

SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

The cars in our community
Feb 2022

Free



Ford Popular



Ford Cortina



Ford Focus

In 70 years of motoring 1 gallon of petrol has gone from 1/4d, (7p to you young uns) to 550p. Will our children be driving petrol or electric vehicles?



Ford Mustang Electric



Editor's Notes

Happy New Year everybody and welcome for the first SDN of the year 2022. 2 is our lucky number so we are

looking forward to 22/2/22 this month. No great news reached me recently, a few blips on the world stage but we seem to be crawling towards normality.

Consequently I decided to do a feature edition on the motor car. Some of you will remember when the sight of a car in Snailbeach was a rare occurrence. The laws on what or was not safe to drive were less demanding then and a few of the earlier vehicles in the village would not have passed the MOT. My wife talks of 'Lady Chatterley', a car which gave many a chance to learn to drive as she travelled along the off road tracks on the hill. I also gather that Don Rowson drove with no passenger seat or door while Glo sat in state in the back.

I have never passed my test but you can share my experiences of over 70 years of being a passenger later in the newsletter.

I have also included a few of the best and worst of British car manufacturing.

Many of us can trace lives ups and downs through the cars we have owned. If you have any driving memories we would love to print them.

Geoff Sproson

sammy@snailbeach.districtnews.co.uk

Next month's deadline Feb 19th

Fund Raising and donations.

Stiperstones Carol Singers

I would like to extend a massive thank-you to the residents of the Stiperstones for their generous donations during our carol singing evening. We raised approximately £221 on the night and additional donations raised the total £275.00, for The Lingen Davies Cancer Appeal.

Special thanks to Malcolm & Lorna, Mary & Barry, John & Elspeth, Eileen & Elaine and Malcolm & Doreen for their kind hospitality which was very greatly received.

Over the years Carol Singing we have raised a total of £2,741.98.

We all had a lovely night and we will see you all next year to do it all again.

Wendy Whitelaw and carol singers.

Christmas Lights

Ann & John Jones of Snailbeach would like to express their thanks to the community for supporting their Christmas lights. The total made for Lingen Davies Cancer Fund was £1655.00.

Editors note - I am sure the community would like to express their thanks to Ann and John for another spectacular display - and to everyone else who helped light us through a difficult Christmas.

Dawdle or Dash

A reduced field this year in line with Covid restrictions. Congratulations to the Matthew and Adam Yapp for a brotherly one two and to 14 year old Bethany Trow, first lady home. We raised £500 which was shared between the Severn Hospice and Lingen Davies.

Congratulations to these two evergreen runners who both won awards.



Sal and Tim pictured with John at his sartorial best.

We were all very sad to lose three loved members of our community.

*John Morris
Graham Potter
and Glenys Betton*

*sadly passed away recently,
our thoughts are with their families
and friends.*

Generous donations for the newsletter from the Lewis's at Tankerville

Snailbeach table tennis continues on Fridays 1:30 at Snailbeach Village Hall.

If you are tempted to come along and have a go, no expertise is required so don't feel nervous. We can provide a bat and some of us know some of the rules. Numbers have increased steadily as we save towards another table. If you know of anyone wanting to get rid of a table in the area, please ask them to contact me and we can sort something out.

As far as Covid is concerned, the hall is kept well ventilated and we ask that we all take a lateral flow test before coming just to help protect everyone.

Email SnailbeachTT@gmail.com to let us know if you fancy it, want to ask anything, or you can just turn up with some trainers on.



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February 2022

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PONTESBURY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

The Trading Post re-opens on Saturday 5 February. Seed potatoes, pea, bean and beetroot seeds will be available, as well as plenty of all the other materials that you will need to get sowing and growing. Our bulk delivery of multi-purpose potting compost should have arrived and the usual offer of a reduced price for three bags will be in place; this offer doesn't apply to peat-free compost due to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient supplies. As usual there will be people on hand to help carry the heavy stuff to your car.

Some dates for your diary:

- 1 March: Annual General Meeting, 7.30 pm in the Public Hall
- 12 May: Spring into the Garden, 7.30 pm in the Public Hall
- 27 August: Annual Show, 2.30 pm in the Public Hall

A reminder: subscriptions for 2022 are now due: £2, or £1 if you are retired. The Trading Post is situated in the Old Station Buildings on Station Road and is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon, from now until the end of October.

Always the passenger

I can't remember a time when my household was without a car but I have never been the driver.

I had a few goes at driving lessons, had two accidents and decided it was not for me. My wife Susan is not a good passenger and for 50 years this situation has worked out fine. The first car I remember was my Dad's Austin A35 van. It had been converted with windows in the back and two 'Pell' chairs strapped to the floor. I seem to remember five of us in it at the Lake District and having to get out and walk on the steepest hills. This must have been a bit of a come down for my Dad as I know he drove sports cars before all us kids came along.

Dad worked at the American owned Goodyear Tyre plant on the Wirral. Occasionally he would have the use of their fleet of across the Atlantic gas guzzlers. Two I remember were a gangster style Ford Pilot and the other we called the Yellow Peril, bright yellow with fins and chrome. We went to Chester Zoo in it once making all the heads turn in the car park. The little A35 was too small for our family and near the end of the 50s we got a Bedford dormobile with bench seats. We thought it was great, we played cards in the back on our first outing to Weston Super Mare and all got travel sick.

The next big car moment was after we had moved back to Wolverhampton. Dad arrived one tea time and called us all outside and there she stood, a 1952 Bentley GUX 333. He had been offered the car when it was minus one wheel under a tarpaulin in a garage. He kept the secret well and we knew nothing about her until she arrived. Of course we milked the situation Dad drove us around our village while we waved regally through the windows. The M1 had not long opened and Dad took Robert my younger brother and I to 'try her out' as he

said. No speed limit in those days and as the speedometer touched 100 mph Dad said, "That'll do and don't tell your mother"

The Bentley weighed nearly 4 tons and did about 15 miles to the gallon. Dad would love to switch the engine off at the top of a hill and see how far she would roll.

The 'Gaffer' kept the car for many years after taking over the Stiperstones Inn and we were driven in state on our wedding day. We also moved house in it, taking our few belongings to our first flat in Liverpool 8. Dad was very uneasy parking his beloved car in Toxteth and didn't stay long to have his cup of tea.



'The Gaffer's' Bentley

Susan's Mum and Dad both learned to drive late in life, but took to it with a passion. Their Cortina with a tent in the boot covered the length and breadth of mainland UK. It was a hard decision when it was finally decided that Elsie shouldn't drive anymore.

As soon as Daniel was born Susan wanted her own wheels, prams and buses don't mix. We managed to get a Morris Traveller with wooden window frames and a mushroom or two growing out of the moss. She learnt to drive in this, with another nursery school Mum sitting beside her. She passed her test in Wellington. Joe, her Dad went with her and she remembers repeatedly seeing him with a 10 foot piece of copper pipe he had just bought bouncing up and down on his shoulder as she drove nervously around the town centre. Somehow with the help of Doug Challinor's reasonably priced second hand cars we managed

to keep on the road and accommodate our growing family. I remember a Marina, a huge Opel and a Cortina estate that we camped in the back of. There were the usual incidents and accidents: trying to get at the spare tyre with several bags of donkey manure on top of it, cutting out at a busy cross roads with the engine finally responding to a prayer from Saul, and smoke pouring out from the bonnet with a loose cable shorting the battery. Moving to new jobs in the North East we bought new, a Citroen ZX but on returning to Shropshire we were back scouring the second hand showrooms. We seemed to keep driving these purchases until they had lost most of their value but we always found a home for them with the children of family and friends. I was usually the map reader and we resisted for a long time that great invention of the century the SatNav. It was when we moved into travelling abroad and the motorhome era that my role as the perpetual passenger took on greater significance.



Joe and Elsie's Cortina
headed for the hills

Our first foray was to take us in our little Renault from Cherburg to the South of Spain to see our friend Rosa's new house. Susan coped amazingly with driving 'sur la droite' and once we had sampled the joys of French Formula 1 travel hotels we were hooked, wonderful French viaducts over deep ravines, town centre squares with little cafes and crossing the snow covered Pyrenees.

Two more car and hotel holidays were to follow, taking us to the South of France and Northern Italy.

I had the map and Susan rarely asked where we going, if I got things totally wrong I was the only one who knew and if it took us a little longer than expected to reach our destination then the scenery always made up for it.

Do I want to be a driver - not really if Susan can't give me a lift I can always walk.

Geoff Sproson (Maybe a camper van story later)



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There surely can't be anyone in Britain whose life hasn't been touched by a Mini. Throughout its marathon 41-year production run, the car become an icon of British innovation, a fashion accessory and a motorsport hero that also brought affordable motoring to the masses.



BMC bosses tasked designer Alec Issigonis to make a sub-10-feet (3m) car that could carry a family of four.

The ingenious result utilised every inch of space. Tiny 10-inch wheels were pushed into the corners of the car to make more room inside. Instead of bulky conventional springs, the Mini used compact rubber cones. Then the gearbox was placed in the engine's sump and the whole powerplant mounted transversely, so the cylinders were lined up sideways across the car to perfectly fill the space.



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FOR AN APPOINTMENT

**Young Rangers sessions
In the Pontesbury/Stiperstones and BC/Clun areas.**

Scrub bash! Nils Quarry, Pontesbury

Sat 22nd Jan

Nils Hill is a former quarry and landfill site but woodland has regenerated here making it excellent wildlife habitat. We've already been quite active here, having built a pond-dipping platform and a mini 'bio-blitz' species survey. This time, our task will be hands-on grassland conservation which will be an AQA Unit Award Scheme certificated activity – all being well, we'll get a roaring fire going to warm the cockles!

Those of you who attended the bioblitz contributed ideas for an information panel – we have a draft version of this ready which we'll share with you on the day...

Hedgerow planting (Bishops Castle area,)

Saturday, 5 February

I'm a big hedgerow fan and as we know, planting trees ('right tree, right place') is a very positive thing for the environment. This activity will complement our hedgelaying sessions in November and once again, will be in partnership with our friends from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) as part of their Hedgerow Heroes project.

HALF TERM Nest box building Stiperstones School

Mon 21st February

14th-21st Feb is National Nest Box Week!

In celebration we'll be building birdboxes and if time, perhaps some bat boxes and dormouse boxes too, for installation at our project sites. An indoor activity, that the weather can't spoil!

Hide and Squeak! in search of Shropshire's Pine Martens

Clunton Coppice

Wed 23rd February

Pine Martens are one of the UK's most rare and elusive mammals and we're lucky enough to have some resident in the most remote parts of Shropshire with extensive woodland. This is an exclusive opportunity to learn about, and hopefully record Marten's in the wild with the brilliant Stuart Edmunds (Shropshire Wildlife Trust/Shropshire Mammal Group) and Toni Pettitt (Branching Out Forest School). It's a bit of a trek for some of you, but worth it!

Woodland activity day – charcoal making demo, woodland management skills and willow weaving

Poles Coppice, Pontesbury

Friday 25th February

Once again at our project site, Poles Coppice.

For this session, we'll be joined by Gary Cowell from Knighton Community Woodland group who will be demoing his mini charcoal making 'retort'. Alongside this, we'll carry out some coppicing on the willow beds, as well as having a go at small tree felling and processing, and chordwood stacking. We'll once again be joined by 'basket case' Caroline Lowe, who will run a group willow weaving workshop.

All events and booking forms

<https://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/our-work/projects/working-with-young-people>

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If any car deserves a place in this list, it's the Morris Marina. While it sold in big numbers - over a million in 13 years, if you also include the later Morris Ital - it was only ever meant to be a stop-gap while British Leyland got its house in order.



It took only 18 months for the Marina to go from drawing board to production, but even in that short period it was beset by problems. The idea was to keep it simple to get it on sale ASAP, but that meant some good ideas were dropped before production.



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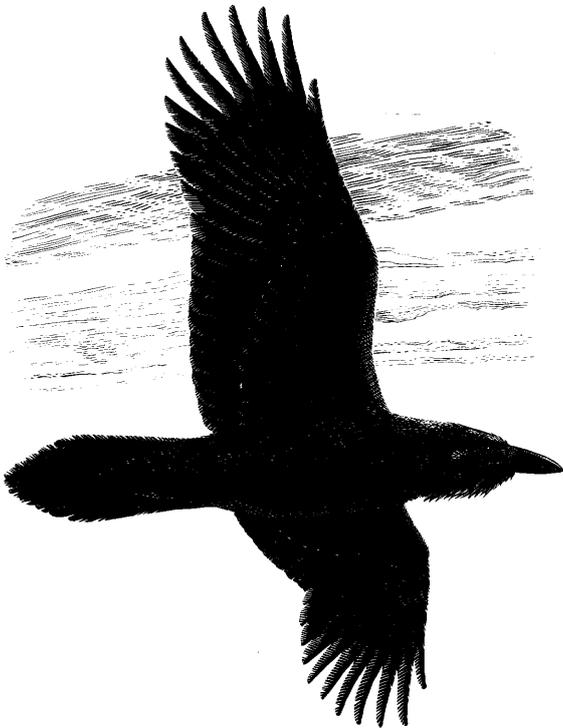
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Notes from the hill

It is an unusual day when ravens are not seen on the hill, and at this time of year they are pairing up and settling down to breed. These spectacular fliers are worth watching closely at the moment, as they like to show off their flying skills to their mates by flipping onto their backs in a barrel roll, which has given them the accolade of the best upside-down fliers of any bird in the world. This is a picture of how one actually looks when it is flying upside down.

The logo for Natural England, featuring the words "NATURAL ENGLAND" in white and green text on a green square background.

They are one of the earliest birds on the hill to start nesting, with egg laying sometimes starting in mid-February. With the incubation period being 20 to 25 days, they can be feeding young as early as mid-March.



Ravens are our largest member of the crow family and substantially bigger than the other black crows, the carrion crow and rook. They are powerfully built with black feathers, a hefty bill and a shaggy feathery ruff around their throat, however the most obvious identification feature when flying is their diamond shape tail; crows and rooks have rounded tails. They also typically have a very deep “cronk” call, although they do produce a range of different sounds.

Being scavengers, they will eat carrion and food waste, and in the past were often protected and valued as natural ‘bin-men’. They would have been seen in large numbers with red kites around mediaeval cities, feeding on human waste.

Once widespread, ravens were driven to the west and north of Britain through persecution. However, their numbers have recovered over the past 50 years and it is estimated that there are 7400

breeding pairs in the UK, spreading out further eastward across the country. The raven is fully protected in law by the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

Being large and black, ravens frequently feature in folklore and literature, usually in a rather sinister way as harbinger of death. However, in many cultures ravens are seen, quite rightly, as highly intelligent birds with a playful and mischievous character. They have great social skills, not only with their own species but also with wolves. Known in many cultures as the ‘wolf bird’, they have even been known to play with wolf pups. Their mutually beneficial relationship with wolves is well documented, with ravens leading wolves to their prey and alerting them to dangers and then being rewarded by sharing the spoils.

Although the wolf has been lost in the UK, the raven has remained with us and reminds us of when our country was a lot wilder.

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak.

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When the E-Type was revealed at the 1961 Geneva Motor Show, Enzo Ferrari said it was the most beautiful car he'd ever seen. He'd created the most desirable models in the world, and yet it was a Jaguar that took his breath away.

The beauty wasn't only skin deep. The E-Type had sophisticated independent suspension, a monocoque body, all-round disc brakes and a 265bhp 3.8-litre engine – proper supercar performance at the time. It had a 150mph top speed at a time when most cars would struggle to top 60mph.



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On Dec 28, Shrewsbury Food Hub brought a van full of excess food, otherwise destined for landfill to the School Playground to share amongst villagers. People could bring a bag, wear a face covering and take good food away and leave a donation if they wanted. I recognise significant logistics were involved in getting the food and van out to our village and the Food Hub really worked hard to make a rural food share happen. We thank them all.

There were breads and cakes and biscuits, wonderful fresh veggies and some flowers too. It made a colourful market feel in the playground!

It was gratifying to use the food and many people came and picked up food for other families and redistributed the bounty. Nothing went to waste and Carl Evans came and collected left over sprouts for his cattle. (no wonder it was windy up here that night!)

I think this was a brilliant food share, not only in shifting good food - but the awareness it raised amongst our rural community was incredible.

People couldn't believe the abundance - 2 farmers came and were shocked at how other farmers' work would be going to landfill.

Conversations were sparked in real life and on social media and I know they are still going on today, about the plentiful goodness which was otherwise destined for the bin. There was genuine shock.

Here are some comments:

Thank you all so much for organising this. There was so much more there than I was expecting. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to be able to use some of this and keep it out of landfill!

*Thank you Dianne Brian and Sal for giving up your time to organise this, I couldn't believe the amount of food there was there today. Just off to make Broccoli & Stilton soup.
It was amazing. A real eye opener*

So good to bring it out further from the town. Hopefully families who can't get to the main food hub will have a chance nearer their homes.

Whilst a lot of families feel the financial pinch after Christmas, plus COVID and rising fuel prices make times hard for many of us but the foodshare was not about poverty but about avoiding needless waste.

We are all part of the consumption chain which makes this waste occur. The Tesco, ASDA and supermarket delivery vans beetle around up here and it's good for us folks to join up how we source, expect and use food supplies.

There were some fab recipes made from the plenty we enjoyed, Stilton broccoli soup, red and yellow pepper soup, veggie crumble, French bread pizzas... it's great to imagine all that colourful nourishment gracing tables and delighting tastebuds.

I have offered to host another food share, I am happy to lend my energy to this. Keep your eye on Facebook as that is the quickest way to post at short notice. (This stuff moves fast- for obvious reasons)

Sal Tonge

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Along with the Morris Marina, the Austin Allegro was a product of the malaise that was British Leyland in the Seventies, although with its dumpy styling, it's clear that the Allegro left a more permanent mark than the Marina.



The Allegro was born in 1973, although its development period was rather brief. When Leyland Motors and British Motor Holdings merged in 1968, Leyland bosses were shocked to find out that BMH didn't have plans to replace the top-selling but ancient Austin 1100. So the Allegro was rushed into production.



Anne Whysall

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1834 – First rotating electric motor
German physicist Moritz von Jacobi creates the first rotating electric motor.

What has been will be again
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.
Ecclesiastes 1:9

1837 – First American patent placed on an electric motor
Thomas Davenport, a blacksmith from Vermont, is awarded the first American patent on an electric motor.

1859 – First rechargeable battery invented
The first rechargeable battery, a lead-acid cell, is invented by Gaston Planté. This technology is still used today. Further developments become possible in the electric car industry.

1880 – Working electric vehicles being designed and built

Several people are designing and building electric cars using electric rotating motors. English electrical engineer Thomas Parker, a pioneer of manufacturing equipment that powers electric tramways, uses this technology to build one of the first electric cars.



1894 – Electrobat II – first commercially available electric vehicle

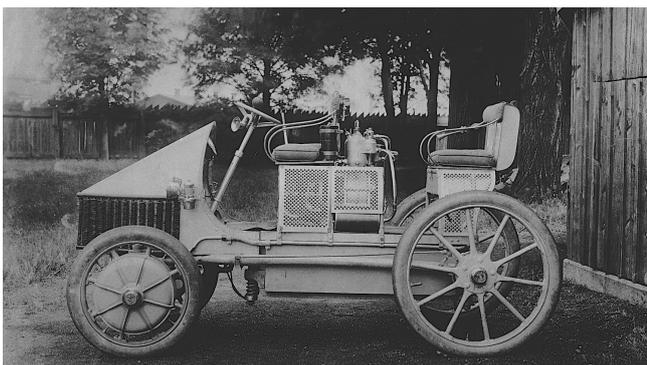
The Electrobat II is the first commercially available electric vehicle, designed and built by mechanical engineer Henry Morris and chemist Pedro Salom.

1898 – Egger-Lohner electric car developed
Ferdinand Porsche develops the Egger-Lohner electric car. It is nicknamed the P1.

1908 – Petrol-powered Model T developed
Henry Ford develops the Model T. Mass production of this cheaper, petrol-powered vehicle results in the demise of the earlier electric powered vehicle.



Egger-Lohner electric car.



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Model T early electric version



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Few cars inspire such passion as the Land Rover Series and Defender ranges. The best-known 4x4 in Britain lasted in production from 1948 until 2016.

The Land Rover was born after World War Two, when Rover needed to find a car it could make using the expertise (and materials) gleaned from its military contracts. It would have to use the minimum amount of rationed steel and be attractive to export markets; after all, bombed-out Britain needed to earn some foreign money to rebuild itself.

Engineer Maurice Wilks suggested a vehicle that could be dual purpose on and off-road, modelled on the Army surplus Jeeps his family used. It would have the same mechanical layout as the Jeep, a Rover saloon engine and a flat-panelled alloy body to save on rationed steel.



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Snailbeach W I.



Our Last 3 meetings have been held in an afternoon, and it has been very pleasant not having to go out on a cold, dark evening.

November.

We had an afternoon of making Christmas decorations which inspired us to use this experience for our entry in the Pontesbury Christmas Tree annual event at St Georges.

December.

There was a fun filled afternoon of curling in the village hall with a “bring and share” tea.

January.

Featured an interesting and informative talk given by Amber Bicheno about the conservation work carried out by a dedicated team in our beautiful hills and surrounding area, encouraging endangered wildlife and plants to increase.

One such project concentrated on our curlew population. This has decreased dramatically following changes in climate and farming methods, but is now thankfully on the increase. Amber's enthusiasm for her pet project of the Doremouse was most interesting.

A walk around Stiperstones followed by lunch at the pub was arranged for January, but unfortunately our trip to Theatre Severn was cancelled, but will hopefully be rebooked for September.

February.

This will be the last of our afternoon meetings when we shall be learning the art of Origami.

Bridget is getting together our programme of speakers for the rest of the year. As yet I do not have confirmation for the March Meeting but it is hoped that our “working” members will be able to join us on 10th March .

Anyone interested in joining our friendly group, please contact Sue on 01743 537269.

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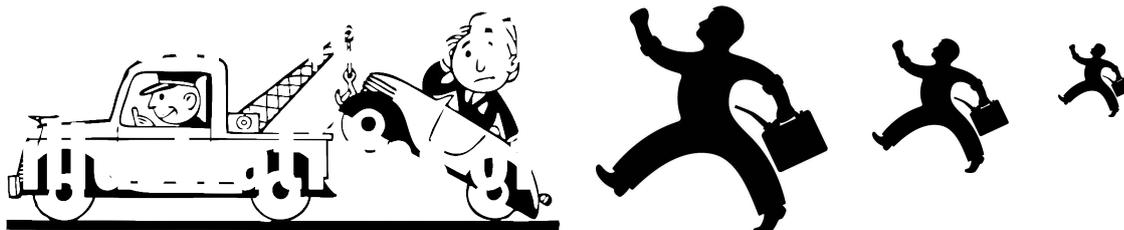


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Letter from Westminster – Water Quality in Rivers – February 2022



Last month, the Environmental Audit Committee, which I Chair, published the report from our inquiry into Water Quality in Rivers in England.

As readers will be aware, I have been at the forefront of the campaign to clean up our rivers in recent years. But when I was researching the problem for my Private Members Bill, I was hampered by a lack of data on the quality of water in our rivers.

So the Environmental Audit Committee set out to get to the bottom of this issue through an inquiry, taking evidence from water companies, regulatory bodies, scientific experts and campaign groups – and our report lays bare the scale of the challenge.

Only 14% of English rivers meet good ecological status, with pollution from agriculture, sewage, roads and single-use plastics contributing to a dangerous ‘chemical cocktail’ coursing through our waterways.

Until the passing of the Environment Act last year, which brought into law many of the key principles behind my Private Members Bill, there had been a lack of political will, for decades, to improve water quality, with successive governments, water companies and regulators seemingly turning a blind eye to dumping sewage and other pollutants in rivers. This is now changing, with real public desire to see this problem sorted out.

But lack of publicly available data has been an issue, which has hampered the ability to monitor water quality in rivers and detect permit breaches or pollution incidents, in turn limiting successful enforcement by the Environment Agency.

Technology is coming to our aid in enabling monitoring in real time, which the Environment Act will require to become available to inform the public. Having arranged a pollution monitoring trial project in the River Teme, I know it can be done. I am keen to do more, as I successfully encouraged Severn Trent Water to nominate the Teme at Ludlow as one of its first sites for bathing quality water. So if anyone is interested in helping with this initiative, please get in touch.

I have argued that the public deserve to know how clean their local river is, not least when the pandemic has seen a significant increase in use of our rivers for recreation – whether angling, wild swimming or canoeing (or perhaps even paddling coracles in Shropshire!). So in addition to publicly accessible information, our Committee has called for at least one widely used stretch of river to be improved to meet bathing quality status, in each water company area, by 2025.

Sewage is not the only issue, and agriculture does play a part. Intensive livestock and poultry farming is putting pressure on particular catchments, such as the River Wye. We called for limits on new intensive units where catchments are already under pressure from excess nutrient load.

Equally, there is action we can take in our homes. Fats, oils and greases, and cleaning and hygiene products containing plastic, are causing constant problems for drainage systems when they are poured away in sinks or flushed down the toilet. I am supporting two Private Members Bills, one to require filters to remove plastic microfibres being flushed away from clothes washing machines, and another to prohibit the manufacture and sale of single use cleaning and hygiene products containing plastic, in particular wet wipes, which do not biodegrade.

Some people have focussed on the issue of public or private ownership of water companies, but based on my extensive engagement on this topic, I have found this is something of a red herring. Capital investment in water treatment by water companies in the first ten years of privatisation was roughly double the ten years prior to privatisation. But I do accept those companies which routinely discharge beyond their permits should consider bonus levels for executives. Our Committee also recommended that the new environment regulator should consider the roles of Ofwat and the Environment Agency in fulfilling their functions properly.

A problem of this scale is not fixed overnight, but I shall keep campaigning until our rivers are restored to become once again the clear arteries of nature, safe for the public to enjoy.

Office of Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP (Ludlow)

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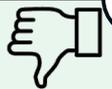
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Unfortunately Reliant's small fibreglass-bodied three-wheelers have also been the butt of jokes for decades, certainly helped no end by the appearance of Regal vans in Only Fools And Horses and Mr Bean.

In reality, the Robin was an evolution of the Regal. The first model was launched in 1973, featuring a 750cc four-cylinder engine. Thanks to the Robin's lightweight fibreglass construction, this meant it could achieve a nosebleed-inducing 85mph and economy of 70mpg. But as the Robin was launched during the Fuel Crisis of the mid-Seventies, its combination of a low list price and running costs had appeal.



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	6	3	1	7				
		1	4	8	5	6		2
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An absent minded professor was driving his old car down the motorway, his mobile phone rang. Answering, he heard his secretary's voice urgently warning him, 'Professor, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the M6. Please be careful!'

Good grief, 'said the professor, 'Its not just one car. Its hundreds of them!'

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

Can you match these iconic movie cars with their drivers ?

- 1 Volkwagon Beetle
- 2 DeLorean DMC-12
- 3 Ferrari GT
- 4 Cadillac Fleetwood
- 5 Ford Mustang
- 6 Dodge Charger
- 7 Pontiac Firebird
- 8 Dodge Monaco
- 9 Aston Martin DB5
- 10 Ford Thunderbird
- 11 Alfa Romeo Spider
- 12 Mini Cooper

- A Ben (the Graduate)
- B Blues Brothers
- C Charlie Croker
- D Daisy Duke
- E Ferris Bueller
- F Frank Bullit
- G James Bond
- H Jim Douglas
- I Marty McFly
- J Smokey and the Bandit
- K The Ghostbusters
- L Thelma and Louise

Do you know this old teaser?

There is a race track loop, that is 1 mile long.

A driver does a whole lap around the race track, averaging a speed of 30mph. How fast would the car have to go on the second lap in order to average a speed of 60mph over the course of BOTH laps?

- A -11
- B - 8
- C -12
- D - 6
- E - 3
- F - 5
- G - 9
- H - 1
- I - 2
- J - 7
- K - 4
- L -10

He would have to travel at the speed of light or quicker, because to travel 2 miles at 60 mph takes 2 mins. He has already taken 2 mins to do 1 mile at 30 mph.

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Report for January

Bishop's Castle Hospital

I am still concerned about the future of BC Hospital. Last October with my colleagues Ruth Houghton and Nigel Hartin, I wrote an open letter to Mrs Patricia Davies, the Chief Executive

Amongst the range of concerns raised were:

When is the hospital going to re-open?

The range of outpatient services still available at the hospital.

3. What other options are being explored to recruit staff for the hospital

We have only just had, a very unsatisfactory, reply recently and then only by taking matters to the press..

What really worries me is that there has been no effort by the Trust to consult properly with the Community on any of this, we have just been left in the dark. By law the Trust has to consult properly with the public in any closure programme. My real fear is that the Trust is trying to close the hospital by stealth hoping that people are distracted by COVID.

As usual, the rural areas of Shropshire are being taken for granted again. If this hospital were to close it would mean a great deal of hardship for patients and families like

having to recuperate in Community hospitals and care homes all over the County. We already have much poorer access to health services across southwest Shropshire.

Recycling Bins

All householders in the Shropshire Council area can now request an additional wheelie bin for recycling cans, glass and plastic. The bin - which is optional and free for householders- can be requested online at <https://shropshire.gov.uk/requestmixedrecyclingbin>

The first bins are set to be delivered from May this year, starting in the south Shropshire area, and then being rolled out across the county. The bin will replace the existing black recycling boxes, and help to increase the amount of waste recycled by providing households with a larger container. It will also reduce the amount of waste lost to the recycling process after being blown out of the boxes on windy days. Some households may not want a bin due to housing layout or the lack of storage space for the bin. In these circumstances, households may continue to use their existing waste containers, as will those households who simply prefer to use boxes. For more information go to www.shropshire.gov.uk/waste.

This Year's Council Tax

Shropshire Council has sent out a truly dreadful on-line consultation this year on next year's Council Tax.

This does not give you details of how the savings will be made or what cuts they will cause. Those could include libraries, Leisure Centres, transport, parking fees, roads, planning fees etc. There are many others.

Despite this please give this consultation a try as it's the only opportunity to have our say.

Your Council Tax will still increase by 3.99%.

The money coming in from the Government continues to be cut in real terms.

Please take part in this consultation and contact your MP if you feel strongly about any of this.

The closing date for comments to be received by them is Wednesday 16 February 2022.

Click on this link to take part.

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/budget-consultation-20222023/>

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While it offered sensible family transport the Escort also proved formidable in motorsport, and it became one of the most victorious rally cars ever. This led to a range of affordable sporty saloons for the road, too, with legendary names such as Mexico and RS2000.

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We will be practising at Snailbeach Village Hall on Monday evenings from 7.00 p.m. - 7.45 p.m. during term time from Monday 10th January 2022. The band has a range of instruments which can be borrowed if required.

For further information please contact Clive Roe (Training Band leader) at clivestiperstonesbrass@hotmail.com

Please email prior to your first session to ensure that music for your instrument and ability is available.

We had to have some insurance claim one liners
"As I approached an intersection a sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before."
"I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat found that I had a fractured skull."
"I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him."
"The pedestrian had no idea which way to run as I ran over him."
"I saw a slow moving, sad faced old gentleman as he bounced off the roof of my car."
"I bumped into a lamp-post which was obscured by human beings."
"The accident was caused by me waving to the man I hit last week."
"The pedestrian ran for the pavement, but I got him."

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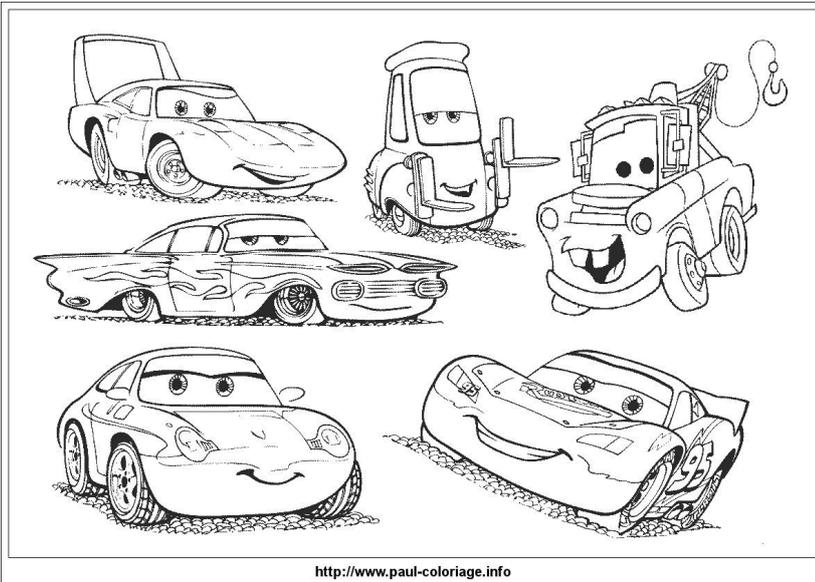
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A man finds a penguin on the road side. Thinking the penguin is lost the man catches it, drives until he finds a police officer and asks what to do.

- Take it to the zoo replies the officer. One week later the police officer sees the man driving with the penguin still by his side. What are you doing with that penguin ? I told you to take him to the zoo. I did exactly that. He loved it so now we are going to the movies .

Put a smile on the driver's face

With the rise of self-driving vehicles, it's only a matter of time before we get a country song where a guy's truck leaves him too.

Isn't it weird how when a police car drives by you feel paranoid instead of protected.

A cement mixer and a prison bus crashed on the highway...

Police advise citizens to be on the lookout for a group of hardened criminals!

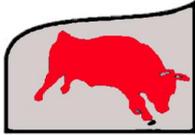
While driving to work, robbers jumped into my car and stole everything. They were pirates of the car I be in. (Think about it)

My friend texted me 'what are you doing now?' I replied 'Probably failing my driving test'.

When I wrecked my last car, I finally solved the mystery of whether or not a Mercedes bends.

Have you ever noticed that anybody driving slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a maniac?

A lorry has just overturned on the M6 loaded with Vicks vapour rub. Police have said there will be no congestion for eight hours.



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Driveways, General Building Work
& Building Maintenance
call Tim on 01743 791114
Mobile 07814 498 524

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Reasonable Rates



Call Tim Hockly 07814 498524

West Mercia Police

BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL Safer Neighbourhood Team

BISHOPS CASTLE & RURAL SNT are based at Bishops Castle Police Station, Union St, Bishops Castle, SY9 5AJ.

We work in the Parishes and area's of Bishops Castle, Mainstone, Colebatch, Clun, Llanfair Waterdine, Newcastle on Clun, Bettws-Y-Crwyn, Stowe, Bucknell, Bedstone, Hopton Castle, Clungunford, Aston on Clun, Hopesay, Clunbury, Edgton, Wistanstow, Lydbury North, Lydham, More, Norbury, Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Stiperstones, Worthen and Chirbury.



Team details

Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant: Sgt 2382

Damien Kelly

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC 3331 Stuart Coote

Police Comm. Support Officer: PCSO 6160

Shaun Culliss

Police Comm. Support Officer: PCSO 40492

Nicole Jones

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 November - 15th December 2021

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Burglary	Outbuildings broken into, nothing stolen	Wotherton, Chirbury	Overnight 6 th - 7 th December
Theft	Solar lights stolen from outside of property	Worthen	Between 24/11/2021 20:00 to 25/11/2021 20:00
Harassment		Hope	

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

16th December 2021 - 15th January 2022

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Criminal damage	Related to a neighbour dispute	Meadowntown	
Burglary	Green Suzuki King Quad 500 and power tools stolen from farm outbuildings	Marton	Believed to have occurred late evening 30 th December
Theft of vehicle	A dark blue Land Rover 90 registration SL59ZVS was stolen without keys from outside of victims property	Snailbeach (offence location just falls on Shrewsbury district but is right on the South Shropshire border)	Occurred overnight 7 th -8 th January. A Land Rover 90 was also stolen from Ford on the same night.
Burglary	Unoccupied property broken into via downstairs kitchen window. Box of antiques, model ships and vintage oil cans stolen	Worthen	Property has been unoccupied for a long period and currently going through auction. Believed to have occurred between 22 nd - 23 rd December

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									14:35			16:50	
Snailbeach, Village Hall	06:54	07:24	07:54		08:27									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

From 6th January 2020

552/553
Saturday

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

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

Minsterley Motors
Telephone 01743 791208

745 Mondays and Fridays only

Pontesbury to Clun 745 A		Ludlow to Clun 745 B	
Pontesbury Shop	08:50	Ludlow Assembly Rooms	13:15
Minsterley	08:55	Craven Arms	13:30
Hope	09:00	Long Meadowend	13:35
Gravels	09:03	Aston on Clun	13:37
White Grit	09:05	Lydbury North	13:50
Lydham	09:10	Little Brampton	14:00
Bishops Castle	09:15	Clunton	14:02
Colebatch	09:20	Clun	14:05
Clun	09:30		

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

Does not run on Bank Holiday except Good Friday



775 Tuesdays only

Pontesbury to Bishops Castle 775 A		Newtown to Bishops Castle 775 B	
Pontesbury Shop	09:30	Newtown	13:50
Minsterley	09:35	Kerry	14:00
Plox Green	09:38	Sarn	14:10
Hope	09:40	Blue Bell	14:15
Gravels	09:45	Church Stoke	14:20
White Grit	09:48	Bishops Castle	14:35
Llan Turn	09:51		
Bromleys Mill	09:55		
Lydham	09:57		
Bishops Castle	10:00		

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

Minsterley Motors
Telephone 01743 791208

It's crunch time to get the most from this year's tax allowances

Don't let anything go to waste. Use by 5th April



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Director

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The levels and bases of taxation, and reliefs from taxation, can change at any time and are dependent on individual circumstances.

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