



Festival logo designed by Rosie Taylor, aged 11, winner of the Festival Logo competition



## FESTIVAL EDITION

**Thu 26th -  
Sun 29th JUNE**

Dear Pontesbury People,

### Are you ready for the Pontesbury Festival?

The festival is taking place on Friday, Saturday, Sunday 27-29 June 2025 – with just a couple of events to kick us off on the evening of Thursday 26 June.

A team of volunteers representing the many different organisations within the village area has been working hard for the last year in preparing a festival to remember.

The festival will be celebration of all that is good about our wonderful village area. There will be activities involving music, dance, drama, spoken word, sport, craft, art, nature and the environment. There is fun for all the family by the Pontesbury family. Please join us for what promises to be a memorable weekend.

This wrap-around extra to our newsletter contains all of the information you will need. There are details about when and where activities are taking place so keep it safe, read it carefully and start planning what you're going to be doing.

Some of the events are ticket only so make sure you purchase in advance – details are inside the newsletter – tickets are selling out fast so don't leave it too late

It's not too late to get involved – we need volunteers to help out at the events and activities and marshalls to direct people to the various locations. If you can spare a few hours then please get in touch.

Look out for our Facebook posts for up to date information – plans may change.

For more information or to volunteer to help please contact Greg at [rectorpontstip@gmail.com](mailto:rectorpontstip@gmail.com) or Janet at [walshjanet601@gmail.com](mailto:walshjanet601@gmail.com).

**Hope to see you there!**



<https://fb.me/e/4BsHl7bM2>



### Village Decorations

To bring a spirit of celebration to the village we would like to ask everyone to join in and decorate houses and workplaces with bunting – Union Jack or otherwise.

It would also be lovely if we could see some pretty pots and hanging baskets in gardens and frontages over the festival weekend. Your help with this would be much appreciated. Let's get this party started!

### JOIN US FOR OUR PONTESBURY FESTIVAL

27TH - 29TH JUNE

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY  
TO CELEBRATE OUR  
AMAZING COMMUNITY!

**FREE ENTRY**

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- DRAMA •
- MUSIC •
- ARTS & CRAFTS •
- SPORT •
- DANCE •
- GARDENING •
- FAMILY FUN •
- PHOTOGRAPHY •
- HISTORY •
- STREET FOOD •
- AND MUCH MORE!

PLEASE NOTE:  
ACTIVITIES PRICED  
INDIVIDUALLY

VISIT <https://fb.me/1MNAFYOMBUAV2T6> OR  
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO!



A PONTESBURY FESTIVAL EVENT:

An Evening  
with ~



# PONTESBURY PLAYERS!

A FUN EVENING OF DRAMA & MUSIC

**FRI 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

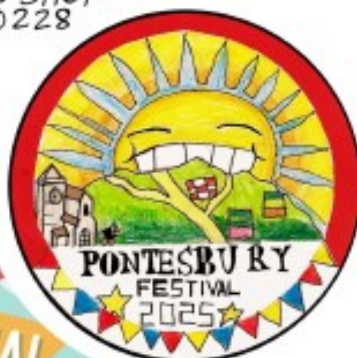
at Pontesbury Public Hall 7.30pm

RAFFLE

TEA, COFFEE, NIBBLES  
SOFT DRINKS ON SALE  
(BRING YOUR OWN ALCOHOL)



TICKETS: £5 EACH  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
pontesburyplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pontesburyplayers)  
OR FROM - HIGNETTS SHOP  
01743 790228



JOIN US FOR OUR

## PONTESBURY FESTIVAL

FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

**SUNDAY  
29TH JUNE  
1:30PM TO 4:30PM**

£5 PER CHILD

TRACTORS

INFLATABLES

ICE CREAM VAN

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO!

## Pontesbury Festival Concert

An **EXTRAVAGANZA** of music

Pontesbury Public Hall  
Saturday 28 June 2025 7.00pm for 7.30pm

### Tin Soldiers

Marko Ivanovic  
Val Marciandi  
Les Parker  
Rob Davies

### Val Sinclair with

James Taylor  
Louis Meehan  
Dave Briggs  
Matt Donaldson  
Steve Clark

Tickets £10 from:  
Hignetts, Pontesbury or Pontesbury Library  
or email: [music@valsinclair.co.uk](mailto:music@valsinclair.co.uk)



## PICKLEBALL TASTER SESSION

Ever heard of pickleball? One of the fastest growing sports - if you like tennis or badminton you'll love pickleball!

Come along for a taster session.  
Equipment provided but bring suitable footwear and drinking water. Over 18's only.

**Sunday  
29 June 2025**  
**Time  
12.00pm - 3.00pm**  
**Mary Webb School,  
Pontesbury, Sports Hall**  
**Free entrance**  
[pontesburyu3a.co.uk](http://pontesburyu3a.co.uk)

**u3a**

Pontesbury  
& Nae Valley

learn,  
laugh,  
live



## 1940's Style Tea-Dance

With Jacqui Evans  
and Nigel Bell

**Sunday 29 June 2025  
2.30-5.00pm  
Pontesbury Public Hall**



Dance your own style or show off your  
lindyhop, jive or ballroom skills

Tickets £6.00 to include tea, coffee and cake,  
from Hignetts, Pontesbury or Pontesbury Library  
or email: [pfteadance@gmail.com](mailto:pfteadance@gmail.com)

We'd love to see you dressed in 40's style but it's not compulsory.  
Just put on your glad-rags and have a great afternoon

£50 'P R I Z E S' for the best dressed man and woman in 40's style



# *Pontesbury Parish Newsletter*



## **Pontesbury Festival 2025 – 25th to 29th June – fun for all the family. Pull out the wraparound and plan your activities!**

The June 2025 Pontesbury Parish Newsletter holds so much information on what do to, where to go, who to meet with or just drop into many of the wonderful coffee and tea spots around the parish and beyond, in the Rea Valley.

From nature to films, and theatre, dance and song, to flowers & vegetables, June is packed with entertainment, displays and activities for every member of the family.



**DEADLINE for July 2025 issue is:  
Friday 13th June 2025.**

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

People from outside the Parish are interested in what's going on in our vibrant parish, so please bring your newsletter back to the Pavilion to be reread. Many thanks

### **Decorate Your House for the Festival .....**

To bring a spirit of celebration to the village we would like to ask everyone to join in and decorate houses and workplaces with bunting – Union Jack or otherwise.

It would also be lovely if we could see some pretty pots and hanging baskets in gardens and frontages over the festival weekend.

Your help with this would be much appreciated. Let's get this party started!



## Pontesbury Parish Council

The Parish Council meeting in May was the Annual Council Meeting where councillors signed up to sit on various committees and take on specific responsibilities. This May the Annual Council Meeting followed local council elections and so the new Council begins its 4-year term in office. Councillors voted unanimously for Cllr Duncan Fletcher to remain as Chairman and Cllrs Hignett and Trow to remain as Vice-Chairs. Cllr Fletcher thanked all councillors for their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and for committing to support local residents for the new term. Cllr Fletcher also congratulated Cllrs Roger Evans and Nick Hignett on being re-elected as Shropshire Councillors for Longden and Rea Valley areas respectively.

### Make a difference – become a local councillor

There are currently four vacancies for councillors, two in the Pontesbury ward, one in Cruckton and one in Plealey ward. The council now have to co-opt four new councillors to fill these vacancies.

If you are interested in becoming a local councillor please talk to one of the existing councillors or contact the Parish Clerk. [clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk) 01691 661157. More

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information about the sorts of activities the council is involved in locally can be seen in the Annual Report of the Parish Council, in the centre pull-out of this newsletter. You can also find more information on the parish council website [www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk), including eligibility criteria for being a councillor. To apply please email the clerk stating how you meet the eligibility criteria, why you want to be a councillor and what skills and experience you would bring to the role, by 5pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025.

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm at Cruckton Village Hall.

The next **Planning Committee meeting** will be held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 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.

### Shropshire Council report by Cllr Roger Evans

It is with great pleasure that I can report that both Nick Hignett and Roger Evans were re-elected as your Shropshire Councillors at the recent elections.

The complete set of results can be seen on the Shropshire Council website and were published by the local media.

Any extra duties and responsibilities that your Shropshire Councillors are allocated will be formally be agreed at the Annual Meeting of Shropshire Council which was held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. At this meeting which was attended by all the seventy-four recently elected councillors a new Leader and Cabinet will be chosen. Amongst the seventy-four councillors will be fifty who are attending their first ever council meeting.

Both Nick and I express gratitude to all those who voted at the recent elections and undertake to represent all the residents who live in our respective areas.

### Rea Valley Probus Club

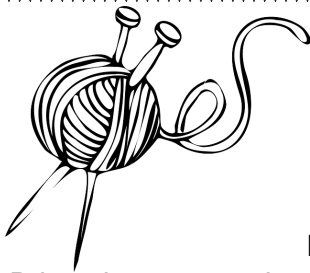
All meetings are at Arscott Golf Club, on the second Wednesday of each month at 1pm. For further information and contact details please visit our website, [www.reavalleyprobus.org.uk](http://www.reavalleyprobus.org.uk).

**Next meeting: 11th June 2025**





## Pavilion News June 2025 - What's On



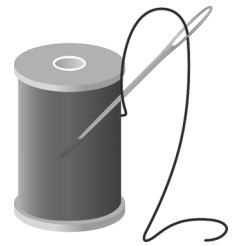
We hope to see you at the new time for

### **'Get Creative Group':**

**at The Pavilion from 2-4pm on  
Monday 2nd and 16th June 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.



### **Rhyme Time**



**Thursday 12th June 2025**

**at 2pm to 2.45pm**

**Pontesbury Library @ the Pavilion**

Rhymes, stories and songs for  
children under five years old

### **Pontesbury Carers Support Group**

**Friday 27th June 2025**

Gentle Yoga session with Anna - suitable for all  
abilities and can be done seated.

**Friday 25th July 2025**

Matt Hignett, Financial Planning and the cost of  
care. Matt is a Financial Advisor and member  
of SOLLA

Join us in 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.



**Pontesbury Dementia Support Group**  
Alternate Wednesdays in the Pavilion

**11th & 25th June 2025 Time: 2- 4pm**

**Message from the Library Owl** I'm sure every article this month will reflect the excitement of those involved in the village festival, the library included. We have teamed together with FoPL to run a writing competition. 'It happened in Pontesbury...' This closed on the 31st of May, the judges are now busy reading the entries, which will be announced on Saturday 28th June. We hope to have a display for everyone to read the entries.

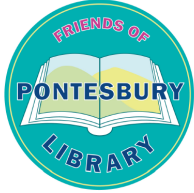
The next big event will be the Summer Reading Challenge which launches in July. Get ready to sign up for 'The Story Garden'. This will be suitable for primary school children and will be accompanied with some summer crafting activities.

Unfortunately, I feel there are some library by-laws that I need to share. Dogs are not allowed in the library unless they are assistance dogs. Mobility scooters should only be used with prior agreement with library staff when using the Library, the smaller ones are usually okay but not at busy events, please check. We don't like to fill the front entrance and windows with negative posters; it can be unwelcoming and blocks the sunlight. We appreciate your adherence to these rules which are made at higher levels.



**The Library Owl**

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



## News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

### Plant Sale

A bright sunny day, and the prediction in the last 'News' that it would be a 'wonderfully busy morning' was so accurate!. We had tremendous support, a queue forming outside the Pavilion Garden gate ready to swarm in at 10am and make their selections from the grand array of plants displayed, with the added attractions of a tombola stall, cake stall and the book stall. Plus, of course, the popular monthly coffee morning which was so well patronised that the cakes nearly ran out!

Many thanks go to the crowd of willing volunteers who made all the preparations, manned the stalls, and served refreshments. Also to everyone who generously donated plants, cakes and books, and prizes for the tombola, and of course to all who came and made the day so enjoyable and so successful. All the money raised will go towards our lovely library.

### Congratulations

This months lottery winners drawn at the coffee morning were:

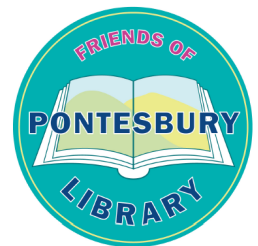
- 1<sup>st</sup> - No.183 Steve Kelly
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - No.68 Caro Schiansky
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - No. 131 Ann Griffiths

The next Coffee morning will be on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 10.30 till 12.30 - come along, meet friends, and enjoy tea, coffee and delicious cakes, and the lottery draw.

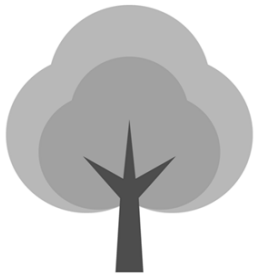
Thanks to all who have entered the Writing Competition the sending-in day has now passed and the winners will be announced and prizes awarded on Festival Saturday afternoon, 28<sup>th</sup> June, from 2pm at the Pavilion.

Please continue to support the library.

- Become a library member. It's free to join.
- Join the 100 Club lottery – just £1 per month
- Support Library events.







Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

# News & Events

## June 2025



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

**Coffee Morning - Friday 13th June 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.

..... other community news

**Do you think you could spare a few hours a week to lend a hand? Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin relies on volunteers to help us offer vital services in the local community.**

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people; learn new skills and support the work we do across Shropshire. Our volunteers tell us that they find it very rewarding and gain an enormous amount from what they do to help older people in their community.

**In Pontesbury, we are looking for people to join our befriending service.**

It's a terrible thing to be lonely. Our volunteer befrienders visit an older person at home who may be experiencing isolation or loneliness to provide companionship and confidential support. They visit on a regular basis or sometimes take them out on short trips or accompanying them to a local activity.

*"When I first met my 'client' it only took a few minutes chatting to realise we were going to get along just fine. We talk about anything and everything. I find it very satisfying to be able to help with someone's life, even in a small way."*

*Terry, Befriending volunteer*

For further information please contact our Volunteer Recruitment Team by calling 01743 233123. Alternatively, you can visit our website or email [volunteering@ageukstw.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageukstw.org.uk).

Just a few hours of your time every week can really make a difference to the lives of local older people.



## Time Out

From Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup> and thereafter every second and fourth Thursdays of the month, Time Out will meet at St George's Church. The group is aimed at those who find the stresses and strains of life in this post-Covid age all too much, and want a safe place to chat.

Friendly volunteers will be on hand to serve refreshments, and the Shropshire Wellbeing bus will be on hand for anyone seeking professional advice or support. Time Out will run from 2.00-3.30pm. There is no charge for joining the group.

If you want to know more, please contact Rev'd Greg Smith at [rectorpontstip@gmail.com](mailto:rectorpontstip@gmail.com)

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

People from outside the Parish are interested in what's going on in our vibrant parish, so please bring your newsletter back to the Pavilion to be reread.  
Many thanks

## St. George's Church

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



### Services and activities for June 2025

- 1<sup>st</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 2.30pm Tea Service
- 5<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm Messy Church
- 8<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship without communion  
3pm Deanery Pentecost at Worthen Village Hall
- 15<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am All Age Family Service  
3pm Confirmation Service
- 29<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion St. Luke's Church, Snailbeach. (Group Service)

Tea Break every Wednesday 2-4pm  
Coffee Stop every Friday 10-12noon

### Pontesbury Baptist Church

[www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk](http://www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk) We have services twice every Sunday – at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm – where we sing hymns of worship, hear the Bible read, pray, and listen as God's Word is preached.

#### 10:30 AM 6:30 PM

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June Mike Wells SONGS OF PRAISE
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June Mike Wells *No service*
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June Mike Wells Martin Wells
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June Rob Jack Mike Wells
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June Mike Wells Mike Wells

*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.*

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

### Methodist services for June:

- 1st June with Dr John Woolley
- 8th June with Mrs Helen Pearson
- 15th June with Rev Sheila MacInally
- 22nd June with Mr Andy Skitt
- 29th June with Church Members
- All services at 10.45 am.

### PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES. JUNE 2025.

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 10am Paul Bracken and the Cornovian Singers Choir
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 10am Rev. Debbie Martin
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 10am The Deacons
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 10am Rev. Debbie Martin
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am at Minsterley Congregational Church -Tim Bateman

- Tuesday's 10am Prayer Meeting
- Wednesday's 10.30-12 midday Coffee and Chat

All are welcome.

### Pontesbury Congregational Church will be hosting a Table-Top Saleon Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 10am-12noon

Any organisation which would like a table (cost £10) to raise funds for their own use, please contact the Church Secretary (Wendy)  
Tel: 07824155418 or  
email [rustysretreat1@hotmail.com](mailto:rustysretreat1@hotmail.com) to book a table.

### SONGS OF PRAISE

#### Pontesbury Bapist Church

Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 6:30 pm**



Discover the extraordinary stories behind the hymns!

With Pastor Mike Wells  
Light refreshments served  
free of charge!

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

**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

PONTESBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

**Welcome to The Tea Break**

Cuppa, cake, and a chat

**Wednesdays 2pm - 4pm**

St George's Church Pontesbury

**Messy Church Spring**

First Thursday of the month  
During Term Time  
3.30pm - 5.00pm

For Families and Friends to enjoy stories, crafts, and fun

Followed by shared hot food

Further information contact:  
Graig: 07902 794603 email: [rectorpontstip@gmail.com](mailto:rectorpontstip@gmail.com)  
Or Mary: 01743 791089



## NATURAL ENGLAND— Notes from the hill

Well, what an amazing spring we have had and generally the wildlife has benefitted from it, with good insect numbers and lots of caterpillars for birds to be feeding their young with. Cuckoos seem to be doing very well on the Stiperstones, although it would be interesting to see if anyone has heard any away from the nature reserves in the area, as I don't think that I have.

Stonechats have full broods of young already on the wing, these will be the birds that remained on the hill all year and so start nesting early. Ravens also nest early and their young have fledged too. Other more migratory species will be settling down to lay eggs, such as the pied flycatchers and redstarts, the former greatly helped by the nest box schemes being run in the area.

Cuckoos are attracted to the Stiperstones for two main reasons, the abundance of small birds in whose nest they can lay their eggs and the profusion of large caterpillars, which are one of their main food sources. One of the large caterpillars that can be seen at this time of year is the oak eggar moth. This is a large brown day flying moth and the caterpillars feed on a variety of woody plant including heathers and bilberry, but also hawthorn and bramble. Another moth with a large hairy caterpillar is the fox moth which can also be seen during the day. The caterpillars are protected to some extent by their hairy bodies which make them less palatable, however some birds like the cuckoo specialise in eating them and have enveloped a technique of eating them without ingesting their often toxic hairs.

We are still in the peak of our ground nesting bird season so please help them by keeping to paths with dogs on a lead. The other way to help us at present, especially in this dry weather, is to ensure that there are no potential causes of a fire. Fires in the summer can be devastating for wildlife and can be caused by a variety of factors including discarded cigarettes, glass bottles, camping stoves and barbeques. Please keep a look out and ring the emergency services if a fire is suspected.

We are also running a new easy access storytelling walk for those with limited mobility on Friday 6 June 11am-12.30pm. A free event but requires booking via eventbrite, see QR code.

There are also a few places left on the two scything courses, also see QR code.

We will also be celebrating the extended National Nature Reserve in August with a walk led by some of the managers of the site. Details can be found on our events page on Eventbrite.

*Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak.*

**Deadline for July 2025 edition is Friday 13th June-** please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). Please send .jpgs or .png - no .pdf docs - thank you.



The Cuckoo



### Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group

April and May have been busy for the Rea Valley

Community Wildlife Group - three fully booked events, two monthly walks and one community event. We'd like to start by thanking the Friends of Pontesford and Earl's Hill for our joint 'Wildflower Walk' at the base of Earl's Hill. Led by local botanist Kat Edwards-White, 15 people enjoyed learning about the wildflowers and botanical highlights of this well-loved local nature reserve. Our Bat Walks, led by ecologist Ben Holloway, have proved to be incredibly popular with participants given hands on experience using electronic bat detectors to listen to the bats use their echolocation as they flew overhead.

Our two monthly walks at Brockton and Poles Coppice were well attended and show that the enthusiasm for nature and wildlife in general is quite high in the Rea Valley area. These walks are free to attend, and no booking is required, a meeting place is listed, and people are encouraged to join in as little or as much as they want. The idea is to share our knowledge and enthusiasm with each other as we explore our surrounding habitats.

We also want to thank Clive and Gill Whittall for inviting us to the 'Go Wild in Worthen' event which was, by all accounts, a resounding success. Many different organisations and groups came together to share our passion for nature with the local community. With prizes and competitions, tea, and cakes and plenty of activities for everyone it was a lovely event, and we look forward to attending next year!



Wildflower walk © Laura Edwards-White

# 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




## St George's Church Pontesbury

# Evening BINGO

**25th July, in 'The West End Room' 7pm, bring your own bottle**

**£5 entry to include light supper. £1 per bingo card**

**(40 max, so please book)**

Contact for tickets/ booking  
Marianne McCall 07944 333830, or Marion Elliott 07833 325755




## St George's Church, Pontesbury

# Messy Church Spring

**First Thursday of the month During Term Time 3.30pm - 5.00pm**

For Families and friends to enjoy stories, crafts, and fun

Followed by shared hot food

Further information contact:  
Greg: 07902 794653 email: rectorpontstip@gmail.com  
Or Mary: 01743 791069

## theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Pontesbury WI met on the 19th May when we welcomed representatives from Mary's Meals. Hannah and Andrew told us how Magnus Macfarlane - Barrow established a charity that

developed from a shed which eventually fed over two million children. This truly inspirational story about how people were encouraged to volunteer, and help in their community, to come together to feed and educate starving children.

At the start they provided 200 meals for children in one country, they now provide 2.6 million children with a meal and education in 16 different countries. It was amazing to learn that for £19.15 Mary's Meals can feed a child for a year.

It was such a moving and inspirational story. Next month the WI are going on a trip for Afternoon tea at Merton Gardens Bickton. Our June meeting will be on June 9th at 2 o'clock we're Caroline Wright will be talking to us about Lilly Chitty. Our next craft club will be held on the 17th of June at the Cock Inn Hanwood at 10 am. You do not have to be a WI member to attend craft club, everyone is welcome.

Our WI meetings are friendly events, we have guest speakers and trips out. We also hold competitions. Flower of the month for example. This month Maxine Pittaway took first place with a beautiful Iris. Our monthly raffle was one by Lorna Wright and our bring an item (this month your favourite animal photograph) was won by Shona Wood. Why not give us a try and come along to our next meeting. If you would like to see what we are about please contact Irene Windows President on 01743791903 for further information.



## Pontesbury Women's Club

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

**Tuesday 10th June**

Fran Smith – The Life of a Vicar's Wife

**Tuesday 8th July**

Victoria Graham – The Biscuit Club

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

## Your Questions answered about christening

St George's Church is holding an open evening on Thursday June 12th at 7pm for any family interested in having their child christened. This can happen at any age. All welcome. No commitment assumed. For further information, please contact Greg via email at: rectorpontstip@gmail.com





# Pontesbury Parish Council

## Annual Report - 2024-2025

### Pontesbury Parish Councillors 2025-26

#### Asterley Ward

Cllr Dave Gregory 07877  
458512

#### Cruckton Ward

Cllr Allan Hodges 07379  
965759

Cllr Michelle Trow –  
07967 308910

Cllr Charles Sandells –  
01743 860217

1 VACANCY

#### Habberley Ward

Cllr John Pritchard –  
01743 790344

#### Plealey Ward

Cllr Roger Evans – 01743  
791002

1 VACANCY

#### Pontesbury Ward

Cllr Duncan Fletcher  
(Chairman) 01743 792000

Cllr Nick Hignett (Vice  
Chairman) – 01743 790228

Cllr Douglas Jones –  
01743 791470

Cllr Sharon Davies –  
07940 988951

Cllr Adrian Windows -  
01743 791903  
2 VACANCIES

## Chairman's Report 2024-25

April 2025 brings us to the end of another four year election cycle and I would like to say a big thank you to all of the councillors who have served during this time and been committed and hardworking, with a shared ideology of serving our community. A number of our councillors are standing down, Cllrs Heywood, Lewis, Mackenzie-Slight and Manning. They have been valuable members of the parish team. A particular thank you goes to Cllr Lewis whose tireless support over many decades for myself as Chair, his contribution to many council activities and as our Tree Warden, has been invaluable. I wish all of the Cllrs who are leaving the council at the end of the 24-25 year and send them best wishes for the future.

Thanks as always to our experienced staff team of Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer all having worked in the Town & Parish Council sector for more than five years. Thanks also to Anna, much-loved and hard-working public face of The Pavilion. Please see the separate report on the continuing success of this well-used community building.

The Council team have worked hard during 24-25, as in other years, to maintain essential community services such as streetlights, public toilets, the play area, and public open spaces in the village including. This hasn't always been easy especially with the vandalism to the play area and toilets that we have experienced this year. All of the SOX streetlights have now been converted to LED which has already saved us money in energy used and maintenance costs. A big thank you also goes to Nicola Young (Deputy Clerk) for her hard work in bringing to fruition the complex project to install solar panels on the Pavilion roof. This generation of renewable energy, helps the council and community along the journey to reduce our carbon emissions.

Highlights of the year for me have been the continued partnership working to bring about benefits for the community such as: working with the Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group to provide a community garden and orchard; working with adjoining parishes on combatting speeding; the local policing team, Shropshire Library Service/Friends Of Pontesbury Library to enable the continuation of the community library and working with Pontesbury Sports Association to update the much loved sports pavilion.



Cllr Duncan Fletcher

Please note the new Parish Council website: [www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

### Parish Council Staff and their new gov.uk email addresses

Parish Clerk – Debbie Marais 01691 661157

[clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

**Community Grants:** Grants have been awarded this year towards:

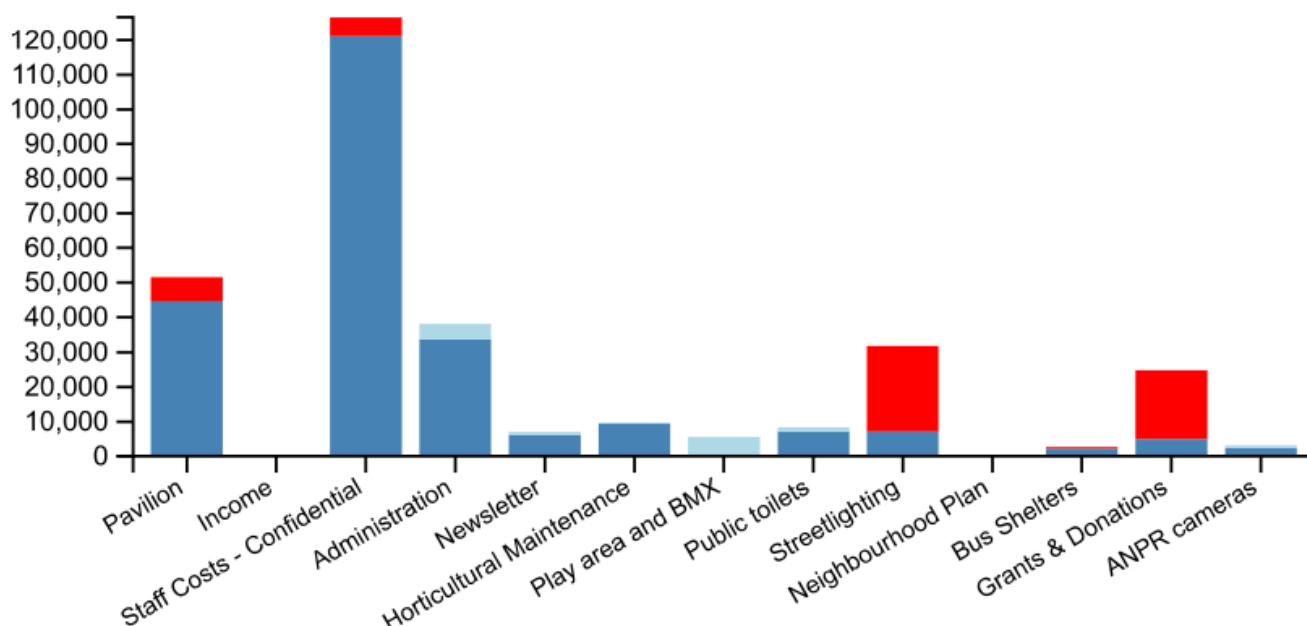
- The upkeep of Poles Coppice
- Remembrance wreath
- Pontesbury Sports Association for work to update the sports pavilion off Bogey Lane
- Hedge/tree planting and wildflower verge creation
- The Community Garden near the village green behind the Ark nursery and The Pavilion
- Pontesbury festival for publicity of the event

**Looking forward to 2025-26..... All of our normal services delivered with a decrease (2.59%) in the local precept! Plus the following**

The newly formed Facilities Working Group continue to work on the refurbishment of the public toilets and play area, as well as organising the refresh of the bus shelter at the top of Hall Bank,. They are gradually reviewing all of the council assets. A new noticeboard was purchased and installed in Habberley and a new noticeboard for Lea Cross is on its way. We are also working with local groups to expand the number of defibrillators available in the parish and to update training on their use for local volunteers.

2025 will see our biennial tree inspection survey for the parish to ensure that all trees on land the parish council are responsible for, thrive and are not in danger of falling or losing branches. We are monitoring the trees for ash die-back. We see some evidence of this beginning and so a plan will be put in place to replace those trees over the forthcoming years..

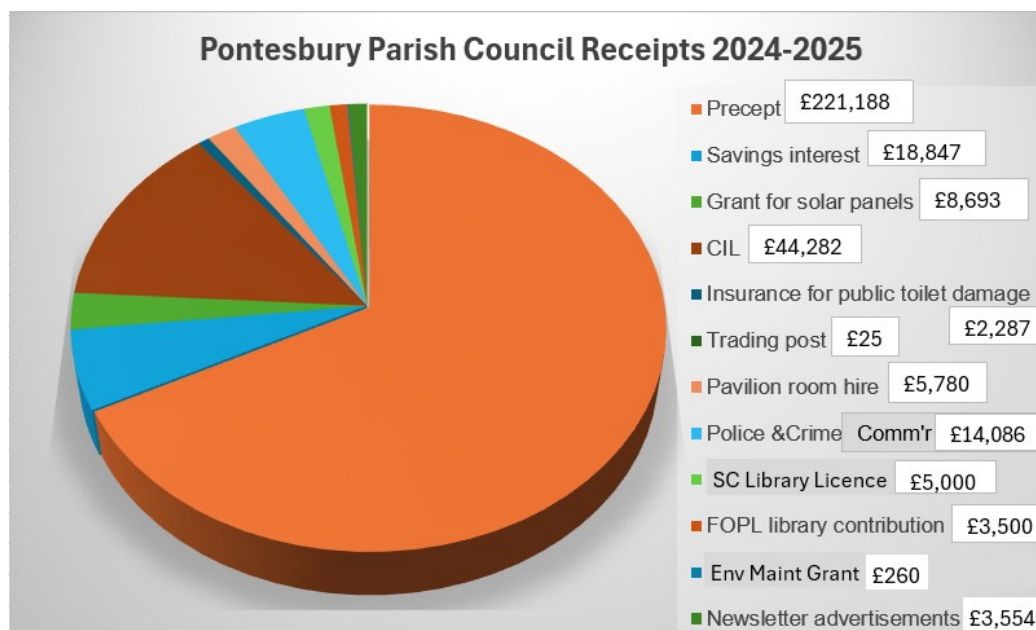
The council has set up a Biodiversity Working Group of councillors and local residents who will be looking at projects to increase biodiversity throughout the parish. They are hoping to form a 'cluster' with neighbouring parishes to enable wildlife corridors to extend between the villages. We are part of a national research project with Exeter University to highlight the impact working at parish council level can have to combat loss of important species of flora and fauna.



Full Financial Information can be found at [https://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ye\\_financial\\_summary\\_5.pdf](https://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ye_financial_summary_5.pdf)

Copies of the newsletter can be found at: <https://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/pontesbury-newsletter>





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



## The Pavilion Community Hub & Library

Pontesbury Pavilion Community Hub & Library has had another great year during 2024-2025 Financial Year and is continually building on a great reputation and good facilities. This is thanks to the Pavilion Committee and staff team who manage the building. Looking forward to 2025, we already have events booked in and the building is also part of the Pontesbury Festival on Friday, Saturday & Sunday 27th - 29th June 2025.

**Day-to-Day Running of the Pavilion.** The staff team work to the ethos that "Community is the foundation to success" as quoted by Kristen Jones, and work together to continually refresh, maintain and provide a safe environment. Anna Lawson, Building Assistant and the face of the Pavilion, is the person who greets you upon arrival, she takes your bookings, and sets spaces up - Anna is the backbone of the Pavilion and is there every day to keep the building 'wheels' turning - it's thanks to Anna that everyday is a community day in the Pavilion. Nicki Young, Deputy Clerk & Pavilion Building Manager, keeps those 'wheels' turning behind the scenes. Along with the Pavilion Committee, Nicki works to provide a strategic outlook for the Pavilion, applying for funding, keeping H&S up to date, and providing the link between the community and Council.

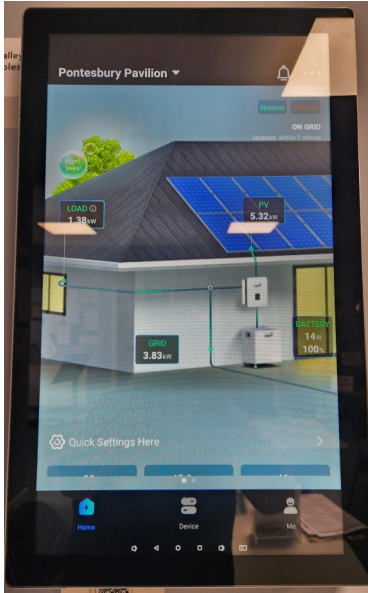
The Pavilion is now a vibrant community building thanks to the many different and varied activities which take place, catering from babies & pre-schoolers to those older in age.

Working with Shropshire Council Property Services Group, the staff team have added Legionella Testing to the existing maintenance programme which continues to keep the building services working safely.

**Future of Pontesbury Library** The Pavilion Committee met with members of the Shropshire Council Library Service and Estates Team to discuss the future of **Pontesbury Library** and the License to Occupy in the Pavilion. We are pleased to report that the parish council have agreed to pay £15,000 per year (an additional £1,000), including an annual contribution of £4,000 from Friends of Pontesbury Library. An agreement is to be signed by Shropshire Council to continue to pay £5,000 for the Library for the License to Occupy the space within the Pavilion.

**The Pavilion Committee** oversee the strategic work of the Pavilion, along with receiving reports and quotes for larger projects and making recommendations to full Council in line with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

This year the Committee have achieved a successful bid to UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UK SPF) / Worcestershire County Council to install **solar panels** on the roof of the Pavilion and, in addition, the Council approved funds to purchase solar energy batteries to store energy created.



The project to install solar panels involved the Deputy Clerk working to a tight deadline to achieve a great result. Severn Valley Renewables won the contract to install 28 x solar PV cells with micro-inverters, onto the Pavilion roof and 3 batteries sited in the kitchen. All members of SVR and the scaffolding team worked extremely hard to bring the project to completion in time to make the claim. There was great communication from all parties and SVR provided help where needed. This is also followed up by one year support from SVR.

The Council are already reaping the benefits and seeing a reduced use of energy from the grid. A screen in the Bistro Area gives daily updates on the solar energy used and stored.

Since the solar panel project was completed on 14th February 2025, the Pavilion is now 96% electricity self-sufficient, having produced enough solar energy to support daytime use, we have only used 52kWh from the grid. Overall the solar panels have produced 2.58 MWh solar energy, feeding 1.41 MWh into the batteries to support the Pavilion with energy self-sufficiency.

**Maintenance**—The Meeting Room was **repainted** in March 2025, with quotes sought and a local painter and decorator being successful with their price. We now have a spruced up and made the space brighter for the community.

To save money, the Pavilion Committee also agreed to **purchase a carpet cleaner** rather than regularly hire in a company. This now means that the Building Assistant, along with her other cleaning duties, washes the Pavilion carpets on a more regular basis, this was most beneficial during the winter rainy

**Room Hire** The Pavilion Committee voted to retain the same hire price for the financial year 2025-2026.

Hiring of the rooms in the Pavilion has been consistent, with a total number of bookings in last Financial Year of 490 compared to the total number of bookings for the current Financial Year decreasing slightly to 487, which includes paid hiring and hiring not paid for, ie, for Council meetings, Council events, Committee meetings. This equates to an average of 40 bookings per month. A total of 26 one-off events were held in the Pavilion during FY 2024-2025, with approximately 476 people attending these events, so the total number of people using the building over the year is quite a considerable number.

There- the of ings	Financial Year	No of Bookings	Income from Room Hire	fore, as number book- has
	1 Apr 2023 - 31 March 2024	490	£5,435.00	
	1Apr 2024 - 31 March 2025	487	£5,875.00	

**Looking forward**, the Pavilion team will be working with partners, such as Public Health, to bring meaningful events to the Pavilion to assist with happy and healthy communities in Pontesbury Parish.



Longer term projects the council wishes to undertake can be found in the Parish Council Strategic Plan 2023-2026, on the parish council website [https://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/review\\_of\\_pontesbury\\_parish\\_strategic-plan-2023-26\\_002.pdf](https://www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/review_of_pontesbury_parish_strategic-plan-2023-26_002.pdf)



# Tea With Mussolini

Cert: PG - 117 mins



**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Jun - 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 from 01743-792790 or 07810-230860

Based on a true story TEA WITH MUSSOLINI portrays how a village can successfully raise a child. In this sense, a group of colourful, independent, and fiercely proud women teach Luca about the veracity of love, kindness, generosity and sacrifice. They also bequeath to him a keen reverence for all the arts.

Starring: Cher, Maggie Smith, Judi Dench, Joan Plowright, Lily Tomlin



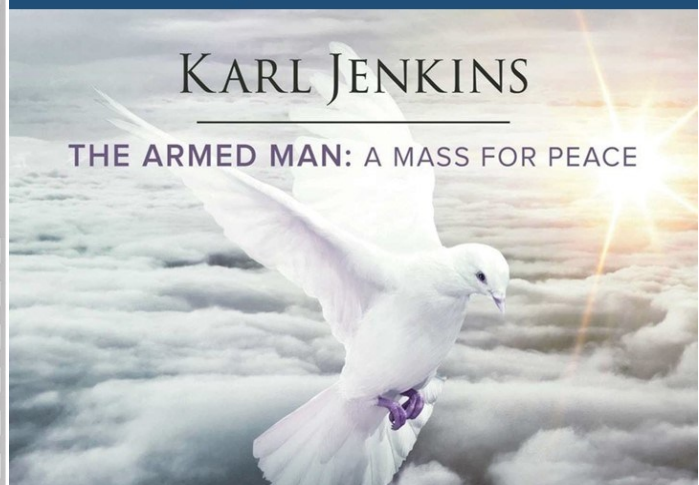
FLICKS IN THE STICKS

# MARCHES CHOIR and FRIENDS

St. John's Church, Bishop's Castle  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 7:30pm

KARL JENKINS

THE ARMED MAN: A MASS FOR PEACE



CONDUCTED BY ALISTAIR AULD  
with  
Rebecca Thurgur – *Soprano*

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Brian Carrington

Singer song writer

@ Habberley Village Hall.

Saturday 21st June

Doors open 7.30

B.Y.O favourite refreshment

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Ticket entrance £10 on the door

An evening of heart felt song

Some of my own material

Some to evoke thoughtfulness

Some to make you laugh

Some to maybe join in with



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the likes of

Joni Mitchell

Richard Thompson

Janis Ian

Nanci Griffith

Jacob Collier

Mary Black

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

**Deadline for June 2025 edition is Friday 13th June-** please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesbury.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury.org.uk). Please send .jpgs or .png - no .pdf docs - thank you.



## REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

MONTHLY WALKS AND EVENTS : JUNE 2025

Wednesday 11th June - Monthly Walk - Evening

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Minsterley Parish Hall - household.revise.helps

Join our friendly Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) for a June evening walk. We hope to see where swifts might be nesting and discover local flora and fauna together.

**Free to attend and no booking required**

Please note that there is no designated leader for these monthly walks. A meeting point is listed for each walk and the group will decide together on the day where they would like to walk.



**We are also excited to be at Pontesbury Festival on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Come and find us and talk all things nature!**



Join us as we complete a butterfly survey transect and explore the area of Mitchell's Fold and Black Marsh:

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June - Butterfly Walk at Mitchell's Fold & Black Marsh**

10-1pm

Mitchell's Fold Car Park - snaps.scarecrow.rods

This event is free, but donations are welcome. Pre-booking is essential as spaces limited. email: [reavalleycwg@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleycwg@gmail.com)



Facebook  
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More Information  
[www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/](http://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/rea-valley-wildlife-group/)



**JOIN US  
TODAY!**

Email: [reavalleycwg@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleycwg@gmail.com)

Active and vibrant Whatsapp group also available





## Pontesbury Community Garden's ART COMPETITION!

Calling all young creative artists. Our garden needs to brighten up its boring wooden shed so we're having a fun competition to design a mural for its front and sides. Let your imagination blossom with a vegetable and fruit themed mural / design.

**OPEN** to all children 5 to 12 years old.  
**CREATE** a design featuring leaves, flowers, fruit and vegetables  
**HAND IN** to Pontesbury library by July 31<sup>st</sup>

**WIN PRIZES:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** your design painted on the shed plus special art kit.

**Other prizes:** gift card for art shop, colouring books and markers.



see over for shed template



left side

front

right side



### PONTESBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### SATs

Well done to all of our Year 6 pupils who completed their SATs in May. They have worked really hard and tried their very best. At Pontesbury CE Primary School, we do value statutory assessments but also ensure we remember the importance of the other skills, talents and interests that our children hold which no assessment can ever measure. Our Year 6 staff worked hard to ensure that we reduced the stresses these SATs can bring by making sure children were fully prepared and by supporting any child who had any worries. Mrs Thomas, our cook, and the team prepared a breakfast every morning to keep the children 'fuelled up' whilst they sat their assessments. As part of the celebrations at the end of SATs, our children had a snowball-style fight with their practise papers (all paper is recycled).

#### VE Day celebrations

The whole school enjoyed celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE day. We held a tea party on the field with donations of cakes and biscuits from families. Everyone was encouraged to dress up - some children dressed in red, white and blue and others dressed as evacuees, pilots etc. Our school kitchen provided a special, themed lunch and the lunch hall was decorated with bunting and balloons whilst 1940s music was playing; some classes joined in live online assemblies with actual veterans from WW2; some children made flags. We ensured we discussed what VE day represented and how grateful we are to all of those who gave so much to give us the life we have today.

Did you see us in the Shropshire Star? If not, you can view the article online where there is also a video showcasing our school. Please search for 'Shropshire Star Pontesbury Primary School' - the article begins with 'I love the family feel...'





# Sports & Activities

## WHAT'S GOING ON? - Everything – that's what!!



- Walking Tennis - Fridays 11am
- Social Tennis – Fridays 9.30am
- 'Back on Court' – Free taster sessions
- Junior Coaching – Thursday afternoons
- Monthly Breakfast Tournaments
- Adult Group Coaching Sessions
- 'Court Cardio Fitness' – Thursdays 9.30am
- Club Night Social Tennis – Mondays 6.30pm
- 1-2-1 Coaching Sessions
- County Based League Matches
- Annual Quiz & Dinner
- **AND MUCH MORE TO COME!!!**

We offer a variety of annual memberships – New Members always welcome!!! Give us a try !!

For further details email '[longden.tennis@gmail.com](mailto:longden.tennis@gmail.com)', OR call 07710 472104

[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/longdentennisclub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/longdentennisclub)

Longden Tennis Club – SY5 8EX

### Pontesbury Thursday Night Badminton Club

The Pontesbury Thursday Night Badminton Club are looking for a few more members. We play at Mary Webb School, Pontesbury on Thursday nights between 7pm and 9pm. We accept anyone of 18 years old or older and any playing standard and that includes novices. The only condition is that you must be able to freely move around the badminton court. The fees are £12.00 per month or £5 per week for a 3 week trial period. If you have any queries then please let me know. If you are interested in playing then please email [naoakley01@gmail.com](mailto:naoakley01@gmail.com) for further information. Please do not attend on a Thursday night unless you have been specifically invited as we have limited spaces.



- Worthen Ladies had their final match of the Season on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May which now means the Sports Association is concentrating on the Cricket, Rounders & Bowls Season.
- Pontesbury Ladies Cricket team had a tense and hard fought first win against Condover's hardball women's team. Our ladies had tight bowling and fielding, taking excellent wickets along the way and managed to keep calm under the pressure of Condover's bowlers. Super effort from Captain Naomi and Emma. The first T16 match of the season came down to the last ball of the last over getting us over the target and was a brilliant start to a competitive and fun season. Thanks to Condover for being great sports and competition . Its good to be outside again!
- The Rounders Teams playing from the PSA are now into week five of the Season with some great wins from the teams. Games are played on Tuesday & Wednesday nights at The PSA & Mary Webb School.

### **TAI CHI in Pontesbury—**Tai Chi is held each Tuesday at The Public Hall – 2-4pm

Whether you are new to Tai Chi or are already an enthusiast, you are welcome to come along to **The Pontesbury Tai Chi Group. 2-4pm Tuesdays at The Public Hall, Pontesbury**

**Deadline for July 2025 edition is Friday 13th June-** please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). Please send all posters, pictures and adverts as .jpg or .png documents, please do not send .pdf. Many thanks

### **Establishing St George's Meadow in Pontesbury Cemetery, Bogey Lane**

In 2021/22, part of Pontesbury Cemetery which is not yet used for burials was set up to become a meadow. This was supported by the Stepping Stones Project and Marches Meadows Group. An information board in the cemetery explains more.

The meadow space now needs more work to help it become a place where meadow plants, insects, birds and mammals can thrive. St George's Church Eco Group is delighted that the **Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund**, run by the Shropshire Hills National Landscape, is supporting us to:

- Cut and remove grass cuttings three times in 2025/26
- Scarify the land and sow wildflower seed
- Engage with the local community through events and activities to enjoy the site and to learn about the importance of hay meadows for biodiversity

We will be working with Pontesbury Primary School on an art project for the Pontesbury Festival (27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June), and there will be an open air, open-to-all church service in the meadow on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm (bring a rug/chair/picnic!).

The Shropshire Hills are a National Landscape (previously known as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The purpose of National Landscapes is to reduce risks from climate change and nature depletion, and to improve people's wellbeing. The St George's Meadow project aims to help biodiversity in our cemetery, close to Pontesford Hill.

Keep an eye on how the meadow space changes over the year! More information is available from Alison and Paul Holmes [alisonmholmes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonmholmes@hotmail.co.uk) or Rebecca Maddox [Rebecca@maddoxbroadband.plus.com](mailto:Rebecca@maddoxbroadband.plus.com)



**Shropshire Hills**  
National Landscape



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**Who is this Mystery Man?** Does anyone know who this person is? It is believed the photograph is of Richard Samuel France (the son of Richard France who lived with his family in Plealey. Richard Samuel France died at his friend's house in 1882 (William and Maria Spaul), at Bryntirion on Morda Road, Oswestry. This photo is still

hanging on the wall at this house! The photograph is also in a house in Bronygarth where apparently the owner's grandfather bought the property from 'a' Mr France, but we do not have the address or owners name of this house.

Millionaire Richard Samuel France owned limestone quarries in Llanymynech and coal mines at Nantmawr; as well as engineering works to produce bridges, locomotives, wagons and construction equipment for railway contractors. He was responsible for building railway lines; including, for example, the Potts line and Abbey Station in Shrewsbury in 1866. Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust is also trying to trace his descendants, so anyone named France is welcome to contact them. Information about the photo is welcomed by Philip Davies; chairman of the Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust via 07762 215008 or [abbeystationshrewsbury@gmail.com](mailto:abbeystationshrewsbury@gmail.com) Thank you.

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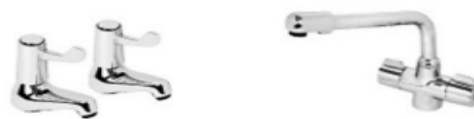
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**HIGNETTS**  
of Pontesbury Ltd  
est. 1919

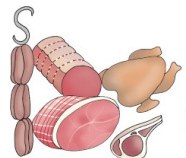


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**MCSP AACP HCPC**

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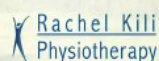
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You could see an advert for your company in this newsletter. If you would like to advertise your business in the Pontesbury Parish Newsletter please get in touch with Nicki, deputy@pontesbury.org.uk. The costs of advertising depend upon the size of 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.

# **JUNE 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 Wed	2-4pm	Tea Break - tea, cake and a chat	St George's Church
Every Thu	10.00-12.00	Rea Valley Foodbank	St George's Church
<b>First Thu</b>	3.30-5pm	Messy Church Spring	St George's Church
Every Thu	7-9pm	Rea Valley Woodcarvers (Term-Time Only)	Minsterley Parish Hall
Every Thu	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>Monthly Events</b>			
Sun 1st	6.30pm	Baptist Church Songs of Praise	Baptist Church
Mon 2nd & 15th	2-4pm	Get Creative Group - free & refreshments	Pontesbury Pavilion
Thu 5th	3.30-5.00pm	Messy Church	St George's Church
Fri 6th	11-12.30pm	Easy access Storytelling Walk	
Sat 7th	10.30-12.30	FOPL coffee morning	Pavilion
Mon 9th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Meeting	Cruckton Village Hall
Mon 9th	2pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Tue 10th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
Wed 11th	1pm	Rea Valley Probus Club	Arscott Golf Club
Wed 11th & 25th	2-4pm	AGE UK Dementia Support Group	Pontesbury Pavilion
Wed 11th	5.30-7.30pm	Rea Valley Community Wildlife Walk	Meet at Minsterley Parish Hall
Thu 12th	2pm-2.45pm	Rhymetime for children 0-4years/parents	Pontesbury Library in the Pavilion
Thu 12th	7pm	Open evening about christening	St George's Church
Thu 12th	2- 3.30	Time Out—friendship & support group	St George's Church
Fri 13th	10.30-12.00	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	The Plough, Pontesbury
Fri 20th	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks "Tea with Mussolini"	Marton Village Hall
Sat 21st	7.30pm	Brian Carrington gig	Habberley Village Hall
Fri 27th	10.30-1200	Carer's Group - gentle yoga	Pavilion
Sat 28th	7.30pm	Marches choir & Friends	St John's Church, Bishop's Castle
Sun 29th	10-1	Butterfly walk at Mitchell's Fold and Black Marsh	Mitchell's Fold car park
<b>July</b>			
Mon 7th	6.30pm	Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting	Pontesbury Pavilion
Sun 12th	3pm	Open to all church service	St George's Meadow, Pontesbury Cemetery
Fri 25th	10.30-1200	Carer's Group - financial planning	Pavilion

**Deadline for July 2025 edition is Friday 13th June** - please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk). Please send all posters, pictures and adverts as .jpg or .png documents, please do not send .pdf. Many thanks



THE LIFE & WORK OF  
SHROPSHIRE WRITER  
**MARY WEBB**  
1881-1927

EXHIBITION | SATURDAY  
JUNE, 28  
**2025** | BOOK  
SALE  
10.30am - 3.30pm



Congregational Hall,  
Pontesbury

Presented by  
The Mary Webb Society



As part of  
**The Pontesbury Festival**  
27th - 29th June, 2025

## The Gospel of St Luke

Performed by St Luke's Players



Friday June 27th, 4.00pm - 6.30pm

Pontesbury Baptist Church

Entry £5

There will be an interval, and refreshments  
provided by Pontesbury Baptist Church

Contact for tickets/booking: Rebecca Maddox  
rebecca@maddoxbroadband.plus.com

## SPRING INTO THE GARDEN

PONTESBURY FESTIVAL EDITION



This year's event has been moved  
from its usual May date to Thursday  
26 June to support the Pontesbury  
Festival. Doors open at the earlier time  
of 7pm and, as usual, entry and  
refreshments are free of charge; there  
is, however, a new principle for donations  
in lieu of a charge and all proceeds  
will go to the Severn Hospice.

As well as the usual plant sales there  
will be flower baskets and troughs,  
jams and chutneys, cards and garden  
storage units as well as a small  
selection of goods from the Trading  
Post. For any more details, please ask  
at the Trading Post on Saturday  
mornings from 9.30 to 12 noon.

At the end of the evening you may  
want to go on to the music event of  
the Nag's Head which is also part of  
the Festival.

Thursday  
26 June 2025

Time  
7pm

Public Hall  
Pontesbury

Free entrance

Free refreshments

Donations to Severn Hospice

**St George's Church Pontesbury**

## Exhibition

### And sale of art

Friday 27th, Saturday 28th,  
Sunday 29th June 2025  
10am - 6pm

**Free Admission**

Refreshments will be on sale

Further details contact  
Mary Worrall 01743 751659  
Email: Worrallworrall@hotmail.co.uk

**PONTESBURY**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Join us for free refreshments,  
Saturday morning and afternoon

Pontesbury Baptist Church, Chapel Street, SY5 0RJ

Toilet facilities available.

Also, Children's activities and games  
(children will need an accompanying adult with them)

Saturday 28th June 2 - 4pm

## TABLE TENNIS

Whether you are a complete novice or an  
accomplished player, you will be warmly  
welcomed to our taster session!

We're a friendly bunch who enjoy playing  
table tennis, without being too serious.  
Please wear appropriate footwear.  
Equipment provided.

Friday  
27 June 2025

Time  
10.00 am - 12 noon

Congregational Hall  
Minsterley Rd, Pontesbury

Free entrance  
Refreshments available  
@ pontesbury.u3a.sites.uk

**u3a** Pontesbury & Rea Valley  
learn, laugh,  
live

27th, 28th, 29th June  
**Three Art Workshops in Pontesbury**  
For you to join in:  
(As part of the Pontesbury Festival)

**Friday 2pm - 3.30pm**  
**Beginners Watercolour Landscape Painting.**  
St George's Church, Pontesbury  
For anyone who would love to "have a go"  
£5 (All materials provided)  
Places are limited, so booking needed  
Enjoy creating a landscape using watercolours,  
with tips and lots of encouragement.  
Contact Wendy:- wjcarter1759@hotmail.com

**Saturday 2pm - 4pm.**  
**Sketching in Pontesbury with 2 local artists.**  
Meet at St George's Church for inspiration, then spend an  
hour and a half sketching around the village  
or inside the church.  
Meet back to share our sketches, and chat over hot drinks.  
An encouraging, non competitive afternoon for all abilities  
(Beginners welcome!).  
Bring your own materials. Event free.  
(Refreshments available from the church cafe).  
Contact Wendy:- wjcarter1759@hotmail.com

**Sunday 2pm - 4pm**  
**Painting and Drawing at Harlow Cottage,**  
Habberley Rd, Pontesbury.  
Bring your own materials. (If wet...interiors!).  
Limited Parking.  
Any questions to Gill 01743 790430

## Thank you!

The festival committee would like  
to thank the following local  
businesses for their donations to  
support Pontesbury Festival. Their  
support is very much appreciated.

The Plough Inn  
One Stop Shop  
Severn Valley Farm Machinery  
Pontesbury tractors  
Severn Valley Renewables  
The Hollies Bookkeeping  
Electrical 2 Control  
Serenity Salon  
Nags Head  
Hignett's  
TNC Body repairs  
The Lintel Trust  
Pontesbury School Charity  
Pontesbury Parish Council

Donations are still welcome -  
contact Greg or Janet for details  
as to how to donate:  
rectorpontstip@gmail.com (Greg)  
welshjanet501@gmail.com  
(Janet)

## SPOKEN WORD

### AFTERNOON

### Poetry & Prose!

Calling all lovers of the  
spoken word!

**SAT 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**  
2 PM, Pavilion

If you would like to read  
your favourite poem  
(comic or serious) or a  
short piece of prose, we  
would be delighted to  
include you in the  
afternoon's  
entertainment.

We also welcome your  
own poems if you would  
like to share them.

The winning entrants  
from the Pontesbury  
Writing Competition will  
join us and

young people's rap will  
be worked on by Emma  
Parlow, the  
Wolverhampton Poet  
Laureate.

**INFORMATION**  
Please contact Yvonne  
Davies at  
yvonne@pontesburylibrary  
club or Greg Smith at  
rectorpontstip@gmail.com  
on 01743 790430 if you  
would like to read  
something or have  
something read.



## Thu 26th JUNE

- 7.00pm | **Spring into the Garden**  
Gardeners' Association plant & craft sale  
📍 Public Hall
- 7.30pm | **Jam session** - Come and have a sing along  
📍 Nags Head

## Fri 27th JUNE

- 10.00am - 12.00pm | **Table Tennis Taster** - Led by Pontesbury u3a  
📍 Congregational Church Hall
- 10.00am - 6.00pm | **Arts Festival** - Art exhibition & sale of art  
📍 St George's Church
- 2.00pm - 3.30pm | **Beginners' Water Colour Landscape Painting**  
📍 St George's Church
- 2.30pm - 4.30pm | **School performance** - for parents/grandparents  
📍 Pontesbury Primary School
- 4.00pm | **St Luke's Players** - Dramatising St Luke's Gospel  
📍 Baptist Church
- 7.30pm | **Pontesbury Players** - An evening of fun  
📍 Public Hall

## Sat 28th JUNE

- 9.30am | **Stiperstones Brass Band**  
📍 Outside Ark Nursery/Pavilion
- 10.30am | **LTA Dancers**  
📍 Outside Ark Nursery/Pavilion
- 10.00am - 4.00pm | **Community Gardens** - Climate Change Group fun activities & display  
📍 Community Garden
- 10.00am - 6.00pm | **Arts Festival**  
Art exhibition & sale of art  
📍 St George's Church
- 2.00pm - 4.00pm | **Sketching in Pontesbury**  
📍 Meet at St George's Church
- 11.00am - 2.00pm | **Wood Carving Demonstrations**  
📍 St George's Church
- 11.00am - 2.00pm | **Uniformed Group Activities**  
📍 St George's Church
- 2.00pm - 4.00pm | **Children's Craft Activities**  
📍 Baptist Church
- 10.00am - 4.00pm | **Festival Refreshments**  
Free (closed 12pm to 2pm)  
📍 Baptist Church
- 10.30am - 3.30pm | **Mary Webb Exhibition**  
Discovering Pontesbury's famous author  
📍 Congregational Hall
- 2.00pm | **Spoken Word Afternoon**  
Poetry and prose  
📍 Pavilion
- 10.00am - 4.30pm | **Wildlife displays** - Middle Marches Comm. Land Trust/ Minsterley Meadows Group/ Rea Valley Comm. Wildlife Trust/ Pine Marten Project  
📍 St George's Church
- 7.00pm for 7.30pm | **Festival concert**  
Tin Soldiers & the Val Sinclair Combo  
📍 Public Hall

## Sun 29th JUNE

- 10.00am - 6.00pm | **Arts Festival**  
📍 St George's Church
- 12.00pm - 3.00pm | **Pickleball Taster Event**  
Led by Pontesbury u3a  
📍 Mary Webb Sports Hall
- 12.30pm | **Festival Celebration Service**  
📍 School Green
- 1.30pm - 4.30pm | **Family Fun afternoon** - Inflatables, ice-cream, face painting, games  
📍 Mary Webb School Field
- 2.00pm - 4.00pm | **Painting & Drawing**  
Bring own materials  
📍 Harlow Cottage, Habberley Road
- 1.45pm for 2.30pm | **Forties Tea Dance**  
📍 Public Hall

**Friends of the Hill exhibition** - throughout the festival and beyond during Library & Pavilion opening times  
📍 Pavilion Meeting Room



- This programme is correct at time of publication but may be subject to change – up to date details will be given via Social Media and via posters in the village
- Children under 16 should be accompanied
- Where a £ sign is shown, this denotes where an entrance charge applies
- Where applicable, tickets can be purchased from Hignetts or Pontesbury Library

# EVENTS

