

THE CORVEDALE NEWS

AUGUST 2024
The Corvedale's Community Magazine



Comma Butterfly on
Blackberries - Jill Wardle

Printed Copy £8.00 per annum

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE

To access information and advice:

FREE Shropshire Adviceline: 0808 278 7894
(Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 4.00pm)

Specialist Debt Team: 01742 280 019
(Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 4.00pm)

FREE Consumer Helpline:
0808 223 1133

FREE Universal Credit: Help to claim:
0800 144 8 444

On the web: www.citizensadvice.org.uk



STUART ANDERSON

**Member of Parliament
for the South Shropshire Constituency**

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP

Tel: 01584 872 187

Fax: 01584 876 345

Email: stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

SHROPSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR FOR THE CORVEDALE

Cllr. Cecilia Motley
Councillor, Corvedale Division

Cabinet Member for Health and Communities;
Executive member, Rural Services Network;

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192



SUPPORT & RESOURCES

There is a wealth of information and resources available on the Shropshire Council website: www.shropshire.gov.uk

From information about household recycling, planning applications, and highways to help with Cost-of-Living and Benefits. Help and information can also be obtained by phone: **0345 678 9000**.

More useful contacts can be found on page 31

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Ms S Lewis	New House Farm, Peaton	Peaton, Peaton Strand
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Mrs P Baynham	Garage Cottage, Westhope	Westhope

COPY FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the **September 2024** magazine, please send by email to editor@corvedalenews.co.uk by **MONDAY 19TH AUGUST** at the latest.

ADVERTISEMENTS If you would like to advertise in the Corvedale News or amend an existing advertisement, please contact our Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 19TH AUGUST** at the latest for inclusion in the next issue: advertising@corvedalenews.co.uk. All adverts must be in electronic format and sent in either jpg or Word format.

PICTURES We are always very pleased to receive high quality pictures of scenes or events around the Corvedale to add to our library for use on the front cover. Email to photos@corvedalenews.co.uk.

EDITOR'S NOTE If anyone knows of other events taking place within their immediate area in the next few months, could they please let the Editor know so these may be included in the Dates for Your Diary.

OUR DOMESTICS

DON'T FORGET If you are aware of anyone who does not receive the Corvedale News in your area but would like to, please have a word with your distributor.

DISCLAIMER Views expressed in this paper are those of the relevant authors and not necessarily those of the Corvedale News team. We reserve the right to edit or omit any material submitted for publication. No liability is accepted for loss or damage arising from any omission of copy or advertising, and the appearance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement or recommendation. The Corvedale News is published and distributed entirely by volunteers, with production costs defrayed by advertising and subscriptions.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024

We have agreed to hold subscription prices at the current rates for 2024. The paper subscription will remain at £8.00 per annum and the electronic subscription £5.00.

You can make your payment in three ways:-

1. Online:

Account Name: Corvedale News (Business Account)
Sort Code: 30-90-49
Account Number: 54132260
Reference: Please use your surname and your location e.g. SMITH, PEATON

3. By post:

Make your cheque out to: THE CORVEDALE NEWS
Print your name and address on the back of the cheque and post to:
T Bennett, Corvedale News Treasurer
Lower Middle Barns
Corfton, Craven Arms
SY7 9LB

2. Your Corvedale News distributor:

Hand your cash or cheque over to your distributor.

If you are not sure whether you have already paid or not, please contact Colin Pitcher by email at colin.pitcher@hotmail.com. Many thanks for your continued support.

The Corvedale News Team

CHURCH CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND	CATHOLIC CHURCH	METHODIST CHAPEL
Rev'd John S Beesley St Michael's Rectory Munslow SY7 9EU Tel: (01584) 841488 revjbeesley@gmail.com	Canon Christopher Walsh St Peter's RC Church Henley Road, Ludlow SY8 1QZ Tel: (01584) 872906 st.peters.ludlow@talktalk.net	Craven Arms: for service times and ministers, please contact the Shropshire and Marches Circuit Office Tel: (01743) 874923 circuitoffice2803@gmail.com

A black and white poster for a quiz night. The text is centered and reads: "QUIZ NIGHT" in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, "Wednesday 4th September" is written in a slightly smaller, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the date, it says "Bar Opens: 19:00" and "Quiz Starts: 19:30" in a regular sans-serif font. Further down, "BOOK NOW!!!" is written in bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below that, "Text/WhatsApp:" is followed by the number "07396 730342". Then, "Email:" is followed by the email address "diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com", which is underlined. The entire poster is decorated with various icons: question marks, thought bubbles, and groups of people. Some icons are inside circles, and some are inside squares. The icons are scattered around the text, adding a playful and thematic touch to the design.

QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 4th September

Bar Opens: 19:00
Quiz Starts: 19:30

BOOK NOW!!!

Text/WhatsApp:
07396 730342

Email:
diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com

**MUCH WENLOCK
MALE VOICE CHOIR**

Autumn Practice Re-Starts

**TUESDAY 13th AUGUST
7.20pm**

At

William Brookes School

JOIN US!

No previous singing experience necessary.
Just turn up or ring 01952 728 758 for more information.

CORVEDALE VILLAGE HALLS

WESTHOPE

July has been an extraordinarily complex month. We had to cancel events due to proposed road closures for two weeks at the end of June and beginning of July, and then again for 3 days in July for repairs and resurfacing. However, in June the road was only actually closed for 3 days, and for the 3 days in July, the road signs were collected in the morning and the road did not close! Our regular activities had to be cancelled during this time with the hall losing valuable revenue. The potholes on one stretch of our lane are still waiting to be done. What a fiasco!

We are now working on getting quotes to update flooring. Hopefully, we will have something positive to report soon.

Our weekly Yoga is on Thursday mornings 9.45-10.45am. *Please note there are no yoga classes in August.*

The hall is available to hire with a licensed bar and catering if required.

All enquiries Betty 07860 447 397 or Moira 01584 861 663.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Weekly Whist Drive. Every Monday 7.15pm start.

Skittles Social Evenings

2nd Friday of the month at 7.30pm until October.

Refreshments and licensed bar always available.

Race Night with Craven Arms Ladies

Wednesday 21st August, 7.30pm start.

Community Lunch

Thursday 5th September

2-course home cooked meal with tea/coffee.

£10pp pre-booking essential. Everyone welcome.

Jumble Sale

Saturday 7th September, 10am - 12.30pm.

Entrance £1 to include tea/coffee. If anyone has any jumble we will be only too pleased to collect it if you are unable to bring it to the hall.

Skittles with the WI.

Wednesday 9th October

Harvest Supper

Saturday 19th October. Details soon.

Rag Wreath Workshop

Sunday 20th October

All enquiries to Jacqui White 07976 866 789.

Joint Race Night

Saturday 16th November at Culmington Village Hall.

Concert with Newtown Male Choir

Saturday 23rd November

The choir recently performed at the Royal Albert Hall.

Christmas Prize Bingo

Saturday 7th December

Christmas Whist Drive

Monday 9th December

*The Diddlebury Missiles -
Graham and Lana Oliver,
Sara Thompson and Ian Davies*

ABDON

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS – AUGUST

Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Group

Please note there will be no UFO in August - we are taking our summer break! UFO will start again, as usual, on the second Saturday in month on **Saturday 14th September** - looking forward to seeing you all then.

Coffee Morning

Saturday 31st August, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

Last Saturday of the month.

Everyone is welcome to our warm and friendly get togethers - lively chat, coffee and cake!

Abdon Village Hall Bookings

Contact Margaret Buckingham: 01746 712 296 or abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

Or visit our website for the booking form and details:
www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk

QUIZ NIGHT AT DVH

Oh what a super night we had at DVH at another of our sell-out quiz nights! Thanks to all the lovely quizzers who turned up with their smiley faces to join in the fun and help make it an evening full of laughter with some very good quizzing too.

There was some keen competition to win our trademark 'rubbish' prizes with some really good scoring. Topping the leaderboard were the 'Diddlebury Missiles' with an extremely good 92 points. 'Haven't Got a Clue' were 2nd with 90 points and just one point behind were 'The Chuffers' who took the 3rd prize.

A huge thanks to everyone who bought one of our fundraising squares. Winning the top prize of £20 was Diddlebury's own, Mike Woodhouse, with Graham Oliver taking the 2nd prize of a bottle of red wine and Liz Wright, a box of chocolates for 3rd.

Thanks to everyone for their generosity and support and for joining in the fun. All profits made go towards keeping our village hall in tip-top condition.

We will be back after the summer on **Wednesday 4th September** with our next quiz and would love to see you there. However, we only have a few tables left so don't leave it too late - book your table as soon as possible by messaging us on 07396 730 342 or emailing: diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com

Kim Simm



CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS – AUGUST

Coffee Morning

Monday 5th and every following Monday, 10am - 11.30am

Cup of coffee or tea and biscuits for £1 with free refills. Join us for a natter. Everyone welcome.

Bridge Club

Monday 5th and every following Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm

Contact Peter Whitehead pst.whitehead@gmail.com

Culmington & District Flower & Produce Show

Sunday 18th August

Schedules available from Culmington Village Hall, All Saints Church and Cyril Bason in Craven Arms. Contact Janet Stuart 01584 861 298 or Judy McNally on 01584 861 403.

Culmington and District Flower and Produce Show

in Culmington Village Hall

SY8 2DA

Sun 18th Aug



Fruit & veg

Flowers & plants

Cookery & drink

Floral art

Arts & crafts

Children's classes

Eggs & herbs

Family class

Superb prizes in our sponsors' raffle!

Refreshments

Schedules/entry forms available from

Culmington Village Hall, All Saints Church, Cyril Bason,

Judy McNally 01584 861403,

and Janet Stuart 01584 861289

PLANNING AHEAD

Bluebird Belles

Saturday 28th September

Back by popular demand!

Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

Tractor Run

Sunday 13th October, Details to follow.

Jordan Brown

Saturday 26th October

Singer and acoustic guitarist, and dancing replaces Friday social night. Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

STANTON LACY VILLAGE HALL

We have had a busy couple of months at Stanton Lacy Village Hall with a little something for everyone. Bingo night was a big hit for all the family. The Abba tribute was an absolutely fantastic packed-out night from start to finish with everyone singing and dancing the night away. We kicked off our summer Friday night pub night with a bang in June with the 'Fish Heads' joining us for a Friday fish & chips fix. National Cream Tea Day was a delicious delight serving some amazing, sweet treats and not forgetting the Euros football tournament which has been very well supported by our wonderful locals.



If you have been to visit us recently you would have seen our newly renovated toilets. It's been a long time coming and we're so pleased with them. A huge thank you to J A Wilson, Dave Mayrik and the rest of the team for an amazing job. We would also like to thank everyone for their kindness and patience while the much-needed work was being completed.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page, with the weather warming up we may open up the bar for you all to enjoy a cold beverage in the sun. Everyone is welcome!

Thank you to all who have attended our events at Stanton Lacy Village Hall, with your support we can continue to host fantastic events in the future.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS – AUGUST

Pub Night

Every Wednesday, 8pm - Late

We open our doors for pub night every Wednesday. Games and crafts will be available on pub nights to keep the kids entertained. Everyone Welcome!

Coffee Mornings

Wednesday 7th & 21st August, 10am-12noon

Join us for Tea, Coffee & Delicious Cake

Monthly Friday Pub Night

9th August, Bar open from 6pm

Back by popular demand. The 'Fish Heads' will be serving up our Friday night treat. Delicious Fish & Chips washed down with a cold beverage!

Community Market

Saturday 31st, 10am – 12noon

We hold our community market on the last Saturday of every month. See what our wonderful small local businesses have to offer. Also serving Tea, Coffee & Cakes.

For more information.

Email: slvh.info@gmail.com Post Code: SY8 2AT
or Facebook: Stanton Lacy Village Hall Events

DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org What's App/call - 07396 730342 Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall.org

QUIZ NIGHT
Wednesday 4th September
 Bar Opens: 19:00
 Quiz Starts: 19:30
BOOK NOW!!!
 Text/WhatsApp:
 07396 730342
 Email:
diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com

DVH is a light, bright, modern venue with large and small halls, dedicated bar, large fully equipped professional kitchen, excellent disabled access, a top-quality toilet block, on-site parking and full premises licence.

With a new AV sound system and hearing loop it offers flexible and affordable facilities for weddings, family events and celebrations. It is also ideal for conferences and business meetings, regular activity classes, parties and music events.

Check out our comprehensive website
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org
 Email: bookdvh@gmail.com
 Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall

Atia
 Returns to DVH on
Friday 13th September
 bringing her delicious homemade Punjabi curries, onion bhajis, samosas and deep-fried Naan to
 our 2nd
Curry Night
BAR STEFANO opens 17:30
 With a fully stocked bar with draft Ludlow Gold
EAT IN from 17:30-21:00
 No takeaways until 20:00

	The Corvedale Book Club Meet to discuss their latest book choice. Contact cathburley@hotmail.com	Thursday Aug 19:00
EAT @ DVH NIGHT	By popular demand...Atia and her family will be bringing you more of their delicious and authentic homemade Punjabi curries , onion bhajis, samosas and other delights. Bar Stefano will be serving draft beer, wines, beers and spirits. EAT IN from 5.30 – 9.00 pm. No takeaways until 8pm	Friday 13th September EAT IN from 17:30 – 21:00
	Harvest Hog Roast Celebrate the Harvest this year with our brand-new event - the This will be a ticketed event so don't miss out - SAVE THE DATE!	Saturday 12th October
	Mini Moos Baby & Toddler Group £2.50 per Family Summer sessions – Mondays – 5th August, 19th August	Mondays 10.00 - 12.00 Term time
	The Corvedale Choir Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	Mondays 19.30 - 21.30
	The Blue Hills Choir Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00
	Zumba Contact Cat: zumbawithcat@outlook.com /07817 448832	Tuesdays 18.00
	Tai Chi Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 hello@goldenthreadscic.com	Thursdays 10.00 - 11.00
	Pilates with Tina Bookings only via pilateswithtina@outlook.com	Thursdays 18:00 – 19:00
	Physiotherapist-led Pilates. Contact Beverley Chumber: beverleychumber@sky.com 07967 814412	Fridays 9.15 - 10.15

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Every Mon	Corvedale Choir	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Mon	Coffee Morning	Culmington Village Hall	10am - 11.30am
Every Mon	Bridge Club	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 5pm
Every Mon	Whist Drive	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
Every Mon	Mini Moos - Baby & Toddler Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	Blue Hills Choir	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	Corvedale Artists	Munslow Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	Zumba	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	Yoga	Westhope Village Hall	9.45am
Every Wed	Pub Night	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	8pm
Every Thu	Tai Chi	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Thu	Pilates Beginners/Intermediate Class	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Fri	Physiotherapist-led Pilates	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

AUGUST 2024

7th	Wed	Coffee Morning	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
8th	Thu	Corvedale Book Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Fri	Pub Night with The Fish Heads	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	6pm
10th	Sat	Corvedale Garden Group	Preen Manor, Church Preen	10am
10th	Sat	Munslow Church Fete	The Old Rectory, Munslow	2pm
11th	Sun	RSPB Walk	The Bog	10am
13th	Tue	Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir Rehearsal	William Brookes School	7.20pm
18th	Sun	Culmington & District Flower & Produce Show	Culmington Village Hall	
21st	Wed	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
21st	Wed	Coffee Morning	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
21st	Wed	Race Night with Craven Arms Ladies	Westhope Village Hall	7.30pm
23rd	Fri	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
25th	Sun	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
26th	Mon	Corvedale Folk Club	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
31st	Sat	Coffee Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
31st	Sat	Community Market	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am

SEPTEMBER 2024

3rd	Tue	Culmington Parish Council Meeting	Culmington Village Hall	7pm
4th	Wed	Munslow Parish Council Meeting	Munslow Village Hall	7.30pm
4th	Wed	Quiz Night	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
5th	Thu	Community Lunch	Westhope Village Hall	12.30pm
6th	Fri	Auction of Promises	Culmington Village Hall	7.30pm
7th	Sat	Jumble Sale	Westhope Village Hall	10am
7th	Sat	Corvedale and District Autumn Show	Diddlebury Village Hall	2pm
12th	Thu	RSPB Walk	Christopher Cadbury Reserve,	10.30am
12th	Thu	Corvedale Book Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
12th	Thu	Hayton & District WI Meeting	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
13th	Fri	Curry Night	Diddlebury Village Hall	5.30pm
14th	Sat	Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
14th	Sat	Corvedale Garden Group	Hereford Cathedral Gardens	10am
14th	Sat	Shropshire Federation WI Day	Shrewsbury Abbey	10am
23rd	Mon	Corvedale Folk Club	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
25th	Wed	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
25th	Wed	Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
27th	Fri	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
28th	Sat	Coffee Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
28th	Sat	Bluebird Belles	Culmington Village Hall	7.30pm
29th	Sun	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon Village Hall - 6, Culmington Village Hall - 7, Diddlebury Village Hall - 8, Stanton Lacy - 7, Westhope Village Hall - 6
The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 19th August

CHURCH NEWS

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

I'm writing this on St Swithin's Day and it's raining hard. Tradition says this means we have forty days of rain to come – so no change there – but by the time you read this the summer holidays will be upon us and perhaps even some better weather. The school summer holidays have their origin in the time that children were needed on the farms to help with the harvest and so weren't able to go to school – a reminder that for some the summer is anything but a time for holiday. For others, though, it is a time to relax, to take time out and to enjoy the summer weather (if we get any).

In church this year we are reading our way through St Mark's Gospel. It is the shortest of the gospels and can sometimes feel action-packed as Mark rushes us from one event to the next. If you read it carefully, however, and perhaps with a Holy Land map to hand, you can see that there were times when Jesus and his disciples had time out, not least as they travelled from place to place in journeys that would sometimes have taken several days on foot.

None of us can go at full speed all the time. The Book of Genesis tells us that, having spent six days creating the world, God rested on the seventh day, and in the Ten Commandments we find the instruction to rest on the Sabbath. We need time to rest and to re-charge, however, whenever we are able to take it. For some of us that means time out, for others it means immersing ourselves in an activity that we enjoy. Whatever works for you I hope that this summer brings an opportunity for some rest, relaxation and enjoyment.

Rev'd John Beesley

MUNSLOW CHURCH

Munslow Church Fête will be on **Saturday 10th August** from 2pm to 4pm. Weather permitting, we'll be in the grounds of Munslow House (the Old Rectory): thanks to Mr and Mrs Kay for their hospitality again. If it's still as wet in August as it is at the time of writing, we may have to be in the church. We hope to have all the usual stalls, activities and refreshments. If you might be able to help with a stall or an activity we would be delighted to hear from you – or if you can help by providing plants, bric-a-brac, cakes/produce or items for sale. Whilst the proceeds from most of the stalls will go to the costs of running and maintaining Munslow Church, we would be very happy if you wanted to run a stall for another cause. Please let us know if you can help run a stall or help to set up/ clear away on the day. Thank you!

Rev'd John Beesley (841 488) and Barbara Bowers (841 348)

DIDDLEBURY CHURCH

Many thanks to all who came to the Diddlebury Church Fête on Saturday 6th July. We raised a total of £925 after expenses, which is a record in recent years.

Special thanks are due to all who helped by running the dog show, making cakes and jam, donating plants, and bottles and other prizes, running the stalls, making teas and generally helping, and especially to those from outside the village, including members of other churches.

Liz Jones

FROM THE REGISTERS

WEDDING

22nd June, Amanda Topham and David Dobson, Holdgate

FUNERAL

17th July, Doreen Roberts, Telford Crematorium

FLOWERS & BRASSES

AUGUST 2024

4th	Melissa Hartop	11th	Melissa Hartop
18th	Liz Jones	25th	Liz Jones

MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

After a quiet start to the summer at the hall, we will be getting activities back under way shortly. We hope to include a guided walk followed by tea and cake at the village hall. Also we will be repeating our very popular 'Big Breakfast' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support in September. Dates for both of these events to be confirmed. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Lesley Dobson

CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE!

The schedule for the 2024 Corvedale Autumn Show is now available online on the Diddlebury parish website.

With around sixty categories, including sections for cooking, preserves, handicrafts, fruit and vegetables, flowers, and the countryside, there is plenty to tempt keen gardeners and cooks. There are also special categories for under 16s, including Lego, baking and handicrafts. The ever-popular 'Spud-in-a-Bucket' competition is also sure to be keenly contested.

The show is at Diddlebury Village Hall on **Saturday 7th September**, starting at 2pm. If you would like a copy of the schedule emailed to you, contact ross.stokes@icloud.com or see www.diddleburyparish.co.uk/events.

Ross Stokes

PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

Don't forget that we still need photos for our cover page. Send us your photos, from landscapes to local goings-on. We are looking for pictures that capture the essence of living in the Corvedale and surrounding community.

Please send all photos to: photos@corvedalenews.co.uk

CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

IN THE WARS BY DR WAHEED ARIAN

Dr Arian's memoir was written by Caroline North McIlvanney and this is acknowledged by the doctor who states that she has accurately and sympathetically presented the many extraordinary aspects of his life. The book was published in 2021 and it is through this narrative that he wishes 'to inspire others to help to make the world a better place'. He was born in Afghanistan and, fleeing with his family from conflict, he spent much of his early childhood in both Afghanistan and Pakistan, living in extremely basic conditions and surviving serious illnesses. It was through this early firsthand experience of disease and the primitive medical support available at that time that he became interested in medicine and how he could gain enough knowledge and experiences to enable him to eventually help others. This desire to make the world a better place and the constant encouragement he received from his parents has continued to motivate him throughout his remarkable achievements and experiences.

Demonstrating his remarkable resilience and courage he endured being smuggled into the UK and detained in Felton, working through PTSD and studying medicine at Cambridge, Imperial College, and Harvard. He finally became an NHS doctor and radiologist. Throughout this period in his life, he continued to care for the majority of his family members who had stayed in Afghanistan and also a younger brother who had followed him to the UK. In 2015, against many odds, he established Arian Teleheal, a global charity that connects doctors in war torn, low resourced countries to their counterparts in UK, USA, Europe, and Australia. They share their expertise and experience to save lives,

As book group members, we wholeheartedly agreed that we found the book inspirational and almost ran out of words to express our general admiration. We applauded his amazing bravery and determination. We also shared, with some expressions of guilt, how ignorant we were about the history of the conflicts in Afghanistan and the conditions experienced by the majority of the population who fought for survival against poverty and almost constant danger.

There seemed to be a consensus that it was easier to engage with the earlier part of the book in which the social and educational aspects of Waheed's earlier life and the factors that influenced his later extraordinary achievements are discussed. The latter part of the book describes and explores a series of events and provides an opportunity for Waheed to present his ideas and achievements. One that generated discussion was his view on the underestimated value of refugees and how, by opening our hearts to them, we 'can play our part in healing our world.'

Ann Hedges



LOCAL PUB WINS TOP AWARD

The Tally Ho, Bouldon is extremely pleased to announce that it is the winner of the Best Pub in the West Midlands award at The Pub and Bar magazine awards, held in London on 26th June.

Sarah Cowley and Mark Harris are pictured (centre) collecting the award on behalf of The Tally Ho.

CORVEDALE FESTIVAL



3rd Corvedale Festival 20th-28th September 2024

International in Scope – Local in Feel

www.corvedalefestival.org

DON'T MISS THE BUS!

With less than two months to go to the opening of this year's Corvedale Festival, it is all go as we prepare to welcome another selection of fine artists to share their skills with the Corvedale. The festival features both very young musicians from Chetham's School of Music and international artists, including pianist, John Lenehan and The Linarol Consort.

Full details of the programme can be found on the website www.corvedalefestival.org and tickets can be obtained by email at corvedalefestival@gmail.com, by tear off slip from the brochures widely available, online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedalefestival (booking fee applies) or by phone on 07745 825 700.

We would also like to draw your attention to a new feature this year. For concertgoers who would like an alternative to parking in the field near the church for the evening concerts in Munslow, we have organised a minibus shuttle service from the car park at Wildegoose Nursery, Lower Millichope, SY7 9HE to St. Michael's, and back again after the concert. Tickets for this are £4 return with free parking. The numbers are strictly limited and tickets for a specific outward bus must be booked in advance through TicketSource – address as above.

We look forward to welcoming you in September.

Ruth Henley

WILD ABOUT WESTHOPE WINS NATIONAL LOTTERY GRANT



Wild About Westhope is delighted to announce that it has secured a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The grant of £9,300, made possible thanks to National Lottery players, will fund vital work restoring wild areas of Westhope, enable a bird species survey to be conducted, provide facilities for volunteers working to restore wildlife habitat and a website to communicate the valuable work of Wild About Westhope.

Chair of Wild About Westhope, Anne Dyer, said: *'We are delighted to benefit from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, thanks to National Lottery players, and to now have the means to fund so many of our conservation initiatives.'*

Wild About Westhope was established in 2021 to protect and enhance the important flora and fauna in South Shropshire's beautiful Hope Valley.

During the course of the last three years, the group has commenced

work reestablishing areas of woodland to improve habitats and increase the potential for biodiversity especially woodland flora which are in serious decline.

Various activities from woodland planting, meadow preservation, species identification and conservation activities are undertaken by volunteers on a regular basis.

If you would like to get involved, please email:
wildaboutwesthope@gmail.com



CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



So, good news for Shropshire last month when something old, but new to us, was discovered. Did you spot the news that the National Trust at Attingham Park, right in the centre of the county, has discovered a couple of Roman villas within the parkland which makes up a very large site?

The Trust had not been expecting to find anything when it decided to do a huge geophysical survey of the site. The reason for the survey was to start looking at climate-change-aware land use. It was aimed at giving the Trust more knowledge about its land, which covered 1,000 hectares. I am not too good at hectares (or acres for that matter) but I do know it's very big as I have visited the site many times.

These surveys are so clever these days that they could see the floor plans for the villas and their outbuildings. Those who know that part of Shropshire will know that Wroxeter, where lie the remains of a Roman City called Viriconium Cornoviorum, is not too far away. Maybe these villas were on the edge of that town?

But the survey showed more, both earlier and later history. The existence of the Anglo-Saxon hall was already known, but exciting for me is that much more detail is now available, even though it is still underground. Anglo-Saxon England is the age I love, and I am working on an Anglo-Saxon church trail for the Shropshire Churches Tourism Group (SCTG). We

will be able to offer a good coach trip day out and possibly a 5-day holiday break. I still have work to do, but I am encouraged to think there is even more from that era in our county.

And just when you thought that was all, they found some Iron Age farms and a World War II airfield, which was part of Attingham Park for the five years from 1941 to 1946, a base for the United States Air Force. It seems that our county has been inhabited for thousands of years, a history we should be very proud of and protective of all these sites.

So, as the Secretary of SCTG, can I suggest you can find lots of history for the last 1,000 of those years in our church buildings, one in every village! Pick up a brochure from your local ancient building and you will see more than 100 churches with lots of history, the stories of our ancestors. Step through a few of the doors and support those who are caring for these buildings for us all. It's a nice day out too!

Anni Holden Calver

Secretary of Shropshire Churches Tourism Group (SCTG)
www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk

Trustee of Caring for God's Acre
and Churchyard Task Team cheerleader!
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP

PEAR TREE COTTAGE, WITTON HILL, WICHENFORD

After leaving in the rain, the day was kind to us and when we arrived at Pear Tree Cottage we had a warm welcome from the owners, Pamela and Alistair Thompson. Luckily, it turned dry, and later we had sunny weather to explore this remarkably interesting garden. These three-quarter acre gardens are wrapped around the recently reroofed Grade II listed black and white cottage. They are situated in the heart of Bulmer orchard country with wonderful views across Worcestershire towards Abberley Clock Tower. The owners have developed their garden over many years. They are experienced 'plants people' with some lovely combinations of shrubs, roses and herbaceous perennials. There are unusual trees too, including a beautiful Tulip Tree, a Coastal Redwood, Acers, Cotinus - too many to list here.



As you walk into the property there is a pear motif under your feet on the drive and 'pears' appear in many different nooks and crannies of this fascinating garden. There was an abundance of recycled and upcycled items to add interest and quirkiness, without becoming overwhelming. Things are reused in a sensitive and creative fashion. From the terrace around the house itself, gently sloping lawns lead into woodland, a fernery and compost areas around the edge of the property; then onto a series of small garden rooms, an enclosed luxurious chicken area for the four resident hens and a lily pond with newts and native fish. Each section has its own sitting area to make the most of

the views of the garden and beyond. In the productive area of the garden there was an impressive Hartley Botanic greenhouse and vegetable beds full of potatoes, carrots, beans, salads, all thriving. This led to on to the log store. Then there were the sheds and summer houses, for which they have won awards. Such a variety – one devoted to housing their library of garden books, magazines and winning certificates from local shows. An immaculately laid out tool shed, with well organised, clean and oiled tools, which we might all dream of. A potting shed, a shed set up for writing and another one for painting – and a huge conservatory housing three coffee plants with ripening beans. So much to see and take in – I will need to go again. When we needed a break, drinks and delicious cakes were served from the garage; we all found seats in the sun to chat. Alistair joined us to explain more about the garden and to show us the photo books of their developments over the years. The Thompsons richly deserve to have been awarded Midlands Regional Winner of the Nation's Favourite Garden.

Pear Tree Cottage is regularly open through the National Garden Society and offers visits for groups. They also do a summer evening visit with Pimms. In May they had 270 NGS visitors and raised £2,376. They are open again on **25th August** or see their blog www.peartreecottage.me for regular updates on the next project or planting.

On **10th August** garden group members will meet nearer home at Preen Manor, another wonderful garden with beautiful views. Please email Corvedale.Garden.Group@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Cath Burley



VISITS AND TALKS

All distances and times are from The Swan at Aston Munslow. New members welcome. 10am Starts

August 10th

Katy Tanner

Historical garden on former Cluniac Priory Garden rooms, kitchen parterre, formal terraces, woodland walks, specimen trees, fernery, panoramic views.

Preen Manor, Church Preen, SL6 7LQ

22 mins • 10 miles • £12

September 14th

Owen Towndrow

Private visit to late 15th C renowned gardens. Courtyard, Cloister & Vicars Choral Garden, Dean's Garden & Bishop's Garden.

Cathedral Gardens Hereford HR1 2NG

48 mins • 33 miles • £7
Refreshments in cafe

October 12th

Mr & Mrs William Corbett-Winder

5 acre traditional garden, stunning views wide herbaceous borders, box edged rose parterres, formal topiary, woodland garden.

Vaynor Park, Berriew Welshpool, SY21 8QE

46 mins • 29 miles • £6

November 9th

Kevin Alviti

Unusual Fruit and Vegetables
An entertaining speaker with examples of produce.

Diddlebury Village Hall
3 mins • 1.4 miles • £10

NEW ADVERTISER ALERT

Life Story Writer

Page 23

CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

VANITY, ALL IS VANITY...I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LOOK A PICKAXE IN THE EYE AGAIN!

Shortly before writing this piece for our wonderful local magazines I made two visits to Hartlebury in Worcestershire where, as you may know, there is a 'castle'. In truth it doesn't look much like a castle, the place being mostly transformed from its mediaeval origins by successive bishops of Worcester. We, as a family, made several visits to the archaeological dig on a hill adjacent to the castle. I'm not going to describe here

Dig
Hartlebury

what it was all about (it's a bit too complicated to do it justice) but if you Google 'Dig Hartlebury' and look at the Facebook page you will see interesting explanations and spectacular aerial photography. If you don't know how to do that, please

give me a ring and I will try to talk you through it.

We've had many civil wars in this country, but one of them we call '**The Civil War**,' and with good reason. We know so much more about it than earlier civil disasters because by the 17th century printing was a mass industry (this, incidentally, probably means we grossly underestimate the burden of human misery in earlier conflicts on English soil).

In the bloody and bitter struggle between Parliament and Crown it is reckoned that some 6% of the population of the country died. Proportionally, this is a comfortably higher national mortality rate than for the First World War: that's how bad this tearing apart of the nation was.

The vast majority of things written about the English Civil War is on political and military topics: fair enough, this is fascinating and hugely informative of our past. I've noticed that there is now, though, also a lot of interest in the social aspects of the war, hitherto largely neglected. For instance, there is now a civil war pensions project (www.civilwarpetitions.ac.uk/discoveries-of-the-civil-war-petitions-project/).

In brief, what our son Tim discovered in the hot summer of 2022 was a huge defensive structure, a 'bastion', which would be hard to fit into two of the proverbial football pitches laid side by side. Last year we got a real sense of the colossal ditch that surrounded this structure, but this year we got astonishing detail.

When we arrived a lot of the work had already been done, and the three-metre-deep ditch had been excavated in a stepwise progression to its base. Remarkably, if not uniquely,



the ditch was bounded by a walkway and the massive post holes dug to accommodate the timbers which supported this were excavated.



What really struck me was the detail on the side wall of the ditch – you could see the blooming pick marks! All of it was dug by men (and perhaps women) with hand tools, pickaxes and the like! It's thought this was achieved within a few months, fashioning the ditch, wooden superstructure and bastion.

Consider: 17th century Worcestershire was a country which had not lost its medieval clothing. It was a land of small, isolated farms, woodland, heath and common, straggling villages with 'ends': what is known as 'ancient' countryside in a land-historical sense.

The hinterland of the castle must have suffered a colossal haemorrhage of people and resources to build this monumental structure. Fields would have been left untilled or unharvested, huge woods obliterated, and vast areas stripped of turf (stone was no defence against ordnance but a turf wall would stop a cannon ball). Beasts must have been left untended and small family farms nearby abandoned while the country was bled dry to feed the vast army of workers.

The result of all this effort was... well nothing much at all, it seems. History suggests that the castle was surrendered to Parliamentary forces by the royal garrison near the end of the war without a shot being fired on either side. The archaeology thus far seems to back this up. It seems the bastion likely was never used purposefully.

Peter Cornah, 01584 823 858 or 07786 232 434

PS: I am starting to put some recommendations for viewing and listening to talks from last month's Groundswell Festival on villageadamandeve.uk – Talks and Discussions section. It was tremendous and issues that bounced up are vital to the kind of future humankind is going to have!



3rd Corvedale Festival 20th-28th September 2024

International in Scope – Local in Feel

www.corvedalefestival.org



“...the Festival has established itself as a significant event in the musical and artistic life of Shropshire.”

(David Matthews, Composer & Festival Patron)



TALLY HO INN



OPENING TIMES

WED - 6 - 10PM

THURS/FRI - 12 - 3PM, 6 - 11PM

SAT 12 - 11PM

SUN 12 - 8PM

CONTACT US

WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK

01584 841830



NEWS FROM THE CORVEDALE DIVISION

The Labour Party's large majority in the General Election has changed the face of politics throughout the country and Shropshire is no exception. We now have a Labour member, Julia Buckley, in Shrewsbury, an increased majority for Lib Dem Helen Morgan in North Shropshire and a new Conservative member, Stuart Anderson, succeeding Philip Dunne in the new South Shropshire constituency. Longstanding Conservative member Mark Pritchard retained his seat in the Wrekin whilst Labour's Shaun Davies took the Telford seat.

We wait to see what the new Government has in store for us, particularly in the rural counties. There have been announcements about providing more homes and plans are already emerging to achieve a major increase in housebuilding. We also know that onshore wind turbines, discouraged under the Conservatives, will now be allowed, and from past experience this may be an issue which particularly affects the rural areas.

From a Local Government perspective we will be looking to the new Government to recognise and redress the financial problems affecting councils which are buckling under the strain of caring for our elderly population, supporting children's services, and providing housing for the homeless. Shropshire is not alone in experiencing higher levels of demand for elderly and children's care, but it is a fact that south Shropshire has a higher proportion of over-65s and over-85s than the national average, or its statistical neighbours. Governments to date have failed to rise to the challenge of determining how we pay for our elderly to live comfortable and fulfilling lives with appropriate care. It is a particular concern for our rural elderly who have limited access to transport, have to travel longer distances to medical facilities, often suffer from inadequate housing, poor broadband and, for the local authority, difficulty in recruiting sufficient qualified healthcare workers.

'Levelling up' is a policy which looks likely to be adopted by the new government but to date many rural authorities have been passed over in their applications for government funding for infrastructure projects. This must change. We need to make our case to government with renewed vigour, to impress upon them that vibrant rural economies bring huge benefits to the national economy.

We hope this government will work with rural authorities and business leaders to ensure that our rural areas benefit from investment to enable the growth of economically productive areas, encouraging new enterprises and innovation whilst valuing and investing in existing longstanding businesses such as farming, agritech, and the food and drink industry. The Shropshire Council Administration will work collaboratively with all our county MPs to achieve improvements for Shropshire and see what we can achieve.

Finally, I am sure you will be pleased to know that following public consultation (which attracted over 18,000 responses!) and discussions with our contractors, Veolia, Shropshire Council has decided that none of the county's Household Recycling Centres should be closed permanently. However, they will all close one day per week (either Wednesday or Thursday, which are the two slowest days) and a booking system will be introduced to help reduce queues. The other decision was that those people requiring a green waste bin should be asked to pay £56 per bin per annum to have it collected. This brings Shropshire into line with around 80% of other local authorities



Cecilia Motley, Corvedale Division Councillor, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health

A SPLASH OF LIFE

At this time of year access to water can sometimes become a problem for wildlife. Providing water in our gardens, churchyards or other types of outdoor areas is not only beneficial for the animals themselves but can also enrich our own contact with nature.

Water is crucial for maintaining the health of wildlife. It aids in digestion, regulates body temperature, and helps in the overall metabolic processes of animals. Regular access to clean water can prevent dehydration, reduce stress, and assists the resilience of wildlife to local environmental challenges. And it isn't just for drinking – newts, frogs and toads use water as shelter and breeding grounds. Butterflies gather valuable salts and minerals from slightly muddy water, and birds need water to bathe in and remove parasites.

A simple water source can attract a variety of species - creating a vibrant and lively place.

THREE TIPS FOR PROVIDING WATER:

Keep it Clean:

Regularly clean and refill water dishes to prevent the spread of disease.

Add Variety:

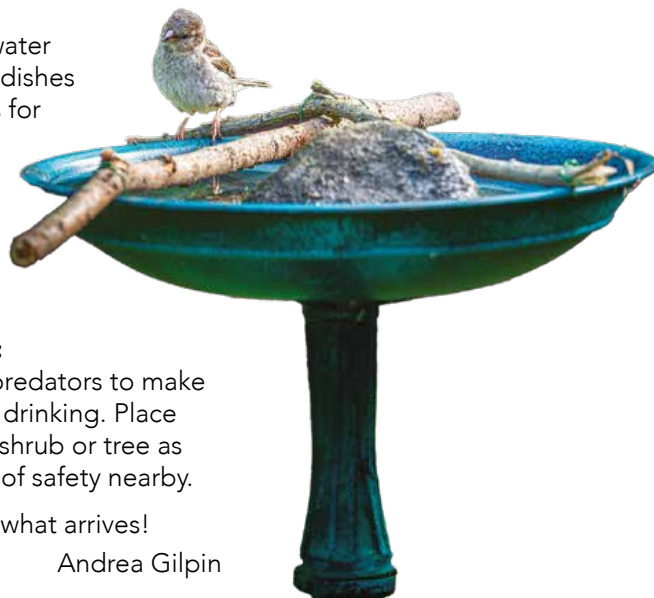
Offer different types of water sources, such as shallow dishes for insects, deeper baths for birds, or sunken sinks for larger animals. Provide shallow edges to all water sources so anything that falls in can get back out.

Choose the Right Spot:

Find a place away from predators to make wildlife feel secure while drinking. Place water for birds near to a shrub or tree as they like to have a place of safety nearby.

Then sit back and watch what arrives!

Andrea Gilpin



CORVEDALE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



I remember writing in the February issue of Corvedale News that I had taken the decision to retire and 'stop before the job stops me'. I spoke too soon! At the start of June, I felt unwell with what I first thought was a result of 'overdoing it one Sunday afternoon in the garden.' A few days later, feeling worse, I visited the doctor and rather quickly found myself admitted to hospital feeling very poorly and having lots of tests. Thanks to my GP at Craven Arms, the medical staff at The Royal Shrewsbury hospital and the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt hospital in Gobowen, I was diagnosed with a condition called temporal arteritis or giant cell arteritis and fortunately, I responded to treatment quickly. My recovery time however is months as opposed to weeks and, although I am beginning to feel a little like my normal self again, any return to work before my retirement was thought ill-advised by my doctor. So, retirement has come early!

I was so looking forward to my last half term as the headteacher of Corvedale Primary School & Nursery. I was devastated not to go with Class 3 on their residential trip to Manorbier and I'm glad to report they had a wonderful time. Have a look at the gallery on the school website for some wonderful photographs of the trip. Thankfully, the school didn't fall apart in my absence. We have such an amazing staff team who have been more than capable of carrying on without me. The governing body has stepped up and been incredibly supportive to me and the rest of the staff, as has the local authority.

From 1st September I will be handing over the keys and the responsibility of managing the school to Mr Neil Davda. Neil

is already a successful Headteacher whose aim initially is to carry on with the existing ethos and framework that exists in the school and then, with the staff, to move on to improve it where opportunities exist to do so. He is eager to start, and I send my absolute best wishes to him.

Over the summer holidays the school will have a new surface added to the adventure playground financed by the Diddlebury parish council. Everyone at school is incredibly grateful for this as it will mean the facility is accessible all year round. Another important development over the holidays will be the refurbishment of the toilets in the school. This is something that we have sought to have done right through my tenure as headteacher. Finally, we have received the financial support from the diocese to fund this project. This will mean the original 1980s boys and girls toilets will be completely removed and brand-new facilities installed. Someone did suggest a memorial plaque in each loo in my honour... I declined!

Finally, as this will be my last article as Headteacher of Corvedale Primary School and Nursery I would like to finish by saying what a privilege it has been to serve the community of the Corvedale for the past nine years. I have genuinely loved every minute (well, almost every minute!) and with the help of my incredible staff, the governing body and not forgetting, most importantly, the children, created some happy and lasting memories.

Jonathan Brough, Headteacher

JONATHAN BROUGH'S RETIREMENT

It is with mixed feelings that we say goodbye to our Headteacher, Jonathan Brough, who has led the school for the last nine years and has shaped it, with his team, into the successful school it is now. Under Jonathan's leadership, the school recently had another remarkably successful Ofsted inspection which has reaffirmed our family ethos and our strengths as a GOOD school. Since the school took over the nursery it has been built up and is now thriving. This year's Key Stage 1 and 2 results remain good and reflect the Ofsted comment that the school has high expectations of pupils. The curriculum is ambitious and has been carefully considered to take account of mixed-age classes. As the main Year 6 teacher Jonathan must take the credit for the particularly good KS2 results and, overall, as the Headteacher, for the school's achievements. He particularly showed his strengths during the COVID crisis managing the ever-changing scenarios imposed on the school to lessen their impact on the children. Over the years he has introduced several new activities to the school, amongst them the rowing club and trips to Wilderhope Manor and to Manorbier. He has received consistent, positive feedback from parents in our annual Parental Questionnaire, rating his leadership and management of the school along with the care shown to the pupils as good or excellent. Feedback from pupils and staff in their questionnaires highlight their enjoyment and appreciation of the ethos that has been created within the school.

Jonathan has not had the last half term he hoped for due to him contracting a serious virus which has kept him away from school for what would have been an enjoyable wind-down to his long teaching career. The fact that during his unfortunate illness the school was able to function as normal is a tribute to his leadership. The mark of any successful leader is that the enterprise continues to function well when they're not there. We must give huge thanks to all the staff for the way they collectively stepped up to cover for Mr Brough during his illness, which also reflected the high esteem in which they hold him.

Of course we will be sorry to see him go, but he goes with our warmest wishes for a long and happy retirement and with our thanks for all his hard work over the last nine years. I've had the privilege and enjoyment of working alongside Jonathan during his time as Headteacher as his Chair of Governors and I can fully appreciate all that he has brought to the school. Hopefully, we will be able to say a proper farewell to him when he has fully recovered. He will however attend the Leavers' Ceremony to say goodbye to the children.

His successor, Mr Neil Davda, is already a successful Headteacher whose aim initially is to carry on with the existing ethos and framework that exists in the school and then, with the staff, to move on to improve it where opportunities exist to do so. He will introduce himself to the community in September.

David Hedgley on behalf of the Governing Body

DIDDLEBURY AND WESTHOPE WI

For our July meeting we headed to *Wall Flowers Seasonal Blooms* based at East Wall tucked under the sheltered edge of Wenlock Edge. You can imagine what lovely views it has from the two-acre flower field and a pretty area it was to visit. Meeting in the car park (the Satnav is not to be relied upon!) on a slightly breezy and cool summer evening, we were met and warmly welcomed by Clare. A short walk down the lane took us to the flower field - smaller than you might imagine considering it works so hard to provide wedding flowers, host workshops and visits and even some dates for picking your own, what a lovely concept! It was a mass of colour and interest.

Clare Greener and Andrew Henderson, at the beginning of lockdown in 2020, decided to follow a dream to start a flower garden. Both from farming backgrounds, they have a deep appreciation and respect for their environment and welcome the birds and other wildlife to their field, though have some fencing to discourage the rabbits and deer from feasting on the flowers! Hedges have been planted to shelter the site and the last beds are still being worked on for roses and other flowers as their business develops. They use a 'no dig' system and a lot of cardboard and have created an enchanting space in which to wander and admire. Closer to their home are beds brimming with flowers that mice love to feast on and Merlyn, their cat, does a sterling job of protecting specialty tulips and other blooms.

We admired the flowers in such glorious colour and shades and asked many questions as well as making mental notes of what to go home and plant ourselves. I think another visit may be required as I have already forgotten my choices! We finished a lovely visit having tea and delicious homemade cake in a floral marquee which warmed us all up nicely. Thank you, Pat, for the suggestion to include the garden visit in our programme. A fitting way to celebrate summer and to also bring home beautiful bouquets of flowers should you wish.

Our next gathering will be in August, hosted by one of our members in her garden with good food and lots of chat and a hopefully sunny evening. As always, if anyone would like to come along to our meetings either as a visitor for the evening or to join as a member you would be very welcome. Visitor fee is £2. Please do ring Joy Williams our secretary if you would like any further information on 01584 861 301.

Jayne Disley

HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

Our meeting in July opened with news from the latest Shropshire Federation WI (SFWI) newsletter and highlighted forthcoming county WI events. Our branch's Big Green Book Swap display will be the focus for our table at the Shropshire Federation WI Day, open to all members and the general public to come along to 'celebrate and support, in style, all things WI', in the beautiful Shrewsbury Abbey on **Saturday 14th September**, from 10am to 4pm. Earlier, in June, our Big Green Book Swap stall was set up in the grounds of The Ludlow Farm Shop where a number of members encouraged passers-by to come over and see the secondhand books

available to take away. The tables were filled with many books of all kinds, donated by branch members and friends, to pass on or give away to the passers-by for either a small donation, or in some cases for nothing at all, which, I must say, all the passing kids loved! By the end of this event, we had raised a significant amount of donations to give to our nominated local charity, *Hands Together*, in Ludlow. We were delighted to have taken part in a national festival of fun, where the focus was on doing something 'green' for the good of everyone, but we were also able to give some financial assistance to a local charity – just what the WI is all about!

Once all branch business had been concluded we welcomed our speaker for the evening, Claire Tatler, along with husband Phil, to give us her talk on gardening in historic places and to explain her own learning and later experiences as a professional gardener working in a number of stately homes. Claire started becoming interested in gardening when she had an allotment of her own while working as a Social Worker. She loved the idea of gardening so much she decided to become a volunteer at the National Trust's Attingham Park, long before its current kitchen garden was developed. There she learned about the Women's Farm Gardeners' Association which eventually became WRAGS, the Women Returners to Amenity Gardening Scheme, and took the opportunity to train with them. After she completed her training, Claire got the job to become a trainee gardener at Combermere Abbey in Whitchurch with its 1500 acres - a lucky and incredibly happy first role. Her career there lasted over seven years, moving from Trainee Gardener to Assistant Head Gardener where she met and worked with husband Phil, Head Gardener. She then became Head Gardener in two roles, one for the National Trust and another at Elton Hall, near Ludlow, but in Elton Hall she was a sole gardener, meaning she worked with the family living there to help develop a garden that had been overlooked for many years: a completely different role to all her other roles. Throughout her presentation, Claire told us about the work she undertook in each role, explaining how many of the tasks that professional gardeners do behind the scenes are a little bit different to the tasks we do in our own gardens! A fascinating, highly recommended talk.

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 12th September** at 7:30pm with a talk and demonstration of Basketry by Sophie Francis. Meetings are held at *Stanton Lacy Village Hall, Hayton's Bent, SY8 2AT*.

For further information, please feel free to get in touch with Phyllis Steventon, Branch President on 01584 823 436 or our Branch Secretary at hayton.district.wi@gmail.com in advance or have a chat with them at the meeting.

Louise Gough

MUNSLOW WI

Our July meeting was an open meeting, advertised locally. Our speaker for the evening was Bernard O'Connor, a local historian. Bernard has written a number of books, many of them based locally. I am sure that we might well be hearing more of his talks in the future.

He gave us a fascinating talk about Training Secret Agents during World War II, particularly the training of women. As part of Bernard's description of how secret agents were trained, he mentioned that there was a film produced at the time called *SOE's School for Danger* which provides insights into the training. This can be viewed on YouTube. He explained the differences between spies and secret agents and of how important it was for secret agents to be

both fluent in the language and have the ability of fitting into the local community wherever they were sent. Secret Agents were trained in all aspects of combat and also trained to parachute out of an aircraft, as this was one of the most common ways of infiltrating the country. Many questions were put to Bernard who answered them in great detail. An excellent meeting overall.

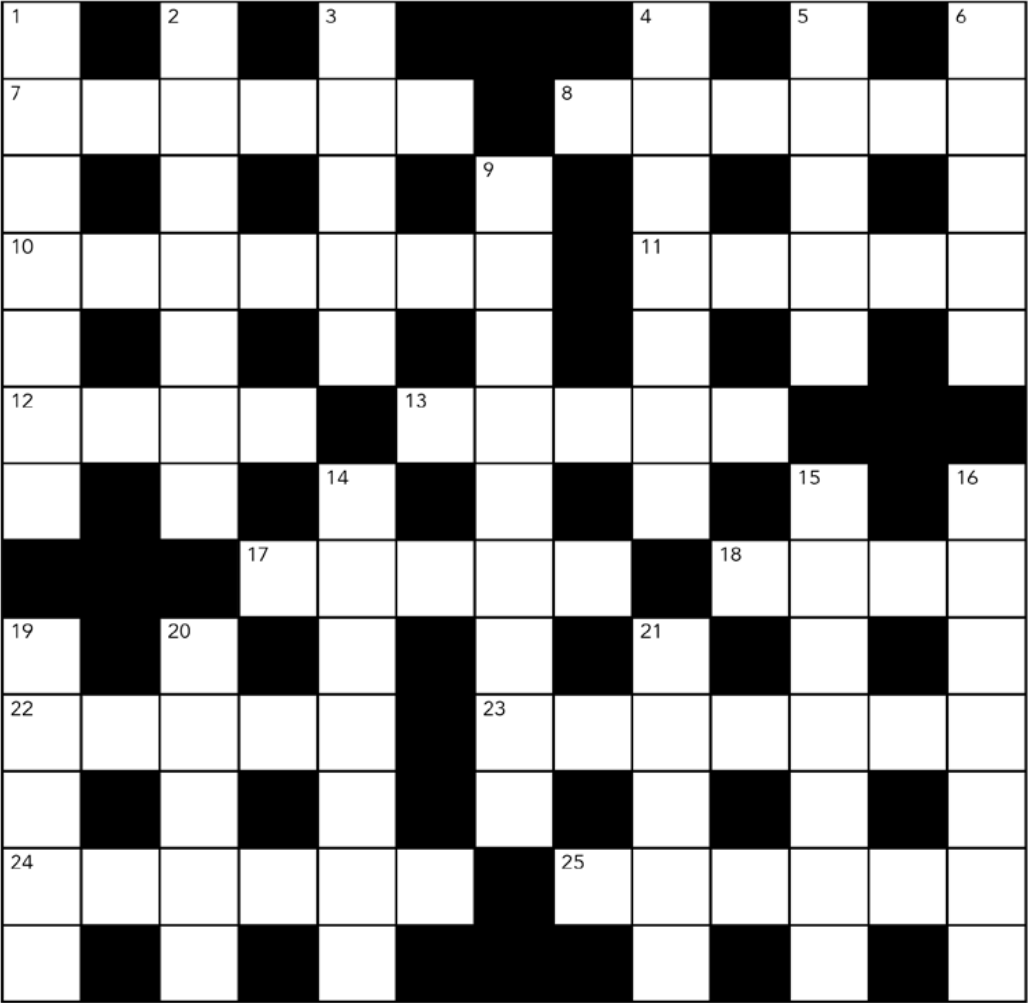
Good refreshments were had as usual and plenty of chat took place. Our next meeting is a trip to Attingham Park in August.

Barbara Archer

AUGUST CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword can be found on page 22 in this edition of the magazine.



ACROSS

- 7) Throws out the civets? (6)
- 8) Being above the party can be excessive (6)
- 10) I'm Paul R hiding in the flower bed (7)
- 11) Wants something that sounds like bread making (5)
- 12) Urges the birds to lay them (4)
- 13) Dread finding this reptile (5)
- 17) High rising bird? (4)
- 18) He chose part of the feedback (4)
- 22) Push the fourth estate (5)
- 23) Take back the broken miracle (7)
- 24) Praises the old road tax by the sound of it (6)
- 25) Stripe put around the vicar? (6)

DOWN

- 1) Short term worker Edward had an Inclination (7)
- 2) Inside of clothes might be white on the road (7)
- 3) Proudly walk with support (5)
- 4) A location Sheila had may be tree-lined (7)
- 5) Does a bit of an ogre engage an environmentalist? (5)
- 6) Behold, the States (east side) find the insect (5)
- 9) Reds' anger can produce outdoor creatives (9)
- 14) Very French – let it make the table (7)
- 15) A little bit of the late queen can clean the boots (7)
- 16) Go to work to reduce the penalty (7)
- 19) Above part of the evening meal (5)
- 20) Alien lad meet at the river's mouth (5)
- 21) The middle of Loch Rennie is full of pigment (5)

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 2ND JULY 2024

Members: Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Chair), Mr A Pike (Vice Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs M Holland and Mr I Steele.

In Attendance: Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs C Byng, Ms J Mear and Mr J Turley.

Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting: None.

Public Involvement Session: A member of the public wished to make comment on the planning application relating to 6 The Laundry. He was concerned that the property, which already had a garage, was applying to build a second garage with a ground floor of 54m² and an upper storey. In his view it would be unnecessarily large. The property already has a cesspit and he was concerned that a sewage treatment system included in these plans would be for a garage. He felt this was a 'back door' way of building a house in an area where house building is very restricted.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th June 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

Reports: *Shropshire Council* - Cllr Motley reported that once the General Election was over the council would be dealing with the same issues as before. She would like to get the Chairs and Clerks for the Corvedale together in September to look at the future of rural areas. She had received a letter of complaint from the Holiday Property Bond at Norton regarding the poor state of footpaths in the area and would respond to them. There were issues with footpaths in the area of Norton Camp which might be insurmountable. Cllr Pike would review the paths with Mr Jeff Williams as part of the P3 group.

Village Hall Committee - Cllr Mear reported that there would be a busy few months ahead. The D-Day celebrations had been very well supported and she thanked Mr Peter Lines and Mr Mark Griffiths for their restoration of the beacon. There was a new yoga class starting on 3rd July at 6pm. The team was busy marketing the hall and fundraising for the new extension.

Highways: The new Vehicle Activated Sign at the northern end of the village was due to be installed at the end of July.

As Seifton Brook would not be desilted this year the application would be made in May next year aiming at the three-year licence beginning on 1st July 2025.

The highways engineer did not consider that clearing the ditch would improve the issue of standing water on Seifton Lane.

A site history report on the manhole cover and damaged road

surface on Seifton Lane had been reviewed by Councillors. The Highways Engineer would be asked to check if the drain leading away from the manhole was blocked. The repair was in Shropshire Council's plan of work for this financial year.

Due to financial pressures Shropshire Council had cut the Environmental Maintenance Grant to all Parish and Town Councils by 50% this financial year. This would not impact Environmental Maintenance for this year but would in the following financial year. It was agreed to ask Cllr Motley to inform Shropshire Council that Culmington Parish Council would like to see the full grant reinstated in the next financial year.

Planning: 24/02100/FUL: 6 The Laundry, Seifton, SY8 2DH. Erection of 3 bay garage with office/storage above, installation of new treatment plant, new discharge pipe to connect to ditch on agricultural land. Applicant: Mrs Jeanette Price.

It was agreed to object on the following grounds: a. access to the site b. need for an additional garage c. excessive size for a garage for the size of property d. need for a sewage treatment plant for a garage e. outflow from the sewage treatment plant f. tree preservation orders in place g. no plan for rerouting footpath during works.

Emergency Officer: This was deferred to the next meeting.

Empty Housing Association Property: Connexus had not yet decided whether to refurbish or sell the property. The Council's view that it favoured retaining it as a rental property had been recorded by Connexus.

Blocked Bridleway: Shropshire Council was working with the landowner to clear the blockage on both the bridleway and footpath.

Finance: Cllrs Pike, Alderson, Mear, Watts and Turley would remain as signatories for cheques (two signatories required) and Cllrs Pike, Alderson, Mear, and H Coonick (Clerk) for online bank (three signatories required).

As of the 10th June 2024 the Bank Accounts held £13,163.50 with income of £8,274.32 and Expenditure of £4,924.73 (which includes the vehicle activated sign).

Cllrs Holland and Seabrook signed the bank reconciliation as correct.

Payments were authorised to: H Coonick (reimburse for domain and software) £35.37, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £8.00.

Items for the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 3rd September 2024: a. emergency officer b. update on the blocked bridleway.

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MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY 2024

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer (Chair), Nigel Dobson and Graham Williams. In attendance: H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Val Fotheringham, David Marston, Chris Meeson and Ed Povey; Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).

Declarations of Interest: None.

Public Forum: No members of the public were in attendance.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th June 2024 were approved and signed by the Chair.

Changing the date of Meetings: It was agreed to permanently change the day of meetings to the first Wednesday in the month, with no meetings in August or January.

Co-option of New Councillors: Mr Richard Wilks was co-opted. There was still one vacancy for a councillor.

Reports: *Chair's Report* – Cllr Archer reported that there would be

a South Shropshire Area Committee meeting the following week, which she would attend and report on at the September Parish Council meeting.

Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley had sent her apologies.

Highways: The two mobile and one static vehicle activated signs were working well. Operation SNAP was leading to prosecutions for traffic related offences in the parish. It was agreed to purchase two new vehicle activated signs at a total of £4,400 plus VAT which would be funded jointly by the Council's precept and the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner grant.

Environmental Maintenance Grant: This had been reduced by 50% due to budget cuts. This would be accepted but the Clerk would write to Shropshire Council complaining about the reduction.

The Environmental Maintenance Contractor would concentrate on cutting back verges on corners but was not allowed to work on the B4368, which was the responsibility of Shropshire Council. Members of the public can report issue on the B4368 to Shropshire Council via 'Fix My Street' on the internet.

Finance: The new Financial Regulations were adopted.

As at 18th June 2024 the expenditure was £1,490.52 and income

was £8,820.24. The budget was satisfactory.

As at 13th May 2024 the bank account held £18,391.40. This was agreed and Cllr Williams would sign the bank reconciliation as correct.

It was agreed that Cllrs Archer, Povey and Dobson would be signatories. Cllrs Archer and Povey were also online banking signatories.

Payments were authorised to: H Coonick (Clerk) reimbursement for software (shared cost with three other parishes) £16.65, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) inv 534 £72.00.

Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Wednesday 4th September 2024 at Munslow Village Hall: None.

Minutes and Agendas are available on www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk or from the Clerk on munslowpc@gmail.com or 07817 607355

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE 2024 AT WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllrs S Povall, R Morgan, T Pardoe, A Watson, A Rattu, T O'Boyle.

Apologies: Cllrs R Povall and C Martyn.

In attendance: The Clerk, Shropshire Councillor C Motley and five members of the public.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, which was then followed by a Parish Council meeting on 22nd May 2024, were approved by councillors and four Matters Arising were considered.

Reports: *The Chairman* reported that the owner of Jack's Cottage, Bache Mill, told him that, with the agreement of some neighbours, he was hoping to convert an unused area to create a car parking space. This would involve digging out a bank. He was seeking planning permission. There had been problems in Bouldon with the intermittent failure of Broadband, which he had taken up with the Broadband providers. He had represented the parish council at Sally Woodhouse's funeral.

Shropshire Councillor Motley advised that following legal advice she was unable to provide a report on SC's activities due to the imminent General Election. Much work at SC and all committee meetings had been postponed and would result in massive re-scheduling after the 5th July.

Broadband Report: Cllr Rattu advised that VONEOS had taken over from SWS and had been awarded the government funding contract to deliver the Project Gigabit Broadband to South Shropshire, including the hard to reach places such as Westhope and Middlehope. They had carried out mapping and had access to funding. The voucher scheme had been withdrawn. Their funding included new antennas where necessary. Mr Brooks said he had tried and tried to contact VONEOS about his connection, but they never respond. All communication had to be conducted through a webchat, to which they never respond, and it was impossible to contact them direct. Cllr. Motley suggested DPC should talk with neighbouring parish councillors to see if their parishioners had had the same issues and take the matter up collectively with VONEOS. The Council could invite VONEOS to a future meeting to explain how they intended to spend the government funding in the Corvedale parishes.

Westhope Village Hall Report: Mrs Worthington thanked all who had contributed to the success of the recent centenary celebration, attended by around 90 people. A carved stone plaque commemorating the centenary would soon be installed. Bookings for community and fundraising events were good, although hampered in June due to the road works. Work on the flooring was the next priority.

Diddlebury Village Hall Report: Cllr S Povall advised that as the DVH committee meetings were held during his working hours he was unable to attend them, but he could report that the pizza evening had been very successful and the committee was discussing the possibility of an EV charging point. The Chairman noted it was good to see that both village halls were thriving and being well supported by the community.

Planning Applications:

24/01809/OUT – an outline application for the erection of a single dwelling and garage (to include access) on land adjacent to The Sun Inn, Corfton.

As DPC had passed a Resolution on 23rd January 2019 that it would not support any further open market housing development in Corfton, it was unable to support this application.

24/02102/TCA – An application for tree works, as per a schedule, within the Diddlebury Conservation Area, at The Old Vicarage, Diddlebury. As none of the trees were subject to TPO's, DPC supported the application.

24/01977/FUL – an application for change of use, from ancillary annexe to open market rental accommodation, at Lydehole Farm, Mulberry Lane. Upper Hayton, Ludlow. DPC supported this application.

24/02080/FUL – an application for the development of 10 shepherd's huts for wedding accommodation, in the Walled Garden, Delbury Hall, Diddlebury. DPC supported this application.

Highways/Environmental Issues: Mrs Worthington asked if the road repairs in Westhope, which currently terminate at the college, would continue up towards Burwood. Residents of Hillside Coppice, the development of which contributed a large amount of CIL money to SC, were dismayed at the state of the road between the college and Hillside Coppice. DPC would make enquiries of Highways.

Cllr Watson Congratulated SC: She had called one morning about a dangerous tree on the Bache Mill side of the B4368, and by lunch time they had felled and removed the tree. The contractors were submitting a report on other trees which they considered needed felling.

Communications and Correspondence: Nine items were considered and responded to as necessary. The response from Connexus about the empty houses in Mill Lane was considered to be wholly inadequate and they would again be asked to attend a meeting to explain the long delay in refurbishing and re-letting these houses.

Public Access Playground: The Chairman reported that the fencing had been completed and the laying of the rubber mulch surface would commence on 15th July. Complaints had been received about the siting of the new picnic bench. Cllr Pardoe said he had had to site it there as it was the only level space. When the rubber mulch had been laid he would move the bench away from the trees/birds.

Finance Matters: The Finance Report for June 2024 was considered and cheques totalling £594.06 were approved for payment, after which DPC held funds totalling £33,221.15, of which third party funds comprised £928.46. Cllr O'Boyle verified the reconciliation between DPC's cash book and HSBC's bank statement.

The new set of Financial Regulations was considered by councillors, approved and adopted.

Any Other Business: No matters were raised.

The next Parish Council meeting would be on Wednesday 24th July, 7.15pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.

Agendas and full copies of the minutes can be viewed on the Diddlebury Parish Council website www.diddleburyparish.co.uk or obtained from the Clerk, Mrs J de Rusett at No 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH, Tel: 01547 519282, diddleburypc@outlook.com

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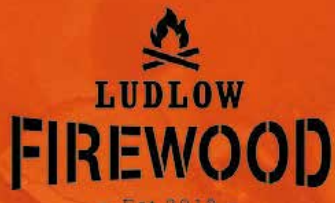
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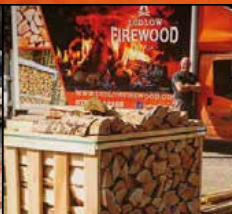


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Abdon & Heath Parish Clerk
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Diddlebury Parish Website
www.diddleburyparish.co.uk

Corvedale Google Group
This is a free service and issues purely local information such as road closures, flood warnings, planning applications, local events and so on to its members on a regular basis. If you would like to join this service, please email Martin Jones: martinggc@gmail.com

VILLAGE HALL/CLUB ROOM BOOKINGS

Abdon Village Hall
Margaret Buckingham, 01746 712296,
www.abdonandheathparish.org,
abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

Munslow Village Hall
Frances Sutton, 01584 841654
Peter Turner, pturner767@msn.com

Culmington Village Hall
Avril Lines, 01584 861 339
culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com

Diddlebury Village Hall
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org
Hall booking enquiries:
bookdvh@gmail.com
General information:
diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com
WhatsApp/text/phone:
07396 730342

Diddlebury Church Room
Jan Kennedy, 01584 841372,
jan_kennedy@icloud.com

Westhope Village Hall
Betty Manley, 07860 447397,
mbm3049@icloud.com

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Abdon Wildlife Group
Miles Leach, 07810 810400,
milesleach712@gmail.com

Blue Hills Choir
Ros Crouch, 01584 547385,
ros.crouch@gmail.com

Corvedale Artists
Juliet Hole, 01299 832603
Ann Hankinson, 01584 841460

Corvedale Book Group
corvedale.book.group@gmail.com

Corvedale Choir
Ros Crouch, 01584 547 385,
ros.crouch@gmail.com

Corvedale & District Autumn Show
John Woodhouse, 07980 207253

Corvedale Folk Club
Ian Fotheringham, 01584 841331

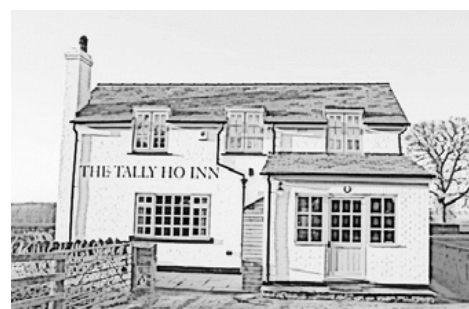
Corvedale Garden Group
Cath Burley,
cathburley@hotmail.com

Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group
Jenny Vine, 01584 841596,
jvcedarwood@hotmail.co.uk

Community Environmental Group
Rebecca Bull,
peter17bull@btinternet.com

Westhope Clover Club
Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841254

If you represent a local Corvedale group and would like it to be added to this list, please contact the Editor.



CONTACTS



THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

CHURCH SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2024

	4TH AUGUST Trinity 10	11TH AUGUST Trinity 11	18TH AUGUST Trinity 12	25TH AUGUST Trinity 13	1ST SEPTEMBER Trinity 14
ABDON		9:45 HC		6pm Compline	
BROADSTONE			8:30 HC		
CULMINGTON	11:15 HC		6pm Songs of Praise	8:30am HC	11:15 HC
DIDDLEBURY	9:45 HC	6pm EP	11:15 HC	11:15 FS	9:45 HC
HOLDGATE	8:30 HC				8:30 HC
MUNSLOW	6pm EP	11:15 HC		9:45 HC	6pm EP
TUGFORD			9:45 HC		

Key: HC = Holy Communion, EP = Evensong, FS = Family Service