

# Pontesbury Parish Newsletter



## Rea Valley Big Green Day in Pontesbury – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

The first ever Rea Valley Big Green Day, which took place on a dry and bright Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, was a really happy celebration of nature and working together. Originally the idea of St George's Eco Group and Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group, the event brought together lots of local groups and individuals to shape the day. Thanks to **everyone** who contributed, came along, took part and supported in so many ways. Congratulations to everyone who collected all the stamps at each venue and won a prize!

We had a birdsong walk on Earl's Hill; FOPL Plant Sale, with Tombola and cake stall; Nature Recovery Map; a visit from Julia Buckley MP; nature group displays and stalls; a wildlife photography exhibition; talks; wildflower planting; litter pick; BBQ; Repair Café; indoor and outdoor eco-crafts; community garden tours; bellringers; and a wide variety of refreshments at the Public Hall, Pavilion and Church. And not forgetting the marvellous owls and birds of prey!



We heard lots of good comments: "A really lovely event" "The children so enjoyed the day" "Really nice – reassuring to see people taking their time to promote nature".

Pontesbury's uniformed organisations led a litter pick around the village, and picked up amazing quantities of rubbish! They also created a beautiful communal mosaic art work, and a huge bug hotel for the churchyard.



Children and parents from Pontesbury Primary School planted out wildflowers which had been potted on previously by the children. School Green and the Community Garden look beautiful ...and the planting will support insects, butterflies and wider food webs.



A highlight for the Repair Café was the lad who brought in his remote-controlled truck to be repaired – instead of consigning the toy to the bin, he wanted to bring it to the Repair Cafe to see if it could be fixed. Tom showed the lad what the problem was, and hopefully the control unit can be re-ignited!

Thanks again to **all** the groups and individuals who made the event happen so successfully, including Pontesbury Parish Council who gave us a grant of £500.

Pontesbury, Minsterley and Hanwood are all part of the Rea Valley Nature Recovery Network, led by the Parish Councils.

Would you like to see another similar event next year, perhaps in Minsterley?

Let us know your ideas and what you would like the focus to be...reducing food waste, cleaner water, renewable energy....? Send any thoughts to Greg 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)

**DEADLINE for July 2026 issue is: Monday 15th June 2026**

**Pontesbury Parish Council** The May Parish Council Meeting was the Annual Meeting of the council, which is where Councillors elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the parish council. It was voted unanimously that Cllr Fletcher remain Chair of the Parish Council and Cllrs Trow and Hignett remain as Vice-Chairs. Cllrs also signed up to the various committees and working groups of the council.

The Facilities Working Group reported back to the council and various amounts were approved for a new noticeboard for Cruckton/Cruckmeole, to replace the vandalised signs at the play area and to continue to pay Shropshire Council for play area inspections.

The Newsletter Working Group and Pavilion Committee both reported back that fees for room hire and newsletter adverts would remain the same as in previous years but be reviewed in October 2026.

Cllrs approved continuing to purchase electricity for streetlighting through Shropshire Council, along with other councils, which allows for bulk purchase of electricity to keep prices down. It was also agreed to continue with the replacement of the ageing concrete streetlight poles, 6 poles will be replaced in 2026-27 and then the last 6 in 2027-28.

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If you would like to place an article or advert in the Pontesbury Parish Newsletter, please get in touch with: [deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk). Adverts are different costs depending upon size and where you live or where your business is.

Cllr Fletcher wished to thank everyone in the community who contributed to the success of the Rea Valley Green Day held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Our wildflower mini-meadows planted with the help of Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group and pupils from Pontesbury Primary School are doing well.

Cllr Sharon Davies (Pontesbury Ward) has decided to step down. The parish council would like to thank Cllr Cllr Davies for her hard work and input over the past four years. Cllr Davies was instrumental in setting up a volunteer response and a foodbank during COVID and has worked tirelessly on community lunches, coffee mornings and outings as part of her role as Chair of the Good Neighbours scheme throughout the Rea Valley. This means that there are now two vacancies on the parish council. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in putting yourself forward and joining the parish council team. [clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

**The next Parish Council meeting** will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm at Cruckton Village Hall.

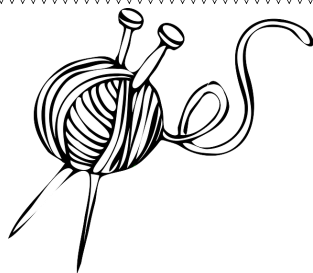
The next **Planning Committee meeting** will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk [deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk) if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

### 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: 10th June 2026**

**Disclaimer** The information provided in this newsletter is for general knowledge purposes only and does not constitute professional advice. Pontesbury Parish Council make no representations or warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, suitability, nor availability with respect to this newsletter or the information, products, services, or related graphics contained in the newsletter for any purpose. Any reliance you place on such information is therefore strictly at your own risk



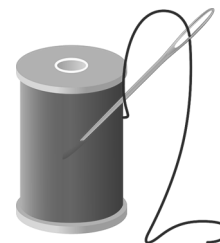
We hope to see you for  
**'Get Creative Group':**

at The Pavilion from 11am to 1pm on  
**Monday 1st June & Monday 15th June 2026**

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.



Pontesbury Dementia Support Group  
Alternate Wednesdays in the Pavilion

10th & 24th June 2026 - Time: 2-4pm

If you are interested in attending the Support Group, please call the Age UK Shrewsbury office on 01743 233123 and ask for the Wellbeing Team, you must pre-book to come along to this group.

### June News from the Library Owl

On the 19th of June we celebrate Father's Day, also Men's Health Week falls from 15th to 21st June. With this in mind, the June display will be 'Books for Men'. Some health books, a mix of thrillers, crime and biographies.

Advance notice of this year's Summer Reading Challenge, "Read to the Beat!" We are already planning crafts and activities, even musical instruments? More details will be in the July Newsletter.

For those lucky enough to be off on holiday, we have a selection of paperbacks for sale, for only 50p. Handy to swap with holiday friends when you have finished. And don't forget Borrow Box!

The library Owl

**Keep reading ! The Library Owl**



If you're into it,  
read into it.

Discover your local library

GO  
ALL  
IN.

### Pontesbury Carers Support Group

**Friday 26th June 2026**

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.



Sea Change Trust

**Sea Change Trust** and parish council employees have been working closely with the aim of securing interim funding to continue to run the groups in Pontesbury & Rea Valley Pavilion. It is hoped that this local funding source can provide money to keep the group running until Sea Change Trust have secured a larger funding grant to run the group for longer.

**Please be aware that there are no age restrictions on e-Books/audio and all available titles are searchable and borrowable on all adult and junior tickets.**

#### e-Books and audiobooks

This service is provided by Borrowbox and can be accessed through a browser or app.



You will need your library card number and PIN to access this service.

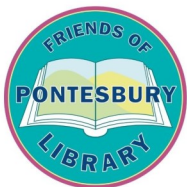
#### e-Newspapers and magazines

This service is provided by PressReader and gives access to over 7000 newspapers and magazines, including most of the UK national papers.

Accessibility mode is available, with integration for the most common screen readers.

To access this service you will need to select 'Library or Group' sign in, choose Shropshire Libraries from the list, and then enter your library card number and PIN.

Free access expires every 30 days but can be refreshed simply by logging out and then in again.



# news

FROM FRIENDS OF  
PONTESBURY LIBRARY



## Plant Sale & Rea Valley Big Green Day in Pontesbury: 2 May

The weather was kind, cakes delicious, donations of plants and tombola prizes as generous as ever and the throngs of eager buyers made this our most successful fund-raising Plant Sale ever! Being part of the first Big Rea Valley Green Day in Pontesbury was an added bonus - there was so much going on, a lot more children around and a wonderful buzz all over the village. We were also very pleased to welcome our MP Julia Buckley to our library, as part of her visit to the Green Day.



A huge thank you to all the green-fingered supporters of our library who donate and buy plants, and to all our extra volunteers - we just couldn't do it without you. Amidst all the tumult it was also our monthly Coffee Morning and Lottery draw, and the lucky winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Twells, No. 173
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Pat Hignett, No. 46
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Simon Tune, No. 8



## Summer Reading Challenge 2026: 'Read to the Beat'

We're busy planning this year's reading challenge for children during the summer holidays, celebrating the connection between storytelling and sound. Watch this space!

## Future Events

June  
**6** Monthly Coffee Morning  
Saturday 6 June, 10.30am - 12.30pm,  
Pavilion

A warm welcome in the library at our next coffee morning, delicious cakes and hot drinks, plus our Library Lottery 100 Club draw.

June  
**25** Friends AGM plus Talk:  
'*Ordinary Lives in Shropshire*'  
Thursday 25 June, 7.00pm - 8.30pm,  
Pavilion

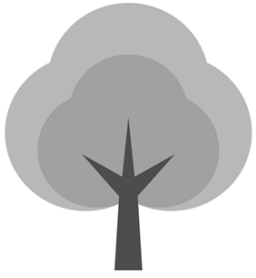
Calling all Friends (and would-be Friends) of Pontesbury Library to our AGM. After the business, local writer and performer Alison Utting returns with a trip back in time, celebrating everyday life in Shropshire. You may have enjoyed her earlier performances (Aggie; Miss Plymley Recollects) and she now has bookings at Theatre Severn, Old Market Hall and the Ludlow History Festival, so we're delighted to have secured her new talk for Pontesbury.

AGM & SPECIAL TALK  
**ORDINARY LIVES**  
A CELEBRATION OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN SHROPSHIRE - A NEW TALK BY ACCLAIMED ORATOR, ALISON UTTING

THURSDAY  
June  
**25**

Cost: No Charge  
Venue: Pontesbury Pavilion, Hall Bank, SY5 0RF  
Doors Open: 6:45pm  
Refreshments Included  
Please come along to support your local library!

**Thank you to everyone who supports our precious Community Library**



Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

## News & Events June 2026



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

**Coffee Morning** - at the Plough Inn is on Friday 12th June start time 10.30 till 11.45. The Coffee Mornings are taking a break for the summer, so there will be no coffee morning in July or August and the next coffee morning will take place on Friday 11th September at 11.00am.

### THE PONTESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL CHARITY

The charity (registered number 519238) was set up in 1987 and its objectives are:

- a) to provide special benefits for Pontesbury and Minsterley Primary Schools of a kind not normally provided by the Education Authority.
- b) to promote the education (including religious, social and physical aspects) and training of people under the age of 25 who need financial assistance. They must be pupils or former pupils of either school or resident in the church parishes of Pontesbury or Minsterley

The charity's funds are invested via professional advisers and the average grant awarded is £300. Applications are not means tested.

There are five Trustees. The Rector of Pontesbury and the churchwardens of St George's, Pontesbury are ex officio and two others are appointed by the Pontesbury Parochial Church Council.

The current Trustees are:

Marianne McCall  
Barbara Norsworthy  
The Revd Graham Phillips  
The Revd Greg Smith  
Stephen Winwood

Stephen Winwood is also the Clerk/Treasurer and will be pleased to help with any applications. His address is: Parkfields, Pontesbury Hill, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury SY5 0YH, telephone 01743 791690, and his e-mail is [sandjwinwood@btinternet.com](mailto:sandjwinwood@btinternet.com)

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## Church Services & Events - May 2026

### St. George's Church [www.st-george.org.uk](http://www.st-george.org.uk)



Services and activities for June 2026

2nd 2.30pm Tea Service  
4th 3.30pm Messy Church  
7th 10:30 am Holy Communion  
14th 10:30 am Morning Worship without  
Communion. Children's Church  
21st 10.30am Holy Communion and Children's  
Church.  
28th 10.30am All Age Family Worship

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

### Methodist services for June

7th June with Church Members  
14th June with Mr Mike Hallworth to inc Holy  
Communion  
21st June with Rev Richard Hall  
28th June with Church Members

All services at 10.45 am

### 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.

	Morning	Evening Service
7th June	10:30am Mike Wells	6:30pm Songs of Praise
14th June	10:30am Mike Wells	No Service
21st June	10:30am Rob Jack	6:30pm Mike Wells
28th June	10:30am Mike Wells	6:30pm Ben Jack

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*.

For more information, please email:  
[info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk](mailto:info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

**TIME OUT** is a very informal, small group that gathers for tea and coffee on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Pavilion.

**TIME OUT** is specifically aimed at those who want to socialise but find larger groups daunting. Our volunteers are excellent non-judgmental listeners. We have good links with other agencies if you need further assistance.



### PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES June 2026

Sunday 7th June at 10am Wesley Morris.  
Sunday 14th June at 10am Rev. Debbie Martin.  
Sunday 21st June at 10am The Deacons.  
Sunday 28th June at 10am Rev. Debbie Martin.

Tuesday at 10am Prayer meeting.  
Wednesday 10-12 Warm space/coffee and chat.  
Everyone Welcome

### SONGS OF PRAISE

Pontesbury Baptist Church  
Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

Sunday 7th June at 6:30pm



Discover the extraordinary stories

behind the hymns and songs!

With Pastor Mike Wells

Light refreshments served  
free of charge!

# Time Out

Why not take Time Out  
from the stresses and  
worries of life?

1st & 3rd Thursdays of  
each month between  
2pm and 3.30pm at  
The Pavillion,  
Pontesbury

Tea, cake and a listening ear

Free of charge  
Everyone welcome

Supported by



THE POWELL FIELD,  
SCHOOL LANE, WESTBURY,  
SY59QX

WESTBURY 2026  
**WESTFEST**

**SATURDAY  
6TH JUNE  
12PM - 9PM**

FREE PARKING  
FREE ADMISSION  
BAR  
BBQ  
LIVE MUSIC  
TEA & CAKE TENT  
RAFFLE

RAISING MONEY FOR  
**Lingen Davies  
SUNFLOWER APPEAL**  
Growing Cancer Care in our Community

- CHILDREN'S DISCO
- CRAFT VILLAGE
- INFLATABLES
- FACE PAINTING
- CHILDRENS RACES
- SHROPSHIRE FALCONRY
- LIVE MUSIC
- TUG OF WAR CHALLENGE
- WESTFEST FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

PONTESBURY PLAYERS PRESENT: ☆  
An Evening with:  
**PONTESBURY PLAYERS** ☆

7.30 PM

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June  
PONTESBURY PUBLIC HALL

**The Quiz**  
ONE ACT COMEDY by Arthur Charles

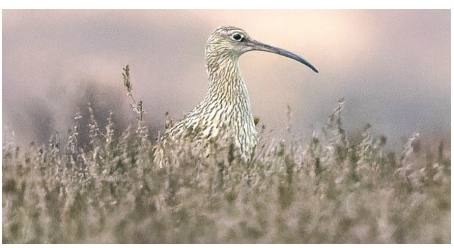
PLUS A JUNIOR PLAY TOO!  
Tea, Coffee & Soft drinks on sale or B.Y.O Alcohol

SCAN HERE:

ALL TICKETS £5 EACH  
Scan Code or buy from  
Hignetts Shop 01743 790228  
FIND US ON FACEBOOK: PONTESBURY PLAYERS



**Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group** members have been looking for Curlew, Lapwing, Kestrel, Cuckoo and Red Kite since late March.



Our area extends from Stapeley Hill to Brockton in the west, across through Minsterley and Pontesbury to Plealey, south to Cothecott Hill and then westwards over the Stiperstones and Hope Valley.

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

Please report all your observations, especially any Curlew ("the most important bird conservation priority in the UK")

to Leo Smith 07791 901732,  
[leo@leosmith.org.uk](mailto:leo@leosmith.org.uk)

**PARTY ON**

**SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**  
7PM - MIDNIGHT

**VRON GATE SHOW**

Raising funds for  
Shropshire Rural Support  
RCN 1126085

**AFTER SHOW PARTY**

FEATURING  
BUSKING SENSATION  
JASON ALLAN

FOOD AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE  
(SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY)

BAR & MUSIC | VRON GATE SHOWGROUND, SY5 9RG

Adults £10 (in advance) / £15 (if booked after 22<sup>nd</sup> July)  
Children 11-16 years £5, under 11 FREE  
Children to be supervised at all times

To book tickets scan QR code or contact  
[kate@shropshireruralsupport.org.uk](mailto:kate@shropshireruralsupport.org.uk)  
07960 524319



ROAR

OPEN MEETING

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Talk: Jon King

## THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP OF CHARLES DARWIN & ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE

### COLLABORATION, CONFLICT & GENIUS

The extraordinary friendship that shaped one of history's greatest scientific breakthroughs — and the generosity that defined it.

With **Jon King**, Founder of the Shrewsbury Darwin Festival and author of *Charles Darwin in Shrewsbury – The Making of a Marvellous Mind*.

 **Wednesday**  
17 June 2026

 **Time**  
2.00 PM

 **Minsterley Parish Hall** SY5 0EH

**Free entrance**  
**Refreshments available**

 [pontesbury.u3asite.uk](http://pontesbury.u3asite.uk)

learn,  
laugh,  
live

At our next u3a meeting on **Wednesday 17th June 2026** at 2pm in **Minsterley Parish Hall**, **Jon King** will present a fascinating talk on **Charles Darwin**, Shrewsbury's most famous son, and his friendship with **Alfred Russel Wallace**.

This talk explores the remarkable collaboration that led to the discovery and refinement of one of science's greatest theories - evolution by natural selection. It examines not only the intellectual partnership behind this groundbreaking work, but also the challenges within their relationship, and the final act of generosity that typified a friendship once described as "one of those bright spots in the history of science, which ought to shame all those who indulge in petty jealousies."

Jon King founded the Shrewsbury Darwin Festival and directed Shropshire's Darwin Bicentennial Celebrations in 2009. He is the author of '*Charles Darwin in Shrewsbury - The Making of a Marvellous Mind*', which will be available for purchase after the talk.

Following the session, refreshments will be provided, offering a chance to catch up or learn more about our u3a. **Members and Non-Members are welcome.**

Our u3a is part of a UK-wide charity that brings people together, particularly those no longer in full-time employment, to enjoy learning, activities and new experiences. We are a friendly, local and affordable organisation with over 25 interest groups.

### Pontesbury P3 Group (P3 = Parish Paths Partnership)

Following the recent award of a grant from Pontesbury Parish Council, the local P3 Group has been able to invest in new battery powered tools to support their work. With the arrival of warmer weather, the group has already been out across the parish, clearing footpaths and cutting back seasonal growth using their newly purchased multi-functional power unit with an extended hedge trimmer, brush cutter and strimmer. Members report that the new equipment is significantly easier, cleaner and more reliable to use than the ageing petrol-powered tools it is replacing.



Pontesbury P3 is a group of local volunteers working in partnership with Shropshire Council to help landowners meet their responsibilities for maintaining public rights of way. Using materials supplied by the council, the group provides volunteer labour one morning each week to keep footpaths open and accessible — always with the permission of the relevant landowners.

The group continues to welcome direct reports from the public about problem footpaths. They ask that reports include location details (using what3words and/or OS grid references) and photographs wherever possible, and are best sent via email to [pontesburyP3@gmail.com](mailto:pontesburyP3@gmail.com), along with a brief description of the issue. While not all reported problems fall within the group's remit, the volunteers always do their best to pass issues on to the appropriate authority for further action.



The group's core working area is Pontesbury and Minsterley, but their activities also extend towards Annscroft, Bromlow Callow, Worthen and surrounding areas.

The accompanying photos show members of the team putting the new equipment to good use.

## Ask the Animal Healer – Rebecca Rea

Therapeutic help for animals and their people

### How can I tell if my pet is in pain?

One of the most common questions I get asked is how to tell if a pet is suffering and in pain. By their nature animals are wired to hide their pain – however long they have been living alongside humans, their natural instincts deep down will be to mask their pain and vulnerabilities to avoid becoming the victim or a predator. On the whole unless there is a sudden wounding through the skin or violence inflicted upon them, they are unlikely to cry out as we humans will do.

Instead, the things to notice are changes in their behaviour – a reluctance to walk or move, wanting to go back home, or for a cat – maybe not wanting to be in the home but hiding outside. Being very withdrawn, not wanting to be touched, a change in eating habits. If you stroke them notice if their skin seems to flinch or they shy away, maybe they will make some sounds they don't usually make, or they may be aggressive or jumpy.

Use your eyes and also observe their movements... do they look balanced or are they limping or compensating on one of their legs, are they avoiding a part of their body or losing weight, looking dull or pained in their eyes etc.

If in doubt please reach out to myself or another professional such as an animal chiropractor or the Vets as there is plenty that can be done to alleviate their pain.

Don't let the animals suffer in silence.

[www.theanimalhealer.life](http://www.theanimalhealer.life)

07785 527973



**West Shropshire Flower** were treated to an explosion of flowers by Beryl Cotton Holywell with her demonstration Floral Fantasy, so many flowers!! Her start, a 'quick' design of yellow broom, roses and orchids sandwiched between palm leaves, full of contrasting textures. Then using all the tints and shades of purples and lilacs she created a flowing design perched on the neck of a tall black vase, with tightly placed short cut roses, carnations and tulips in the centre surrounded by tumbling palm leaves and calla lilies with anthuriums floating above. Her foam free design incorporated a very tall clear square vase surrounded by pussy-willow to create a framework for tall sunflowers and fern leaves. The new meadow style was aptly staged within a loose framework of clematis twigs, with sanguisorba, dogwood, ribes and allium balls, over lower level yellow ball tulips and short cut foliage and hellebores, with nodding clematis decorating the middle. The 'manly' design using the strong forms of heliconia and protea was softened with lilac, roses and a wonderful orchid, a fantastic dramatic arrangement. Her final pedestal design was a whopper, with white amaryllis left tall, dwarfed by taller ornithogalum and surrounded by grouped Anastasia chrysanthemums and gerberas and lush foliage.

All meetings at Westbury Village Hall and start at 7.30pm, visitors welcome £10

**Wednesday 24th June – Visit**

## Pontesbury Women's Club

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

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

Mike Haynes 'All about Carrots!'

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Sue Blower 'Living in Romania'

PWC usually meets at 7.30pm on  
The second Tuesday of the month

At Pontesbury Public Hall

Visitors and New Members are always welcome

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Pontesbury WI met on 18th May when farmer Joe from Arscott Farm was our guest speaker. He is a real entrepreneur now running his family farm. He is the 5th generation farmer and has thought of many ways to extend his family farm. He believes strongly in regenerative agriculture and sustainable farming. He uses Facebook to inform everyone of his exciting initiatives, from enjoying simple family life, to selling strawberries, pumpkins, Christmas Trees, as well as recently opening a market stall. He grows his own fruits and vegetables, farms sheep and cattle, as well as growing crops. He even provides a Forest School programme. Joe always wanted to be a farmer and his enthusiasm for farming life provided a most valuable subject for his talk. His presentation was both educational and interesting, especially as his family has close links with the WI, his mother had been a WI member and had won a competition for her crafting skills.

Our next WI meeting will be on Monday 8th June and our guest speaker will be Tom Kane with his new hearing dog.

Our June craft club will be at the Cock Inn Hanwood on 16th June at 10am to 1pm. Everyone welcome to join us.

For further information about the WI please contact Irene Windows President on 01743791903.

Maxine Pittaway Event Organiser



**Pontesbury Primary School** Following some really lovely weather, our school grounds have sprung into life and the children have had more access to our field at break and lunchtime giving us more space to play! We have recently had some new tumble bars installed thanks to the funds donated by Good Neighbours. The children have been swinging and hanging on these since they were opened this week and these have brought so much enjoyment already.

With the good weather, the children have also had a visit from Cricket Shropshire (linked with Pontesbury Cricket Club) to give all children a chance to experience cricket (beyond our curriculum). The children played variations of the game based at an age appropriate level and had a lot of fun. Some of our Year 1s and 2s represented the school at a cricket event. This was an introductory session run by our local sports provider and Pontesbury Cricket Club with other local schools.

Our Year 4 and Year 6 class are taking part in swimming lessons this term. They travel once a week to Shrewsbury School to use their swimming facilities and excellent swimming coaches. Year 6 have been to the Imperial War Museum in Manchester to support their topic of WWII. They had a great day in the museum and spent their time eating lunch along the banks of the river overlooking Media City.



You may have seen our Year 1 class out and about in the village. They have been very busy learning all about Pontesbury and its past. A big thank you to Nick Hignett for the time he spent talking to the children about Pontesbury. They now know lots about our village!

Our school has been working hard to encourage active travel to school and I am delighted to say that our first set of badges have been received and given to the children. Each month, there is a different badge for the children to collect. In June, we are planning a walk to school event with the charity who run the scheme and the Wildlife Trust so please look out for us.

Well done to all of our Year 6s who have completed their SATS this week. The children were well prepared and very calm throughout. They even enjoyed an energy-boosting breakfast (provided by Mrs Thomas our cook).

Finally, a huge thank you to St George's Church, Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group, and Pontesbury Parish Council for running the Green Day event. Lots of our children enjoyed attending this and were very happy to see their plants being planted in the meadow and their pictures on the signage.



Mary Webb School & Science College



**Mary Webb School** - And just like that, Yr 11 are in the middle of their GCSE's. This is such an important time for all our students and there isn't a student here who doesn't want to do well. It is a nerve-wracking time, full of expectation and fear of the unknown, younger students seeing their own futures.

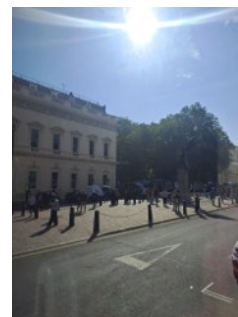
Here is a sample of a few questions our Yr11 students would be expected to answer:

- English Literature: "How does Shakespeare present emotion (or the lack of it) as a weakness in Macbeth"
- Maths: Armish, Benji and Cary save money in the ratio of 3:4:9 Cary saved £120 more than Benji.
- a) show that Amish saved £72 b) show that the amount of money saved was £384.
- Biology: What is the function of the cell membrane?
- Geography: Outline one reason why the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has changed over time.

Answers in next month's edition

This month has seen some year 9 &10 students go on the school STEAM trip to London. This trip is in it's13th year and is a wonderful opportunity to see the capital and to embrace some the cultural experiences on offer.

Good timing too as staff and students were able to see the new Banksy installation. The whistlestop trip included visiting London Zoo, London Eye, Science Museum, Natural History Museum, River Cruise, Victoria and Albert Museum and British Museum. No trip to London is complete without taking in a show and this was no exception. The Lion King was a breath-taking feast for the eyes.



A visit to Shrewsbury Prison was the on the agenda for other students who received high praise for their conduct and manners.

**DEADLINE for July 2026 issue is: Monday 15th June 2026**

## Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association

A date for your calendar...**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August**

Our Annual Show on in Pontesbury Parish Hall will cover a range of classes including fruit, vegetables, flowers, handicraft, art, baking and photography (the latter with categories for pictures of snow, decay, trees and geometric images).

Full schedule to be published soon with entries welcomed from all age groups.



The Gardeners' Trading Post at the old station buildings, Station Road, Pontesbury, SY5 0QY is open every Saturday, 9.30am to 12 noon from February to late October.

We stock a wide range of composts, grass seed, lawn products, bamboo canes, fleece, netting and other garden sundries. Do pop in and see us!

## Pontesbury Fell Race 2026



The annual Pontesbury Fell Race will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 19:30

This event is organised by Mercia Fell Runners and is part of the Shropshire summer fell race series. The event is run with the kind permission of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

Starting from the school playing field on Bogey Lane. The route is 6 Km long and includes two tough climbs and two steep challenging descents of Pontesford and Earl's Hill.

Although a suitable introduction to fell running, this event is not a fun-run.

A shorter junior race will also be held before the Senior race, starting at 18:50 with age categories for U9, U11, U13 & U16 year-olds.

Race entries are available on the evening.

For further details please contact Oliver Cox - olivertcox@gmail.com



## 1<sup>st</sup> Rea Valley Scout Group



### Annual General Meeting

5pm -6pm 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Congregational Hall, Pontesbury

Our AGM will take place late afternoon during a celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Year of the group reforming in 1976! There will be light refreshments provided. We will review the year's achievements, approve the annual accounts and elect our Trustee Board. We rely on your support to run safely and legally. All parents, carers, and members of the Scout Council are invited and any supporters of our scouting community.

### Celebrating 50 Years of 1<sup>st</sup> Rea Valley Scout Group

There will be a celebratory event starting at the same venue at 4pm for Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Explorer Scouts, parents, current and past group volunteers where there will be some memorabilia on display with refreshments provided.

## Marches Meadow Group



### Marches Meadow Group Open Meadows Day Saturday, 4th July 10 am - 4pm

Visit and explore beautiful meadows in South Shropshire in celebration of National Meadows Day.

Marches Meadow Group members are opening their meadows for you to enjoy on National Meadows Day. Many of the meadows are well established but others are work-in-progress as members create new meadows or restore old ones.

There are more than twenty meadows to visit across Shropshire, with the majority located in the south of the county. Ten of them are in the Stiperstones, Minsterley and Bishops Castle areas.

For further details & tickets search Marches Meadow Group on Eventbrite. Please note this is a ticket in advance event as we are unable to take cash bookings on the day.

Tickets are £5 for non-members and free for MMG members. Tickets cover entry to all the meadows. All proceeds will go to aid the work of the Marches Meadow Group in restoring species rich hay meadows.

## Londen Tennis Club has lots of activities, come and try us!



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- Social Tennis
- 'Back on Court' – Free taster sessions
- Junior Coaching – ages 4 - 14
- Monthly Breakfast Tournaments
- Adult Group Coaching Sessions
- 2 New Courts, Playable 365 days 8am – 10pm

- 'Court Cardio Fitness'
- Monday Club Night Social Tennis
- 1-2-1 Coaching
- County Based League Matches
- Annual Quiz & Dinner
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[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/londentennisclub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/londentennisclub)

Londen Tennis Club – SY5 8EX

### Deadline for July 2026 edition is Monday 15th June 2026 -

please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk.

Please send .jpps or .png - no .pdf docs - thank you.

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The deadline for the July 2026 issue is Monday 15th June. Please send all advert requests to Nicki via email: [deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

Any new enquiries for adverts, please contact Nicki who will be happy to provide the costs of adverts and sizes.

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

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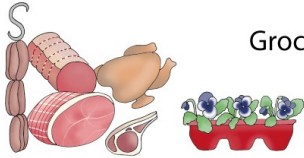


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Sunday: CLOSED




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**NEWS FROM THE HIVE**

You may have spotted Ben, from The Beekeeper Collection, tending his hives around the village - or perhaps enjoyed some of our local honey. We care for thousands of honeybees, which play a vital role in pollinating our flowers, gardens and crops.

Beekeeping is a unique blend of science, patience and skill—and June is when it truly comes to life.

**What's happening in June?** If you've noticed more bees in the sunshine, you're right - June is a peak beekeeping month, with colonies growing quickly and hives full of activity. Thousands gather nectar and pollen to sustain the colony and make honey, while we inspect hives weekly to monitor health and progress during this busy season.



**Swarm season** May and June also mark swarm season. This is a natural process where a queen instinctively leaves the hive with thousands of workers to form a new colony. While fascinating, swarms can sometimes cause concern, which is why we check our hives every seven days to help prevent them. If you ever see a cluster of bees, don't panic-it's usually a resting swarm, and local beekeepers can safely collect them.

With strong nectar flows from clover, bramble and wildflowers, hives can fill quickly. To support this, we add extra boxes - called "supers"- giving bees more space to store honey and helping reduce the risk of swarming.



For updates follow us on our socials #thebeekeepercollection @thebeekeepercollection or our website [www.thebeekeepercollection.com](http://www.thebeekeepercollection.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)

# JUNE 2026 DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>Regular Weekly Events</b>			
Every Mon	6.30-7.30pm	Pontesbury Runners (experienced runners)	Meet corner of Brookside & Minsterley Rd
Every Mon	5.45-7pm	Yoga	Pontesbury Public Hall
Every Mon	7.00-9.00pm	Monday Badminton Club	Mary Webb School, Sports Hall
Every Mon	7.30-8.45pm	Yogalates	Pontesbury Congregational Church 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	2-4pm	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 under 5s - free session	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	2pm	Short Mat Bowling	Public Hall
Every Thu	2pm	Cruckton Art Group	Cruckton Village 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	9.30-12noon	Pontesbury Gardeners Open	Trading Post
Every Sat	7.30pm	Whist Drive	Yockleton Village Hall
<b>JUNE 2026</b>			
Mon 1st & 15th	11am-1pm	Get Creative Group - FREE - bring along any project	Pavilion
Mon 1st	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Planning Committee	Pavilion
Wed 3rd	7.30pm	Annual Pontesbury Fell Race	School Field, Bogey Lane
Thu 4th & 18th	2pm-3.30pm	Time Out - small group meeting	Pavilion
Sat 6th	10am - 1pm	FOPL Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Sat 6th June	12.00-9.00pm	Westfest, Westbury 2026	The Powell Field, SY5 9QX
Sat 6th	5-6pm	Pontesbury Scouts AGM	Congregational Hall
Sun 7th June	6.30pm	Songs of Praise	Pontesbury Baptist Church
Mon 8th	2.00pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Mon 8th	7pm	Pontesbury Parish Council meeting	Cruckton Village Hall
Tue 9th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
Wed 10th	1pm	Probus Club	Arcscott Golf Club
Wed 10th & 24th	2-4pm	Age UK Dementia Support Group	Pavilion
Fri 12th	10.30-11.45	Good Neighbour Scheme Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn, Pontesbury
Wed 17th	2pm	u3a - Collaboration, Conflict & Friendship	Minsterley Parish Hall
Wed 24th	7.30pm	West Shropshire Flower Club	Westbury Village Hall
Thu 25th	7-8.30pm	FOPL AGM	Pavilion
Fri 26th	10.30am	Pontesbury Carer's Group	Pavilion
Fri 26th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Players - The Quiz	Public Hall
<b>JULY 2026</b>			
Sat 4th	10am - 4pm	Minsterley Meadows Open Day	

**FUN FACT:** June is named after Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage and childbirth. It's a very fitting namesake, as June remains one of the most popular months of the year for weddings worldwide.

**Deadline for the July Edition is Monday 15th June 2026, please email  
deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk**