



Pontesbury Parish Newsletter

Aim High, Climb Higher!



Pontesbury CE Primary School set off to summit Pontesford and Earl's Hill on Friday 10th October to celebrate their value of Resilience and World Mental Health Day. All 250 pupils, staff and volunteers made it to the top (and back down) before lunchtime.

This was a great way to demonstrate resilience in a practical/visible way that the children could see. Along the journey, as well as encouragement from the adults, the children were supporting one another and it was lovely to hear shouts of, 'Keep Going!' and 'Aim High, Climb Higher!' which is our school motto.

Myles is one of our students and he has reduced mobility, he uses a state-of-the-art wheelchair for longer journeys which his family have raised money for. We gave it a 'proper' road test and between Andy (Myles' dad), Myles and myself, we got to the summit to be met by applause and cheers of 'Well done Myles.' He was overjoyed to reach the top!

It was an achievement for all of our school and I think it showed Myles and all of the children that anything is possible if you set to your mind to it and have the right support behind you.

My thanks go to all of the staff and volunteers for making this happen and helping the children 'Aim High, Climb Higher.' We truly have a wonderful school community.

DEADLINE for joint December/January 2025-6 issue is: Friday 14th November

A reminder that the next issue is for DECEMBER & JANUARY - please send in articles and dates for both months

A talk by celebrated Wildlife Photographer
Ben Osborne



Polar Journeys



Join Ben on a journey to the ends of the earth, with breathtaking images and captivating stories from his adventures in the Arctic and Antarctic. A visual experience not to be missed!

© Ben Osborne Photography

**Saturday
22 NOV
7.30pm**

PONTESBURY PUBLIC HALL

TICKETS £10 (under 16s £5)
from Hignetts, Pontesbury
Library and TicketSource

BAR OPEN

FOPL: Raising funds to support Pontesbury Library

Coloured copies of the newsletter can be read at www.pontesbury-pc.gov.uk/pontesbury-newsletter

Pontesbury Parish Council

At the October meeting councillors approved a grant to the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) group for new tools and equipment for their work around the parish. Councillors thanked the group for all the hard work they do keeping local paths clear and accessible.

Councillors were pleased to hear that the re-siting of the litter bin outside the bus shelter at the top of Hall Bank has been well received and is helping the littering problem in and around the bus shelter. Councillors also approved the replacement of the damaged BMX sign at the play area and to put a sign up on School Green to deter football in that area which has been disturbing local residents.

The Licence to Occupy for Pontesbury Library within the Pavilion, between Shropshire Council Library Service and Pontesbury Parish Council, has been signed for a further 3 years which gives great continuity for such a valued and well-used community service.

Councillors from Pontesbury, Minsterley and Hanwood parish councils are working together with members of Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group to encourage nature recovery by working as a cluster of parish councils. On 3rd October Pontesbury Parish Clerk and Cllr Wallace Johnson spoke at a conference about nature recovery, held in Ellesmere, about the value of working in partnership to increase the impact of local activities on increasing biodiversity in the Rea Valley area. The parish cluster is called Rea-act for Nature. There are talks and various community activities planned, so watch this space. Below is an article about a biodiversity event on 6th December, 2-3.30pm at The Pavilion, and about developing a dead hedge for insects. If you would like to join Rea-act for Nature or get involved in nature recovery activities locally please contact Parish Clerk clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 10th November at 6.30pm at The Pavilion, Hall Bank. The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Monday 3rd November at 6.30pm at the Pavilion.

Contents:

- Pg 1** - "Aim High, Climb High!"
 - Polar Journeys
- Pg 2** - Pontesbury PC Update
 - Rea-Act for Nature
- Pg 3** - What's On @ The Pavilion
 - Pontesbury Library Owl
 - Defib Training Dates
- Pg 4** - Friends of Pontesbury Library
- Pg 5** - Community Good Neighbours
 - Stamps Thank You
 - Repair Café
 - Probus Club
 - Public Hall AGM
- Pg 6** - Church services/events
- Pg 7** - Time Out
 - Christmas Tree Festival
 - u3a Event
- Pg 8** - Pontesbury WI
 - Pontesbury Women's Club
 - Ask the Animal Healer
 - Rea Valley CWG Walk
- Pg 9** - Rea Valley Transport
 - Festive Friends
 - New Clothing Bank
- Pg 10** - Film Habberley
 - Film Marton
 - Conservation Fund
 - W Shrop Flower Club
- Pg 11** - Sports & Activities Page
 - Notes from the Hill
- Pg 12-15** Adverts
- Pg 16** - Dates for your diary

Rea-Act for Nature - Pontesbury, Minsterley and Hanwood parishes working together to aid nature recovery in the Rea Valley.

As well as nature recovery activities/events up and down the Rea Valley, in each newsletter we will be giving you a practical simple idea for helping nature to recover in your garden or somewhere in the local area.

Wondering what to do with all of those leaves landing in your garden? Why not build a dead hedge.

It might sound odd, but a dead hedge is a wonderful habitat that's full of life and a wonderful addition to your garden, playground or other outdoor space!! Dead hedges full of dead trees, shrubs and other garden waste, provide hiding places and nesting habitats for all sorts of creatures, food for insects and they are great for fungi. They mimic the practical benefits of a fence, whilst providing all the natural goodness of deadwood. So, if you want to mark out a flower bed or separate unsightly bins from the rest of your garden, why not visit one of the following websites and find out how to make a dead hedge of your own.

<https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/activity/build-a-dead-hedge>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do/activities/build-a-dead-hedge-for-wildlife>

Why Nature Matters - and what you can do to help - Free Workshop Saturday 6th December, 2-3.30pm The Pavilion, Hall Bank

Nature is important for our health and well-being, both in the UK and globally, yet 1 in 6 species are threatened with extinction. Are you concerned but don't know what to do? Are you already doing what you can and want to meet others that feel the same way? Join us for an informative, fun and interactive workshop to discover what's happening to nature and how it impacts us, why it's happening and what you can do about it. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided.

Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group are working with Marches Energy Agency to put on this 1.5 hour workshop, suitable for families with children aged 5 years and over

Please book with the Parish Clerk on 01691 661157 or clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk

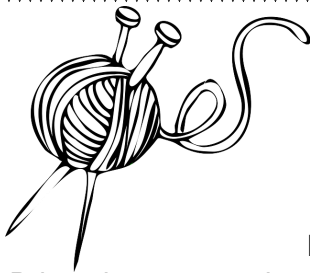


Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group





Pavilion News November 2025 - What's On

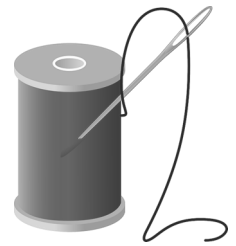


We hope to see you at the new time for
'Get Creative Group':

**at The Pavilion from 11am to 1pm on
Monday 3rd & 17th November 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 13th November
at 2pm to 2.45pm

Pontesbury Library @ the Pavilion

Rhymes, stories and songs for children
under five years old

Pontesbury Carers Support Group

Friday 28th November 2025

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

12th & 26th November 2025 Time: 2– 4pm



Sea Change Trust Sea 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 care-
givers 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

Message from the Library Owl

As I have aged, I've realised that Autumn comes to
us suddenly. October gives the occasional sunny
warm period, leaves still green, roses and cosmos
still in flower in the garden. Then November arrives.

An unusual month, gone are the days of Guy
Fawkes and Bonfire nights, it seems to have
become an extension of Christmas. But for those
that don't jump from pumpkins to tinsel, it brings a
damp, greyer time, to light a fire and curl up on a
sofa with a book. (I never miss a chance to promote
reading) I'll leave you with some John Clare:

' So dull and dark are the November days,
The lazy mist high up in the evening
curled,

And now the morn quite hides in smokey haze:
The place we occupy seems all the world.'

Poetry, also available from the library!

The Library Owl



Free Defibrillator and basic first aid training available

Rea Valley First Responders will be offering free
training for anyone on Saturday 22nd November (2-
4.30pm) and Thursday 27th November (6-8.30pm)
at The Pavilion, Hall Bank, Pontesbury. If you
would like to attend, please contact Parish Clerk
on: clerk@pontesbury-pc.gov.uk ,

Public defibrillators in the parish

Asterley (outside Oak House)

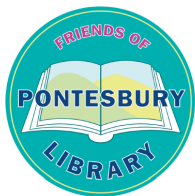
The Pavilion (Hall Bank), public toilets and Sports
Pavilion in Pontesbury

Habberley Village Hall

Cruckton Village Hall

Plealey (soon to be operational)





News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

Polar Journeys – a new talk by Ben Osborne, Saturday 22nd November, Public Hall

We are very excited to announce Ben Osborne's new talk, raising funds to support our Library. Ben lives locally and has made many journeys to both the Arctic and Antarctic, working for National Geographic, the BBC, the British Antarctic Survey and as a Polar Guide on small ships. His images have featured in numerous magazines and books and in 2007 he was Wildlife Photographer of the Year. It will certainly be a stunning visual treat, with exciting stories of his travels in some of the least accessible places on earth. **See poster and save the date!**

**Tickets: £10 from Hignetts, the Library and TicketSource
(under 16s £5)**

Many thanks to all who support Pontesbury library.

News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

Polar Journeys - a special date for your diary - Saturday 22nd November, 7.30pm, Pontesbury Public Hall

Don't miss this spectacular new talk from award winning wildlife photographer, Ben Osborne. From the northern polar regions, we can look forward to dramatic images of Greenland and Svalbard, the most northerly inhabited land, glaciers and mountains and wonderful wildlife, including whales and polar bears. From Antarctica we shall see seal and penguin colonies on South Georgia and also the magnificent scenery of the Antarctic Peninsula. Together with these enthralling photographs, we will have Ben's fascinating stories of his experiences in these distant and challenging parts of the planet. Secure your tickets soon! £10 for adults and £5 for under 16s - from the Library, Hignetts and TicketSource. See poster and further information above.

Minsterley School visit the library

On Tuesday 23rd September we had a delightful morning with 26 reception children, their teacher and helpers. With volunteers from FoPL, they were introduced to the library with songs, a scavenger hunt, refreshments and a colouring activity, and the chance to sample the books in the children's section. Many thanks to all who helped.

October Coffee morning

Despite inclement weather, the coffee morning on 4th of October was well attended. Lottery winners were:

No. 98 Yvonne Holyoak

No. 193 John Lewis

No. 57 Colin Borham

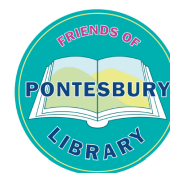
Join us on the 1st Saturday of every month for coffee, tea and delicious homemade cakes, a cheerful atmosphere and the lottery draw. Lottery tickets are just £1 each (£12 for the year). Forms available in the library and on the FoPL website.

Further Dates for your Diary

Coffee mornings – 1st November & 6th December 2025 (Pavilion)

Christmas craft workshops, 15th & 29th November - 10.30-12noon (Pavilion & Library)

Chip it for Charity 10th January - 10am-12 noon Bring your Christmas trees for Wood Matters to demolish. Nursery carpark. Warm welcome in the Pavilion plus refreshments.





Community
Good
Neighbours
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

News & Events November 2025



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

Coffee Morning - Friday 14th November 2025 All are welcome to come along 10:30am to 11:45am 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.

Good Neighbours Community Luncheons will take place on the following Fridays - 28th November 2025, and 23rd January, 27th February and 27th March 2026. All luncheons start at 11.45am and end at 1pm. Tickets must be bought beforehand and can be purchased at the coffee mornings (above) or from Hignett's Shop. Tickets are £10 per head, which includes a 2-course meal and a hot drink.

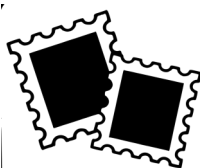
The **Pontesbury and Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours Committee** would like to record their thanks to the **Pontesbury Repair Café**, for their kind donation to the Rea Valley Good Neighbours fund. The money will be used within the community, and is known to make such a difference to the lives of those that are helped by the Good Neighbours organisation.

In addition, the Committee is delighted to report that Pontesbury and Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours has been selected as one of the beneficiaries in the coming year for the Co-Op Local Community Fund. If you are a Co-Op member, you will be able to select Pontesbury and Rea Valley Good Neighbours, via the Co-Op application, as the organisation that will benefit from your membership and shopping, and the Co-Op provide match funding for this process throughout the year.

We hope you will choose to include Pontesbury and Rea Valley Community Neighbours as one of the beneficiaries of the excellent work and generosity of the Co-Op and its members.

Keep Collecting those Stamps!

Thank you to everyone who faithfully saved all their used stamps this year and took them over to the collecting box in the Pontesbury Post Office. The stamps raise money for local, rural charities helping out where there is need.



Please rip around the stamps leaving a good inch of envelope all around. Thank you for your efforts in advance. Sheila Crowther

PONTESBURY PUBLIC HALL

NOTICE OF AGM

The PUBLIC HALL AGM will be held
on
**WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER at
7.30pm** in the LEN SIMPSON
ROOM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
WELCOME TO ATTEND

Pontesbury Repair Cafe

Saturday 8th November
10.00-12.00 in
St. George's Church.

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.

Next meeting: 12th November 2025

St. George's Church

www.st-george.org.uk



Services and activities for November 2025

2nd 10.30am Holy Communion
4pm All Souls Service.
4th 2.30pm Tea Service
6th 3.30pm Messy Church
9th 10.15am Remembrance Service
16th 10.30am Holy Communion and Children's Church
23rd 10.30 am All Age Family Worship
30th 10.30am Group Service at Shelve Holy Communion

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

Methodist services for November:

2nd November with Rev Brian Spencer
9th November at St Georges Church
16th November with Rev Richard Hall to inc Holy Communion
23rd November with Church Members
30th November with Rev Brian Spencer
All services at 10.45 am.

PONTESBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES November 2025

Sunday 2nd November at 10am - Keith Locke
Sunday 9th November at 10am - Rev. Debbie Martin
Sunday 16th November at 10am - The Deacons
Sunday 23rd November - Rev. Debbie Martin
Sunday 30th November - Rev. Debbie Martin

Tuesday's at 10am - Prayer Meeting/Bible study
Wednesday's 10-12midday - Warm space/coffee and chat

All are welcome

Pontesbury Baptist Church

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 2nd November	Mike Wells	Martin Wells
Remembrance Sunday 9th	Mike Wells	Ben Jack
Sunday 16th November	Rev Birch	Rev Birch
Sunday 23rd November	Mike Wells	Rob Jack
Sunday 30th November	Rod Ward	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.*

For more information, please email:
info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk

CHRISTMAS SONGS OF PRAISE

Pontesbury Baptist Church
Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

Sunday 7th December at 6:30 pm



Discover the extraordinary stories behind the hymns and carols!

With Pastor Mike Wells
Light refreshments served
free of charge!

A date for your diary! CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



Pontesbury Baptist Church

Sunday 21st December 5 PM

All are welcome!

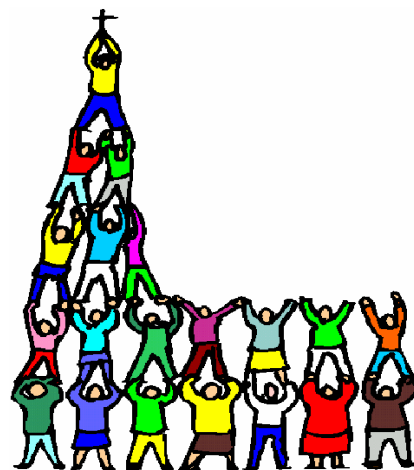
A Welcome Brew

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



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**St. George's Church
Pontesbury**

Christmas Tree Festival, December 5th - 7th

Entrance £3, children under 16 free

The Theme This Year is:
"Family at Christmas"

Set up Wed 3rd 9:00am - 6:00pm

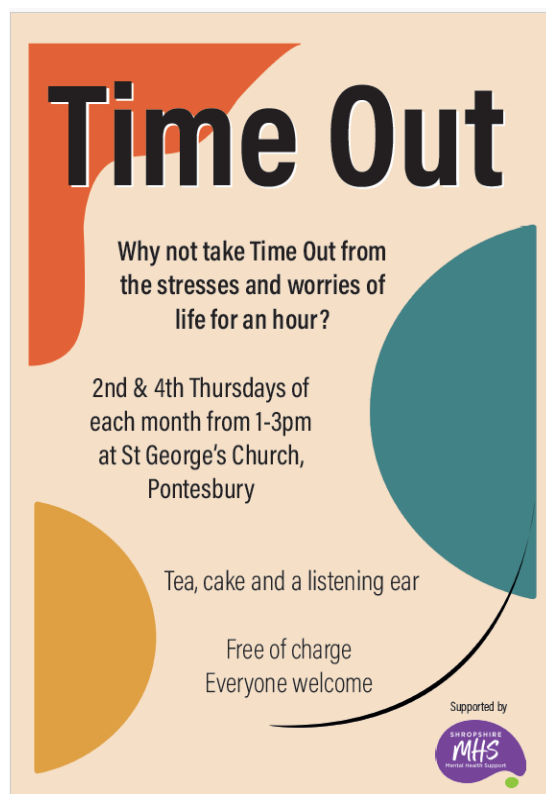
Opening times
Friday 5th 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 6th 10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday 7th 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Featuring on SAT 6th, 6pm - 8pm
 Sing-Along Among The Trees,
 with Stiperstones Brass Band and St George's Choir.
 £3 includes Mince pie and mulled wine

Stalls, Raffle, Refreshments,
 Toilets, Disabled Facilities

If you would like to enter a tree contact
Marianne McCall
 Phone: 07944 333830
 Email: marianmccall.17@gmail.com

A new support group for those struggling with the stresses and strains of life, sponsored by the local churches, has begun at St George's Church, Pontesbury, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons of the month. We are deliberately, a small, friendly group aimed at people who find large gatherings too daunting. You will be made very welcome, and there's always a listening ear, tea, coffee and biscuits. Feel free to bring a friend.




Time Out

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

2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month from 1-3pm at St George's Church, Pontesbury

Tea, cake and a listening ear

Free of charge
 Everyone welcome

Supported by




Strange Meetings

By Shaun Higgins

Wilfred Owen's story
 In his own words

A dramatic presentation telling the life of a great war poet, revealed through his poetry, letters, and his humour

Wednesday
 19 Nov 2025

Time
 2.00 PM

Minsterley Parish Hall
 A488, Minsterley,
 SY5 0EH

Free entrance
 Refreshments available
pontesbury.u3asite.uk

OPEN MEETING
 Members & non-members welcome

learn, laugh, live
u3a Pontesbury & Rea Valley

SPIKE ROSE PRODUCTIONS

A Moving Tribute to a Shropshire Son Join Us this November

u3a
 Pontesbury
 & Rea Valley

As we enter a time of remembrance, Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a warmly invites you to our Open Meeting on 20th November for a special performance of Strange Meetings, presented by Shaun Higgins.

This powerful one-man show brings to life the final 15 months of Wilfred Owen – the renowned war poet born in Oswestry, Shropshire. From his time at Craiglockhart Hospital being treated for shell-shock, to his influential friendship with Siegfried Sassoon and the poetic brilliance it inspired, the story follows Owen's return to the Western Front and his untimely death just days before the Armistice.

Owen's story is one of hidden strength, fragility and the tragic cutting-short of huge potential. This first-person perspective is alive with language and wry humour, bringing to life his thoughts and inspirations.

Following the talk, 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 charity dedicated to bringing together individuals not in full-time employment for enjoyable learning or active experiences. We are local, friendly, and affordable, featuring over 20 interest groups covering a variety of activities.

Deadline for Dec/Jan 2025/26 edition is Friday 14th November - please send all articles, requests for adverts and event dates to deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk. Please send .jpgs or .png - no .pdf docs - thank you.

Ask the Animal Healer – Rebecca Rea

Therapeutic help for animals and their people

Fireworks

Have you got a stressed, nervous dog, cat, horse? - don't suffer alone, ask the animal healer.

Whether it is fireworks, traffic, separation anxiety etc there are emergency calmers and longer-term solutions to help a pet that is suffering.

Firework week is particularly frightening for very many animals, pets and wildlife. It is no different to a gun going off, and I have seen the most heart-breaking responses, even dogs trying to climb out of windows in desperation, or shaking uncontrollably on the ground unable to move. Even people with PTSD can be affected.

Plan ahead, the quicker you help your pet the more successful it will be - you can buy some emergency calming aids from pet shops, ask your Vet if they can help, or get Animal Bach flower Rescue Remedy or Helios SOeSsence Flower Formula www.helios.co.uk (01892 537254).

Thunder Shirts are also a great help for dogs and can be bought at Pets at home or online, www.thundershirt.com.

Longer-term solutions I have seen successful outcomes with include pet CBD oil for dogs, cats and horses as well as homeopathic treatment. Also always ensure your pet has a safe familiar space in the home or their paddock where they can retreat to. Play soothing music and keep calm yourself, offering them your support.

There are also techniques and training you can learn to do with your animal companion to grow their resilience to stress and fears so that they and you have a calmer, happier life.

Remember, if they are reacting they need help and understanding. I can support you in that if you wish. I work on a donation basis only.

www.theanimalhealer.life 07785527973 Rebecca

www.theanimalhealer.life



REA VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP



MONTHLY WALK: NOVEMBER 2025

Saturday 15th November - Monthly Walk

10am - 1pm

Pontesford Hill Car Park - [hoot.signed.cobbled](https://www.hoot.signed.cobbled)

Join our friendly Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) at our November monthly walk providing an opportunity to 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.

This event is free, but donations are welcome.



Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/reavalleycwvg



More Information

www.shropscwgs.org.uk/reavalley-wildlife-group/



JOIN US TODAY!

Email: reavalleycwvg@gmail.com



Active and vibrant Whatsapp group also available

Pontesbury Women's Club

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

Tuesday 11th November

Anne Whysall – Christmas Wrappings and Decorations

Tuesday 9th December

PWC Christmas Party with Quiz

PWC usually meets at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month at Pontesbury Public Hall

Visitors and New Members are always welcome



We met on the 13th of October, our guest speaker was local business woman Krystyna Lawson who talked about Presence of Mind. She has opened a wellness room in Connections in Pontesbury. Krystyna talked about empowering your self-healing journey through natural and integrative health practices, she also offers many different therapies to aid keeping fit and well. Most importantly she told us all to nurture our health and take care of ourselves. The WI ladies all enjoyed hearing about the wellness centre.

Pontesbury WI will be hosting a CRAFT FAIR on 10th November at 1.30 in the Public Hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend and see all the items on sale which will include books, cards, Christmas items, cakes, toys and much more. Why not come along and support your local WI?

Our craft club will be held on the 18th of November. We meet at the Cock Inn Hanwood at 10 am to 1 pm. If you would like further details about the WI please contact Irene Windows President on 01743791903 for further information.

Maxine Pittaway Events Organiser



The Rea Valley Transport Scheme is now fully operational, enabling residents of the area to access medical appointments including Pontesbury & Worthen surgeries, and Shrewsbury, Telford and Oswestry hospitals. The scheme also endeavours to get people to opticians, dental and other wellbeing appointments e.g. support groups where possible and whenever we can.

Please note that the scheme is not set up to help with emergency appointments or to assist with other transport requests such as shopping.

Our drivers are all volunteers, but are insured, DBS checked and safely recruited. However, they are not medical professionals. Your driver will collect you from your home address and take you in good time for your appointment. To request transport, please contact our scheme administrator, Emma, at reavalleytransportscheme.info@gmail.com or by calling 07468115939. If possible, please give us a minimum of a week's notice of when and where your appointment is.



New Clothing Bank

Craig Pugh
Coop manager

Cllr Duncan Fletcher
Chairman Pontesbury
Parish Council

Pontesbury residents can now support life-saving medical research by donating their pre-loved clothing to a Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK charity's clothing bank, recently installed at the Co-op car park next door to the Pavilion.

Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK (LMRUK) is a registered blood cancer charity specialising in stem cell therapy. The charity supports vital research into blood cancers, while also providing a free stem cell storage service for qualifying families through its Model Cell Biobank. Alongside funding innovative research, LMRUK aims to raise awareness of blood cancers. The new clothing bank accepts good-quality clothing, shoes, and accessories. Every donation helps raise funds for research, as items are resold through the charity's online shops — with 100% of the proceeds going to a charity.

In 2024, thanks to public generosity, LMRUK were awarded two major research grants worth £63,000, funding new scientific approaches to fighting blood cancer. These achievements are only possible because of the incredible support from local communities and organisations hosting the charity's clothing banks.

LMRUK would like to extend sincere thanks to Pontesbury Parish Council and the Co-op for their encouragement and assistance in placing our clothing bank. Together, we can turn simple acts of donating into something truly meaningful — helping to fund research that saves lives.



To learn more about the charity's work or ways to be involved, please visit www.lmr.uk.org



Festive Friends 2025

Will you be on your own this Christmas Day?

Cost: Suggested donation of £7 to help cover costs.

Contact: Linda on 01588 630409 for more information and booking.

If so, you are invited to join us for Christmas Lunch in Norbury!

Transport can be provided.

Arrive for drinks and mince pies.

Enjoy a two-course lunch.

Relax and enjoy some light entertainment and conversation.

All ages welcome

Time: 11:30am - 3pm

Venue: Norbury Village Hall



FESTIVE FRIENDS Each year Festive Friends join together on Christmas Day to enjoy each others company and consume an excellent festive lunch. If you are on your own this Christmas Day, for whatever reason and whatever age you are, do come and celebrate with us. Or, if you are a carer or cared for and the day will be much like the other 364, do get in touch. See Festive Friends poster for contact number.



Shropshire Hills National Landscape Funding to help communities to care for the natural environment in their local area.

The Shropshire Hills

Conservation Fund has reopened this autumn and new applications are invited for projects to start in spring 2026.

Fund priorities are:

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

We're keen to encourage applications from community groups. Grants are in the range of £500 – £2,000 and can make a real difference in converting great ideas into sustainable community action for nature and people.

If you have an idea in mind, the first step is to complete a short project idea form. We will then get in touch with you to discuss your idea and will be able to recommend whether your project should progress to full application. The deadline to make an expression of interest to the Fund is 13th February 2026.

The link to the online form, further information and how to apply is on the Shropshire Hills National Landscape website, www.shropshirehills-nl.co.uk. Or contact Stephanie Hayes from the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Team, email stephanie.hayes@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01743 254746.

West Shropshire Flower Club were treated to a look though Anne Russel's life with her 'Tree of life' demo. She started with soft, airy pink and white arrangement full of spray carnations and gypsophila in a classic design staged within a giant book, to reflect her love of books. She moved on to a hand tied reflecting her teenage years with glam rock and Noddy Holder, with in a framework of eucalyptus she placed clashing yellow spray roses, violet clematis, purple calla lilies, blue eryngium and pink veronica, with complementing bright dyed feathers, complete with a glitter ball. A patriotic red white and blue design within a hat box related to her Royal garden party invitation. Red peony leaves and gerberas with blue birch twigs and iris and white gladioli and chrysanthemums.

The Club are holding a Wreath making workshop on Sunday 30th November at Westbury Village Hall, find us on Facebook.

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

Wednesday 26th November – Vanessa Wellock –
Glad tidings



Tom Basden, Sian Clifford, Tim Key, Carey Mulligan

12A

The Ballad Of Wallis Island

A quirky lottery winner invites his favourite band to his island for a private gig, but old tensions threaten his dream.

Habberley Village Hall
SY5 OTP

Friday
14 November
7.30 pm

Tickets
Standard: £6.00

Enquiries: 07977 127161

Doors open 7pm. FILM AND FISH & CHIPS SPECIAL! - Ticket and food £15 - a complete night out! Food served 7pm sharp. Please pre-order by midday Thurs. Bar & tea/coffee available.

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Information and Tickets at www.artsalive.co.uk

FLICKS
IN THE
STICKS



June Squibb, Fred Hechinger, Parker Posey

12A

Thelma (2024)

When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her.

Marton Village Hall
SY21 8JT

Friday
21 November
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

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Sports & Activities



Pontesbury Monday Night Badminton Club

Every Monday - 7-9pm

£35 per term

Sports Hall, Mary Webb School, Pontesbury SY5 0TG

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Any questions please contact pontesburymnbc@aol.com

SHORT MAT BOWLS

Starts 2pm Thursday 9th October

in the Public Hall

Then every week till spring.

Newcomers welcome.

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CINDERELLA 2: The shoe is on the other foot this time!

SCRIPT READING ~

MON 3RD NOV 7.30PM

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AGE
16+

NATURAL ENGLAND Notes from the hill

Although the summer seems to have been drawn out rather late this year the hill is showing signs of autumn and by the time you read this will probably be showing all the autumn colours in the bilberry, the bracken and the trees. This is always the best time of the year for fungi and this year seems to be a bumper year.

Fungi, which most people know as mushrooms and toadstools, come in a vast variety of colours and forms and are a vitally important part of life on earth. Although they often go unnoticed, hidden below ground or within rotting wood, they are essential to ecosystems and to human health. Fungi are the worlds natural recycling system, breaking down dead organic matter and releasing nutrients into the soil essential to plant growth and all animals that rely upon it. Their underground mycorrhizae also play a vital part in the absorption of nutrients and water by plants and of course we use fungi for a variety of purposes. After all what would we do without the yeast that makes our bread rise and our beer brew.



Woodlands are often the places where you would go to see mushrooms and toadstools and the birch woodlands on the Stiperstones are home to one of the most recognised toadstools, the fly agaric. With its white speckled red cap, it is the toadstool in every fairy story. Its name refers to a traditional use of the dried flesh being sprinkled in milk to kill insects.

Most of our mushrooms and toadstools now have common names, many of which are quite descriptive such as jelly ear, rancid bonnet, hairy curtain crust and wood cauliflower.

The Stiperstones has some great fungi records not only from its woodlands but also in other habitats such as the scrub and its grasslands.

We have records of two particularly notable fungi that have been found on the grasslands of the Stiperstones. The big blue pinkgill is a rare toadstool which we thought would be relatively easy to identify as there aren't many blue fungi in the UK, however it has now been split into four distinct species, so who knows which one we have. The olive earthtongue is another rare fungi that also may be a complex of different species. This is a tiny green or brown fungus that as the name suggests emerges from the ground with tongue shaped fruiting bodies. Both are found on old unimproved pastures.

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoreoak



Tony Porton

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



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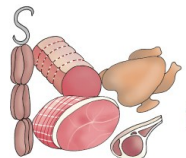
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FESTIVE EVENTS

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**AUTUMN
FAIR**

**SATURDAY
25TH OCTOBER**



**WINTER
FAIR**

**SATURDAY 15TH
NOVEMBER**



**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

**SATURDAY
6TH DECEMBER**



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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.

NOVEMBER 2025 DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Regular Weekly Events			
Every Mon	6.30-7.30pm	Pontesbury Runners (advanced/intermediate)	Meet corner of Brookside & Minsterley Rd
Every Mon	6.00-7.15pm	Yoga	Pontesbury 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	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
First Thu	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
Monthly Events			
Sat 1st	1030-1230	Friends of Pontesbury Library Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Mon 3rd & 17th	11am -1pm	Get Creative - FREE just bring along your projects	Pavilion
Mon 3rd	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Planning Committee	Pavilion
Sat 8th	1000-1200	Repair Café -bring along your items in good time	St George's Church
Mon 10th	2pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Mon 10th	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council meeting	Pavilion
Wed 12th	1pm	Rea Valley Probus Club	Arscott Golf Club
Wed 12 & 26th	2-4pm	Pontesbury Dementia Support Group	Pavilion
Thu 13th	2-2.45pm	Rhyme Time	Library
Thu 13th & 27th	1-3pm	Time Out - tea, cake & a listening ear	St George's Church
Thu 13th	2pm	Short Mat Bowling season begins	Public Hall
Fri 14th	1030-1200	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn
Fri 14th	7.30pm	Film "The Ballad of Wallis Island"	Habberley Village Hall
Sat 15th Oct	1pm	Rea Valley Community Wildlife Walk	meet at Pontesford Hill car park
Wed 19th	2pm	u3a talk "Strange Meetings"	Minsterley Parish Hall
Fri 21st	7.30pm	Film "Thelma"	Marton Village Hall
Sat 22nd	Afternoon	Free Defib Training (2-4.30pm)	Pavilion
Sat 22nd	7.30pm	Polar Journeys - a talk by Ben Osborne	Public Hall
Wed 26th	7.30pm	West Shropshire Flower Club monthly meeting	Westbury Village Hall
Thu 27th	Evening	Free Defib Training (6-8.30pm)	Pavilion
Fri 28th	10.30am	Carer's Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Fri 28th	11.45 - 1pm	Good Neighbours Community Luncheon	Pontesbury Public Hall
Sun 30th	10-12.30	West Shropshire Flower Club - wreath making workshop	Westbury Village Hall
Dec-25			
Fri 5 to Sun 7	From 10am	St George's Christmas Tree Festival	St George's Church
Sat 6th	2.30pm	Why Nature Matters—workshop to learn about helping nature recover—FREE suitable for families	Pavilion
Sun 7th	6.30pm	Songs of Praise	Baptist Church
Sat 13th	TBC	Tin Soldiers - SAVE THE DATE	Cruckton Village Hall