



# Pontesbury Parish Newsletter



*Merry Christmas*

## Chairmans Message from Councillor Duncan Fletcher, Chairman of Pontesbury Parish Council

I am fortunate to have the opportunity at this time of year to thank all the many fantastic residents and local groups and associations who help to make the Parish of Pontesbury the strong, vibrant community that it is . Thank you also to all our wonderful volunteers, the work you do is hugely appreciated .

Thank you also to my fellow Councillors and our brilliant staff team of Debbie, Nicki, Caroline and Anna, their support and hard work is invaluable .

Finally, may I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year

PONTESBURY PLAYERS PRESENT ~ ☆ ~  
A CLASSIC **Martin Jones PANTO**  
WITH 2025 UPDATES BY Malcolm Whiteall

**29<sup>th</sup> Jan  
~ 1<sup>st</sup> Feb**

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

**7.30 PM**  
PLUS **2.30 PM SAT MATINEE**

AT **PONTESBURY PUBLIC HALL**

ADULTS: £8 YR 11 & UNDER: £5

BAR (ON THURS, FRI & SAT EVENINGS) ☆ Raffle

Tickets on sale in January from ~  
☆ Hignetts Shop, Pontesbury 01743 790228

IT'S **PANTO** TIME! Oh yes it is!

Facebook: Pontesbury Players

POSTER © 177. LAMPHILL

## Minsterley Meadows

### Public Meeting

### Minsterley Parish Hall

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 8pm**

Complimentary refreshments provided

An update on future plans for the meadows;  
A chance to answer your questions and hear  
your views

See page 14 for an update on Saving Minsterley Meadows

**DEADLINE for February 2025 edition is:**

**Thursday 16th January 2025**

Coloured copies of the newsletter can be read at  
[www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk/pontesbury-newsletter](http://www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk/pontesbury-newsletter)

## Shropshire Council Matters - Shropshire Councillor Roger Evans reports:

**Finances:** The quarter 2 report, which is also the half year finance report, is showing a slight improvement in the general reserves, due in part to income for the green waste collection. A yearend overspend of £35m is forecast. This still places the council in a critical position, as recently reported in the Shropshire Star.

The raises in employer NI contributions will be covered by Central Government. This will not be the case for local councils. The budget also intimated that more funding would be given to improve bus services. From initial reports the extra support for Shropshire in the near future will be very limited..

**Grants:** The joint Shropshire Council/Veolia community grants scheme is open again

**CCTV:** The Shrewsbury CCTV is now an unmanned facility

**Leisure Services review:** There is to be a review consultation launched in the near future.

Shropshire Councillor Roger Evans,  
roger.evans@shropshire.gov.uk or  
call 07811 992349

### Contents:

- Pg 1** - Panto / Minsterley Meadows  
- Chairman's Christmas message
- Pg 2** - Pontesbury PC Update  
- Shropshire Councillor  
- Probus 2025 Dates
- Pg 3** - What's On @ The Pavilion  
- Pontesbury Library Owl
- Pg 4** - Friends of Pontesbury  
Library / Chip it for Charity
- Pg 5** - Good Neighbours  
- Copying at Christmas
- Pg 6** - Church services/events -Dec
- Pg 7** - Church services/events -Jan
- Pg 8** - Pontesbury WI  
- Pontesbury Women's Club  
- Christmas Festivals
- Pg 9** - Lights of Love Severn Hosp.  
- Men's Breakfast Club  
- Christmas Baking  
- Christmas Market  
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Pg 10** - Minsterley Eisteddfod  
- Carols at St George's
- Pg 11** - Flicks in the Sticks - Marton  
& Habberley Village Halls  
- ~Christmas Present Swap
- Pg 12** - Big Christmas Sing  
- Mary Webb President News
- Pg 13** - u3a  
- Pontesbury Primary School
- Pg 14** - Saving Minsterley Meadows  
- Verges Restoration Project
- Pg 15** - Shropshire Hills National  
Landscape Trust - Grants
- Pg 16** - Notes from the Hill  
- Community Garden news
- Pg 17** - Foodbank / Youth Worker /  
- Recycling Centre / ANPR
- Pg 18** - Sports & Activities News
- Pg 19-22** - Adverts
- Pg 23-24** - Dates for your diary

**Pontesbury Parish Council** - At the November parish council meeting Councillors received a short presentation from Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust about how parish councils could support the work of this partnership and the grants that the Trust have available for community projects to enhance conservation/ biodiversity development in the National Landscape area within the parish. The Shropshire Hills National Landscape partnership was previously known as the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. There is a longer article about the work of the Trust elsewhere in the newsletter. Local Councils have a duty to promote biodiversity and consider the impact of their activities on biodiversity within their jurisdiction.

By January the parish council need to set the precept for the coming financial year 2025-26. As part of this process the parish council reviews its Strategic Plan and prioritises projects for the following year. There are two major projects the parish council are undertaking over the next couple of years. The first is to install solar panels on the Pavilion roof to reduce the energy costs for the building and in keeping with the council's aim of reaching carbon net zero by 2030. The second is the much-needed refurbishment of the public toilets. The Strategic Plan can be found at [www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk).

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

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at the council. We look forward to working with you in 2025.

The next parish council meetings will be held on Monday 9th December and Monday 13th January, 6.30pm at The Pavilion.

The next Planning Committee meetings will be held on Monday 2nd December and Monday 6th January 2025 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk) if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

### Rea Valley Probus Club - 2025 Dates

All meetings are at Arscott Golf Club, on the second Wednesday of each month at 1pm. For further information and contact details please visit our website, [www.reavalleyprobus.org.uk](http://www.reavalleyprobus.org.uk). – next meeting 11 December 2024

Dates for 2025 are:

8 January, 12 February, 12 March, 9 April, 14 May, 11 June, 9 July  
13 August, 10 September, 8 October, 12 November, 10 December



# Pavilion News

December 2024 & January 2025  
- What's On



## New Year, New Hobby?



Why not join our 'Get Creative' group. We are a friendly group who meet twice a month to knit, sew, crochet, embroider, share skills and ideas over a cuppa.

We will be meeting at a new day/time from January 2025. Come along on the first and third Monday each month from 2-4 pm and join us.

We look forward to seeing you on the 6th and 20th January 2025.

Drinks and biscuits are provided and there is no charge.

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

## Pavilion & Library Christmas Closing Times

Pontesbury Pavilion & Community Hub will close on Tuesday 24th December at 1pm and re-open on Thursday 2nd January 2025.

We all wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2025.

**Library Owl News** Our Friends have been busy, crafting, to make the library a beautiful 'Winter Woodland' for the festive season. I am sure they will share more details and photos in their news.

We have a supply of craft and cookery books to help you with ideas for Christmas. I still love a recipe book, you can keep it open, unlike trying to follow a recipe on your phone or laptop, signing in every few minutes with floury fingers. We have a collection of Christmas books too, from 'A Christmas Carol' to 'Murder Under the Mistletoe'.

The library also offers printing and photocopying, very useful for sharing those recipes and craft patterns.

The Library will close for the Christmas break at 1pm on 24th December and re-open at 2pm on 2nd January. Hope you all have a peaceful Christmas and happy and healthy New Year.

*The Library Owl*



## Pontesbury & Rea Valley Carers Group

### Carers Christmas Gathering



FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER

10.30 -12 noon

Pontesbury Pavilion

You are warmly invited to our Christmas Gathering with Christmas songs from Pontesbury Primary School,

Seasonal Refreshments & Festive Quiz

Good company and lots of chat

To let us know you are coming please call

**Shropshire Carers Team :01743 341995**

Or Email: [celia.macintyre@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:celia.macintyre@shropshire.gov.uk)

### In 2025 join us on Friday 31st January

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



Rhyme Time

12th December

at 2pm to 2.45pm

Pontesbury Library @ the Pavilion

Rhymes, stories and songs for children under five years old



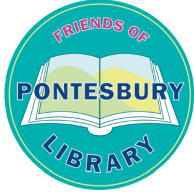
Pontesbury Dementia Support Group

Alternate Wednesdays in the Pavilion

11th December, 8th & 21st January

2025 at the new time of 2-4pm

For all Pavilion enquiries please contact Anna at: [admin@pontesburypavilion.co.uk](mailto:admin@pontesburypavilion.co.uk)



## News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

Our Christmas Coffee morning will be on Saturday 14th December in the Library 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Tea, coffee and delicious cakes, and a chance to admire the Library Christmas decorations plus the next Library Lottery draw. Tickets are just £1 each. November's Lucky Lottery Winners were:

1st Maggie Challinor   2nd Christine Moore   3rd Janet Tolhurst

Lottery joining forms are available in the Library & on the new website . . . which has just gone live! at [pontesburylibrary.co.uk](http://pontesburylibrary.co.uk) Do visit it and leave a comment. A big thank you to Mike Fletcher & Yvonne Davies for their website work and to Emma Lawrence for the design and new logo. Information about FOPL's activities and recent events can be found on the FaceBook page USE PONTESBURY LIBRARY.

**NEW CHAIRPERSON NEEDED FOR FOPL** After many years leading the FOPL Committee Yvonne Davies is standing down. The Trustees are therefore looking for someone to fill this post in the New Year. The Chair's role is to organise fundraising, promote the Library and encourage links with the community. Find out more about what being the Chair involves by contacting Yvonne on [yvonne@pontesburylibrary.co.uk](mailto:yvonne@pontesburylibrary.co.uk). and she'll be happy to chat to you. It doesn't matter whether you've just moved to Pontesbury or are a long-term resident you'll be working with an enthusiastic, talented and hard-working committee alongside the FOPL Trustees.

### Chip it for Charity!

Turn your Christmas Tree into chippings and please make a donation to raise much needed funds for the Community Library in Pontesbury

**Saturday 4th January 2025**  
10.00am to 12.00noon  
**Ark Nursery Car Park, Hall Bank, Pontesbury**

Great for:

- kindling
- the garden

Suggested donation £5



- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle





For more info. contact Ben: 07974 300328

Dates for your diary

**Saturday 4th  
January 10-12  
CHIP IT for  
CHARITY**

RECYCLE your old Christmas Trees at the Ark Nursery car park by the Co-op, where Ben Jones and his Wood Matters team will turn them into chippings for a recommended donation of £5 (or whatever you can manage).

Don't have a tree to bring?? Well, just come along and watch the trees going through the chipper and enjoy refreshments at the Library afterwards. For more info and arrangements to pick up trees if you don't have a vehicle contact Ben Jones, Wood Matters on 07974300328

**Saturday 4th January 10.30 -12.30 FOPL NEW YEAR Coffee Morning & Library Lottery Draw.** And finally . . . A Big Thank You to everyone who has supported the Library during 2024.

We could not have done it without you!

A Happy Christmas to everyone and very best wishes for the New Year





Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

## News & Events

### December 2024 & January 2025



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

#### Coffee Mornings - Friday 13th December 2024 & Friday 10th January 2025

All are welcome to come along - 10:30am to 12:00pm at The Plough Inn

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

#### GN Community Luncheons start again in January 2025

**24th January** (a week early because of the pantomime) & **28th February**

All at the Public Hall – ticket only. Tickets can be bought in advance from Hignetts and any GN groups.

## COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...



Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7

[Nhs.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)



Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: [pat@papyrus-uk.org](mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org) 24/7

[Papyrus-uk.org](https://www.papyrus-uk.org)



Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) for a reply within 24 hours

[Samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)



Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 0800 414 8247

[Mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)



Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19

[Giveusashout.org](https://www.giveusashout.org)



Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Whatsapp 0800 585858

[Thecalmzone.net](https://www.thecalmzone.net)

[ChristmasCountdown.uk](https://www.ChristmasCountdown.uk)

## DECEMBER 2024 - CHURCH SERVICE DATES & TIMES

### St. George's Church

[www.st-george.org.uk](http://www.st-george.org.uk)



Services and activities for December 2024

- 1<sup>st</sup> 10.30am All Age Family Worship
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 2.30pm Tea Service
- 8<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship with Hymns
- 15<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Holy Communion and Children's Church  
7pm Carols with the Benefice Choir
- 21<sup>st</sup> 3pm Messy Christmas
- 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm Carols on the School Green  
11pm Midnight Service
- 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Benefice Christmas Day Holy Communion  
at **Holy Trinity Minsterley**
- 29<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion **Holy Trinity Minsterley**.  
Group Service.

Coffee Stop every Friday 10-12noon.

### Pontesbury Baptist Church

[www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk](http://www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

We meet every Sunday morning at 10:30 am and every Sunday evening at 6:30 pm to sing hymns of worship, hear the Bible read, pray, and listen as God's Word is preached.

*Everyone of all ages is very welcome! You don't have to book ahead, and there's no dress-code - please just come as you are.*

We run a creche for toddlers and a Sunday School for children aged 11 and under during our morning service.

In addition, every service is streamed live via our church website, and recordings of previous sermons are available on the website *and our YouTube channel*.

We also hold a community coffee morning – “Welcome Brew” – *every Tuesday morning from 10:30 am*.

If you'd like more information, please email: [info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk](mailto:info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

### The Methodist Services December 2024

1st Dec 10.45 am with Rev Brian Spencer to inc Holy Communion.

8th Dec 10.45 am with Rev Richard Hall

15th Dec 10.30am Carol Service

22nd Dec 10.45 am with Mr Nigel Gibbon

29th Dec 10.45 am with Church Members



### PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES December 2024

Sunday 1st Dec 10am The Deacons

Sunday 8th Dec 10am Rev. Debbie Martin

Sunday 15th Dec 10am Olwen Lethbridge

Sunday 22nd Dec 10am Rev. Debbie Martin  
6.30pm Carol Service

Sunday 29th Dec 10.30 am Christingle Service  
at Minsterley Congregational Church

Wednesday 10.30 - 12 Coffee and Chat and Fellowship all are welcome

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



Pontesbury Baptist Church

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 5 PM**

All are welcome!

[www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk](http://www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

**Deadline for February 2025 edition -  
Thursday 16th January 2025**

## JANUARY 2025 - CHURCH SERVICE DATES & TIMES

### St. George's Church

[www.st-george.org.uk](http://www.st-george.org.uk)



Services and activities for January 2025

5th 10:30 am All Age Family Worship  
7th 2.30pm Tea Service  
12th 10:30 am Morning Worship with Hymns  
19th 10.30am Holy Communion and Children's Church

26th 10:30 am Holy Communion  
Coffee Stop every Friday 10-12noon.

### PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES

#### January 2025

Sunday 5th January 10 am The Deacons  
Sunday 12th January 10am Rev Debbie Martin  
Sunday 19th January 10am Tim Bateman  
Sunday 26th January 10 am Rev. Debbie Martin

Wednesday 10.30 - 12 Coffee and Chat and Fellowship all are welcome

### The Methodist Services January 2025

5th Jan 10.45 am with Rev Richard Hall to inc Holy Communion  
12th Jan 10.45 am with Church Members  
19th Jan 10.45 am with Mr Wes Morris  
26th Jan 10.45 am with Rev Brian Spencer

### Pontesbury Baptist Church

[www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk](http://www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

We meet every Sunday morning at 10:30 am and every Sunday evening at 6:30 pm to sing hymns of worship, hear the Bible read, pray, and listen as God's Word is preached.

*Everyone of all ages is very welcome! You don't have to book ahead, and there's no dress-code - please just come as you are.*

We run a creche for toddlers and a Sunday School for children aged 11 and under during our morning service.

In addition, every service is streamed live via our church website, and recordings of previous sermons are available on the website *and our YouTube channel.*

We also hold a community coffee morning – "Welcome Brew" – every Tuesday morning from 10:30 am.

If you'd like more information, please email: [info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk](mailto:info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

St George's Church, Pontesbury

**PLAY and LAUGH**

**Games Evening**

Play old favorites, learn a new game, or bring one to share!

**£5 to include Pizza**

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

**25TH JAN 2025**  
**7.00PM - 9.00 PM**

For more details or to book:  
Marianne McCall 07944 333830  
Mary Worrall 01743 791069

*A Welcome Brew*

**COMMUNITY DROP-IN**

Tuesdays 10.30am - 12pm

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

All ages welcome

**Welcome to The Coffee Stop**

**Fridays, 10 - 12 Noon**

**St George's Church Pontesbury**

**Pontesbury Repair Café**  
**Saturday 11th January**  
**10.00-12.00**  
**St. George's Church.**

**Tai Chi** The last class this year will be on Tuesday 10th December, giving us three weeks off over the Christmas period.

The Tai Chi classes will start again next year on Tuesday 7th January at 2.00 pm.

Christmas greetings and a happy new year to all



St. George's Church  
Pontesbury

## Christmas Tree Festival, December 6th - 8th

Entrance £3, children under 16 free

The Theme This Year is:  
"Reduce, Re-use, Recycle"

Set up Wed 4th 9:00am - 6:00pm  
Opening times

Friday 6th 10:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday 7th 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday 8th 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Also:

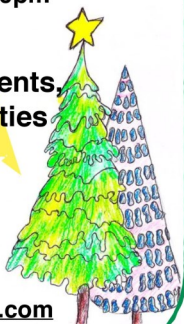
Stalls, Raffle, Refreshments,  
Toilets, Disabled Facilities

If you would like to enter a tree  
please contact

Marianne McCall

Phone: 07944 333830

Email: [mariannemccall.17@gmail.com](mailto:mariannemccall.17@gmail.com)



Pontesbury WI meeting was held on the 11th of November when we held our Christmas craft fair. This is one of our main fundraisers of the year which enables the WI to give out Charity donations to local causes.

Our thanks go to everyone who supported us by attending and to the members who made craft items, baked cakes or made jam etc. This year we will also be having a craft stall at the Cock Inn Hanwood on 30th November at 12.00 noon and 7th December at the Plough Pontesbury Christmas fair starting 10.00am.

On 9th December we will be holding WI Christmas party with entertainment from Paul Ray. Our December craft club will be held on 10th December at The Cock Inn, Hanwood. It is being held at 10.00am on the third Tuesday of each month.

Pontesbury WI are busy making our decorations for our tree which will be part of the St George's church tree festival.

Please contact Irene Windows President on 01743791903 for further information.

Maxine Pittaway. Events Organiser

# FESTIVE FAIRS

ST MARYS CHURCH SHREWSBURY



## CHRISTMAS FAIRS

SATURDAY  
23RD  
NOVEMBER

SATURDAY  
21ST  
DECEMBER

10AM ~ 4PM  
FREE ENTRY



LOTS OF LOCAL INDEPENDENT  
BUSINESS STALLS.  
FIND THE PERFECT GIFT FOR  
YOUR LOVED ONES HERE!

ST MARYS CHURCH DOGPOL  
SHREWSBURY SY1 1DX

## Pontesbury Women's Club

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

**Tuesday 10th December**

The PWC Christmas Party with Food  
and Music

**Tuesday 14th January**

Fish & Chip Supper with  
'Show and Tell'

**Tuesday 11th February**

Fran Smith 'The Life of a Vicar's Wife'

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

**Deadline for February 2025 edition is Thursday 16th January 2025-** please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburywc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburywc.org.uk). When submitting an article, please remember the 250 word limit and a photograph if you have one. Please only send .jpg, .png or Word pictures - **no .pdfs please!**



Severn Hospice  
here and at home

Registered Charity No. 51394

**Lights of Love**

Sun 1 Dec, 4pm  
Severn Hospice, Bicton Heath

Scan here to learn more

Please join us for  
**Lights of Love** – a time to  
remember loved ones missed  
at Christmas

To dedicate a light: pick up a leaflet,  
visit [severnhospice.org.uk/lights](https://severnhospice.org.uk/lights)  
or call 01743 236565

FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

f t i in



# Christmas Baking

**COLLECTION ALL DAY FRIDAY 6TH/13TH/20TH  
OR SATURDAY MORNINGS 7TH/14TH/21ST UNTIL 12PM**

**MINCE PIES**  
4 = £6 6 = £8 12 = £15

**VIENNESE MINCE PIES**  
4 = £7 6 = £9 12 = £16

**SHORTBREAD**  
4 = £4 6 = £5 12 = £10

**CHRISTMAS TREE MERINGUE**  
4 = £2 8 = £3 12 = £4

**VIENNESE WHIRLS**  
4 = £6 6 = £8 12 = £15

**TRUFFLE** CHOCOLATE/BISCOFF  
4 = £4 6 = £6 12 = £10

LEANNE'S PARIS MARATHON 2025  
MICHELLE'S LONDON MARATHON 2025  
IN MEMORY OF ALAN HUGHES

Lingen Davies



## CHRISTMAS MARKET

Craft stalls, Food stalls, wreaths, christmas decor  
and lots lots more.

A day of festive fun!

Gates at Ford - 1st Dec 11am-5pm  
Plough Inn, Pontesbury - 7th Dec 11am-4pm



"I was wrong to assume that working 9 to 5 meant that I couldn't have a dog!"



If this is you, then Guide Dogs Shrewsbury may be able to help, as we urgently need more Fosterers for our training dogs.

You would be required to drop and collect a dog at the Shrewsbury Office in Abbey Foregate Monday to Friday. Then you get the evenings and weekends to spend with your furry friend! This is all at no cost to you...we just need your time. Full training and all equipment will be given.

For more information please visit Foster One of Our Dogs | Volunteer | Guide Dogs UK or email [volat-tractcentral@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:volat-tractcentral@guidedogs.org.uk)

## Men's Breakfast Club

There will be no Men's Breakfast Club in December 2024, so the next meeting will be 25th January 2025.

Men's breakfast group meets in the Horseshoe Inn on the last Saturday morning of the month (except August) at 8:30am for a light breakfast, quiz and a talk.

# MINSTERLEY EISTEDDFOD

## WRITING COMPETITIONS

### MARCH 22ND, 2025



OPEN CHILDREN'S WRITING COMPOSITION

AGE: KS2, KS3 & KS4

ORIGINAL SHORT STORY: 'OLD HAT'

AGE: OPEN

ORIGINAL POEM: 'THE WHISTLE'

AGE: OPEN

LIMERICK: 'THE FETE WAS A WASHOUT AGAIN ...'

AGE: OPEN

ORIGINAL HYMN WORDS

AGE: OPEN

CLOSING DATE: FEBRUARY 3RD, 2025

[WWW.MINSTERLEYEISTEDDFOD.COM](http://WWW.MINSTERLEYEISTEDDFOD.COM)

OR CALL 01743 791045



**ARE YOU A SINGER. AN INSTRUMENTALIST, A SPEAKER OR A WRITER?**

Minsterley Eisteddfod takes place on 22nd March 2025 which may seem an age away but our closing dates for written and performance works are early February so it's time to get writing and time to start practising. We have a full programme of classes for all ages for solo singers, groups and choirs, solo instrumentalists and groups and speakers. Our music covers many genres from children's songs, jazz, folk, modern, musical theatre & classical and our children's poems are always great fun while many of the classes for older speakers are free choice. Our writing classes for all school children are free choice of title and for the adults we have an original short story class titled 'Old Hat' and an original poem 'The Whistle' while our very popular limerick class is titled 'The fete was a washout again.....

You will find all the details you need about what is available, how to enter, closing dates on our website [minsterleyeisteddfod.com](http://minsterleyeisteddfod.com) and you can email us with any enquiries on [minsterleyeisteddfod@gmail.com](mailto:minsterleyeisteddfod@gmail.com) and follow us on face book for any updates.

## Carols at St George's Pontesbury

**Saturday 14th December  
at 7pm with**

# Of One Accord

**Musical Director Alison Stevens, Accompanist Ann Cain**

**Guest Soloist Chloe Hare-Jones**

**Tickets £15 to include festive refreshments,**

**Phone Jill Blyth — 01743 791908**

**Or email [minsterleyeisteddfod@gmail.com](mailto:minsterleyeisteddfod@gmail.com)**

**Or committee members and St Georges Church**

**In aid of Severn Hospice, St Georges Church**

**(Kitchen Project) and Minsterley Eisteddfod.**

# Wonka

Cert: PG - 112 mins



**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - 7.30 pm**

**Marton Village Hall**

Admission: Adults: £5 Child: £2.50  
Enquiries: 01743 792790 or 07810 230860

Film £5. Film + Fish/chips £10. (Fish & chips must be pre-ordered.) Bar and refreshments available from 7.00 p.m.  
All enquiries to 01743-792790 or 07810-230860

WONKA tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

Starring: Timothée Chalamet, Olivia Coleman, Hugh Grant



# Withnail & I

Cert: 15 - 107 mins



**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Dec - 7.30 pm**

**Habberley Village Hall**

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

Mince pies and mulled wine will be available. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30 start. Pay at the door or buy tickets online at: [www.artsalive.co.uk](http://www.artsalive.co.uk)

London, 1969. Two unemployed actors, Withnail and Marwood, are destitute and desperately in need of a change of fortunes. They decide to go on holiday to a cottage in the country. The cottage is owned by Withnail's eccentric uncle, Monty. Things don't go entirely smoothly and get even more complicated when Monty arrives unexpectedly..

Starring: Richard E Grant, Paul McGann,



## Flicks in the Sticks in Marton Village Hall

20th December 2024 "Wonka"

17th January 2025 "Driving Madeleine"

Film only - £5

Film + fish & chips - £10  
(must be pre-ordered)

Contact: John Rice on 01743 792790 or  
07810 230860

## Some Christmas Cracker jokes!!!

What happened to the man who stole an  
Advent Calendar? He got 25 days!

What did the stamp say to the Christmas  
card? Stick with me and we'll go places!

What is the best Christmas present in the  
world?

A broken drum, you just can't beat it!

**POST CHRISTMAS  
GIFT AND  
BOOK SWAP!**

**AT THE PAVILION SATURDAY JANUARY 18TH  
10.00 TO 12.00**

BRING ALONG YOUR UNWANTED GIFTS, EXTRA  
PAIRS OF SOCKS, MUGS, WHATEVER,  
BOOKS ALREADY READ? EXCHANGE THEM!

NOTHING TO SWAP? COME ALONG AND SEE IF THERE  
IS ANYTHING YOU WANT

REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE

COFFEE AND CAKE

## The Marches Choir present a "Big Christmas Sing!"

On Wednesday 11th December, The Marches Choir, conducted by Alistair Auld, will present their "Big Christmas Sing!", a festive evening of carols and Christmas music in St John's Church, Bishops Castle.

The choir will sing a variety of seasonal pieces, including "The Angel Gabriel", a lively and tune-ful re-telling of Gabriel's story, arranged by David Wilcocks, and "Sing Lullaby!", a traditional Basque carol, with a lovely lilting melodic charm. Angelus et Virginem, a joyous carol, with a dance like setting, will have a beautiful flute solo, and the choir will also perform an arrangement of "The First Nowell" and "Pachelbel's Canon" with the two well-known tunes cleverly combined to great effect, using two flutes and choir. As usual there will also be a number of carols for audience participation.

Children and families are especially welcome, and there will be some special carols in which the children in the audience will be the stars! Mince pies and wine will be available in the interval to add to the festive spirit.

The concert will start at 7.00 pm, and tickets (£8, children and students free) are available by calling 07806 433394, online from TicketSource (<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-marches-choir/t-avgovrz>), or can be purchased from choir members or on the night.



# BIG CHRISTMAS SING!

**COME AND SING  
CAROLS WITH THE  
MARCHES CHOIR**

**Conductor - Alistair Auld**

**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**7.00 pm**

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH**  
Bishop's Castle

**Children and families especially welcome!**

**Tickets £8 on 07806 433394  
or online from TicketSource**



**Children and  
students FREE**

[www.marcheschoir.org.uk](http://www.marcheschoir.org.uk)

## Sad Death of Mary Webb Society President

It was with great sadness that Mary Webb Society members learnt that our president and friend, Dr Gladys Mary Coles, had died suddenly on 7<sup>th</sup> October at the age of 89. As well as being our president and guiding light, Gladys Mary was the leading biographer of Mary Webb and a lifelong champion of this Shropshire writer's life and works.

A proud Liverpoolian born in Everton, Gladys Mary was a lecturer in Creative Writing, also an accomplished artist and gifted poet and novelist. Spending much of WW2 in Wales gave her a deep love of that country. She died after having enjoyed a writers' workshop in Wales with friends. Gladys Mary also had a great affinity with Shropshire, especially this area, 'Mary Webb Country', where Mary Webb based her novels. Mary's second novel 'Gone to Earth' was completed in Pontesbury, the Webbs' home for much of WW1. This was made into a Hollywood movie in 1950, with scenes filmed in this area and many local people as extras.

Gladys Mary enjoyed giving countless talks for the society at many village halls here including Worthen, Snailbeach and Pontesbury. Mary Webb's first novel 'The Golden Arrow' was based on the legend of a golden arrow said to be lost on Pontesford Hill. In April 2015, to support the campaign to Save Pontesford Hill, Gladys Mary gave a talk on Mary Webb in Pontesbury at the Public Hall.

This amazing woman has continued to inspire and enthrall us with her incisive knowledge and passion for her subject. We will remember her for her warmth and wit, her friendship and her unique gifts. She is irreplaceable and will be sadly and greatly missed.

Sue King,  
Mary Webb Society member

## Christmas Greetings



On behalf of Pontesbury & Rea valley u3a committee can I wish all our members past, present and future a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2025.

2024 has been very positive for our u3a - we've increased our membership once again, welcomed new committee members, had the privilege of listening to a wide range of inspirational speakers and we've 'learned, laughed and lived' via all the activities taking place via our 20 plus interest groups.

If being a member of our u3a sounds appealing then why not visit our new website ([pontesbury.u3asite.uk](http://pontesbury.u3asite.uk)) and find out a bit more about what we get up to. There's a u3a noticeboard in The Pavilion with information too.



u3a activities tend to be geared towards those no longer in full time employment and help to make sure that as we get a bit older we don't lose our sense of adventure, and satisfy our need to belong to a thriving community and keep our brains engaged.

If you have a friend or family member who you think would enjoy becoming part of the organisation then why not 'gift' them membership this Christmas

- it's better than toiletries or socks and makes a gift that lasts the full year. Membership from January 2025 to March 2026 is available as a gift for just £15.00.



**u3a** Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Check out the website for more details or contact Steve our membership secretary:  
Phone: 07861 531 186

Or if you want to find out more about us, come long to our Christmas Party on the 18th December at 2pm at the Pavilion in Pontesbury.

In the meantime - have a great Christmas and maybe make joining the u3a your new year resolution?



## Pontesbury Primary School

On Monday 11th November, Pontesbury pupils held a moment of reflection at the cenotaph at St. George's Church.

They marked respect for all of those fallen in, or those affected by war. Year 6 led the reflection and read the names of the fallen from the local community. The school observed a 2-minute silence. Later, Reverend Greg led worship at school for Remembrance Day.



Crosses with the names of the fallen on were laid at the cenotaph



Pontesbury CE Primary School held a house day and focused on our value of Compassion (with a focus on kindness towards others). The children took part in lots of activities including

writing letters of thanks to people in the community and singing our harvest songs to Cliffdale residents. The children also made cakes which were sold after school to raise money for Hope House.



be  
**KIND**  
TO OTHERS.

## MINSTERLEY MEADOWS SAVED



Following an intense 10-month campaign the species rich Minsterley Meadows SSSI has been purchased by and for the community!

Over £155,000 was raised by local people and organisations. That figure combined with part of a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, has enabled Middle Marches Community Land Trust to purchase the land for the local community and wildlife. Further funds granted by the National Lottery as part of the £224,000 bid will be put towards three years of management and community engagement on and around the meadows. With over 5,000 Green-Winged Orchids as well as many other wildflower species the meadow is an ecological haven open for the public to enjoy!

Members of the Middle Marches Community Land Trust, Marches Meadow Group and Minsterley Meadows campaign steering group extend their sincere gratitude to those who donated their time, pledged money and spread the word about the campaign. Another big thank you must go to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for their generous grant, and grateful thanks to the players of the National Lottery! The community responded to the call and this grant is your reward. It will enable us to ensure that the meadows will be enjoyed, valued, cared for and sustained, not only now but in the years to come.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund aims to make a difference to people's lives today whilst also leaving a lasting legacy for future generations.

Follow @HeritageFundUK on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, and use #NationalLotteryHeritageFund.

Website: [www.heritagefund.org.uk](http://www.heritagefund.org.uk)

To find out more contact:

<https://www.middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/> or <https://www.marchesmeadowgroup.com/>

For queries email: [info@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org](mailto:info@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org)

## Pontesbury and Minsterley Verge Restoration Project

Four sections of the road verges between Pontesbury and Minsterley are part of a long term plan for restoration to a more natural and nature-friendly state.

**Over the past year Yellow Rattle has been successfully planted to help thin out the thick grass, therefore providing space for other wild flowers to grow, which are being sown this Autumn. The wild flowers will be appropriate to our local soil and area, including Meadow Cranesbill, Knapweed, Chamomile, Pink Clover etc. These are flowers from our old meadows, over 90% of which have been destroyed since the 1950s.**



These verge areas need to be mown at least twice a year, in late spring and late summer, and all the cuttings removed to keep the areas low in nutrients. This involves financial costs which are being met by Pontesbury and Minsterley Parish Councils.

We hope that the restored areas will soon be rich in wild flowers to attract and feed pollinators such as bees and butterflies and provide shelter and food for many other insects and even small

mammals. We may also be able to extend the project in the future to more of the verge, if funding is available.

This ongoing project has been supported and facilitated by the Parish Councils, Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group and Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP).

A special mention to Pontesbury Parish Councillor Doug Jones who has taken responsibility for looking after these areas and helping to improve them for the benefit of us all.

Many thanks to all, Liz Knowles





### **Shropshire Hills National Landscape Trust**

Online form to become a Supporter of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape – Parish Councils  
[Help worthwhile community projects across the Shropshire Hills](#)

Working alongside the [National Landscape Partnership](#), the Trust supports activities which protect the wildlife and heritage of the Shropshire Hills, and enables local people, businesses and organisations to become involved in caring for the countryside around them.

Money raised by the Trust is distributed to projects in the community. Most of it is given in small grants through the Conservation Fund, but the Trust also has public appeals for specific projects.

The Conservation Fund is a small grant pot to support practical projects that help to conserve, enhance and raise awareness of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape.

#### **Priority areas for projects are:**

Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, landscape, wildlife or heritage of the Shropshire Hills. Educational and awareness-raising activities relating to the area and its conservation, especially involving young people.

#### **From September 2024 we have 2 rounds of funding available:**

**We can support activity over this winter. Projects must be completed by March/April 2025.**

**We can support year-long projects to start in April 2025 and complete by end of March 2026.**

#### **Who can apply**

Public, private, voluntary sector and community groups can apply, along with individuals and businesses, but in all cases the project must show a clear public benefit. You don't have to live or work within the Shropshire Hills National Landscape to apply, as long as your project delivers benefits to it.

Priority is given to first-time applicants.

Grants will be in the range of £500 – £2,000. Grants can be of up to 75% and match funding can be made up of in kind and volunteer time contributions as well as cash. Applications will be strengthened by showing other sources of funding.

<https://www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk/help-to-look-after/shropshire-hills-landscape-trust/conservation-fund>

#### **Applications for 2025 are open now, deadline Monday 17th March 2025:**

Projects to run April 2025 – March 2026 so worth thinking about a project in advance?

See <https://www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk/help-to-look-after/shropshire-hills-landscape-trust/conservation-fund>

See list of past projects here:

<https://www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk/help-to-look-after/shropshire-hills-landscape-trust/conservation-fund-projects>

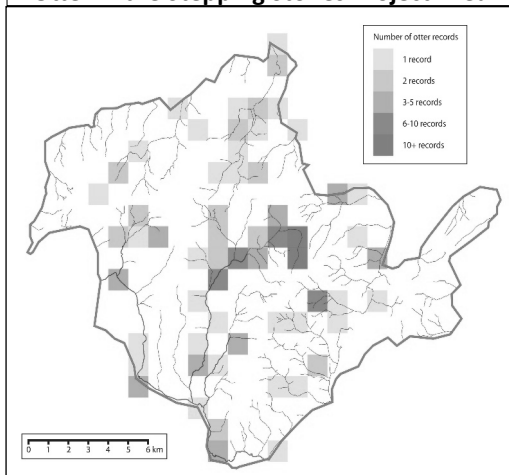
Including habitat enhancement – farmers may be interested in hedge planting, field margins, Owl boxes, Pond work, tree planting.

Parish's may be interested in opportunity mapping the green spaces for potential Mini Meadows, Community Orchards or establishing a Nature Recovery group & a local event – see an example here <https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/hedges-verges-waterways/>

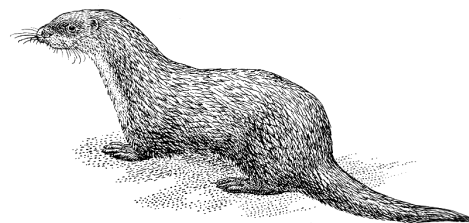
## NATURAL ENGLAND - Notes from the hill

This month's edition of Notes from the Hill is the last one which covers one of our twelve featured species that have action plans produced by the Stepping Stones Project. The last of the twelve is the otter, although generally won't be found on the Stiperstones, the health of its riverine environment will certainly be affected by what goes on up in the hills. There has been a push on the Stiperstones, and on other sites in the Shropshire Hills, to help "slow the flow" and hold back water in the hills by blocking drainage ditches and rewetting marshes and bogs so that water is released slowly into the catchment of these rivers. Actions like these are becoming more and more necessary as we start to see the implications of climate change and more frequent flood events in the lowlands.

### Otter in the Stepping Stones Project Area



The elusive otter is one of our top predators feeding on fish, amphibians and crustacea. One of the nearest records that I remember is from the Bridges where otters were feeding on signal crayfish in the stream near to the Youth Hostel. I once, also remember watching a couple of otters playing further down where the East and west Onny rivers meet.



Sightings may be rare but as these animals are largely nocturnal their presence is best shown by the signs that they leave behind. Footprints can often be seen particularly in soft sandy deposits and their five webbed toes are bigger than a mink's. Otters also leave spraints in prominent places, such as fallen trees, weirs and bridges, as 'scented messages', helping them to find mates and defend territories. They contain visible fish bones and have a distinctive, pleasant musky smell,

which has been said to be reminiscent of jasmine tea.

Once restricted to Scotland and a few small areas of England and Wales. Now, the otter is extending its range into former territories and has increased locally, though the population is still fragmented, and it remains on the global red list of threatened species. Like with most top predators its presence alone can be a sign of a healthy environment, although if it is surviving on an invasive crayfish maybe that may not always be the case.

Actions identified in the plan include: further survey work, habitat improvements and the removal of barriers to fish passage.

For more information on getting involved with the Stepping Stones project search for The Stepping Stones Project in the Shropshire Hills.

*Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak*

### Pontesbury Community Garden News

The garden has had a very productive first year. Some crops are finished and some newly planted, with broad beans, leeks, celery and peas now growing strongly.

**Coming soon** – a wormery, and a new raised bed just for the Nursery children to plant, tend and enjoy, AND... espalier pear and fruit trees!

**How it works:** this is a community garden which means we invite you to come along to help plant new crops, look after what's growing and help out with any other jobs as they pop up. Produce from the garden will be shared by those who join us in any capacity or however much time you can spare. Excess will be donated to the Food Bank and to Community meals.



#### A Sunday work party



#### Can you help us?

Do you have any unused or unwanted garden tools or equipment in your shed or garage that we could use. If you have something you don't use anymore please get in touch.

**Next work parties:** Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 10.00 to 12.00.

The community garden is facilitated by Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group.

**Contact:** Liz Knowles tel: 07553313012



Supporting those in food crisis within the Rea Valley Community

The Rea Valley Foodbank has been running successfully as an independent service for the past two months. This is mainly due to the generosity of those who donate food and other essential household items, and to the people who have pledged financial support. As we lead up to Christmas and the New Year, we would really

appreciate donations of tinned and packaged food, cordials, squash, nappies, toiletries and household cleaning products. In addition, some Christmas treats would be very welcome. Donations can be left at the Pontesbury Co-op, Minsterley Morrisons and at any church in Minsterley or Pontesbury. Many thanks to all these venues, and the One-Stop shop in Pontesbury, for their support.

We are also very grateful for any financial donations – here are the details

The Rea Valley Foodbank 51-61-06 76841804 The reference is: Donor

If we can help you then ring Greg on 07902 794653 or Richard on 07922 830488 or email us at [reavalleyfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleyfoodbank@gmail.com). Alternatively, pop in and have a chat with us. You'll find us in

- Holy Trinity Church, Minsterley Tuesdays 10am-12.00
- St George's Church, Pontesbury Thursdays 10am-12.00
- 

We send our warmest best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful 2025.

There will be a General Meeting of Rea Valley Foodbank on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 2pm at St George's Church. The principal item of business will be to elect a new management committee. All are welcome.

### **Pontesbury Youth Worker**

Hi, my name is Joe and I am a Youth Worker in Pontesbury. I work for St George's Church and Youth for Christ, both of which have been amazing in enabling me to support the young people in and around Pontesbury. I'm currently giving one-to-one support and doing group work in Mary Webb Secondary School for two days a week as well as whole school assemblies six times a year. I also help run two after-school youth cafes during the week in both Pontesbury and Minsterley where young people can come along, unwind, have fun and enjoy some pizza! We've seen really positive responses to each of these endeavours and it's been great to see the young people connect with one another and with their community.



If you would like to know more about the youth cafes or other youth projects we have going on, please contact me at [joe@s-yfc.org](mailto:joe@s-yfc.org). It would be great to hear from you!

**ANPR Cameras** As reported in previous newsletters, the parish council is committed to working with our partners to reduce speeding. In 2022, the Safer Speed Shropshire ANPR camera partnership was established, working with the police and our A488 neighbours, Minsterley PC and Hanwood PC to tackle speeding. The ANPR system has been successful in reducing speeds. The first phase of the project has involved writing to speeding offenders. The project is now moving into Phase 2, where the police will use data from the cameras to identify when and where to deploy mobile speed enforcement patrols. This will involve using technology such as TruCam, which is an advanced mobile camera capable of catching many vehicles and issuing Notices of Intended Prosecution. We are very pleased to be working with the police on this project, and will be providing more detailed reports on the enforcement in future newsletters.

### **New household recycling centres booking system**

A new booking system for people wishing to visit Shropshire Council's five household recycling centres came into effect on Monday, 4 November

Please see below information about the booking system:

- Bookings can be made by residents in the Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council areas
- Bookings can be made online or by phone, with online bookings encouraged.
- To book online – and for more information – people will be encouraged to visit the council website – see Household recycling centre bookings | Shropshire Council
- The address for this page is [www.shropshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentrebooking](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentrebooking) . This is the address that will be used on/in all communications

On the webpage you will find lots of questions answers about the booking system, which we hope will help to answer any questions you may have.



# Sports & Activities

## Pontesbury Sports Association



Tim & Sharon represented Pontesbury Sports Association to meet Sally, who is the founder member of the Henryangeljames Memorial Trust, who kindly donated a defibrillator to the Association - this makes a total of five defibrillators in Pontesbury, one at Pontesbury Dentist, the Pavilion, the Public Toilets and the new development on Minsterley Road.

**TAI CHI** The last class this year will be on Tuesday 10th December, giving us three weeks off over the Christmas period.

The Tai Chi classes will start again next year on Tuesday 7th January at 2.00 pm.

Christmas greetings and a happy new year to all

**Pontesbury Women's Cricket Team** have been back on the field (well a much warmer sports hall) for their indoor cricket season. Starting with the softball league at Shrewsbury School on 8th October, our ladies have been playing local teams in quick, rapid indoor matches consisting of just 6 overs per innings. The indoor game is all about tactics; accurate bowling, quick reactions and sprinting singles to rack up the run total. So far the ladies have won a total of 5 out of 5 matches in group A and are now through to the finals which will be held on 26th November. We wish them good luck for this tournament's finals night where they will be facing the winners and runners up of group B. Good luck!

Pictured Right to left:

Back Row: Beth Brooker (C) Di Lockyer. Naomi Hammond (C) A. Steward

Front Row: Lucy Wilson. Katy Barber. Justyna Jones.



**West Shropshire Flower Club** The October meeting was the flower club's AGM. President Helen Savage expressed her thanks and Chair, Carolyn Hills took us back over the year's events and successes, celebrating our 40th Anniversary, club evenings and member's triumphs at local shows,

Following the AGM was a talk by Carolyn Hills on Colour and her work with Colour Me Beautiful, a service that identifies the most complementary colours to inform your wardrobe. This is done looking at how colours work with the persons natural colouring (hair, eyes, skin) looking at the tone, clarity and depth of colours. They can cast either flattering tones or dark shadows.

Meetings are at Westbury Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of each month starting at 7.30pm, visitors welcome. The next meeting is Wednesday 22nd January 2025.

Delyth Price – Here comes Christmas”

## Worthen Mens

This Season with moving up a league has proven to be quite challenging. We have played 7 games Won 3, Drew 2 & Lost 2.

We are Currently sitting mid-table which we are happy with.

We are in the quarter final of the County Cup @ Home on 1st December against Travellers Joy from Telford & any support to encourage the team would be appreciated.



**Deadline for February 2025 edition is Thursday 16th January 2025-** please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). When submitting an article, please remember the 250 word limit and a photograph if you have one. Please only send .jpg, .png or Word pictures - **no .pdfs please!**

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*Starters*

CHEF'S STARTER ASSORTMENT

*Main Course*

ANY MAIN MEAL FROM OUR DINE IN MENU

*Sundries*

FESTIVE MIXED VEGETABLE CURRY  
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*Dessert*

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**Fun, easy dance routines to get you moving**  
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**A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**  
*and Happy New Year!*

## Minsterley Meadows Public Meeting

**Minsterley Parish Hall**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 8pm**

Complimentary refreshments provided

An update on future plans for the meadows;

A chance to answer your questions and hear your views

Keep a lookout for our future  
Event:

**MINSTERLEY MEADOWS**  
**A Springtime Celebration**  
*when the orchids are in bloom*

**With your help we've done it!**  
**And this will be our chance to  
thank you all**

### Article & Advert Submissions for February 2025 edition

The deadline for submissions to the February 2025 issue of Pontesbury Newsletter is Thursday 16th January 2025 - please email: [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk) for enquiries regarding advertising or to submit an article - please forward your colour adverts by this date. No .pdfs please



You could see an advert for your company in this newsletter. If you would like to advertise your business in the Pontesbury Parish Newsletter please get in touch with Nicki, [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). The costs of advertising depend upon the size of the advertisement and where you live or where your business is based.

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

## **DECEMBER 2024 - DIARY**

Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>Regular Weekly Events</b>			
Every Mon	6.30-7.30pm	Pontesbury Runners (advanced/intermediate)	Meet corner of Brookside & Minsterley Rd
Every Mon	6.00-7.15pm	Yoga	Ponts Congregational Church
Every Mon	7.00-9.00pm	Monday Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Tue	10.00-12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	Holy Trinity Minsterley
Every Tue	10.30-12.00	A Welcome Brew	Baptist Church
Every Tue	2pm	Tai Chi (see pg 7 for Xmas times)	Public Hall
Every Tue	8—9 am	Pilates for Core Strength	Public Hall
Every Wed	10.00-12.00	Sea Change Drop-In for parents/carers of under 5s - free session with refreshments	Pavilion - Term-time only
Every Wed	10.30-12.00	Coffee/Chat and Fellowship	Pontesbury Congregational Church
Every Thur	10.00-12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	St George's Church
Every Thur	2pm	Short mat bowls	Pontesbury Public Hall
Evert Thu	7-9pm	Rea Valley Woodcarvers (Term-Time Only)	Minsterley Parish Hall
Every Thur	7-9pm	Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Fri	10.00	Walking Local Footpaths	Meet at School Green
Every Fri	10.00-12.00	Coffee Stop	St George's Church
Every Sat	7.30pm	Whist Drive	Yockleton Village Hall
<b>DECEMBER 2024 Events</b>			
Sun 1st & 15th	10.00-12.00	Community Garden Working Party	Community Garden
Mon 2nd	6.30pm	Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting	Pavilion
Thu 5/19th	11.00-13.00	Get Creative Group - free & refreshments	Pavilion
Fri 6th	7.30pm	Withnail & I - Flicks in the Sticks	Habberley Village Hall
6th-8th	10.00-6pm	Christmas Tree Festival (see page 8 for details)	St George's Church, Pontesbury
Sat 7th	10.30 -12.30	FoPL Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Sat 7th	11.00-4.00pm	Christmas Market	Plough Inn
Mon 9th		WI Christmas Party	Pontesbury Public Hall
Mon 9th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Full Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
Mon 9th	8pm	Minsterley Meadows Public Meeting	Minsterley Parish Hall
Tue 10th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Pontesbury Public Hall
Wed 11th	1pm	Rea Valley Probus Club	Arscott Golf Club
Wed 11th	2-4pm	AGE UK Dementia Support Group	Pavilion
Wed 11th	7pm	Big Christmas Sing	St John's Church, Bishops Castle
Thu 12th	2pm	Rhymetime for children 0-4years/parents	Pontesbury Library in the Pavilion
Fri 13th	1030-1200	Good Neighbour's Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn
Fri 13th	10.30-1200	Pontesbury Carer's Christmas Gathering	Pavilion
Fri 13th	7.30pm	Wonka - Flicks in the Sticks	Marton Village Hall
Sat 14th	7pm	Carols @ St George's	St George's Church, Pontesbury
Sat 21st	10.00-4.00pm	St Mary's Festive Fair	St Mary's Church, Shrewsbury
Sat 21st	3-4pm	Messy Christmas	St George's Church, Pontesbury
Sun 22nd	5pm	Carols by Candlelight	Pontesbury Baptist Church
Tue 24th	1pm	Pontesbury Pavilion & Library Closes	

### **Article & Advert Submissions for February 2025 edition**

The deadline for submissions to the February 2025 issue of Pontesbury Newsletter is Thursday 16th January 2025 - please email: [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk) for enquiries regarding advertising or to submit an article - please forward your colour adverts by this date. No .pdfs please

# **JANUARY 2025 DIARY**

Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>Regular Weekly Events</b>			
Every Mon	6.30-7.30pm	Pontesbury Runners (advanced/intermediate)	Meet corner of Brookside & Minsterley Rd
Every Mon	6.00-7.15pm	Yoga	Ponts Congregational Church
Every Mon	7.00-9.00pm	Monday Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Tue	10.00 - 12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	Holy Trinity Minsterley
Every Tue	10.30-1200	A Welcome Brew	Baptist Church
Every Tue	2pm	Tai Chi	Public Hall
Every Tue	8—9 am	Pilates for Core Strength	Public Hall
Every Wed	10.00-12.00	Sea Change Drop-In for parents/carers of under 5s - free session with refreshments	Pavilion - Term-time only
Every Wed	10.30-12.00	Coffee/Chat and Fellowship	Pontesbury Congregational Church
Every Thur	10.00-12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	St George's Church
Every Thur	2pm	Short mat bowls	Pontesbury Public Hall
Evert Thu	7-9pm	Rea Valley Woodcarvers (Term-Time Only)	Minsterley Parish Hall
Every Thur	7-9pm	Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Fri	10.00	Walking Local Footpaths	Meet at School Green
Every Fri	10.00-12.00	Coffee Stop	St George's Church
Every Sat	7.30pm	Whist Drive	Yockleton Village Hall
<b>January 2025</b>			
Thu 2nd	10.00am	Pontesbury Pavilion Opens	
Sat 4th	10.30 -12.30	FoPL Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Sat 4th	10.00-12.00	Chip It for Charity	The Ark Nursery Car Park
Mon 6th	2pm	Get Creative Group - Free and for everyone	Pavilion
Mon 6th	6.30pm	Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting	Pavilion
Wed 8th	1pm	Rea Valley Probus Club	Arscott Golf Club
8th & 22nd	2-4pm	AGE UK Dementia Support Group	Pavilion
Fri 10th	1030-1200	Good Neighbour's Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn
Sat 11th	10.00-12.00	Repair Café	St George's Church, Pontesbury
Mon 13th	1.30pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Mon 13th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Full Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
Tue 14th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
<b>Thu 16th</b>	<b>Deadline for February Newsletter</b>		
Thu 16th	2pm	Rhymetime for children 0-4years/parents	Pontesbury Library in the Pavilion
Sat 18th	10.00-12.00	Post Christmas Gift & Book Swap	Pavilion
Fri 24th	12.00	Community Good Neighbours Luncheon	Public Hall, Pontesbury
Sat 25th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast Club	The Horseshoes, Pontesbury
Sat 25th	7-9pm	Community Games Evening	St George's Church, Pontesbury
Wed 29 to Sat 1st Feb	Various, see poster	Pontesbury PANTO (details on front page)	Public Hall, Pontesbury
Fri 31st	10.30-1200	Pontesbury Carer's Support Group	Pavilion

*Best  
Wishes*

Happy New Year!



**Deadline for February 2025 edition is Thursday 16th January 2025 - please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates, to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). When submitting an article, please remember the 250 word limit and a photograph if you have one. Please only send .jpg, .png or Word pictures - no .pdfs please! A colour edition is available online.**