



# Pontesbury Parish Newsletter

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

Activities start at 9.30 and continue throughout the day in various locations



**PLANT SALE**

**Saturday 2nd May 2026**  
10am to 1.00pm  
Pontesbury Library, The Pavilion

**PLANTS, SEEDLINGS & GARDENING PRODUCTS**

**TEA, COFFEE & CAKES**  
**TOMBOLA & BOOKS**

Donations of plants, cakes, and tombola prizes are most welcome during library opening hours and from 2pm-4pm on Friday 1st May. Plants can also be left from 9am-10am on Saturday 2nd May, the morning of the sale.

Further information from [pontesburylibrary.co.uk](http://pontesburylibrary.co.uk)  
Facebook: Friends of Pontesbury Library, Use Pontesbury Library  
[info@pontesburylibrary.co.uk](mailto:info@pontesburylibrary.co.uk)



**REA VALLEY BIG GREEN DAY IN PONTESBURY**

**SATURDAY MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2026 10.AM TO 3.30PM**  
**START AT SCHOOL GREEN TO GET YOUR MAP!**

**Plant Sale at the Pavilion**

**Children's Activities at St George's**

**Meet an Owl!**

**Stalls at the Public Hall**

**BIRDSONG WALK. 9.30 PONTESFORD HILL**

**talks and refreshments**

**community garden tours**

**Family workshop - Why Nature Matters**




**Meet an Owl at Rea Valley Big Green Day at Pontesbury 2nd May 2026**  
The owl, provided by the Battlefield Centre, will be at Pontesbury Public Hall

**1pm – 2pm: Meet the owl**  
**2pm – 2.30pm: Talk by the owl handler**

**Please do not bring dogs into the hall between 1pm and 2.30pm – thank you.**

**Pontesbury Parish Council** At the April Full Parish Council Meeting the council approved a contractor for the refurbishment of the play area. A big thank you to all local residents who came along and gave your comments about the equipment you would like to see. Your comments were really helpful. The aim is to have the new pieces of equipment installed for children and families to enjoy during the summer months.

A further 5 year lease for the Safer Neighbourhood policing team, for their base at the Pavilion was approved. Councillors are very pleased that the benefits of such a close working relationship will continue.

The councillors also approved a donation to the organisers of the Rea Valley Green Day on 2nd May, including monies for a family workshop looking at why helping nature to recover is so important. The wildflower mini-meadows will be planted up as part of the Green Day. A big thank you to Pontesbury Primary School pupils for their lovely drawings that can be found on signs around the village.



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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.

Happy May Sunshine



Cllr Louise Jones (Cruckton Ward) has stepped down from the council. The parish council would like to thank Cllr Jones for her input over the past year. 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 the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held on Monday 11th May at 6.30pm at the Pavilion.

The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th May at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk) if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

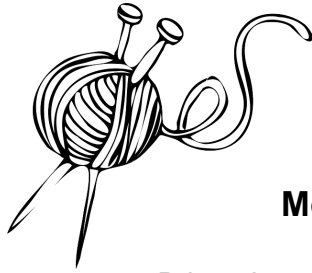
### Rea Valley Probus Club

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: 13th May 2026**

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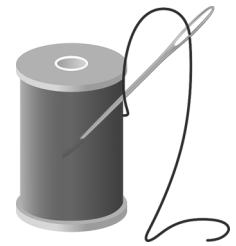
We hope to see you for  
**'Get Creative Group':**

at The Pavilion from 11am to 1pm on  
**Monday 18th May 2026** (Monday 4th is a Bank Holiday)

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

13th & 27th May 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.

### May News from the Library Owl

I must apologize, after giving our online, digital reading App a plug, it changed! From mid-April Shropshire libraries have signed up with Borrow Box. I have heard from lots of customers who have used it in other areas that they much prefer it. More choice! You still need your library card number and PIN to access it. If you don't have these, just pop in and ask for it.

The library will be welcoming May along with the rest of the community, celebrating our 'Big Green Day' We will have a display of books on gardening, climate, wildlife and perhaps some green books. Tips on building bug houses and other garden projects.

We will not be holding Rhyme Time in the library from May onwards. It has never really picked up from it's heyday of 2 years ago when we often had 8 children marching around the library to the 'Grand Old Duke of York.' We will miss Jenny, thank you for the last few years entertaining babies and toddlers. She hasn't retired though; she has moved on to another exciting reading project with other Friends of the Library.

Half Term week we will have another craft session, keep an eye out for posters

Keep reading ! The Library Owl



### Pontesbury Carers Support Group

**Friday 29th May 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** run a **FREE**

therapist-led Family Drop-In support group at the Pavilion Community Hub and Library in Pontesbury on Wednesdays between 10-12 (term-time only). All caregivers and their children under 5 are welcome. Meet other families with young children and talk to our team of parent infant specialists whilst the children play .

### RHYME TIME

**Thursday 14th May**

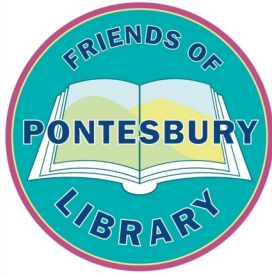
**2pm in**

**Pontesbury Pavilion & Library**

**Pavilion Patio** a big thank you goes to Pontesbury Parish Councillor Sarah Wallace Johnson for replanting some of the raised beds on the Pavilion patio.

We are looking forward to a Tea Garden, with blooms to make tea from, along with a herb garden. Anyone can come along and pick a few sprigs for your tea or herbs to tickle the taste buds of any dish.

Also, the Community Gardeners continue to grow tomatoes and other vegetables on the patio which you can pick for free.



# news

## FROM FRIENDS OF PONTESBURY LIBRARY



### Talk by Liam Shaw: 14 March

An excellent sell-out event, many thanks to Liam for volunteering his time and expertise, to Wendy-Jane for asking all the right questions(!) and to all those who bought tickets. There was a great atmosphere and a lot of catching up over refreshments, plus a fair few copies of Liam's book, *Dangerous Miracle*, were sold and signed.

What better to do in our library than talk about a book! And FoPL bought a copy for the library, so if you didn't secure your own copy you can borrow it. Thanks to the magnificent FoPL team once again, plus the generosity of roped in other halves, much appreciated!

### Easter Children's Crafting Activities

A very sticky afternoon was had by children and parents on April 2<sup>nd</sup> as they made 'papier-mâché' Easter Eggs. On April 9<sup>th</sup> they were invited to bring their Easter egg boxes (minus contents!) to create miniature theatres which they did most successfully.



### Monthly Coffee Morning: 4 April

Our First-Saturday-in-the-Month coffee morning on the 4th April was the usual successful event – a lovely get-together with delicious cake and coffee or tea. A big thank you to Alice for the beautiful *narcissi* she brought to raise funds.

The lucky lottery winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bill Sample, No. 102
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Winwood, No. 52
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Chloe Calder, No. 103



### Future Events

May  
**2** Annual Plant Sale  
Saturday 2 May, 10.00am - 1.00pm  
Pavilion

The next Coffee morning will be on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** when our very popular

**Plant Sale, plus Book Sale, Tombola & Cake Stall**

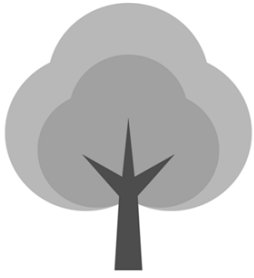
will be part of

**Rea Valley Big Green Day in Pontesbury**

June  
**25** AGM & Talk  
Thursday 25 June, 7.00pm - 8.30pm,  
Pavilion

Following our AGM business, we will take a trip back in time to listen to Shropshire voices from the past. Allison Utting's new talk, '**Ordinary Lives: A Celebration of Everyday Life in Shropshire**', uses first-hand accounts, anecdotes from the late 19th and early 20th century as well as extracts from fictional depictions of Shropshire. For some listeners, it may evoke vivid personal memories, while others will enjoy a glimpse into the lives of previous generations.

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



Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

# News & Events

## May 2026



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

**Coffee Morning** - at the Plough Inn is on Friday 8th May start time 10.30 till 11.45



### FOODBANK NEWS

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Having a new Bank Account means we urgently need missing contact information from some regular financial donors.**

As you will know from the last newsletters, Rea Valley Foodbank is now a Registered Charity, and we are required to set up a new bank account. Our Treasurer will be in contact soon with details and we have most of our regular donors' email addresses. If you have previously received emails from our Treasurer, you do not need to do anything yet. We value these financial donations so much and they are the lifeblood of our service. **If you make financial donations, or you know someone that does, but have never received an email from our Treasurer, Jonathan Brown, please contact him 07497 142485** (do leave a message or text) or email him at [reavalleyfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:reavalleyfoodbank@gmail.com).

Please help by Donating  
Packaged Food

We are very grateful to everyone who donates what they can, when they can, as it makes a difference to how much we must buy in. You can drop off in-date, unopened packaged food and toiletries at: Pontesbury

Co-op, Longden Village Stores and Worthen Village Hall, 3rd Wednesday of month, 8.30-11am. Foodbank Donation boxes are in many local churches, please see our website for a full list <https://reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk/donating/>. These are the top five basic items we must regularly buy in: Tinned meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, and long-life milk.

The Foodbank does not have refrigerated storage and so we cannot take perishable items. We can take small quantities of fresh fruit and vegetables, but please only drop off when the Foodbank is open and talk to our volunteers or contact us in advance.

To use the Foodbank, get referred: from your local clergy, GP, school, nursery, social/health worker, housing provider or other support agency. Or call for a chat with Rev. Greg Smith 07902 794653 or Rev. Richard Lonsdale 07922 830488. See our website: <https://reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk/> or Facebook



#### While waiting for your kettle to boil, you can have your say on policing...

Got a spare few minutes? Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion has launched a short consultation to give you an opportunity to have your say on the Government's proposals to create 12 'mega police forces'.

As this could be the biggest shake up to policing in six decades, the PCC wants to make sure you can share your views on this change. He will share the public response directly with the Government to consider in their review.

**The consultation closes on Monday 15th June. Have your say by visiting the West Mercia PCC website - [www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk)**



**DEADLINE for June 2026 issue is: Friday 15th May 2026**

## Church Services & Events - May 2026

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



Services and activities for May 2026

- 3rd 9am Said Communion.  
10.30am Eco Service Outside St. George's Church
- 5th 2.30pm Tea Service
- 7th 3.30pm Messy Church
- 10th 10:30 am Morning Worship without Communion.  
Children's Church.
- 17th 10.30am Holy Communion. Holy Trinity  
Minsterley. Group Service
- 24th 3pm Deanery Pentecost Service. Worthen Village  
Hall
- 31st 10.30am Holy Communion. Holy Trinity  
Minsterley. Group Service.  
Tea Break every Wednesday 2-4pm  
Coffee Stop every Friday 10-12noon

### Methodist services for May

- 3rd May 10.45 am Rev Richard Hall with Holy  
Communion
- 10th May 10.45 am Church Members
- 17th May 10.45 am Rev Richard Hall
- 24th May 6.00 pm Songs of Praise with Wes Morris
- 31st May 10.45 am Mrs Fay Spencer

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
Sunday 3rd May	10:30 Mike Wells	6:30 Mike Wells
Sunday 10th May	10:30 Mike Wells	6:30 Martin Wells
Sunday 17th May	10:30 Mike Wells	No Service
Sunday 24th May	10:30 Mike Wells	6:30 Mike Wells
Sunday 31st May	10:30 Rob Jack	6:30 Mike Wells

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)

### PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES May 2026

- Sunday 3rd May at 10am, The Deacons.  
Sunday 10th May at 10am Rev. Debbie Martin.  
Sunday 17th May at 10 am to be confirmed.  
Sunday 24th May at 10am Rev. Debbie Martin.  
Sunday 31st May at 2.30pm at Marton Church.

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



### St George's Church Pontesbury

## FREE ORGAN RECITAL (Retiring collection for St George's)

WITH

**RICHARD WALKER**

ARCO, FRCO

On

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 11.00am**

Coffee and refreshments from 10.15am

## 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!

St George's Church, Pontesbury

Sunday 17th May

Cream Teas - 12.30-4pm

This event is in lieu of the Open Garden event.

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**  
**LingenDavies**  
**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



Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow, Isabella Rossellini

12A

## Conclave

The pope is dead. The throne is vacant. Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with running the covert process after the unexpected demise of a beloved Pope. But once the world's most powerful Catholic leaders have gathered and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence finds himself at the centre of a conspiracy, with an incendiary secret that could shake the very foundation of the Church.


**Marton Village Hall**  
SY21 8JT

**Friday**  
**15 May**  
7.30 pm

**Tickets**  
Standard: £5.00  
Under 18s: £2.50

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

**FLICKS**  
IN THE  
**STICKS**

arts alive    
Information and Tickets at [www.artsalive.co.uk](http://www.artsalive.co.uk)

## Music Groups Needed for Community Event Next Spring

During the weekend of Saturday **15 May 2027** and Sunday **16 May 2027**, the Mary Webb Society and Bayston Hill and District Flower Club are running a community event at St George's Church, Pontesbury celebrating the life of the Shropshire author Mary Webb with words, flowers and music



Any profits raised will be donated to St George's Church, Pontesbury (50%) and 2 local charities, (yet to be decided - 25% each).

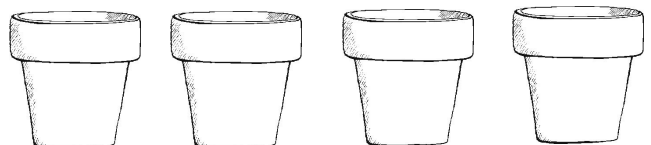
We would like to invite music groups to be part of this unique event : If you are interested, please do contact me directly at my email address - [debbieflower14@gmail.com](mailto:debbieflower14@gmail.com)

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## Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association

Unfortunately we have had to cancel our May social evening, Spring into the Garden, as a number of the stallholders were unable to attend. We hope that some of the plant sales will be held at the Trading Post on a Saturday morning in the near future.

The Trading Post is situated in the Old Station Buildings on Station Road and is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon.



Join us for our next Open Meeting on **Wednesday 20th May 2026 2pm** at Minsterley Parish Hall, for an engaging and thought-provoking talk on the work of the **Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)**.

Founded by Royal Charter in 1917, the CWGC work on behalf of six nations to commemorate the 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth who lost their lives in the two World Wars. As well as cemeteries and memorials, the archives and records are of international importance to historians, families, and local communities. This talk will explore the history of the Commission as well as the scope of our work today.

Refreshments will follow the talk, with time to chat and reflect. **Members & non-members are very welcome.**

Our u3a is part of a UK charity dedicated to bringing together individuals with a focus on those not in full-time employment for enjoyable learning or active experiences. We are local, friendly, and affordable, featuring over 25 interest groups covering a variety of activities, from history, literature and geology to walking, cycling, pickleball, table tennis and many more.

**OPEN MEETING**

learn, laugh, live



**COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES**

Presentation by **Dan Cornes**



Behind the familiar war graves lies a remarkable story, from quiet village churchyards to great memorials.

Discover how the Commonwealth War Graves Commission began, and how it continues to honour 1.7 million lives lost in two world wars.



**Wednesday**  
20 May 2026



**Time**  
2.00 PM



**Minsterley Parish Hall**  
SY5 0EH

**Free entrance**  
**Refreshments available**  
[pontesbury.u3asite.uk](http://pontesbury.u3asite.uk)



**Litter Letter 4 [adapted from the January 2021 article]**

One of the most common items of litter you are likely to see is the crisp packet. They are so light—they escape from our bin bags and blow from our picnics. They have been designed so well in order to keep crisps crisp and increase shelf-life. Their evolution has passed through waxed paper bags and single layer plastic to the robust glossy metallised plastic packets we have today. They are perfect for crisps and snacks and a HUGE problem for the planet.

**FIRST PROBLEM:** Forget standard recycling! Crisp packets contain a sophisticated mix of two different plastics and a thin layer of aluminium - a recycling nightmare. In landfill they are unchanged after decades and incinerations releases a mix of polluting gases.

**SECOND PROBLEM:** We like crisps so very much! In the UK we eat about 6 billion packets a year. That is an average of 150 packets of crisps per UK resident each year.

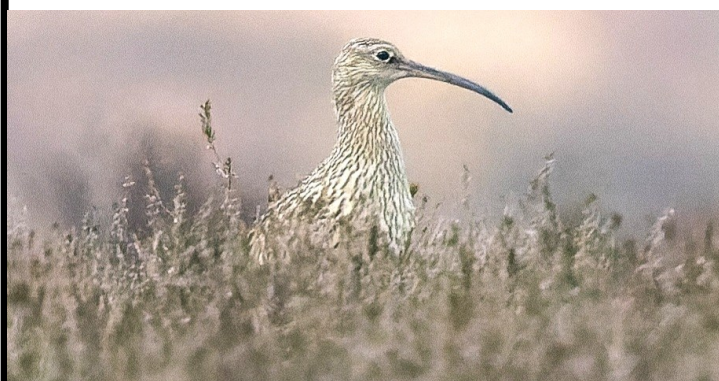
What to do about the problem? There are no complete answers, but here are 3 suggestions:

1. Walkers and Terracycle do have centres which recycle snack packets and revamp them into other products, such as fence posts, etc. Some supermarkets have collection bins. Soft plastics can be recycled at the Pavilion, there is a dedicated bin in the kitchen
2. Seek out compostable packet products. Some of these do not break down well in landfill.
3. Try eating less crisps! If you really can't resist them, buy larger packs rather than multiple smaller packs will mean less plastic.

**NOTE: A litter pick around the village of Pontesbury is being organised during the Big Green Day on 2nd May.**

**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).

## Ask the Animal Healer – Rebecca Rea

Therapeutic help for animals and their people

### Understanding cats and their needs

Mysterious, funny, complex ... cats can be amazingly affectionate or equally aloof, be gentle companions and highly successful killers ... eat anything or be the fussiest eaters around.

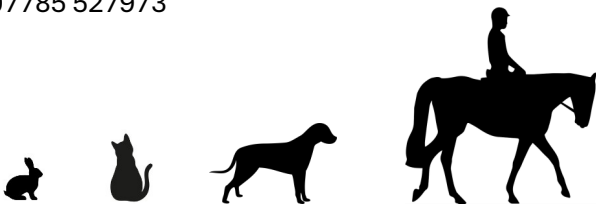
And our wild feline friends love their paws on the earth outdoors but are also having to adapt these days to being kept full-time indoors.

Unlike dogs who formed relationships with humans approximately 30-40,000 years ago, it is thought that cats became part of the human world about 12,000 years ago. In my work with them, I often witness their sensitive natures as they can be very impacted by their owners' feelings and the home environment they are in. On the whole they prefer to be the only pet but some can learn to tolerate and have affection for another pet.

Like anyone, a cat can experience a range of health challenges such as stress and nervousness, digestive upsets, arthritis, injuries, cognitive problems, heart, kidney and thyroid issues etc. If you would like extra help for your pet please do get in touch - there are many things that can enhance their happiness and well-being. I work on a donation only basis and am complementary to any Vet treatment.

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

07785 527973



**West Shropshire Flower Club** In March the Flower Club welcomed Bridgette Manton to demonstrate 'It's all

in the stars' her floral interpretation of the signs of the Zodiac, and reflecting the colours associated with each sign. Her first arrangement perched on top of a goldfish bowl represented Aquarius. She very cleverly created a green collar with manipulated aspidistra leaves then followed with white roses and alstroemeria, blue eryngium and silver 'leaf' shapes she had made from fabric and glitter to represent the colours of the sign. Leo (which is the gold and purple sign) was a foam free arrangement using tubes set in a large slice of wood with gold dogwood, broom, gerbera and Ornithogalum to create a delicate happy design, that she made into a hand tied for the person lucky enough to win it in the raffle. Taurus (pink) was on a bird shaped stand, using clipped palm leaves for feathers with bright pink gerberas and carnations, and deep set dark pink carnations. Scorpio being the sign of desire and red, she created a two placement romance inspired arrangement full of the most fantastic red roses which were set off by the slightly darker red of Leucadendron and alstroemeria and lifted by some orange gerberas. Her final design was Libra (cream, pink and pale blue). She used a woven willow open ring baskets to frame her arrangements of pink carnations, roses and gerberas, and placed two of these balancing on a frame to create a stunning design.

All meetings at Westbury Village Hall and start at 7.30pm, visitors welcome £10  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Julie Sparks – Colour my World

## Pontesbury Women's Club

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

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**Strawberry Tea**

Time and Venue available on request

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

**Mike Haynes 'All about Carrots!'**

PWC usually meets at 7.30pm on

The second Tuesday of the month

At Pontesbury Public Hall

Visitors and New Members are always welcome



Pontesbury WI met on 20th April. Our guest speaker was Mr Paul Wilkins who talked about the forgotten girls and women of the First and Second World

Wars. He talked about the Canary Girls who worked in the munitions factories and how important their jobs were. The girls and women faced extreme danger everyday but never received formal recognition for the brave work they did to help the war efforts.

The WI members had a lovely Spring Lunch at The Gates on 24th March. This was a really good afternoon enjoyed by everyone.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 18th May. Mr Joe Hamar (Farmer Joe) from Arscott farm will be our guest speaker. We will visit his farm later in the year. Our May craft club will be held on 19th May at the Cock Inn, Hanwood from 10am to 1pm. Everyone is welcome to join us, you do not have to be a WI member. We also have people attending from different WIs.

A number of our WI members will be going on a trip to Port Sunlight on 20th May.

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

Maxine Pittaway Event Organiser



## Pontesbury Primary School

Our school term finished with a flurry of great activities going on. We were very grateful to Mary, Greg and all of the volunteers at St George's Church to be welcomed to an Easter Experience. Our children moved around different stations in the church to hear and experience the Easter story. As ever, it was very well orchestrated. The children learnt about the last supper, reflected in the Garden of Gethsemani, washed feet (the thought was there for this part), saw the cross,

heard about the word Hosana and saw the empty tomb. Thank you to all of those at St George's for this wonderful event.

Our Year 5/6 girls football team were involved in a competition with local schools in which they came second! The girls did extremely well and upheld our motto to 'Aim High, Climb Higher'.



Our Year 6 class visited Arthog in the final week of term. They had a brilliant time and enjoyed lots of different activities such as nightline, team initiatives, bouldering and climbing with a lot of fun and laughter.

Thanks to our Friends of Pontesbury group, we held an Easter Egg hunt with around 150 of our pupils heading out across our school grounds to try to collect letters and then solve an anagram. The children had a great time and enjoyed an Easter egg treat too.

**Mary Webb School** - Our chickens have received a wonderful welcome from the Newsletter audience which is wonderful. They are now happily exploring their environment for the first time since the bird flu restrictions have been lifted and are providing a real link to the rural community we live in. Due to their persistence in clucking 'hello' to all who pass, they are forcing us all to take a minute to stop and engage with them, taking in our wonderful environment. The frogs have been busy too in the pond and already the spawn has turned into wriggling tadpoles.



In March lots of lovely people came in to talk to students about how they use Maths in their careers and hobbies. The range of people included helicopter pilots, major supermarket buyers and radiologists. It was so interesting and we are truly indebted (pardon the mathematical pun) to all who contributed their time to us.

Just as nature never stands still, neither does the school year and whilst the end of last term was celebrated with crafts and cakes, this new term has seen our Yr 10's start today, with a Maths mock exam.



Mary Webb School &  
Science College



<https://marywebbschool.com/>

**DEADLINE for June 2026 issue is: Friday 15th May 2026**

# Sports & Activities

## Longden Tennis Club has the lot!!



- 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
- 2 New Courts, Playable 365 days 8am – 10pm
- ‘Court Cardio Fitness’ – Thursdays 9.30am
- Club Night Social Tennis – Mondays 6.30pm
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- County Based League Matches
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Longden Tennis Club – SY5 8EX

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### Can you spare a few hours a month?

Pontesbury Sports Association is in jeopardy of closing without the positions of Secretary, Treasurer and fund raising secretary being filled.

This facility is needed in the village.

Please get in touch by email

[Pontesburysportsassociation@outlook.com](mailto:Pontesburysportsassociation@outlook.com)



**Deadline for June 2026 edition is Friday 15th May 2026 -**

please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk).

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

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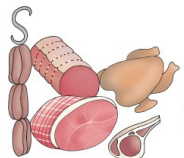


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The deadline for the June 2026 issue is Friday 15th May. Please send all advert requests to Nicki via email: [deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

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

**REA VALLEY BIG GREEN DAY IN PONTESBURY**



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

# MAY 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>MAY 2026</b>			
<b>Sat 2nd May</b>	<b>10.00-4.00</b>	<b>Rea Valley Big Green Day in Pontesbury</b>	<b>Various Locations</b>
Sat 2nd May	10.00-1.00	FOPL Plant Sale	Pavilion / Library
Sat 2nd	10am - 1pm	FOPL Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Tue 5th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council - Planning Committee	Pavilion
Fri 8th	10.30-11.45	Good Neighbour Scheme Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn, Pontesbury
Mon 11th	7pm	Pontesbury Parish Council meeting	Pavilion
Tue 12th	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
Wed 13th	1pm	Probus Club	Arcscott Golf Club
Wed 13th & 27th	2-4pm	Age UK Dementia Support Group	Pavilion
Thu 14th	2.00pm	Rhymetime @ the Library	Pavilion
Fri 15th	7.30pm	Film Night - Conclave	Marton Village Hall
Sun 17th	12.30-4.00pm	Cream Teas	St George's Church
Mon 18th	11am-1pm	Get Creative Group - FREE - bring along any project	Pavilion
Mon 18th	2.00pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Wed 20th	2pm	u3a - Commonwealth War Graves	Minsterley Parish Hall
Sat 23rd	11am	Free Organ Recital with Richard Walker	St George's Church
Wed 27th	7.30pm	West Shropshire Flower Club	Westbury Village Hall
Fri 29th	10.30am	Pontesbury Carer's Group	Pavilion
<b>JUNE 2026</b>			
Sat 6th June	12.00-9.00pm	Westfest, Westbury 2026	The Powell Field, SY5 9QX
Sun 7th June	6.30pm	Songs of Praise	Pontesbury Baptist Church

Deadline for the June Edition is Friday 15th May 2026, please email [deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk)

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

Activities start at 9.30 and continue throughout the day in various locations