Mondays 6.30pm

### **Bingo Night**

Stiperstones Inn  
2nd Monday - 8.00pm

### **Quiz Night**

Stiperstones Inn  
Last Monday - 8.00pm

### **Knitter Natter**

Stiperstones Inn  
Tuesdays from 10.00am

### **Yoga**

Snailbeach Village Hall  
Tuesday & Wednesday 10am

### **Iyengar Yoga**

Snailbeach Village Hall  
Tuesday 7pm

### **Ballroom Dancing**

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

### **Snailbeach & Stiperstones Baby & Toddler Group**

Snailbeach Village Hall  
Thursdays 10am-12pm

### **Snailbeach WI**

Snailbeach Village Hall  
2nd Thursday - 7.30pm

### **Fit Club**

Stiperstones School Playground  
Sunday 9 am

### **Kids Football Training**

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



## Notes from the Editor



The February article about plastic waste has certainly provoked a lot of local concern and some good ideas about how we can help at a local level.

Steve Corner of Pennerley (whose letter is published on the 'News in Brief' page) has suggested that perhaps Veolia could get rid of the two black, and ironically plastic, baskets we presently use to recycle our plastic, glass and tin, and substitute them with a 'wheelie' bin. That would certainly keep a lid on the problem of our strong winds scattering a large proportion of our recycling around the highways and byways of the beautiful Shropshire countryside. I know that I often see Snailbeach awash with empty plastic milk and water bottles, after a strong wind on a Monday night, before Tuesday's collection. Perhaps we should all bombard Shropshire Council with letters and emails suggesting this simple switch? And whilst we are at it, what are your views on the blue bags we have been issued with to recycle our cardboard? Personally, I think they're rubbish...

Spring is just around the corner! Hence, our Mad March Hare edition. I was going to make 'jugged hare' the 'Recipe of the Month', but after writing the 'Hare today, gone tomorrow' piece (page 19) about our much loved and endangered brown hare, publishing a recipe on how best to cook the poor things did not sit well with me! References to the Mad March Hare, originally from Central Asia and brought to these shores by the Romans, can be found as early as the beginning of the 16th century in our literature. The spring antics that indicate the start of their mating season have fascinated and entertained us for many centuries. It seems so sad that these wonderful creatures are not protected in any way by a closed season for hunting in the way that deer, pheasants, partridges, grouse and even salmon and trout are. They are still seen as 'fair game' during their breeding season in England and Wales when we can shoot them in the fields, leaving their leverets to the fate of foxes and starvation. Perhaps we could take a leaf out of Scotland's book who, in 2011, introduced closed seasons for the killing or taking of wild hares between the 1st February and the 30th September.

On a happier note, turning the calendar over to March always makes me feel a little more cheerful – the dark, drab days of winter are finally coming to an end and the coming days hold the promise of warmth and light and colour.

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

Patrick Marks – Editor

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

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## The Wall

Before Christmas our wall was enhanced with seasonal decorations by two elves, Ted and Seth, ably assisted by Mother Elf (Jane). I am sure this was appreciated by the many walkers/runners and bikers that pass this way.



Apparently, 'The Wall' is getting quite famous now and I have seen many people stop and stare – even take photos – why? – because it's full of little toys and trinkets.

Perhaps you would like to know the history of this... When we moved here 9 years ago a third of the wall was already in place. Eventually we thought that the rest of the frontage was liable to subsidence/landslide and

decided to sort it out. We found the dry-stone wall man, with the help of a neighbour, who had built the original wall and set him loose.

It was amazing to watch him work. He took away all the earth and saved every stone – all by hand!! He would look at the pile of stones and every time he picked one up it would be placed in its 'correct' position. Many people passing by would stop and watch him – it was, and still is, a work of art.

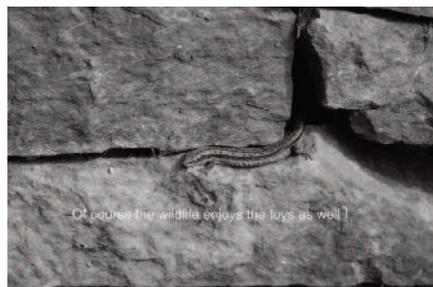
As he was taking away the earth, he found old toys – obviously from children who had lived here years ago – and he placed them in the original wall.

When the wall was finished, Ted and Seth started putting in some of their toys. I added toys from John's shop and then other local children

started adding to it. We know of one family who were on holiday, came up especially with their children to add some things. Someone recently has even put in a £1 coin –

unfortunately the one that is no longer legal tender!

**Mike and Audrey Pugh.**



(The Wall can be found by turning right out of the 'pub, always a good starting point, then right again and continue up Perkins Beach Dingle – you can't miss it, well worth a visit! – Editor)

## Lordshill Baptist News

In spite of our hopes, the snow in December made it impractical to hold the Christmas carol service in Lordshill chapel. The snow and rain turned the approach into a quagmire, and reluctantly we moved the service to the village hall – where there is not only solid ground outside, but also efficient heating inside! About 60 gathered to sing traditional Christmas carols, and listen to a running commentary on Charles Wesley's "Hark, the herald angels sing."

The first Sunday in 2018 marked 200 years since the inaugural service of the church, held, we understand in the Blacksmith's shop at the mine. Pastor Geoff Thomas, recently retired from Alfred Place Baptist Church, Aberystwyth preached for us, both morning and evening, on "the so-great salvation" and "What is a Christian?" Again, we made use of the welcome facilities in the village hall, and were glad to welcome some visitors.

Now, in our bicentenary year, here are one or two dates for your diary. First, on Saturday 21 April at 11.30 am, I plan to give a historical talk on Lordshill Baptist Church. (Of course, it wasn't called Lordshill 200 years ago – they hoped to build a chapel in the village, but landowner opposition prevented this). The talk will again be held in the village hall, followed by refreshments, and then a visit to the chapel itself for anyone who wishes to go.

Finally, on Saturday and Sunday 2 and 3 June, we are planning an anniversary weekend, when we hope that Pastor Peter Hallihan – who ministered here for a fifth of the church's history – will be able to preach at one of the four services.

Stephen Ford - 17 February 2018

## For all you gardeners...

Q: What do you call a grumpy and short-tempered gardener?

A: A Snap Dragon

\*\*\*\*

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.

Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

\*\*\*\*

Why are husbands like lawn mowers?

They are difficult to get started, emit foul smells and don't work half the time.

\*\*\*\*

If I could only grow green stuff in my garden like I can in my refrigerator

\*\*\*\*

Someone keeps dumping soil all over my allotment. I don't know who's doing it; the plot thickens.

\*\*\*\*

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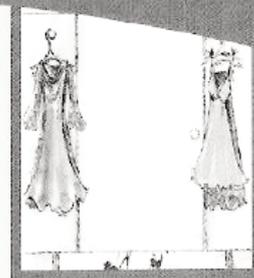


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**Notice of Tree felling and timber extraction at**



**Bergum Wood**

Bergum Wood was recently purchased by natural England with the help of public donations.



As the first part of our restoration of this land to upland oak woodland we will need to remove the conifer trees from the site.

This work is programmed to start at the end of January 2018. Due to the aspect of the site with the road below, this may involve temporary restrictions on traffic movement while trees are being felled or timber moved. I hope this will not cause too much inconvenience and hope that you can bear with us while the works are completed. All tree works will be completed by the end of March.

For further information please contact us on 01743 792294.

**This month in the garden...**



**Week 1.**

**...pay attention to your pots and containers...**

Lightly prune frost-damaged, container grown trees and shrubs, taking out dead wood. Top-dress by removing the top 2.5 cm (1 in) of soil and replacing it with fresh compost. Move flowering plants into prominent positions as they start to bloom and, if you have any empty containers, plant up spring bedding displays.

**Week 2.**

**...pests...**

Slugs can be troublesome this month but try to avoid using slug bait that is harmful to wildlife. Instead, protect the young shoots of plants such as delphiniums and lupins by placing plastic bottles, with the tops and bottoms removed, around them. Once the plants are established, surround them with a layer of coarse grit.

**Week 3.**

**...sow annuals...**

Many annuals, including marigolds, cornflowers and poppies, can be sown in late March. Sow in well-prepared beds and once the seedlings have developed two or three pairs of leaves, thin them out to give them ample space for growth. Remember not to handle the seedlings by their stems!

**Week 4.**

**...tend the borders...**

Once the milder weather has warmed the soil, hoe between plants to destroy annual weeds. Water newly planted shrubs and trees if the weather is dry and transplant any plants that need moving. Remove dead flowers from early flowering plants and put out slug traps.

©Judith Glover - "Garden Days"

You can buy Judith's 2018 "Garden Days" calendar at her website shop - [www.judithglover.com](http://www.judithglover.com)



**'Vanishing Buildings' Book Launch, Bishop's Castle.**

**Thursday March 8 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**



'Vanishing Buildings' is one of our 'Down to Earth' community projects which looked at some of the ruinous structures, both domestic and industrial, to be found

on the Shropshire/Powys border around Corndon Hill.

Paintings, photographs, poems and historical information bring to life the buildings' past and encourage both visitors and residents to find out more about this beautiful area, its people and its history.

These have been brought together in a beautiful book titled '**Vanishing Buildings, Traces of the Past around Corndon Hill**'.

Join us at **Bishop's Castle Town Hall Gallery** for the launch of this book, and to hear more about the project.

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## Now that's quite interesting...



- During its lifetime, the International Space Station will be hit by 100,000 meteoroids.
- The Nobel Prize-winning novelist Gabriel García Márquez was married for 55 years. Every day his wife Mercedes put a yellow rose on his desk.
- No male jaguar has ever successfully mated with a female tiger: if it were to happen, the resulting animal would be known as, a 'jagger'.
- Prince Charles runs his car on biofuel made from wine.
- Over 600,000 companies (including 25 with flats in One Hyde Park) are registered in the British Virgin Islands (population 28,882).
- Three-quarters of the French take their annual holiday in France.
- Elephants can tell different human languages apart.
- France has 36,782 mayors, five of whom are mayors of villages that ceased to exist 92 years ago.
- At the 1928 Olympics, oarsman Henry Pearce stopped to let a family of ducks cross his lane and went on to win the gold medal.
- In 2000, it cost \$3 billion to sequence a human genome. By 2014, the cost had fallen to under \$1,000.
- Lord Byron's mail often contained locks of hair from adoring female fans. Some of the clippings he sent them in return actually came from his pet Newfoundland dog, Boatswain.
- A new-born blue whale puts on 14 stone every day.
- 'Yahoo' is an acronym for 'Yet Another Hierarchical Official Oracle'.
- On October 17th 1814, 8 people died in the London Beer Flood; a vat ruptured in a brewery creating a 15-foot tidal wave.
- Monty Python's Life of Brian was banned by several UK councils that didn't have cinemas.
- The ancient Greeks had no word for religion.

## Know your Ten Commandments

Henry, who was very elderly, was unhappy because he had lost his favourite hat. Instead of buying a new one, he decided he would go to church and steal one out of the entrance porch when the worshippers were busy praying.

When Henry arrived at the church an usher intercepted him at the door and took him to a pew where he had to sit and listen to the entire sermon on 'The Ten Commandments.'

After the service, Henry met the vicar in the vestibule doorway, shook his hand vigorously, and told him, "I want to thank you Father for saving my soul today. I came to church to steal a hat and after hearing your sermon on the 10 Commandments, I decided against it."

The vicar answered, "You mean the commandment 'Thou shall not steal' changed your mind?"

"No," retorted Henry, "the one about adultery did. As soon as you said that, I remembered where I had left my old hat."

### **Some gardening advice:**

*"The best way to garden is to put on a wide brimmed straw hat and some old clothes. Then with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig."*

**Texas Bix Bender, 'Don't Throw in the Trowel'**

### **Newsletter Donations.**

**February 2018**

*Heather & Ian Manson*

*Judith & Arthur Matthews*

*Liz & Roy Jackson*

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

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

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## Sammy's Email Corner



Did you know that Chiocciola is Italian for Snail and they use it to describe the symbol @, they think it looks like a snail! For the next few months Sammy will be giving you some of his tips about emailing. This month he will try to explain the difference between the POP and IMAP systems.

POP email systems are the oldest, Post Office Protocol is 33 years old and if you do not use Gmail, or Yahoo mail and you collect your email with Microsoft Outlook it is probably the one you use. When you go online to the "Post Office" a virtual postman brings the mail to your computer and leaves it there for you to sort out. Your email is no longer in the post office and so if you try to look at it from a different computer, tablet or phone it won't be there.

The IMAP (Internet Message access protocol) was developed at Stanford University two years later. With this system, when you go online our virtual postman brings you a copy of the email to look at but leaves the original in the post office. If you now look at your emails on a different device you will be shown another copy of the same email.

Which is best or more importantly which suits you the most? Well, firstly what happens when you can't get online? With IMAP you can't look at any mails, with POP you can look at all the emails you have previously received but no new ones. This also means that with POP you can go online, collect your mail and then go off-line to read it, with IMAP you have to stay online.

Gmail and Yahoo mail are dedicated IMAP systems, they are free, and you can have more than one account and access them through all your computers, tablets and smart phones. They are not affected by your internet provider. If you receive broadband through BT, Plus-net, Virgin, TalkTalk et al, you will get a number of email addresses with your package and should be able to use either protocol; IMAP through the BT (or whatever) home page or POP by using your Outlook Express Program. If you have purchased an email account with your business name such as pub@sproson.com then you can configure each of your devices to either protocol.

More from Sammy next month.

Geoff Sproson.



### Snailbeach & Stiperstones

#### Baby & Toddler group

Every Thursday at

Snailbeach Village Hall

10am – 12midday

£2 per family

Everyone welcome from babies

to pre-schoolers



## COFFEE MORNING



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## Shepherd's Rock

Heading from North to South the first outcropping of stones on the Stiperstones ridgeline is known as Shepherd's Rock. It sits near the cairn at the crossroads of the East-West trail from Perkins Beach Dingle, and the North-South path which connects all of the rocks of the Stiperstones. Compared to its better-known siblings it is a fairly small rock with a sloping rocky east face which has been partly reclaimed by vegetation, and a steeper west face, in the lee of which some very brave bushes, and one spindly tree, defy the odds of survival on the very top of the Stiperstones hill.

Until recently I hadn't really given Shepherd's Rock much thought. It had never been my destination on a walk, I'd never left the path to get a closer look at it, and I had never heard any tales about the rock or how it had been named. It caught my attention however last year when I was walking up from the Hollies farm on a particularly grey grim day, the rain was doing its very best to lash the skin from my face and visibility was terrible, but, when I looked across the field, trying to work out the rough direction I wanted to take to hit the gateway in the fence I realised that on the horizon the silhouette of Shepherd's Rock was pretty much the only landmark I could see. Initially, I was pretty amazed that heading in this direction brought me almost perfectly to the gateway through the fence and onto the main path, but on reflection I wonder if the path is where it is simply because the rock makes such a good reference point, shepherding lost wanderers home. Given that this path is the most direct link between the Stiperstones and the Long Mynd, I assume that it was once a well-travelled trail before the roads gave us a much swifter travel route.

There is, however, another (admittedly simpler and more popular) theory for the naming of Shepherd's Rock. As I mentioned earlier the steep western face of the rock provides a natural windbreak. Personally I can attest that the leeward side of Shepherd's Rock is the natural habitat of the thermos drinking, rucksack carrying, well-equipped hikers of the Stiperstones Ridge, if these experienced ramblers recognise this spot as being the most comfortable place for a cup of coffee, then maybe it was also the resting place for Stiperstones shepherds, somewhere they could light a fire to keep warm (this, of course, being before the invention of the thermos), whilst keeping an eye on their flocks.

Whichever explanation you prefer, hopefully now at least you'll be able to remember the name of Shepherd's Rock, and a few less people will refer to it as "is that the one that's next to the cairn?"

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# Mr. Quips Corner



- Divorce is something couples agree on when they can't agree on anything else.
- Mandatory retirement is another form of compulsory poverty.
- Laughing stock: cattle with a sense of humour.
- Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- Wear short sleeves! Support your right to bare arms!
- OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- Black holes are where God divided by zero.
- I tried sniffing Coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose.
- My wife just found out I replaced our bed with a trampoline; she hit the roof.
- How is it that I always seem to buy the plants without the will to live?
- I asked my North Korean friend how it was there, he said he couldn't complain.
- Behind every angry woman is a man who has absolutely no idea what he did wrong.
- It was only when I bought a motorbike that I found out that adrenaline is brown.
- My girlfriend was complaining last night that I never listen to her. Or something like that...
- Smoking will kill you... Bacon will kill you... But, smoking bacon will cure it.
- I don't understand why people get attacked by sharks. Can they not hear the music?
- Tennis would be way more exciting if they used dogs for ball boys.

One day David went to an auction. While he was there, he bid for a parrot. David really wanted this bird, so he got caught up and thoroughly involved in the bidding. He kept on bidding, but kept getting outbid, so he bid higher and higher and higher.

Finally, after he had bid much more than he had intended, David won the bid; the parrot was his at last.

As he was paying for the parrot, he said to the auctioneer, 'I hope this parrot can talk. I would hate to have paid this much for it, only to find out that he can't talk!'

'Don't worry,' said the auctioneer, 'He can talk. Who do you think kept bidding against you?'



- *He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches - George Bernard Shaw.*
- *A woman's mind is cleaner than a man's. She changes it more often - Oliver Herford.*

- *May you live every day of your life - Jonathan Swift.*
- *Between two evils, I always pick the one I never tried before - Mae West.*
- *Cowards have dreams, brave men have visions - Chinese Proverb.*
- *Everybody knows how to raise children, except the people who have them - P. J. O'Rourke.*
- *If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done - George Bernard Shaw*
- *In California, they don't throw their garbage away - they turn it into TV shows - Woody Allen.*
- *My wife dresses to kill. She cooks the same way - Henny Youngman.*
- *Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city - George Burns.*
- *The problems that exist in the world today cannot be solved by the level of thinking that created them - Albert Einstein.*
- *Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please - Mark Twain.*
- *I am free of all prejudices. I hate every one equally - W. C. Fields.*
- *She got her good looks from her father. He's a plastic surgeon - Groucho Marx*
- *She was what we used to call a suicide blonde - dyed by her own hand - Saul Bellow.*





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## LIVER CAKE RECIPE

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

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



Deb Gallimore APDT 01189

## **Heather Kidd's Report**

### **March 2018**



**PLASTIC RECYCLING** Shropshire Council's method of collecting plastic waste can leave plastic scattered all over the countryside. Other councils provide some form of cover for the plastic box (either a lid or a net as in Powys) to prevent plastic items

blowing away but not Shropshire. If you have and sort of breeze on collection day it results is plastic being blown all over the place.

I have spoken to Shropshire Council and asked about the costs of providing residents with lids or nets and also the costs of clearing up the plastic blown all over the Countryside. The only response I have received so far is the suggestion that residents place glass on top of the plastic to weigh it down! This isn't good enough. Surely it makes far more financial and environmental sense to provide residents with inexpensive box covers to avert this mess.

I have written to Shropshire Council asking what the costs of providing lids would be and what the costs of litter picking and how much plastic is picked up. I will be taking the matter to the Council's Scrutiny panel.

In the meantime, if you feel strongly about this issue, write/email to the Council Cabinet Portfolio holder - Cllr Stephen Charmley at Shirehall to complain about this state of affairs.

**STIPERSTONES SCHOOL:** The school recently had its first OFSTED inspection for a number of years. The good news is that it kept its 'Good' rating despite the challenging funding situation that all small schools are finding themselves in. As Chair of Governors I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the staff and my fellow governors for all the hard work they have put in to make this happen.

I would also like to welcome Mrs Dionne Rondel to the teaching staff of the school and thank her for her work with the inspection too.

**ROADS:** The Government gave Shropshire a one off grant of £2.28M recently for 2018/19 only. This will still leave the County with a £59m shortfall in its finances by 2020. One way it is trying to address this is by cutting the roads budget by £5m in 2018-19 and another £5m in 2019-20. Given the dire state of our roads this is madness. As always I will try my best to get the worst stretches done but it's not easy to get the County to do anything these days.

**BERGUM CORNER:** The one piece of good news on roads is that the Council will be resurfacing the road between Bergum Corner and the Shelve Junction in July and August and also addressing structural problem in places on

the road. I am currently speaking to Shropshire Council to try to limit the disruption as harvesting and tourist trade will be at its height then. I hope to have some sensible diversion signs in place and agreement for access.

Best wishes,

Heather Kidd,

Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury and Worthen Division  
07980635518

heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk

www.heatherkidd.org.uk

### **The plastic waste debate goes on...**

Over 400 million tons of plastic are produced globally each year. It is estimated that one third of all plastic waste ends up in soils or freshwaters. Most of this plastic disintegrates into particles smaller than five millimetres, referred to as microplastics, and breaks down further into nanoparticles, which are less than 0.1 micrometre in size. In fact, terrestrial microplastic pollution is much higher than marine microplastic pollution -- an estimate of four to 23 times more, depending on the environment. Sewage, for example, is an important factor in the distribution of microplastics. In fact, 80 to 90 per cent of the particles contained in sewage, such as from garment fibres, persist in the sludge. Sewage sludge is then often applied to fields as fertilizer, meaning that several thousand tons of microplastics end up in our soils each year. [www.sciencedaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com)



## **Livestock Worrying**

We are now coming into the lambing season where historically it has coincided with increased reports of livestock being worried by dogs.

It is an offence to allow a dog to worry sheep.

Worrying includes attacking or chasing sheep and farmers are legally entitled to shoot dogs if they are endangering their sheep. Chasing by dogs can do serious damage to sheep, even if the dog doesn't catch them. The stress of worrying by dogs can cause sheep to die and pregnant ewes to miscarry their lambs.

Dog owners, either living locally or simply visiting the countryside for a walk, have a responsibility to keep their dogs under control at all times. It is vital that dogs are kept on the lead around livestock, even if they can usually be trusted to come to call. If living in or near a farming area, please make sure that the dog is secure and cannot escape from the property.



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## Hare today, gone tomorrow?

The brown hare is often seen “boxing”, chasing around in circles, leaping into the air and generally being ‘mad’ at the start of their breeding season in March.



*The expression “as mad as a March Hare” has been found in our literature as far back as the early 1500’s. By the mid 1500’s the expression “harebrained” was also being used in common parlance.*

Sir John Tenniel’s illustration of the Mad Hare in ‘Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland’ shows straw wrapped around the ears of the hare. This was a common way to depict madness in Victorian times.

*Brown hare numbers have been falling for many years as a result of shooting parties and habitat loss.*

In the late 19th century there were an estimated 4 million brown hares across Britain, the last estimate put their populations at 700,000.



Hares are the only game species in England and Wales not protected by a close hunting season. An old 19th century law – the 1880 ground game act – means they can be shot throughout the year, even during the breeding season.

Female hares breed from February until September. Litters usually contain two to four offspring and females give birth after 42 days.

*Hares do not live underground like the rabbit, but live in ‘forms’- shallow indentations in grassland and around woodland edges.*

The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 introduced closed seasons for the killing or taking of wild hares between 1 February and 30 September in Scotland. Why not in England?

*For every other game species – deer, pheasants, partridges, grouse, not to mention game fish such as trout and salmon – the law enforces a closed season for hunting, when the creatures are allowed, at least, to breed in peace. Why not for hares?*



The Hunting Act of 2004 banned hare coursing in the UK, but sadly, this illegal pursuit is still rampant in many rural areas, including our own.

*Much folklore is associated with the hare. For example, if one was seen by a pregnant woman, she would give birth to a baby with a hare-lip. Witches were once believed to turn into hares which then stole cows’ milk.*

**Collective nouns for the hare or ‘Lepus Europaeus’**

**Collective nouns include Drove, Husk, Down, Herd, Trace, Trip, Brace, Leash, and Kindle.**

**A ‘Trip’ of hares is also a term applied to goats, sheep, and pigs.**

**‘Husk’ is an old name for a company of hares, whilst a ‘Trace’ of hares refers to its footprint in the snow.**

**In common with other animals of the hunt, the hare shares the collective nouns ‘brace’ when referring to groups of two and ‘leash’ for groups of three individuals.**

# The Snailbeach Mine



On the morning of Wednesday the 6th of March 1895 at 6.15 am at the change over from the night shift to day shift George Williams, the winding engine driver at Old Shaft (George's Shaft), ran the man riding cages three times to and from the 252 yard level without men aboard to check that all was well.

After the check he raised two cage loads of nightshift men from the 252 yard level and lowered two loads of dayshift men. The third load of seven dayshift men then entered the cage to be lowered down the shaft. Half way down the descending cage winding rope broke. The cage with the seven men then plummeted to the bottom of the shaft. On the surface William Lewis ran out of the mine cabin just in time to see the other half of the broken winding rope flying overhead back towards the winding house, William Lewis had narrowly escaped being decapitated from the recoiling rope.

The engine wound two steel ropes, one rope on the winding drum wound one way and the other wound opposite, the ropes then passed over the two winding pulleys of the mine head frame and then to the cages. When the winding engine ran, one cage would ascend and the other would descend, both cages would work the shaft to the 252 yd level, each cage was capable of holding seven men.

On the fatal day when the rope of the descending cage broke the cage with the seven men fell 125yds to the bottom of the shaft, miners waiting at the bottom heard a horrendous sound and then were met with the terrible site of the mutilated bodies of the seven men in the cage that had once been seven feet high now reduced to eighteen inches by the force of the impact. The seven deceased miners were finally recovered and returned to the surface, the mine cabin near to the shaft became a temporary mortuary.

Over the following fortnight an inquest was held in Pontesbury and the verdict of the jury was "Accidental Death" caused by breakage of a defective winding rope. The jury was of the opinion that the rope had not been properly looked after and had been used for too long.

A miner William Holyoake gave this statement at the inquest;

*"I work at the Snailbeach Mine and was there on March the 6th. I went with seven men down the mine in the second cage. There was a jerk in going down. When we got down we lighted our candles and waited till the next party should come down. In about two or three minutes we heard the cage coming. The noise was like thunder. The cage crashed down with bodies in it. The cage was smashed up. The rope came down on top of the cage. We signalled up at once and proceeded to take away the rope by drawing it along the level. The rope was knocked about. We had to knock the cage to pieces to get the bodies out. There was not the least sign of life in any of them. So far as I know there had been no complaint about the shaft or rope. I had every confidence in the rope and it always looked perfectly safe"*

**(Wellington Journal, March 16th 1895).**



**Old winding rope at the mine site today**

The winding ropes at the mine would have been inspected every few days for external corrosion or signs of wear. They were also kept heavily greased.

Two reasons were finally given for the failure of the one rope. In the first instance the rope had been in use for far too long, normally steel winding ropes of that era would have been changed every four years

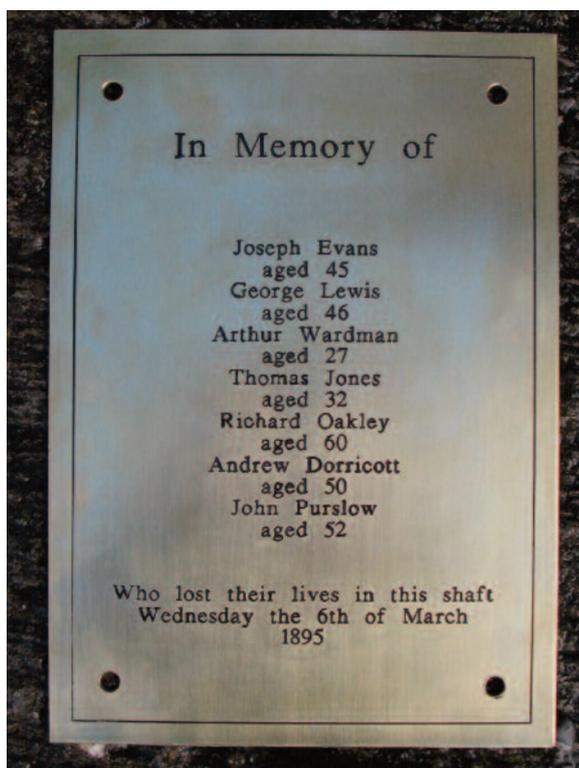
# Disaster Remembered

of use. However, the steel rope at Snailbeach had been in constant use for over eight and half years.

The second, and the most probable cause, was that when the winding of cages were not in use it was common practice to leave both cages half way down the shaft and opposite to each other to prevent stress to the winding engine, in doing so the same section of rope would be stationary and at an acute arc over the top the winding pulley wheels. This made the lay of the rope too open and allowed water to ingress and eventually causing undetectable internal corrosion, this could not be detected under the normal inspection. It was this short section of winding rope that broke.

After the accident the Mines Inspectorate implemented more stringent checks to mine winding ropes.

A memorial plaque dedicated to the seven deceased miners has been produced and hopefully will be installed on the mine site shortly.



Today the mine site is a peaceful place but I do wonder if the many people that visit can visualise the scene of that fatal day and the working conditions that the miners had to endure.

## The deceased miners - March 1895

**Joseph Evans.** Aged 45 of Perkins Beach - Interred at Hope Parish Church B.G

**George Lewis.** Aged 48 of Pennerley - Interred at Hope Parish Church B.G

**Arthur Wardman.** Aged 27 of Gorstey Bank - Interred at Lords Hill Chapel B.G

**Thomas Jones.** Aged 32 of Stiperstones - Interred Hope Parish Church B.G

**Richard Oakley.** Aged 60 of Minsterley - interred at Holy Trinity, Minsterley B.G

**Andrew Dorricott.** Aged 50 of Snailbeach - Interred at Hope Parish Church B.G

**John Purslow.** Aged 52 of Wagbeach - Interred at Holy Trinity, Minsterley B.G

## Short timeline of Snailbeach mine

**1180 to 1185** - Records of lead being sent to Gloucester Cathedral.

**1676** - First written evidence of lead mining at Snailbeach.

**1784 to 1862** - Coal mining at Pontesford to provide coal for smelting and fuel for steam engines at Snailbeach.

**1785** - Lead smelter built at Pontesford.

**1793** - First steam engine at Snailbeach working George's shaft.

**1840 to 1850** - Mine at its greatest production.

**1830 to 1880** - Most of the present building constructed during this period.

**1877 to 1950** - Snailbeach District Railway, narrow gauge ran from Pontesbury to Snailbeach and also served nearby quarries

**1895** - At George's shaft, wire rope lowering miners down the mine broke and seven men killed.

**1911** - Due to falling price of lead pumping stopped and the mine flooded up to the 112 yard level.

**1911 to 1955** - Low level mining of Barytes continued in the upper levels.

**1955 - 1994** - All mining ceased and buildings were unused and fell in disrepair.

**1993 to 1995** - Site made safe by land reclamation work and building repair by Shropshire County Council.

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# NATURAL ENGLAND

## Notes from the hill

The dunnocks on the hill seem to think that the worst of the winter is over, as they are now singing away with their loud tinkling warble from the tops of gorse bushes and trees. They are always one of the first birds to start singing on the hill. Probably like the robin, that sings all year, they tend to live in the dark undergrowth of hedges and woods and are less affected by the low light levels during the winter.

Again like Robins they are primarily woodland birds that have adapted to use hedges and gardens, and although not as obvious as a robin they are a well-known visitor to most gardens. The name dunnock sums up their drab plumage perfectly as it means 'small brown bird'. It has lots of other colloquial names including hedge sparrow, due to the similar brown colouration of these birds, but the dunnock is in the accentor family whose nearest relatives are alpine birds found in the mountains of Europe.

Interestingly the dull little dunnock has one of the most complex sex lives, involving lots of partner swapping, some male birds will have two females, while some females may have two or three males, or even two or three males will share up to four females. It must be a complex life being a dunnock, and after all that effort to maximise their breeding success they could well end up feeding the young of a cuckoo that has laid its eggs in their nest.



We are hoping that the dunnock is correct and the worst of the winter is over, as a dry March is often the key to us being able to carry out enough heather burning on the hill. We have a target of burning about five hectares of the heath each year, but this depends upon getting the right weather conditions and having the staff or volunteers available to manage those fires. This controlled burning and cutting of the heath maintains its varied structure which benefits a whole range of species including insects, lichens and birds.

The conifer felling is progressing well at Bergam Wood with almost half the trees down at the time of writing this. Once this is completed there are a number of other jobs that will need to be organised such as re-fencing, improving the public right of way, clearing the brash from the site and ensuring that the old mine entrance is suitably gated to prevent access but encourage its use by bats. At the moment it is used by a few lesser-horseshoe bats. Maybe there is a chance of us encouraging a greater horseshoe bat, a much rarer bat that excitingly has recently been found at Snailbeach.

We are witnessing an increased use of the Stiperstones by mountain bike. Although visitors by bike are welcome please remember that bikes should only be used on public bridleways. Riding away from paths causes erosion and damage to the site and encourages access to otherwise quiet areas increasing disturbance to the wildlife.

We will be helping with the Wildlife Fair in the Bishops Castle Town Hall on the 10th March 10-4. 'Beautiful Bugs' is the theme. Maybe see you there.

Simon Cooter for Natural England staff at Rigmooak.

*"The fact that a believer is happier than a sceptic is no more to the point than the fact that a drunken man is happier than a sober one"* George Bernard Shaw.

*"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel"* Maya Angelou.

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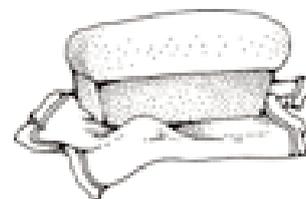
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## Letter from Westminster

### March 2018

Since I first became your local MP, I have championed the needs of those who live in rural areas. Over ten years ago I became the inaugural chairman in Parliament of a cross party group set up to campaign on behalf of rural communities to provide a strong voice in Westminster. At the end of January, I was once again elected as co-Chair of this All Party Parliamentary Group for Rural Services. The main thrust of our efforts are to ensure that government truly recognises the specific challenges in providing services to rural and sparsely populated areas, and the cost pressure this brings to local authorities and other public services like schools and hospitals.

When I was first elected in 2005, we were in the midst of a deliberate steady shift of funding away from rural areas to more metropolitan areas. Rural counties like Shropshire came under increasing pressure, as the previous government prioritised urban measures of deprivation, without considering sparsity, when it came to allocating national resources.

While that shift in resources has abated, as a result of this unfair funding in the past with limited progress in reversing these allocations, rural areas remain largely worse off in public funding than urban authorities. I had the opportunity to speak in the House of Commons on this subject during the Local Government Finance Bill debate last month, to illustrate to senior Ministers the gulf between rural and urban areas, both in their relative ability to raise funds and in the respective costs of providing services.

For example, in terms of councils' spending power, the proportion funded by council tax in rural areas for the coming year, 2018-19, is 69%, while the proportion of spending power funded by council tax in urban areas is 55%. So the burden on council tax payers in rural counties like Shropshire is significantly higher than in a similar sized urban authority, like Coventry. Band D Council Tax payers in Coventry pay broadly the same amount of Council Tax as those in Shropshire – but Coventry receives £21.5m more than Shropshire through Central Government funding, despite an almost identical number of dwellings.

When it comes to the cost of service delivery, it is self-evident that providing services in sparsely populated areas is more expensive than in densely populated areas. A care worker can visit more people in Coventry in a normal working day than they can in South Shropshire.

So clearly, the formulae used to allocate funding from central government to local authorities is not fair.

Prior to the debate, I had been lobbying hard with other MPs, led by Daniel Kawczynski, MP for Shrewsbury, to press for further funding to help meet rising costs of providing social care in Shropshire. So we were pleased that in response to our efforts, Shropshire gained an additional £2.25m, giving it a Core Spending Power of £231.3 million

for 2018-19.

But the issue of rising cost pressures, from an increasingly elderly population and associated adult social care costs, is not going away, and we shall be feeding evidence in to the Green Paper on Social Care due this summer. I was surprised to learn ahead of the debate that only 10 constituencies now have a higher percentage of over-65s than the Ludlow Constituency, where over-65s make up 28.2% of the population.

While the additional funding announced last month was welcome, I was particularly pleased to secure confirmation from the Secretary of State that the current consultation looking into what drives cost pressures for local authorities (which closes this month), will feed into the next spending review. If sparsity and rurality are properly factored into the formulae determining local authority spending, Shropshire should stand to benefit over the long term, which is what we need.

Office of Philip Dunne MP (Ludlow)  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA  
02072192388  
www.philipdunne.com

## Political humour.

A worldwide survey was conducted by the UN. The only question asked was: "Would you please give your honest opinion about solutions to the food shortage in the rest of the world?" The survey was a huge failure. In Africa they didn't know what "food" meant. In Eastern Europe they didn't know what "honest" meant. In Western Europe they didn't know what "shortage" meant. In China they didn't know what "opinion" meant. In the Middle East they didn't know what "solution" meant. In South America they didn't know what "please" meant. And in the USA they didn't know what "the rest of the world" meant.

\*\*\*

Q. How many Marxists does it take to change a light bulb?

A. None – the light bulb contains the seeds of its own revolution.

\*\*\*

The SNP used to have a Salmon, then it had a Sturgeon. Who's next? Tommy Caviar?

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8.00pm

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The Stiperstones Inn's

# Pub Quiz

8.00pm Monday  
26th March 2018

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

## Planning Applications & Decisions

### Planning Applications and Decisions

Reference: 18/00076/TCA  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06593034  
 Application Validated: Mon 08 Jan 2018  
 Address: Tankerville Mine Pennerley Shropshire SY5 0NB  
 Proposal: Fell to ground level and stump grind 2No. Ash trees and coppice to ground level 2No. Hazel trees within Worthen with Shelve Conservation Area  
 Status: No objection  
 Decision: No objection  
 Decision Issued Date: Tue 13th Feb 2018  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

\*\*\*\*\*

Reference: 17/06003/FUL  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06573212  
 Application Validated: Tue 16 Jan 2018  
 Address: Land Adjoining Disused Railway Line Snailbeach Shropshire  
 Proposal: Proposed replacement of existing touring caravan with 1No caravan for occupation as a dwelling  
 Status: Awaiting decision  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

\*\*\*\*\*

Reference: 18/00088/FUL  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06644644  
 Application Validated: Mon 08 Jan 2018  
 Address: Proposed Dwelling South Of Stonebatch 19 Pennerley Shropshire  
 Proposal: Erection of one (open market) cottage and detached garage; installation of sewage treatment plant; creation of vehicular access  
 Status: Awaiting decision  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

\*\*\*\*\*

Reference: 18/00384/REM  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06684064  
 Application Validated: Tue 23 Jan 2018  
 Address: Land North Of Mistletoe Cottage Crows Nest Snailbeach Shropshire SY5 0LU  
 Proposal: Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping and layout) in pursuance of outline planning permission No. 16/02875/OUT (for erection of bungalow and alterations to existing vehicular access)  
 Status: Awaiting decision  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

Reference: 17/05660/REM  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06479593  
 Application Validated: Tue 12 Dec 2017  
 Address: Proposed Dwelling West Of Shelve Farm Shelve Shropshire  
 Proposal: Reserved matters pursuant to outline permission ref: 17/02049/OUT dated 26/07/2017 for the erection of 1No dwelling and garage together with siting of a septic tank and soakaway to include access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale.  
 Status: Granted  
 Decision: Grant Permission  
 Decision Issued Date: Mon 05 Feb 2018  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

\*\*\*\*\*

Reference: 17/05226/FUL  
 Alternative Reference: PP-06490437  
 Application Validated: Mon 13 Nov 2017  
 Address: Proposed Dwelling South Of Cedric House Crows Nest Snailbeach Shropshire  
 Proposal: Erection of open-market dwelling  
 Status: Granted  
 Decision: Grant Permission  
 Decision Issued Date: Tue 06 Feb 2018  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available

\*\*\*\*\*

Reference: 18/00599/FUL  
 Application Validated: Mon 05 Feb 2018  
 Address: Tankerville Pottery Farm Tankerville Pennerley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 0NB  
 Proposal: Erection of a portal frame building to house agricultural machinery and implements  
 Status: Awaiting decision  
 Appeal Status: Unknown  
 Appeal Decision: Not Available



"WHY THE DELAY ON THE COTTAGE PIE - ARE YOU WAITING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION?"



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## Anyone for CoCo?

Are you ...

- Feeling isolated or lonely or finding the days rather empty?
- Recovering from a recent illness or experiencing a change in your level of independence?

Then **Pontesbury Compassionate Communities** or “**COCO**” may be able to support you. They are able to provide access to a free local volunteer who can help promote companionship and help in a variety of ways that aid health and wellbeing.

### Coco Volunteers are also wanted

Do you have a couple of hours once a week or fortnight to support someone in their own home to stay healthy and socially connected?

Would you be interested in:

Visiting and befriending

Playing cards / games with someone

Doing the crossword or reading to someone

Helping with errands

Helping someone with social activities

If you think you could help in any of these ways and are interested in becoming a COCO volunteer, please contact

Helen Tazewell at Pontesbury Medical Practice on  
01743 790325

Training & ongoing support are given to all volunteers.

# RACE NIGHT



**SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018**

**Doors Open 7.00pm**

**(First Race 7.30pm)**

**Snailbeach Village Hall**

Donations of  
Raffle Prizes  
would be greatly  
appreciated

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Friends of Stiperstones School (FOSS) are holding a Race Night to raise funds for the school. For the Race Night to go ahead we are looking for a Main Sponsor (£60) for the whole night and for Individual Race Sponsors (£30 per race).

We would like to give the local community and local businesses the opportunity to sponsor the night or a race.

If you would like to sponsor the event or know someone who would be willing to support us please contact Tracy or Clare on the number below

Horses and Jockeys can also be purchased in advance at a cost of £2 each, you will have a chance of winning a prize and get to choose their name!

**Advance Ticket - Adult £6.00, Child £4.00**

**On the door ticket - Adult £9.00, Child £6.00**

**(Tickets include supper of jacket potato and pudding)**

**Tickets are available to purchase from Stiperstones School, Stiperstones Inn, Tracy Eggby-Jones, Clare Bennett or Jane Bratby**

Any donations of raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated  
For more details please contact  
Tracy 01743 791817 or Clare 01743 790419

## *Farewell to Bill – A tribute to Bill Evans*

*Bill was born at the Green Farm Stiperstones in December 1922. He was the second youngest of seven children and the last survivor of that family.*

*His heart and soul were in the village. He went to school at Stiperstones C of E, attended chapel in the village and worked in the village from a young man through to his retirement.*

*Bill married Dorothy Jones (Doll) in April 1943; it was Easter. They started married life at No7 Perkins Beach Dingle where Janet, Wendy and Marie were born. Sometime later they built a bungalow in the village. Family was everything to Bill. He kept strong friendships with his brothers and sisters and their families and the cousins have fond memories of times spent together at family events and holidays. Bill had a wicked sense of humour and loved a practical joke.*

*Doll and Bill were staunch members of Perkins Beach Chapel. Bill attended Sunday school there and went on to be a member of the congregation. When they went on holiday they still attended chapel wherever they were.*

*Bill sang with the Perkins Beach Quartet with his brother Wallace, his brother in law Fred Jones and Reg. Evans. Bill had a lovely tenor voice and even as an old man it was a joy to hear him sing. He was musical in other ways too. He played the cornet as a boy in a brass band at Annscroft and was a founder member of Stiperstones Brass. He took his cornet on holiday too in the hope that he could join in with a band when he was away.*

*Bill started work at Vincent Greenhouse, where he trained as a mechanic. Later Bill drove lorries and buses for his bother Bert's business, Minsterley Motors. He was a well-respected mechanic and kept the vehicles on the road and moving. He was often called out at odd hours and to far flung places to do so. Bill was one of the many school bus drivers in our village too.*

*Bill was good husband, father, father-in-law and grandad, he was a much loved uncle, a good friend and neighbour. He will be sadly missed by his family, friends and neighbours in Stiperstones and the surrounding villages.*

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# Snailbeach White Stars

## Match Reports

### White Lion 2-12 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: The weather was awful, the pitch was atrocious and the boys delivered. Change in formation but the boys trounced the home side with some great football in what has proved to be a notoriously difficult game in previous seasons. No harm done to the goal difference either...

**TEAM:**

GK: Wayne WALTON  
 DEF: Ben MILLINGTON, Danny JONES, Owen MORRIS, Dan CAMBURN  
 MID: Jamie HYNE, Kyle PURSLOW, Craig GRIFFITHS, Calum BENNETT  
 ATT: Marcus ASHLEY, Adam DAVIES ©  
 SUBS: Kieran JONES, Jack BREEZE  
 GOAL SCORERS: Jamie HYNE (4), Marcus ASHLEY (3), Adam DAVIES (2), Calum BENNETT, Kyle PURSLOW, Craig GRIFFITHS

MAN OF THE MATCH: Marcus ASHLEY – Scored 3, created half a dozen more and just worked his socks off once more, despite getting kicked from pillar to post as per usual!

### Red Barn Rovers 0-12 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: Another dozen goals for the boys and a clean sheet on what could've been a potentially difficult away day. Despite being down to ten men, courtesy of a second half Wayne Walton red card, the boys breezed through the game and scored plenty of quality goals.

**TEAM:**

GK: Wayne WALTON  
 DEF: Ben MILLINGTON, Danny JONES, Owen MORRIS, Calum BENNETT  
 MID: Jamie HYNE, Kyle PURSLOW, Craig GRIFFITHS, Joe BYERS

ATT: Marcus ASHLEY, Adam DAVIES ©  
 SUBS: Sam PRICE, Chris CARSWELL, Jack BREEZE  
 GOAL SCORERS: Adam DAVIES (6), Jamie HYNE (3), Marcus ASHLEY, Kyle PURSLOW, Calum BENNETT

MAN OF THE MATCH: Adam DAVIES – Six goals say it all really. One quality finish in the first half a particular stand out, lashed one in to the top corner. Could say he was a bit of a handful...

### AFC Fountain 1-7 Snailbeach White Stars

SUMMARY: Big county cup quarter final victory away on a poor pitch against physical opponents. The boys showed their battling capabilities and earned a place in the semi-final against White Lion for the chance to play on Shrewsbury Town's Montgomery Waters Meadow Stadium in the final.

**TEAM:**

GK: Jack BREEZE  
 DEF: Ben MILLINGTON, Danny JONES, Owen MORRIS, Dan CAMBURN  
 MID: Joe BYERS, Kyle PURSLOW, Craig GRIFFITHS, Calum BENNETT  
 ATT: Jamie HYNE, Marcus ASHLEY ©  
 SUBS: Sam PRICE, Chris CARSWELL  
 GOAL SCORERS: Marcus ASHLEY (3), Jamie HYNE, Danny JONES, Calum BENNETT

MAN OF THE MATCH: Marcus ASHLEY – On a day when Danny Jones scored a goal from well inside his own half Marky sneaks the award for a combative display after plenty of rough treatment from the opposition defence. Got kicked but responded in the best way with a hat-trick!

It's the FA Cup final, Liverpool vs Everton. Tickets sold out in five minutes, the whole city is heading to Wembley. A man notices at half time that the fella in front has had an empty seat next to him the whole match, this is baffling considering how important this game is. So he asks him: "Ay mate, how come there's nobody sitting next to you?" He replies "That was my wife's seat, we've been going to the game together for 15 years now, but she sadly passed away recently" "Oh I'm sorry for bringing it up, terrible news, but do you not have any friends or family you could have gave the spare ticket to?" "Well yeah," he replied, "but they're all at her funeral"

What do you call an Englishman in the knockout stages of the World Cup? A referee.

What ship has never arrived in the ports of Liverpool? The Premiership.

Why is a bad soccer team like an old bra? It has no cups and very little support.



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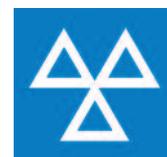
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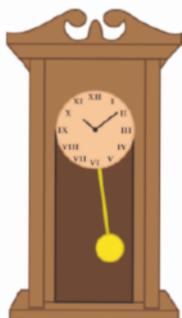
**Tel: 01743 790 879**

### Some puzzlers...

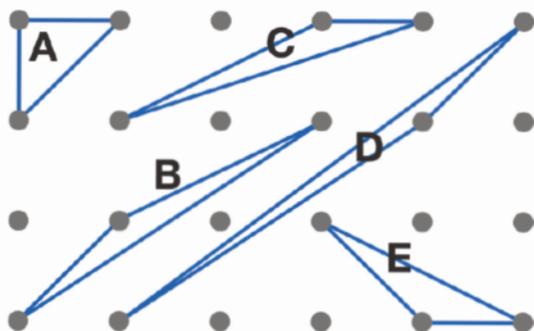
1) A rhombus and a square have the same side length, but are not congruent. Which has the **smaller** area?



2) A pendulum clock uses the oscillations of a pendulum, a swinging weight, to keep track of time. When the temperature rises and the length of the pendulum increases, what will happen to the clock? It will become slightly faster, it will become slightly slower, or there will be no effect on the clock?



3) Which triangle has the greatest area?



1) Answer: Rhombus  
 2) Answer: It will become slightly slower  
 3) Answer: They all have the same area

### Some collective nouns...

- A sentence of judges
- An expectation of midwives
- A conflagration of arsonists
- A pomposity of professors
- An illusion of magicians
- A horde of misers
- An exaggeration of fishermen
- A flush of plumbers
- A scoop of journalists
- A decanter of publicans
- A shock of electricians
- A pity of husbands
- A sleuth of detectives
- A ponder of philosophers
- A load of cobblers

## The Bog Visitor Centre



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

### Silk Painting with Maggie Heath

**Tuesday 17th April 10.00am – 12.00am**

Create a small silk painting that could be used in a sewing project or a greeting card. - **£15**

### Felt Making with Maxine Smith

**Tuesday 15th May 10.00am – 12.00am**

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

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

### Strange goings on in Minsterley

I was visiting the cemetery in Minsterley recently and couldn't help noticing a man kneeling in front of a gravestone, clasping his hands and sobbing. I went a bit closer and could hear what the man was saying. "Why did you have to die?" he was repeating, "Why did you have to die?"

Feeling I ought to do something to alleviate the man's obvious distress I laid my hand on his shoulder saying gently, "Was it someone you loved very much?" The man looked up at me and said, "No, I never met him, he was my wife's first husband."

### Flower Arranging Evening At Hope Village Hall

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## Waste Collection Schedule

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

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

### Mobile Post Office Opening Times

Wednesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm  
 Perkins Beach Methodist Church, Stiperstones  
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 08457 22 33 44 (central customer services)

### Stiperstones Stores Opening Times

Approximately 9.00 am / 8pm Daily  
 The Stiperstones Inn, Stiperstones  
 Tel. 01743 790 594



Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:  
 PC 3233 Anne Gutteridge - PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss PCSO 40274 Harry Horlock  
 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

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault x2		Wilmington	
Blackmail		White Gritt	
Dogs worrying livestock		Shelve	Offending animal re-homed away from livestock
Attempt theft of vehicle	Attempt to take SORN vehicle parked on private drive	Marion	Afternoon 24 <sup>th</sup> January
Theft	3ft stone mushroom with a rounded bottom	Worthen	Occurred 17 <sup>th</sup> January
Attempt burglary	Attempt made to enter a outbuilding	Worthen	Approx 16:00 17 <sup>th</sup> January
Breach of non-molestation order		Bentlawnt	

## Snailbeach Village Hall

Snailbeach Village Hall Booking Fees

HIRE CHARGES FOR PLEDGE SCHEME MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS	Normal rate (£)	Pledge Rate (£)
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
Hire of hall and all catering facilities	40.00	25.00
Hire of hall with full bar facilities	90.00	60.00

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

## Useful Numbers

**Shrewsbury Hospital**  
**01743 261 000**

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**0333 222 6655**

**Pontesbury Medical**  
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**Worthen Medical**  
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**Minsterley Motors**  
**01743 791 208**

**Councillor H Kidd**  
**01938 561 651**

**Philip Dunne MP**  
**01584 872 187**

**Village Hall Bookings**  
**01743 791 633**

**Stiperstones Oil Coordinator**  
**01743 792 204**

**Snailbeach & District News**  
**01743 790 049**

**Stiperstones Stores**  
**01743 790 594**

# Minsterley Motors

We offer reliable and comfortable coach travel with our modern fleet of coaches and service buses which have seating capacities ranging from 29 to 53 seats.

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

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

Pontesbury - Newtown - Tuesdays (Market Day) Only				
Departing from:	Time		Departing from:	Time
Pontesbury	9.30		NEWTOWN	1.55
Minsterley	9.33		Kerry	2.00
Plox green	9.35		Sarn	2.10
Hope	9.41		Blue Bell	2.20
Gravels	9.44		Court House	2.25
White Gritt	9.47		Pentree	2.30
Llan Turn	9.51		Green chapel	2.35
Bromleys Mill	9.55		Bishops castle	2.45
Lydham	9.57		Lydham	2.48
Bishops Castle	10.00		Bromleys Mill	2.50
Green chapel	10.05		Llan turn	2.55
Pentree	10.15		White Gritt	2.58
Court House	10.20		Gravels	3.01
Blue Bell	10.25		Hope	3.05
Sarn	10.40		Plox Green	3.10
Kerry	10.53		Minsterley	3.12
Newtown	11.00		Pontesbury	3.15

745 Service between Pontesbury and Ludlow Runs on Mondays and Fridays only for Ludlow Market days				
On this service only Concession Passes are accepted before 9.30 am				
Departing from:	Time		Departing from:	Time
Pontesbury	8.45		Ludlow	13.20
Minsterley	8.50		Craven Arms	13.37
Hope	8.55		Broome	13.45
Lydham	9.05		Aston on Clun	13.48
Bishops Castle	9.10		Little Brampton	13.53
Colebatch	9.14		Lydbury North	13.59
Clun	9.20		Clunton	14.15
Clunton	9.25		Clun	14.20
Lydbury North	9.41		Colebatch	14.26
Little Brampton	9.47		Bishops castle	14.30
Aston on clun	9.52		Lydham	14.35
Broome	9.55		Hope	14.35
Craven Arms	10.03		Minsterley	14.50
Ludlow	10.20		Pontesbury	14.55

*Minsterley Motors is a family run business and has been an established part of the Shropshire scene for many years.*

*If it's a friendly and efficient service you are looking for, you need not look further than Minsterley Motors.*

*We will be delighted to provide you with a comprehensive quotation at guaranteed prices for all types of coach hire and coach travel, and for any size of group.*

### **Contacts**

*Telephone:*

*01743 791 208  
(8am - 5pm Monday to Friday)*

*Email Address:*

*john@minsterleymotors.co.uk*

*Website:*

*www.minsterleymotors.co.uk*

## Baptist Services



**Sunday services: 10.30am & 3.00pm**

**Prayer Meeting/Bible Study**

**Wednesday 7.15pm**

**Held in the School Room, Snailbeach**

**Elder: Mr Joe Evans 01743 790 979**

**All are welcome!**

## Methodist Services



### Snailbeach Methodist News March 2018

**4th, 11th, 18th March  
services at 2.45pm**

**25th March  
service at 10.30am**

**1st April  
service at 2.45pm**

**Everyone welcome.  
Please join us.**

## Quaker Meetings

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

**Clun Valley Quaker Meeting**  
The Community Centre  
Grange Road, Bishop's Castle  
10.30am every Sunday.

## Stiperstones Group – C of E Service Rota March 2018

Date	Haberley St Mary	Hope Holy Trinity	Minsterley Holy Trinity	Shelve All Saints	Snailbeach St Luke
<b>1st Sunday 4th March Lent 3 Purple</b>			10.30 am Holy Communion  Rev'd Giles	9.00am Morning Prayer  Rev'd Giles	
<b>2nd Sunday 11th March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday Purple</b>	6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer  Rev'd Giles	10.30am Holy Communion  Rev'd Christine	10.30am Confirmation Service  +Bishop Richard & Rev'd Giles		9.00am Holy Communion  Rev'd Pam
<b>3rd Sunday 18th March Lent 5 Passiontide Purple</b>			10.30am All Age Communion & Baptism  Rev'd Pam	10.30am All Age Communion & Baptism <i>(note changed time)</i> Rev'd Giles	
<b>4th Sunday 25th March Palm Sunday Red</b>	10.30am Morning Prayer  Rev'd Pam	9.00am Morning Prayer  Rev'd Pam	10.00am Crown & Sceptre Blessing of Palms & procession to Holy Trinity Church 10.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Giles		
<b>Thursday 29th March Maundy Thursday White</b>			7.30pm Holy Communion & washing of feet & stripping of altar Rev'd Giles & Rev'd Pam		
<b>Friday 30th March Good Friday No hangings</b>		12.00 noon Mid-day Prayer  Rev'd Christopher	10.00am- 12noon Messy Easter  Rev'd Giles	5.00pm Evening Prayer  Rev'd Giles	3.15pm Short devotional on Shepherds Rock Rev'd Giles
<b>1st Sunday 1st April Easter Day Gold/White</b>	10.30am Holy Communion  Rev'd Christopher	10.30 am Holy Communion  Rev'd Christine	10.30 am Holy Communion  Rev'd Giles	9.00am Holy Communion  Rev'd Pam	9.00am Holy Communion  Rev'd Giles

Snailbeach Village Hall

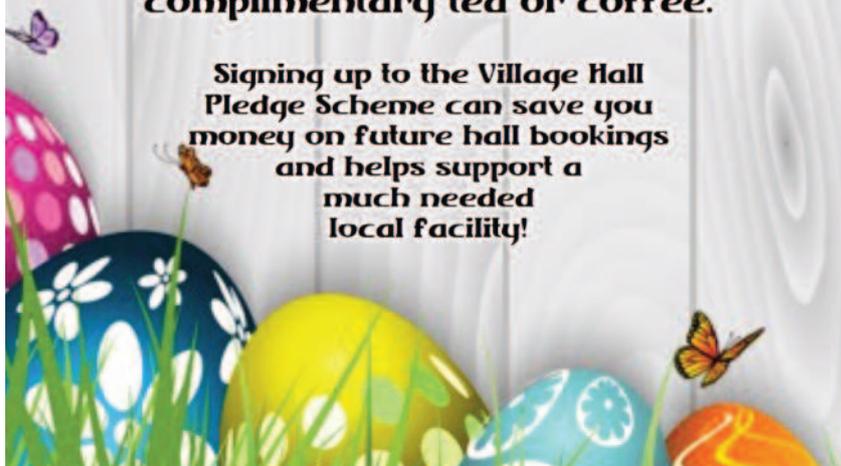
# Easter Fun Day!

**Snailbeach Village Hall  
31st March 2018**

**Easter Bonnet Competition  
Free Bingo & Childrens Easter Egg Hunt**

**Come along for a complimentary tea or coffee.**

Signing up to the Village Hall Pledge Scheme can save you money on future hall bookings and helps support a much needed local facility!



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

## Sudoku



**Hand in your colouring into The Stiperstones Inn and I will give a prize for my favourite Superman!**

**Dont forget to put your name & Age  
Ages 1 - 11 accepted!**

**Good Luck & Good colouring!  
Last month's winner  
Caroline Chidley  
Well Done!**

**Phil xxx**

## Superman Colouring

## What's On...

### Coffee Morning Hope Village Hall

Saturday, 17th March  
10am – 12 noon

In aid of village hall funds.  
Please call Joyce 01743 890 901  
or Debbie 01743 891 414

### Race Night In aid of:

#### Friends of Stiperstones School Snailbeach Village Hall

Saturday 17th March 7.00pm  
Advance Tickets: Adult £6, Child £4  
On the door: Adult £9, Child £6

### 'Vanishing Buildings' Book Launch

#### Bishop's Castle, Town Hall Gallery

Thursday March 8  
@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
A Stiperstones &  
Cordon Hill Country event

### Remi Harris Trio Gypsy Swing, Jazz and Blues Habberley Village Hall

Friday 9th March @ 7.30pm  
Tickets £10  
01743 790 179

### Coffee Morning Saturday 17th March 19, Orchard Drive, Minsterley.

10.00am – 12 noon  
SY5 0DG  
Cakes, raffle, bring & buy  
In aid of Holy Trinity Church

### Flower Arranging Evening With demonstrator Jane Pugh

"The Singing Florist"  
At Hope Village Hall  
Thursday 26th April 2018 7.30pm  
Followed by Posh Puds  
Tickets are £7.50  
Contact Jo on 07905 636 569



# SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

Issue 177, March 2002

## Village Hall Decision Time

### Do we need one? Do we want one?

The state of our village hall is becoming a serious concern. We are getting fewer bookings for functions and parties, which is not surprising when you look at the facilities other halls and hotels can offer. Rural communities are very much in the public eye at the moment and ours seems to be in the news more than most -

usually for very positive reasons. There has been no better time than now to look for grants and funding to develop facilities in our villages. However no organisation just hands out money, they have to be convinced that our proposals are what the community really want. Please take time with the members of your household to fill in

the questionnaire attached to this edition of the newsletter. If you have not received one with your newsletter, or you need another for a neighbour, they are available at the Post Office. Someone from the Village Hall Committee will pop round to collect your form and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your help and the support that we always get for village events, light hearted or serious.

Geoff Sproson  
On behalf of Snailbeach Village Hall Committee.

### Parish Council Revokes Lighting Proposal

At a well attended Parish Council Meeting in Hope Village Hall on February 25, the council agreed unanimously to throw out the proposal to install seven street lights in Snailbeach and to look for alternative ways of ensuring the safety of

people using the Chapel. The Council took this decision in response to a report from the residents' meeting held at Snailbeach Village Hall, and to letters received by the Clerk, Mr. Gordon Dixon. (See panel opposite)

### Parish Council Vacancies

For a variety of reasons there are vacancies on the Worthen with Shelve Parish Council. Anyone interested in

becoming a Parish Councillor should contact Gordon Dixon, Clerk to the Council (see panel opposite)

### Draft Local Plan Available

The first consultation draft is now available for inspection and comment. A copy of each will be found in your local post office if you live in Worthen Ward (Stiperstones, Worthen & Bent Lott). It will be in each until April 12th, by which time any comments should be sent to the District Council in Ludlow. It

will be too late to object to the overall plans for housing and other developments when the plan is actually in force (March 2004).

Philip Neal, District Councillor

### Note From The Editor

First of all, my apologies for the late arrival of your newsletter this month. I have been away for a week, and hence it is a few days late.

The normal publication date for

the newsletter is the first Monday in the month. There is a problem with this insofar as the timing of the Parish Council meetings means that any Parish Council news is a month

old before it gets in the newsletter. To rectify this I propose moving the publication date to the second Monday in the month, effective from the May issue. So, please bear in mind

when submitting items (especially forthcoming events) for the April issue, that the following publication date will not be until May 13. Thanks.

**SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS**

Issue 177, March 2002

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*"Common sense and a sense of humour is the same thing, moving at different speeds. A sense of humour is just common sense, dancing"*  
William James.

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

Publisher: Philip J Sproson-Jones

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