



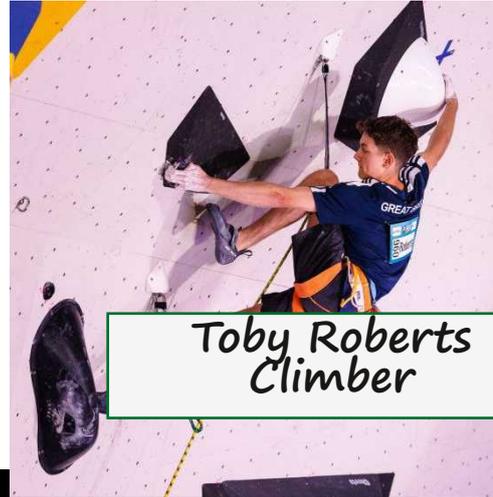
SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

May 2024
Like moths to a flame

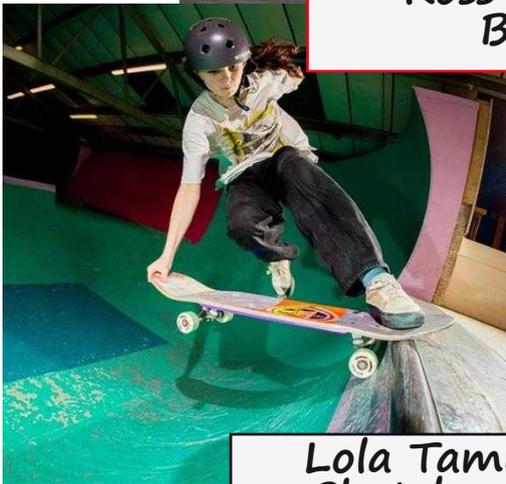
Free



Ross Cullen
BMX



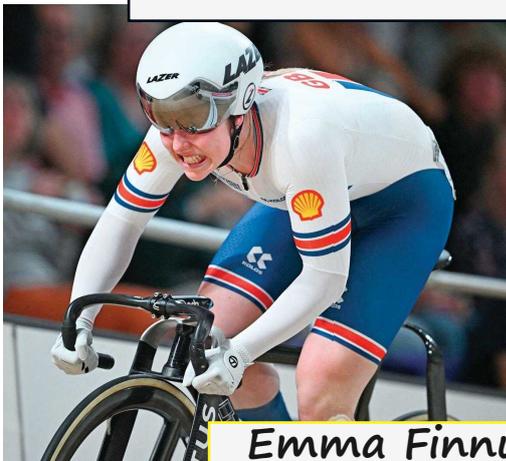
Toby Roberts
Climber



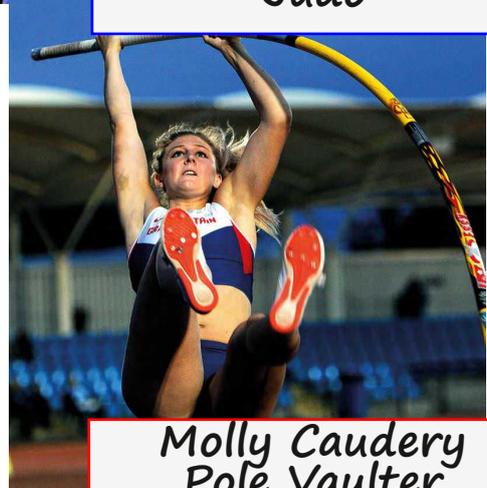
Lola Tambling
Skateboarder



Lachlan Moorhead
Judo



Emma Finnucane
Cyclist

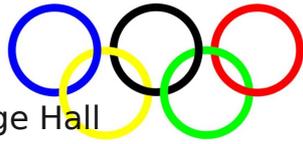


Molly Caudery
Pole Vaulter

Six young medal hopes
for Paris 2024

In May's Issue

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St Luke's church Snailbeach is holding a Pentecost service for the first time in some years. Pentecost Communion will be celebrated at 9am on Sunday 19th May. The Coffee Morning at the Village Hall was well supported. To everyone who came, helped or donated items we are extremely grateful. We raised over £1000. Lorna Knill named the llama "Tabby", Jo waters named the teddy "Maggie". A raffle prize was won by Ian ticket 469-470. This was unclaimed, could the winner collect from Rose Cottage.

Also an advance date for your diary - at 3pm on Sunday 14th July we host a summer service followed by afternoon tea!

St. Luke's



From the Editor

Its Olympic Year again. Paris 2024. My sister Janet loved the Olympics, no matter what sport. Synchronised swimming, rhythmic gymnastics, beach volleyball; she was glued to them all. Paris would have been easy for her, sensible, civilised broadcasting times. No middle of the night or early morning sessions from Beijing or Rio. Much Wenlock claims to have inspired the modern Olympic era, holding games from 1850 long before the Athen's games of 1896. The man behind this movement William Penny Brookes is featured here and Wenlock's own Olympiads are still held every year.

My father-in-law Joe Rowson talks about the Snailbeach Olympics held on the 'Sludge' probably at the time of the first Paris Games in 1924 on which the film 'Chariots of Fire' was based. Usually the village football pitch, the rough flat area of the 'White Hillocks' became an arena for running, throwing and jumping events. I guess the competitors were all modestly attired unlike the athletes from the early Greek Olympics who performed naked so that no females could take part!

Remember that the Snailbeach District News is seeking a new editor from September.

The 'News' has followed a similar format for sometime - maybe it should stay this way or maybe it is time for new thinking and a change of format. I think most of us think it would be a shame if it did not continue in one shape or form so everybody please give it some thought.

sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk
June deadline 21st May

Snailbeach Village Hall



Snailbeach and District Village Hall Committee

The Committee is made up of the following people:-

Chair – Philip Sproson-Jones, contact via the Stiperstones Inn

Vice Chair – Rodney Birt

Treasurer – Maria Marks

Secretary – Pam Bickley, or 07887 531174

Bookings officer – Jo Jeays, 07815 733730

Health and Safety – Carl Fleming

Lara Sproson Jones; Pam Davies; Ray Harper; Caroline Harper; Anne-Marie Fleming; Jenny Mix; Julian Bromhead

Co-opted member – Justyna Jones

As the Village Hall is a charity, we are all Trustees and follow the guidelines laid out by the Charity Commission. We also have a Constitution which goes back to the original committee – it lays out clearly what we are there for.

We meet bi monthly and our AGM is in November. We are always looking for new members and if you are interested, please speak to any of the committee members



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Landscape

www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk

Shropshire Hills National Landscape Team

Article for local newsletters, April 2024

Have your say on the Shropshire Hills National Landscape

We are reviewing the Management Plan for the Shropshire Hills National Landscape (new name for the designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and would like to hear your views on:

- what do you value about the area?
- what are your concerns?
- what do you think should be the priorities for the future?

Please share this link to the survey if you can, so we can gather as many views as possible - [Review of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Management Plan \(office.com\)](https://www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk/office.com)

You might appreciate the views, peace and quiet, wildlife, opportunities to walk or cycle, or the heritage and culture. You might have views on protecting the quality of the landscape, helping nature to recover, how we respond to climate change, future directions for farming, or how tourism and visitors should be managed.

The Shropshire Hills National Landscape Partnership will prepare the new Management Plan, setting out priorities and actions to conserve and enhance natural beauty from 2025 - 2030. The Partnership and staff team have a key role to support and co-ordinate action, but this is a plan for the area and for all partners to help deliver.

Make the most of life, join our u3a

Our u3a is part of a uk & worldwide charity where retired and semi-retired people come together to learn for fun and friendship:

- 20 plus interest groups in our local u3a; something for everyone
- start at any level
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- new groups are formed when sufficient members express interest

- | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Art History | Cycling | History | Photography | Table Tennis 2 (Minsterley) |
| Astronomy | Family History | Italian | Pickleball | Table Tennis 3 (Pontesbury) |
| Board Games | Folk Music | Literature | Play Reading | Walking (long) |
| Café Society | Gardening | Local History | Poetry | Walking (short) |
| Creative writing | Geology | Painting & Drawing | Table Tennis 1 (Pontesbury) | |



learn, laugh, live

Contact

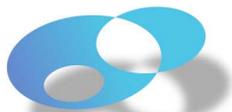
Steve Anderson
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Partner Practice



Last month, at the request of local farmers, I chaired a meeting at which West Mercia's Police and Crime Commissioner and Superintendent for Shropshire spoke to those concerned about a recent spate of burglary of farm machinery.



I engage regularly with farmers from around South Shropshire, in particular through the local National Farmers Union groups, so had been aware that thefts of agricultural machinery and vehicles had become a rapidly growing concern in our community. I had raised the issue previously with our Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion.

At the meeting, he and other officers involved were able to provide insights into Op Gander – an eight-month investigation into serious and organised rural crime launched by West Mercia Police last summer, following a spate of agricultural crimes around Shropshire. So far, Op Gander has resulted in the arrests of eight men from across Shropshire, six of whom were charged for some 80 separate offences in Shropshire and Mid-Wales, mostly for the theft of high value vehicles, including tractors, 4x4 vehicles and ATVs.

This effort to crack down on rural crime has been helped by the fact West Mercia now has a record number of police officers, at 2,520, with more being allocated to South Shropshire to help improve local visibility and resourcing. This reflects the government delivering on its 2019 manifesto commitment to recruit 20,000 more police officers across the country.

Last year, the government also passed the Equipment Theft (Prevention) Act, which will help prevent theft by requiring immobilisers and forensic marking to be fitted as standard to new agricultural equipment.

But there are also steps we can all take to ensure vigilance in the community, such as joining West Mercia's Rural Watch programme.

By engaging Safer Neighbourhood teams directly with rural communities, Rural Watch aims to reduce local opportunities for crime and vandalism; reinforce community spirit so that everyone can contribute towards the protection of their property; introduce early warning systems in the farming and countryside areas; and improve the intelligence flow between rural communities and police. More information can be found on West Mercia's website www.westmercia.police.uk.

Since 2010, crime excluding fraud has fallen by 55 per cent, and Shropshire has the lowest crime rate of all the county areas in West Mercia (of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Telford & Wrekin).

But I am also aware of wider concerns about retail crime such as shoplifting, so I welcome the government's plan, announced last month, to help crack down on this threat to our high streets.

Assaulting a retail worker is being made a standalone criminal offence, and the government is clamping down on offenders who repeatedly target the country's high streets, with serial offenders forced to wear tags to track their movements. Investment in facial recognition technology, alongside information sharing between the police and some of the largest retailers in the country, will help identify and catch criminals who repeatedly target shops.

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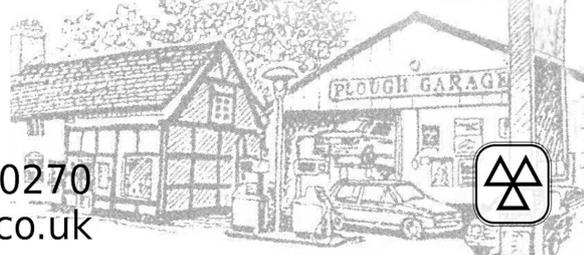


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Notes from the hill

This month's species seems very apt as we are starting to hear the arrival of many of our migrant songbirds as they return from sunnier climes to our rather wet landscape. It has been the longest wettest winter that I have known and it has made some of our management work on the hill impossible. Fencing projects have been postponed and it is the first year when we have not been able to carry out any heather burning.

The species that I am featuring this month is the tree pipit. This is one of the twelve species for which action plans have been produced by the Stepping Stones Project. These plans can be found on the Middle Marches community Land Trust web site. Each of these species now has a champion that will encourage the delivery of the plan's actions and there will soon be a species factsheet produced detailing how everyone can help these declining species in our area.

The tree pipit is what is commonly known as an LBJ, or a little brown job. It is a small streaked brown bird which can be easily confused with the more common meadow pipit. Apart from a few differences in appearance the main way of distinguishing between the two species is by its song and its habit of perching in trees. They arrive back at this time, from their overwintering grounds in the Sahel, the region of Africa below the north African deserts.

Tree pipits nest on the ground but use trees for song perches, where they can be seen flying up and parachuting down to a branch, singing their characteristic song. They are one of the few birds that seems happy to continue singing through the middle of the day and this can be a good time to look for them. Their preferred habitat is scattered trees in grass and heathland, although they will also use woodland edges and newly planted plantations. It is for this reason that the tree pipit was chosen by the Stepping Stones project as an indicator species for one of its key habitats the ffridd, also called heath/woodland mosaic.



Ffridd is a Welsh term for the scrubby land found on steep hillsides. It is on these steeper hill sides where grazing pressure is less and agricultural improvement has not been possible that allows a mix of scubby trees, gorse, bracken, heath and natural grassland to remain. These areas if managed well with light grazing can be extremely important for wildlife and birds such as cuckoos, whinchat, linnets and tree pipits rely upon them. However, if they are grazed too heavily they turn into barren grassland and if they are ungrazed become dominated by bracken or gorse.

It is the relatively natural habitat structure of the ffridd and the range of insects that will live on them, particularly if they are south facing that then benefits insect eating species such as the tree pipit. The cuckoo also benefits from these hill edges which not only hold good numbers of host species such as dunnocks and meadow pipits in whose nests it can lay its eggs, but again because of the insect food available. Cuckoos are particularly fond of large moth caterpillars and as such act as the canaries of the hills, their lack of song warning us of the dangers of losing these precious remains of natural habitats in the Shropshire Hills.

There is a bird walk on the Stiperstones on the 4th May, where hopefully we will see and hear tree pipits. We will be meeting at the Stiperstones carpark at 9.30am, see Facebook for more details.

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmooeak



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Minsterley "Trinity Tots" group

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After six years Barbara Norsworthy is standing down this summer as leader of Trinity Tots. She and Judith Matthews, who is also retiring, will be much missed, and although they will still be running the group until the summer holiday we want to place on record our deep gratitude to them for their caring kindness and faithful service.

In view of their departure, we are looking to recruit new team members ready for a September start. A job description and application form can be obtained from Emma at officepontstip@gmail.com. Please contact Greg on 07902 794653 for an informal conversation. Closing date for applications is 17th May. Anyone joining the team will need to undertake a DBS check.

Greg Smith

[Sarah Young will continue to be on the Tots' team, and you are welcome to ask her about what is involved by ringing 07999 551001].

Hope & Shelve Church News

Annual Parish Meeting

All in the community or with an interest in our local churches are welcome to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in Hope Village Hall at 2.30pm on Wednesday 15th May. There will be reports on our activities as well as the chance to ask questions.

Hope & Shelve Fete

This will take place on Saturday 1st June at Leigh Manor, SY5 0EG, from 2-4pm. Come along and listen to the Stiperstones Brass band who will be playing for us during the afternoon. There will be free activities for children as well as a number of stalls to browse and refreshments on sale. All welcome.

Rev Fran Brealey

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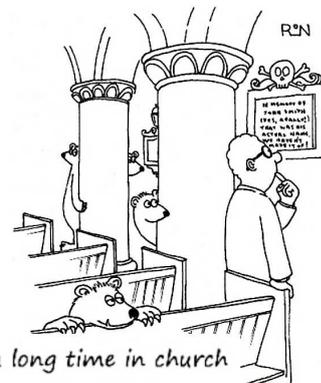
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Summer Fete
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Dennis spent a long time in church looking for his forbears



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William Penny Brookes the father of the Modern Olympic Games

William Penny Brookes was born in Much Wenlock in 1809 where his father was one of the local doctors.



The family house is situated in Wilmore Street opposite the Parish Church. He left Much Wenlock to study Medicine at Guy's and St Thomas's Hospitals in London. Later he travelled to Italy with his brother John to study at Padua, a renowned school of medicine attached to the University. The medieval botanical gardens at Padua could also have been an attraction to the young medical student.

In 1830 Brookes was in Paris to further his education in Medicine when he learnt that his father had died of typhoid. After qualifying (M.R.C.S and L.S.A.) in 1831, he returned to Much Wenlock to take over his father's practice.

He became a JP in 1841 and remained an active magistrate for nearly 40 years. He would regularly have been confronted with cases of petty crime, drunkenness and theft in the local community. This would no doubt have influenced his desire to develop the need for structured physical exercise and education for the working classes.

In 1841 Brookes, founded the Agricultural Reading Society. This early kind of lending library was established 'for the promotion and diffusion of useful information'. He wrote to many titled and famous people, such as the Duke of Wellington and Abraham Darby. Many of them responded by sending donations and books.

From the Reading Society evolved various classes including Art, Philharmonic and Botany classes. In 1850 Brookes formed the Wenlock Olympian Class.

The First Wenlock Olympian Games were held in October 1850, with a mixture of athletics and also traditional country sports such as quoits, football and cricket. These early Games sometimes included a 'fun' event; once a wheelbarrow race, another year an old woman's race for a pound of tea, these events were not usually a part of the general programme.

The Wenlock Olympian Society Annual Games are still held, every July, at the Windmill Field though this area is now designated the Gaskell Recreation Ground. From the beginning some events were open to all-comers. In the much expanded 1851 Games, for example, according to the newspaper report, Poyner of Albrighton won three events, Badger of Wolverhampton came second in the 'half-mile foot race', while Mainwaring of Birmingham won the 'leaping in distance' event.

Later there were competitors from as far away as London in the South and Liverpool in the North. In 1859 Brookes was in contact with Greece, sending £10 to be presented to the winner of an event in the Olympian Games in Athens. Those Games were funded by Evangelis Zappas, a wealthy Greek living in Romania, and were part of a 'National Industry' exhibition. The Greek Committee decided to award the Wenlock prize to the winner of the 'Long' or 'Sevenfold' race.

Romeo & Juliet

13 - 23 June at Ludlow Castle

We are delighted to announce that tickets have now gone on sale for Romeo and Juliet at Ludlow Castle.

Shakespeare has been performed in the open air at Ludlow Castle since the 1960s and we are thrilled to say that tradition will continue with another exciting production from Flabbergast Theatre. If you missed their visceral adaptation of 'Macbeth' or their eccentric, bohemian 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' then for goodness sake don't miss 'Romeo and Juliet' this Summer. As always, you will have the chance to enjoy a picnic in the stunning surroundings of Ludlow Castle before the performance.

The production is a part of Ludlow Fringe Festival 2024, and as you might know, Ludlow Assembly Rooms are the temporary custodians of the festival. We will be releasing tickets for more Fringe events over the coming days and weeks, some of which will have PRIORITY ACCESS for our Friends and Patrons.

If you want the chance of the best seats in the house, or even the chance to get tickets at all then do consider joining our membership. By doing so, you will be supporting our ongoing growth and development as South Shropshire's leading Arts and Community venue.

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The original objective of the Olympian Class was to "promote the moral, physical and intellectual improvement of the inhabitants of the Town and neighbourhood of Wenlock"

In 1860 the Class separated from the Reading Society and was called the Wenlock Olympian Society, the name remains unchanged to this date. The Shropshire Olympian Games were founded in 1861 through the initiative of Penny Brookes.

In 1865, with Hulley of Liverpool and Ravenstein of the German Gymnastic Club in London, Penny Brookes established the National Olympian Association (NOA) based in Liverpool. The aim was to provide a sport's association for amateur athletes. Their first Festival, held the following year at the Crystal Palace, London, was a great success and attracted a crowd in excess of 10,000 spectators.

Re-birth of the modern Olympic Games

In response to the National Olympian Association Festival, the Amateur Athletic Club, later to become the Amateur Athletics Association and now Britain's ruling athletics body, was hastily formed by an elite who were determined that British sport should be restricted to "amateurs and gentlemen", in other words athletes from the public schools and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and should be under their control with its base in London. The NOA faced powerful opposition but by its very existence, forced the AAA to open its doors to 'every grade of man'.

For Queen Victoria's jubilee, in 1877, Penny Brookes requested an Olympian prize from Greece for this special year. In response to this petition, King George I sent a suitably inscribed silver cup which was presented at the National Olympian Games held in Shrewsbury. This brought Penny Brookes into contact with His Excellency J. Gennadius, the Greek Charge d'Affaire in London.

The Greek newspaper Clio, in June 1881, reported that "Dr Brookes, this enthusiastic philhellene is endeavouring to organise an International Olympian Festival, to be held in Athens".

Sadly the Greek nation was still in a time of change and despite both Gennadius's and Penny Brookes's enthusiasm, the Greek government politely declined.

In 1889, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the organiser of an International Congress on Physical Education, appealed for information through the English newspapers. Penny Brookes responded. The Baron was so impressed that at the old doctor's invitation, he visited Much Wenlock in October 1890. A meeting of the Wenlock Olympian Games was arranged in his honour.

At this time the two men discussed their similar ambitions and further, Penny Brookes, then aged eighty one, shared with the young twenty seven year old 'Coubertin his dream of an Olympic revival, an international Games to be staged in Athens. On his return to France de Coubertin gave a glowing account of his stay in Much Wenlock and referred to his host's efforts to revive the Olympics.

He wrote in his article for the December issue of 'La Revue Athletique' –

"If the Olympic Games that Modern Greece has not yet been able to revive still survives today, it is due, not to a Greek, but to Dr W P Brookes".

Their respect was mutual, de Coubertin referred to the doctor as "my oldest friend". Although Penny Brookes was listed as an honorary member of the 1894 Congress, he was unable to attend because of ill health. Regrettably he died just four months before the realisation of his life long ambition; to launch the first International Olympic Games held in Athens in 1896, and so did not see his dream come to fruition. Brookes has not, until recent years, been given his due recognition of his contribution to the re-birth of the modern Olympic Games.

The Zappas's Games, as referred to earlier, open to subjects of the Greek nation, continued to function intermittently with varying degrees of success right up until the revived International Olympic Games in 1896.

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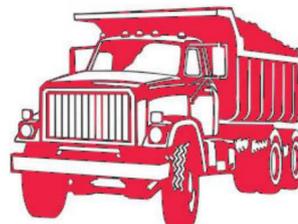


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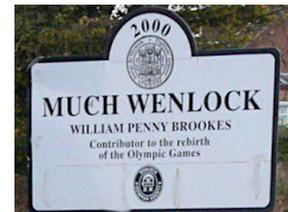
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Wenlock Olympian Society maintains the original ideals of William Penny Brookes. The Olympian Society Committee comprises approximately 20 members, both male and female. The current range of affiliated clubs and societies include Athletics club, Bowling club, Fencing club and a Live Arts Society, all of which are represented on the main committee. The main committee business meetings take place 4 times per year with an AGM in the Autumn. The business meetings are primarily for the purpose of developing and planning for the subsequent Games. These annual Games are generously subsidised by local businessmen and women and through some national bodies. The Societies own limited funds are also used.



The town of Much Wenlock has a long history dating back to 690 AD when a monastery was founded on the site of Wenlock Priory. It is because of a Victorian gentleman however, that the town can boast of its associations with the modern Olympics.

Dr. William Penny Brookes campaigned tirelessly for the revival of the ancient Greek games. For those wishing to delve deeper into this remarkable story there is now a designated walk around the town.

Wenlock Olympian Society has produced two leaflets one aimed at adults - The Olympian Trail - and one for children - A Children's Olympian Trail Challenge. The children's challenge sets observational puzzles along the trail and includes a 'peel off medal'.

The Wenlock Olympian Trail starts and ends at Much Wenlock Museum in the Square at the end of the High Street. In the museum a magnificent collection of Wenlock Olympian Society artefacts are on display illustrating the significant role of Much Wenlock in the revival of the Modern Olympic Games. The Trail will take you past some of the sites in the town which are special to the Wenlock Olympian

Total walk length is approximately 2150 metres (1.3 miles)

Both the 'The Olympian Trail' and 'A Children's Olympian Trail Challenge' leaflets are available from Much Wenlock Museum, The Guildhall and Wenlock Tourist Information Centre. You can also view a large version of the map on the wall outside Much Wenlock Museum.

Throughout the trail you will encounter information boards giving you more background on Dr Brookes and the Games.

Long jump

Greek long jump was a bit different. You didn't take a long run up – you had to jump from a standing position (or possibly a very short run up). A musician would play a flute to help you concentrate. You held weights (up to 2kg each) in your hands and swung them to help move your body forwards. These weights were usually made from stone and called halters. Nobody properly recorded the distances jumped because it only mattered who jumped the furthest each time.

In 664BC, Chionis of Sparta was said to have jumped over 15 metres. This is about as long as 8 beds so it must have been exaggerated!

Combat Sports

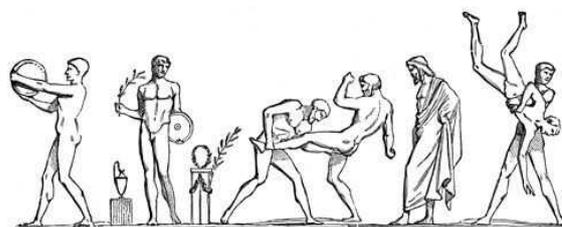
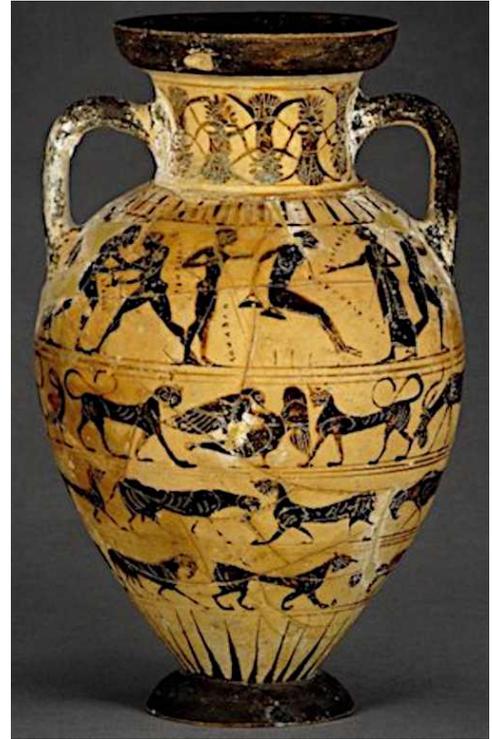
The Ancient Olympics included boxing, wrestling and pankration. Boxers wore soft leather straps on their hands. There were no weight categories so your opponent could be much heavier than you. If nobody was winning there would be a klimax. This meant the boxers took turns to hit each other without being blocked until one was knocked out.

Wrestling was very popular. There was upright wrestling where the winner was the man who threw his opponent to the floor 3 times and ground wrestling where the loser was the first to give in by raising their finger, or passing out.

Pankration was a brutal cross between boxing and wrestling. There were only two rules: No biting and no eye gouging. Combat sports were fought in the nude and covered in oil.

Discus and javelin

The javelin was a sharpened piece of wood, similar to a spear (one of the main weapons of a Greek warrior). The Greek javelin event was different to the modern version because a leather strap was used to help throw it further. The discus throwing was the only event that didn't seem to relate to warfare or life in some way. Discus were made from stone, iron, lead or bronze. Often, they would be decorated with a dedication to one of the Gods, pictures or poetry. In Greek mythology Perseus and Apollo both killed loved ones by accident with a discus.





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HEATHER'S REPORT FOR APRIL 2024

BISHOP'S CASTLE HOSPITAL

Following a high-profile campaign run by the community and local Councillors including myself, Shropshire Community Health Trust have announced that Bishop's Castle hospital will re-open.

This is excellent news for the SW Shropshire area. It means people can be cared for closer to home and visited by friends and family. It has been a long campaign but worth it to get this excellent result. I know that everyone in our local community will be delighted at this turnaround.

FIX MY STREET

I am getting increasingly annoyed by the Council's Fix My Street portal telling residents that their potholes have been filled when they haven't. For example, after reporting the potholes on the Priest Weston to Whittery road many, many times I received an email from them recently telling me that they had been fixed. On inspection this was patently untrue, I'm not sure if they had even been up there!

I have taken this matter to the Leader and the CEO of Shropshire now as its clear that someone in their contractor KIER is giving us misleading information. However, I need more evidence to back my case. If you have been told by them that your pothole has been fixed and hasn't – drop me a line at heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk

RECYCLING IN CRAVEN ARMS

As we go to press, Shropshire Council is considering closing the recycling facility in Craven Arms. This would be a disaster on two counts. First, it would deprive residents of a valued facility and second, it would severely impact on the amount of waste we recycle and therefore on our environment.

Charging for your Green bin - £52 per year. There is a consultation on this. Please take part Garden waste and household recycling centres consultation | Shropshire Council

WANTED - CURLEW SIGHTINGS

If you hear or see this bird please call 077903 25007 or email details asap to UCCWG@shropscwgs.org.uk. If we know where they are we can help protect them!

EMAILS FOR ROUND-ROBIN

I have also lost a number of email addresses in the recent update to the system. If you haven't heard from me lately, please email me and let me know.

Heather Kidd MBE

Liberal Democrat Shropshire Councillor for Chirbury & Worthen

Heather Kidd

Local Shropshire Councillor

for

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including Snailbeach and
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Mobile: 07980 635 518

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Bishop's C'le Med Pract	01588 638285
Montgomery Med Pract	01686 668217
Royal Shrewsbury Hospit	01743261000
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 C'cil Bereavement	0345 6783028
National Grid	800 6783105
Environment Agency	0800 807060
Severn Trent Water	0800 7834444
Shrop Highways	0345 6789006
Shrop Citizens Advice	0808 2787894
Shrop Rural Support	0300 1232825
RABC	0800 1884444
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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

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/

Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Website: www.westmercia.police.uk

Twitter: @SouthShropCops

Facebook: Bishop's Castle Policing Team Rural Watch



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

16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault		Worthen	Suspect identified
Assault		Brockton	Suspect identified

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

Preventing vehicle thefts

This last month has seen a spike in thefts of vehicles around Bishop's Castle, believed to be conducted by a criminal gang travelling into the area. Please take note of the following security advice to help prevent any further thefts.

Keep your vehicle locked. Always locking your car when you leave it goes without saying, but make sure you double check the car is actually locked, check each door and the boot to make sure. Many modern vehicle's have wing mirrors that fold in automatically when locked, criminals will look for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out as it makes it clear that the vehicle has been left unlocked.



WORTHEN WITH SHELVE PARISH COUNCIL.

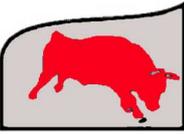
DATES AND VENUES FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2024

**All meetings are on a Monday evening.
The Parish Council meeting will commence at 7 pm
unless otherwise stated**

Meeting dates can change please look at our website for latest information

www.worthenwithshelvepc.org.uk

DATE	VENUE
15 th January 2024	Hope Village Hall
26 th February 2024	Worthen Village Hall
25 th March 2024	Hope Village Hall
29 th April 2024	Worthen Village Hall
13 th May 2024	Hope Village Hall
24 th June 2024	Worthen Village Hall
29 th July 2024	Hope Village Hall
23 rd September 2024	Worthen Village Hall
28 th October 2024	Hope Village Hall
25 th November 2024	Worthen Village Hall



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7.30pm Monday 20th May

Quiz Night
8.00pm Monday 27th May

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The Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group has been looking for Curlew, Lapwing, Kestrel, Cuckoo and Red Kite since late March, in our area that extends from Stapeley Hill to Brockton in the west, across through Minsterley and Pontesbury to Plealey, south to Cothecott Hill and then westwards over the Stiperstones and Hope Valley.

If you've seen or heard any of these species, please don't assume we know about them.

Please report all your observations, especially any Curlew ("the most important bird conservation priority in the UK") to Leo Smith 01694 720296, leo@leosmith.org.uk.

If you want to help next year, please also contact Leo

Chariots of Fire – a little poetic licence.



The stories of British runners Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams are known to many through the 1981 Academy Award-winning film *Chariots of Fire*. As the movie tells it, Liddell was boarding a boat to the 1924 Paris Olympics when he discovered that the qualifying heats for his event, the 100-metre sprint, were scheduled for a Sunday. A

devout Christian, he refused to run on the Sabbath and was at the last minute switched to the 400 metres.

In truth, Liddell had known the schedule for months and had decided not to compete in the 100 metres, the 4 × 100-metre relay, or the 4 × 400-metre relay because they all required running on a Sunday. The press roundly criticized the Scotsman and called his decision unpatriotic, but Liddell devoted his training to the 200 metres and the 400 metres, races that would not require him to break the Sabbath. He won a bronze medal in the 200 and won the 400 in a world-record time. Liddell ignored the media's subsequent hero worship and soon returned to China, where he had been born, to continue his family's missionary work. He died there in 1945 in a Japanese internment camp.

Abrahams's religion is also a strong force in the film, which links the discrimination he faced as a Jew with his motivation to win Olympic gold in Paris. Abrahams, however, was hardly an outsider. A University of Cambridge undergraduate, he had already represented Britain at the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium. His drive to win in Paris was fueled more by his desire to redeem his loss in Antwerp and by his rivalry with his two older brothers (one of whom had competed at the 1912 Stockholm Games) than by his status as a Jew. To achieve his goal, Abrahams hired a personal coach, the renowned Sam Mussabini, and trained with single-minded energy. He even lobbied anonymously to have himself dropped from the long-jump event (in which he had previously set a British record) so that he could concentrate on his running. The movie also errs in showing Abrahams failing in the 200 metres before eventually triumphing in the 100 metres. He actually won the 100 first; the 200-metre final was held two days later.

An medium and a tricky puzzle today.

Sudoku
OF THE DAY

Some Olympic Quotes

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



"If you're the Olympic champion then they have to wait four more years to get you again." — Usain Bolt, sprinter, six-time gold medal winner

"All I've done is run fast. I don't see why people should make much fuss about that." — Fanny Blankers-Koen, sprinter, four-time gold medal winner at the 1948 Summer Olympics

"If you don't try to win you might as well hold the Olympics in somebody's back yard." — Jesse Owens, track and field, four-time Olympic gold medalist in 1936

"I was not talented enough to run and smile at the same time" — Emil Zatopek (referring to his unique facial expression), long-distance runner and four-time gold medalist

"In gymnastics, everything is a competition. You want to have your hair look the best and your makeup look the best. You want to be the best, and you want to have the prettiest leotard." — McKayla Maroney, artistic gymnast and gold medalist

"I'm not satisfied. The silver medalist is the first loser." — Koen Verweij, speed skater and silver medalist

"If you fail to prepare, you're prepared to fail." — Mark Spitz, competitive swimmer and nine-time gold medalist
 "Performance enhancing drugs are banned in the Olympics. OK, we can swing with that. But performance debilitating drugs should not be banned. Smoke a joint and win the hundred meters, fair play for you. That's pretty damn good. Unless someone's dangling a Mars bar off in the distance." - Eddie Izzard (British stand-up Comedian)

"Finishing second in the Olympics gets you silver. Finishing second in politics gets you oblivion." - Richard M. Nixon (US politician)

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

MINSTERLEY MEADOWS APPEAL – SALE AGREED!

We are now launching a campaign to raise the funds to purchase these two species-rich meadows on the outskirts of Minsterley to safeguard them for future generations. Amongst many other species, the meadows support the largest colony of Green-winged Orchids in Shropshire. This has led to their designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by the government's nature conservancy body, Natural England. The meadows adjoin Callow Lane and are well used by local people for dog walking, and as a pleasant walking route towards Poles Coppice.

Minsterley Meadows would be owned by the Middle Marches Community Land Trust, a local community-led Trust dedicated to helping create an ecologically healthy and sustainable countryside. The Marches Meadows Group would help manage the meadows.

The appeal is supported by Minsterley Parish Council, CPRE Shropshire, Friends of Pontesford and Earl's Hill, and other local groups.

Can you help us purchase Minsterley Meadows?

PUBLIC MEETING
on Saturday 11th May
1pm-4pm
Minsterley Parish Hall

Minsterley Meadows Fund-Raising Appeal Launch
Sunday 9th June
10am-3pm
Minsterley Parish Hall

Further details to follow in the June newsletter

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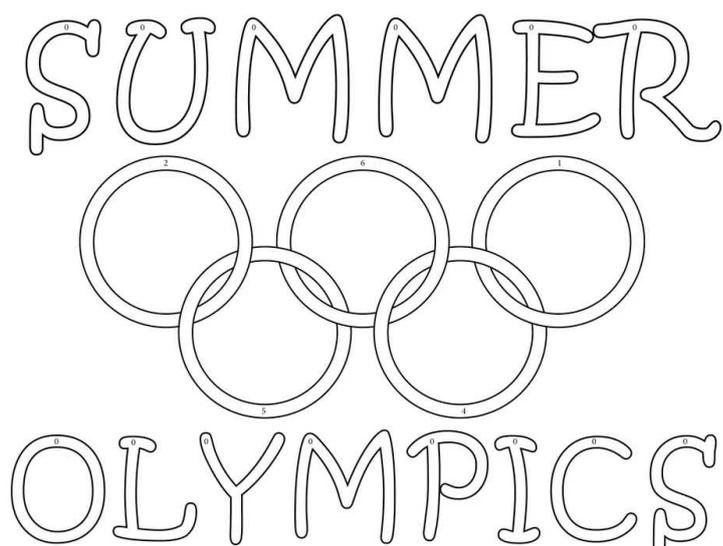
Red Barn Rovers 2 - 1 White Stars



***As you may be aware, Matty Pinches is running the Edinburgh marathon to support a great charity close to his heart. Matty has been great in supporting the club all year, looking after our pitch and putting in a lot of effort to help keep us going. If anyone is in a position to donate, please consider doing so at the below link to support Matty in his fundraising efforts .
Matthew is running 2024 Edinburgh Marathon for NEC UK
Fundraising for NEC UK
(Necrotising Enterocolitis)***

Go to the White Stars Facebook page for a link to the Just Giving page.

I am running the 2024 Edinburgh Marathon for NEC UK in order to raise as much money as possible. They are a fantastic Charity and I would be so grateful if you could take the time to sponsor me to help the cause and to motivate me in my training!



Color Key: 0= Choose your own color, 1=Red, 2=Blue, 3=White, 4=Green, 5=Yellow, 6=Black

Summer Olympic Games

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

- BOXING
- SWIMMING
- GOLF
- WRESTLING
- TRIPLE JUMP
- JAVELIN
- ARCHERY
- BMX
- TABLE TENNIS
- EQUESTRIAN
- FENCING
- ROWING
- TAEKWONDO
- HIGH JUMP
- BADMINTON
- JUDO
- WATER POLO
- DIVING
- LONG JUMP

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/4215/>

Olympic Sports

Write the sports under the correct icons.

hockey	handball	hurdles	sprinting	BMX	football
rugby	sport climbing	weightlifting	surfing	basketball	breaking

Not as weird as synchronised swimming?

A few sports we think should be in the Olympics

Wife carrying - husbands race over obstacles carrying their wives - originated in Finland

Camel Jumping - A traditional Yemeni sport contestants compete as to how many camels they can jump over.

Man versus horse marathons - held annually in Llanwrtyd Wells, Wales also the home of Bog Snorkling.

Shin kicking - a traditional Cotswold sport. Contestants kick each other until one gives up.

Cheese rolling - A round of Double Gloucester Cheese is rolled from a hilltop, and competitors chase it.

Buzkashi "goat dragging". A team of riders compete to drag the carcass of a dead goat to a predetermined goal. From Afghanistan.

Zorbing - competitors inside plastic spheres race across obstacle courses on land and water. From New Zealand.

Chinese toe wrestling - say no more.

Bird Singing - competition is between birds to see which tweets the most at a given period.. from Belgium.

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

Minsterley Motors



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

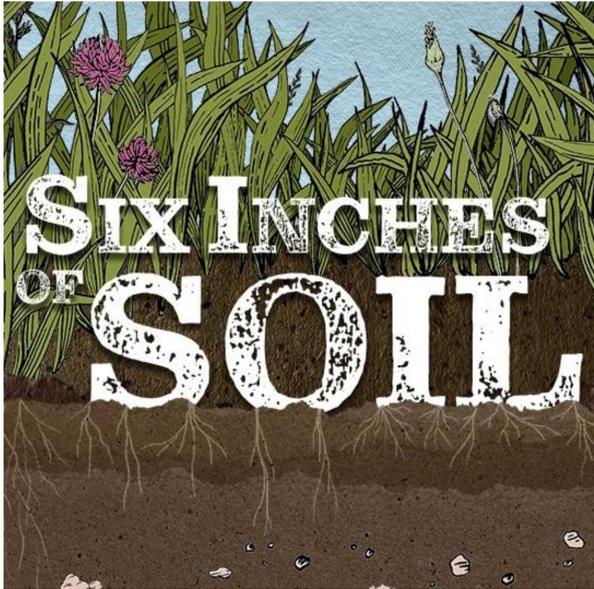
Minsterley Motors
Telephone 01743 791208

SPARC Theatre

FILM: Six Inches of Soil

June 14 @ 19:00pm - 20:30pm

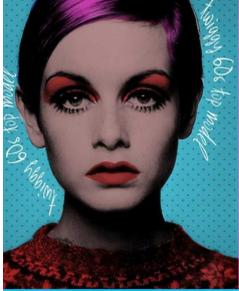
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The inspiring story of British farmers standing up against the industrial food system and transforming the way they produce food – to heal the soil, benefit our health and provide for local communities

“The summary of soil and agriculture was incredible and to see these farmers doing what they’re doing is so inspiring, it’s made me optimistic,” Rachel Joseph, ORFC audience member. “An excellent film really put well together, told the journey, told the story.

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