THE Corvedale's Community Magazine



COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT

citizens

advice

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

NAME

On the web: www.citizensadvice.org.uk



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.**

ADDRESS

PHILIP DUNNE

Member of Parliament for the Ludlow Constituency

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP

Tel: 01584 872 187 Fax: 01584 876 345

Email: philip.dunne.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;

AREA SERVED

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192

More useful contacts can be found on page 31

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COPY FOR MARCH 2024 MAGAZINE

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

2. Your Corvedale News distributor:

Hand your cash or cheque over to your distributor.

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

OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2023

If you have not yet paid your subscription for 2023, please do so IMMEDIATELY, using one of the methods above. 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

Rev'd John S Beesley St Michael's Rectory Munslow SY7 9EU

Tel: (01584) 841488 revjbeesley@gmail.com

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Canon Christopher Walsh St Peter's RC Church Henley Road, Ludlow SY8 1OZ

Tel: (01584) 872906

st.peters.ludlow@talktalk.net

METHODIST CHAPEL

Craven Arms: for service times and ministers, please contact the Shropshire and Marches Circuit Office

Tel: (01743) 874923

circuitoffice2803@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 2024

WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE



Baby and toddler group

Every Monday 10-12 term time

£2.50 per family

Baby area Toddler area Ride ons Craft activities Song time And lots more



Diddlebury Village Hall 👑



Find us on Facebook Mini Moos baby and toddler group



Weekly Whist Drives



Every Monday All ages and abilities welcome

> Doors open 7pm Start 7:15pm

£3 to include half time refreshments

Westhope Village Hall SY7 9JL



CORVEDALE **BOOK GROUP**

Corvedale Book Group welcomes new members! It costs less than £5 a month to cover room hire fees and Shropshire Library loan fees.

For the first six months of the year, we will be choosing books selected by group members. Then we will be discussing books selected from the annual library list.

Please contact cathburley@hotmail.com if you would like to join us.

Second Thursday of the month 7.30pm - 9pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th February





Corvedale Folk Club

at The Seven Stars, Broadstone on Monday 26th February at 7.30pm

All are welcome to perform or listen to and enjoy acoustic music, recitations and story-telling.

Meetings will be the 4th Monday of each month

For further information contact Ian on 01584 841 331 or email ianfotheringham@btinternet.com

CORVEDALE FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE GROUP

Working parties are usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month and the following Friday and Sunday, beginning at 9.30am. Please ring Jenny Vine on 01584 841596 to confirm work location. If any local walkers in the Corvedale notice any stiles or steps in poor condition, please report back to Jenny. The current planned dates are as follows:

FEBRUARY: Wed 21st, Fri 23rd, Sun 25th



WHO? We are a mixed voice choir based in the Corvedale who began singing together in 2010. Our Musical Director is Ros Crouch, well known for her leadership of several choirs in the area

WHAT? We sing an eclectic mix of harmony songs with a supportive, friendly and fun group of local people

WHERE? Diddlebury Village Hall

WHY? Because we love singing with other people and because singing is good for physical and mental health

WHEN? Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm during term time.

We have 2 concerts a year: a charity fundraiser in the summer and a carol concert at Christmas

Interested? We would love to hear from you. There are no auditions, all songs are taught - an ability to follow music and a desire to sing is all that's required



Not sure if it's for you? You're welcome to come along and join us for a taster evening for free any Monday evening

HOW? If you would like further information please contact:

Avril Lines avril.fossilsinshropshire@qmail.com or 01584 861 339



presents

Bruckner Motets

English Trombone Consort







Saturday 17th February at 7.30pm St Laurence's Church, Ludlow

Music Director: Ros Crouch Organ: Catharine Boyd-Moss

Tickets: £12 in advance £15 on the door (Under 16 free)

available from members of the choir and from

Also in the programme

Samuel Barber's Agnus Dei and, as a celebration of the choir's 10th Birthday, music by other composers whose names begin with the letter B - Brahms, Beethoven,

Bairstow, and Briggs!

https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DAVZ

www.edgechamberchoir.org.uk Find us on Facebook and Twitter X @edgechoir



DAFFODIL DAY

COME AND VISIT

SPARCHFORD COTTAGE **CULMINGTON**

ON

EASTER MONDAY

1st APRIL 2024.

2 - 5 pm

Teas and refreshments

Donations in aid of Corvedale Benefice













FEBRUARY 2024 5

CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - FEBRUARY

Coffee Morning

Monday 5th and every following Monday, 10am - 11.30am Everyone welcome! Come along for a cuppa and a chat. Tea or coffee for £1 with free refills plus a biscuit or two.

Bridge Club

Monday 5th and every following Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm Contact Peter Whitehead pst.whitehead@gmail.com

Lunch Club

Thursday 15th, 12:30pm for 1pm

A 2-course meal for £10 plus raffle and bar.

Please book in advance so we know numbers.

Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666 or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 78.

Can Do Crafts - Multimedia Weaving

Saturday 17th, 10am to 12.30pm

Create a beautiful item woven on a willow/wooden frame. £25 includes all materials and refreshments.

Contact Rosemary Jones to book your place via Facebook or on 07837 609 229.

Social Evening

Friday 23rd – bar open from 7pm

No need to book, just come along for a drink and a chat

PLANNING AHEAD

Bluebird Belles

Saturday 2nd March

The popular Bluebird Belles return as ABBA Belles. An evening's entertainment with all your favourite ABBA hits. Tickets £12 with light refreshments. Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

Beefy Boys

Sunday 19th May

Back by popular demand! Plus, the return of the Animal Man. Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

Our December and early January coffee mornings have, once again, proved very popular. It is lovely to meet everyone, to catch up and enjoy a really sociable morning together. Please keep coming!

Our dates in February are as follows: Thursday 1st, Thursday 15th, and Thursday 29th February.

As always, we start at 10.30am and finish around 12 noon.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Lesley Dobson

ABDON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - FEBRUARY

Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Group

On the second Saturday every month, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Bring your 'crafty projects' - learn from each other and enjoy the chat as you, crochet, knit, sew, patchwork or do anything crafty! And of course, coffee and cake too! A warm welcome for everyone!

Coffee Morning

On the last Saturday of each month 10.30am - 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome to our warm and friendly get togethers - lively chat, coffee and, of course, 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

STANTON LACY VILLAGE HALL

EVENTS FEBRUARY 2023

Pub Night every Wednesday from 8.00pm

Winter Warmers

Wed 14th February & Wed 13th March, 12.30 - 2.30pm Delicious homemade soup. All ages welcome.

To book or volunteer to help please call: Robin Gatehouse - 07977 913 004 or Jeanette Arnold - 07568 083 322

Hayton & District WI

Second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm. For more details ring Phyllis 01584 823 436.

Leap Year Quiz Night

Thursday 29th February, 7pm for 7.30pm start
Teams of 4. For more info contact Sarah 01584 878 257

Community Market

Last Saturday of each month

For more information.

Email: slvh.info@gmail.com

or Facebook: Stanton Lacy Village Hall Events

ORGANISING AN EVENT?

Get the word out with the Corvedale News.

Contact the editor to include your poster in the next edition: editor@corvedalenews.co.uk



STANTON LACY V.HALL

Facebook: stantonlacyvillagehallevents

LEAP YEAR QUIZ NIGHT







THURSDAY 29TH FEB. 7PM/7.30PM £10 per team of 4

For more info: Sarah 01584 878257



FEBRUARY 2024 7

DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall







Improve balance, Lower blood pressure, Relax & feel more energised.

New participants Free 1st lesson

10-11 am Thursdays

Booking: 07877 250275 hello@goldenthreadscic.com



New Season Starts March 2024

See Corvedale News & Google Group For details



Presents

another popular



On

Wednesday 6th March

7.00 pm Bar Opens7.30 pm Quiz Starts

Teams of 4

Booking Essential-book early!

Book via

DVH Facebook page/Messenger

or Text/Call - 07396730342

φ Ψ	Corvedale Garden Group Talk by Mellie Lewis	10.00 Saturday 10th February
© O	Corvedale Show Skittles Evening	7 pm Saturday 10th February
RSPB	RSPB South Shropshire Local Group Amanda Perkins – Curlew Country	19.30 Tuesday 13th February
	Mini Moos Baby & Toddler Group £2.50 per Family See Facebook for more information:	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
8	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/07817448832	Tuesdays 18.00
X	TaiChi Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 hello@goldenthreadscic.com	Thursdays 10.00-11.00
	The Corvedale Book Group Contact Cath Burley: cathburley@hotmail.com	2 nd Thursday each month 19.30
Plates	Physiotherapist-led Pilates Contact Beverley Chumber: beverleychumber@sky.com 07967 814412	Fridays 9.15-10.15

WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

2024 is going to be quite a year for Westhope.

We will be celebrating the centenary of the village hall with a grand celebration on **Sunday 9th June**. A centenary lottery has been set up with one hundred tickets at £12, for the year. Prizes to be drawn 9th June and 9th December. First prize £150, second prize £100 and third prize £50. There will be children's activities, music and entertainment, and a hog roast, more details to follow.

But before that we have organized future interesting events for your entertainment:

There is a prize bingo on Saturday 24th February, 7pm for 7.30pm licensed bar and refreshments available.

Saturday 16th March a Tapas evening with showman Paul Ray, unusualist, comedian, vocalist, and close up magic. Tickets £15 inclusive. Smart dress.

Yoga with Sue Pugh every Thursday 9.45 - 10.45am.

Our whist drives are going from strength to strength, every Monday 7pm for 7.15 start, admission £3.00.

We look forward to welcoming all friends old and new to our fundraising events so we can continue with the improvements to our lovely village hall.

The hall is available to hire with a licensed bar and catering if required. All enquiries Betty 07860 447 397.

Betty Manley

FEBRUARY (AND FUTURE) EVENTS

Whist Drives

Every Monday, starting at 7.15pm.

£3 entry. All abilities welcome. Our numbers continue to grow so come along and enjoy a very light-hearted and sociable evening.

Yoga with Sue Pugh

Every Thursday 9.45 - 10.45am. All enquiries Sue Pugh 07432 349 933 or Betty 07860 447 397.

Prize Bingo

Saturday 24th February, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Refreshments and licensed bar.

Tapas Evening & Show

Saturday 16th March

With showman Paul Ray, unusualist, comedian, vocalist, and close up magic. Tickets £15 inclusive. Smart dress.

Centenary Celebration Party

Sunday 9th June



To join us call us on 01584 841830 or book directly at www.thetallyho.co.uk

FEBRUARY 2024

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	Westhope 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	Beambridge Club Room	10am
Every Tue	Zumba	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	Yoga	Westhope Village Hall	3.30pm
Every Wed	Pub Night	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	8pm
Every Thu	Tai Chi	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Fri	Physiotherapist-led Pilates	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

FEBRUARY 2024

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1st	Thu	Coffee Morning	Beambridge Clubroom	10.30am
1st	Thu	Munslow Parish Council Meeting	Beambridge Clubroom	7.30pm
8th	Thu	Corvedale Book Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
8th	Thu	Hayton & District WI Meeting	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
10th	Sat	Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
10th	Sat	Corvedale Garden Group Talk	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
10th	Sat	Corvedale Autumn Show - Skittles Evening	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
13th	Tue	RSPB Talk - Curlew Country, Amanda Perkins	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
14th	Wed	RSPB Walk	Haughmond Hill	10.30am
14th	Wed	Winter Warmer Soup Lunch	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	12.30pm
14th	Wed	Munslow WI	Beambridge Clubroom	2pm
15th	Thu	Coffee Morning	Beambridge Clubroom	10.30am
15th	Thu	Lunch Club	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
17th	Sat	Can-Do-Crafts - Multimedia Weaving	Culmington Village Hall	10am - 12.30pm
17th	Sat	Seedpips Pop-up Seed Swap	Diddlebury Village Hall	10.30am
17th	Sat	Edge Chamber Choir Presents 'Bruckner'	St Laurence's Church, Ludlow	7.30pm
18th	Sun	Tree Planting	Green Burial Ground, Westhope	10am
19th	Mon	Corvedale News Copy Deadline	-	-
21st	Wed	Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group	TBC	9.30am
21st	Wed	Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
23rd	Fri	Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group	TBC	9.30am
23rd	Fri	Social Evening	Culmington Village Hall	7pm
24th	Sat	Coffee Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
24th	Sat	Community Market	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	TBC
24th	Sat	Exploring Shakespeare's Comedies	Ludlow Assemby Rooms	2pm
24th	Sat	Prize Bingo	Westhope Village Hall	7pm
25th	Sun	Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group	TBC	9.30am
25th	Sun	The History of the Trumpet	St. Peter's, Diddlebury	3pm
26th	Mon	Corvedale Folk Club	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
29th	Thu	Coffee Morning	Beambridge Clubroom	10.30am
29th	Thu	Leap Year Quiz Night	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7pm

ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon - Page 6, Culmington - Page 6, Diddlebury - Page 8, Munslow - Page 6, Stanton Lacy - Page 6, Westhope - Page 9 The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 19th February

CHURCH NEWS

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

The date of Easter each year moves about. It falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon to occur on or after 21st March. This means that certain possible dates for Easter only come up very occasionally: the last time Easter fell on 22nd March (the earliest it can be) was 1818 and it won't happen again until 2285! This year it falls on 31st March. Given that the latest possible Easter date is 25th April, we could still say that this year Easter is relatively early. This, in turn, means that Ash Wednesday, the day on which Lent begins, is relatively early too, falling as it does on 14th February.

Lent is a season of 40 days in which we prepare ourselves spiritually for the events we will celebrate at Easter. Traditionally we do this by giving up something we enjoy, whether that be food, drink or something else, as we remind ourselves of the hardship Jesus endured whilst he spent 40 days in the wilderness after his baptism. There's nothing wrong with this as an exercise so long as we don't give up something which makes us so miserable that we are a nightmare to be around for the whole period. Perhaps better, though, is to take something on. We might decide to read part of the Bible, to spend part of each day in prayer, or to join others worshipping somewhere in church, for example. Details of services on Sundays and throughout Lent are elsewhere in the magazine and you are welcome to join us at any services – you don't have to wait for there to be a service in 'your' church.

If we think about life as a tapestry, for many of us our faith is perhaps a bit like the canvas backing: important background, but rather drab and covered over by all that makes up the coloured picture of life. Lent is a time to remind ourselves that in fact our faith should be one of the most vibrant colours that runs through the whole picture, and not something to be covered over. Our Bishop has designated 2024 as a Year of Faith. How can we bring our faith into the technicoloured picture of our lives?

Rev'd John Beesley

HAMPER DRAW AND CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Thank you to everyone who supported the Hamper Draw and Christmas Tree Festival this year. The Hamper Draw made £1,124 and the donations at the Christmas Tree Festival came to £134, totals which will be shared between the churches of the group and will help towards the ever-increasing cost of keeping seven churches open and running.

Thank you to everyone who sold tickets and to those who bought them, also to everyone who contributed items to go in the six hampers we were able to assemble. Thanks, too, to The Crown Inn, The Swan Inn, The Tally Ho, Aston Munslow Garage, The Seven Stars, Cyril Bason's, Sophie's Butchers and Andrew Pike for vouchers and other prizes.

The Christmas Tree Festival this year looked really beautiful. Thanks again to those who brought Christmas Trees or helped by providing or serving the mulled wine and mince pies. Also particular thanks to the staff and children of Corvedale School and Nursery who made the hanging angels, which were really lovely.

Rev'd John Beesley

THE HISTORY OF THE TRUMPET IN 15 HISTORICAL INSTRUMENTS - SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

If you have been to Evensong at Munslow at any point over the past year you may have met Dr Paul Nevins, who has volunteered to play the organ for us each month. As well as playing the organ at Munslow, Paul is an accomplished trumpeter who has played in many places and for a range of interesting events and occasions. He will be giving a talk about the trumpet – and bringing 15 of them! – at Diddlebury Church at 3pm on **Sunday 25th February**. There will be a retiring collection which will be split between the group churches and Horatio's Garden at the Robert Jones Agnes Hunt Hospital in Gobowen. Do come – and bring your friends.

FLOWERS & BRASSES

FEBRUARY 2024

4th Mrs Speight

11th Mrs Speight

18th* Mrs Worthington

25th* Mrs Worthington

* Brasses only

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding

9th December Harriet Powell and Diddlebury
Chris Goldsmith

Funerals

5th DecemberChristopher CornesCulmington15th DecemberIrene ClintonMunslow16th DecemberAnn TappDiddlebury9th JanuaryOlga GriffithsCulmington

RSPB Walks & Talks

More info can be found on the RSPB local group website.

WALKS

14th Feb Haughmond Hill 10.30am

10th Mar Bury Ditches 9.30am7th April Whixall Moss 2pm



TALKS

7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall

13th FebAmanda PerkinsCurlew Country12th MarSteve DawesAfrican Adventure

16th April Pete Carty Identifying Bird Songs

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

The months of November and December 2023 proved to be eventful with our branch AGM, the WI Day in Shrewsbury Abbey plus a very festive wreath-making day in November and Christmas lunch in December replacing our usual evening event. The wreath-making day was a branch-first, well attended and enjoyed, definitely promising to be an annual

event! Amanda Toon was the main organiser, sourcing the oasis and offering her knowledge and experience, while others contributed to the day by making soups for lunch with a variety of breads to share. A couple of days earlier, a group of us foraged for greenery holly, mistletoe, fir tree stems, pampas grass, ivy, thistles, etc. - while others brought all sorts of items - ribbons, lights, alitter sprays, dried oranges, cinnamon sticks, you name it! Christmas lunch at the Charlton Arms in Ludlow. replacing our usual evening get together, offered a full menu of flavourful food, excellent service, and a wonderful view of the river. One of the waitresses kindly took this photograph of us all, which clearly shows how everyone enjoyed themselves.





For 2024, members have come forward with many ideas for events and outings and our programme of speakers from April through to March 2025 is well underway. Our January meeting was an informal get together on the morning of Saturday 13th. The idea of each of us bringing a personal item to talk about to the group went down very well. It turned out to be extraordinarily successful, offering us all an opportunity to get to know more about each other.

At our next meeting on **Thursday 8th February** at 7.30pm at Stanton Lacy Village Hall, Hayton's Bent SY7 2AT, our speaker will be Mellie Lewis, holder of the National Collection of Aeonium Species, giving her talk entitled Aeonium in Habitat and at Home. Her passion for these plants may inspire us all to grow some ourselves. We look forward to seeing members, guests and anyone who would like to come along to join us. For further information, please contact our Club President, Phyllis Steventon on 01584 823 436, or our Secretary, Amanda Brooks at hayton.district.wi@gmail.com.

Louise Gough

MUNSLOW WI

We ended 2023 with a wonderful Christmas-themed Afternoon Tea party at The Clive Arms, Ludlow where we were well looked after by cheerful staff, and all left in festive mood.

In January it was time to talk business when we held our AGM and heard annual reports from President Loraine, Secretary Val, and Treasurer Anne. These reports always bring back memories of all we have done and achieved during the past year, from the remarkably successful Children's Christmas party early in the year to the Ceilidh in September. We hope to be able to repeat these kinds of events in the future. Committee member Barbara has organised an exciting programme for the coming year including a summer trip to Attingham Park, a talk from someone who's experienced life in China, another pizza evening and, in February, member Wendy Brogden will be telling us about some historic local characters. We hope to be joined by members from our group of institutes for some of these meetings.

Before we could enjoy our usual tea/coffee and cake it was time to study and consider this year's resolutions and choose which we would most like to go forward to the AGM for further discussion later this year. Dental health and the chronic shortage of NHS dentists was one, followed by impacts of poor housing conditions, gambling advertising, and improving outcomes for women in the criminal justice system. All very worthy, important causes. The meeting ended after we were reminded about donations for our local Women's Refuge.

February will be our last afternoon meeting this winter (yes, summer is coming!) when we will be meeting at Beambridge Clubroom, (Munslow Village Hall) at 2pm. We are especially pleased to welcome visitors and, of course, new members.

For more information contact me on 01584 841251 or email me at gandjrose@mypostoffice.co.uk

Jenny Rose

CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

The committee is delighted to announce its annual skittles night at Diddlebury Village Hall on **Saturday 10th February**, starting at 7pm. All ages (children must be accompanied) and skill levels welcome.

Teams of four usually made up on the night. All individuals welcome.

Entry £1 per person.

For more information please contact Ross Stokes on 01584 841 694.

All proceeds support the Corvedale Autumn Show.



THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS **CONSERVATION FUND IS OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS**



The Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund is a small grant pot to awarded for activity within a particular Financial Year (April to support community projects in the Shropshire Hills National the end of March). Landscape (new name for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty).

It supports projects to deliver practical conservation work progress to a full application. and/or educational and awareness-raising activities relating to the Shropshire Hills and its conservation, especially involving young people.

We are inviting applications for projects to start in April 2024. If you, or your community group, have a project idea please get in touch. Grants range from £500 to £2,000 and are generally

The deadline to get project ideas in is 12th February 2024. We can then recommend whether your project should

There is more information on our website at: www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk, search 'conservation fund'.

Or contact Stephanie Hayes: email stephanie.hayes@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01743 254 746

SHROPSHIRE HILLS DISCOVERY CENTRE

POPULAR ULTRA MARATHON FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR ITS SEVENTH YEAR

Now a regular feature in Shropshire's running and walking calendar, the SW80k festival returns to Craven Arms on Saturday 6th April 2024.

Hosted by the team at the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre and run as a fundraiser for Grow Cook Learn, the charity which runs the centre, runners and walkers from across the UK and beyond



will descend on this quiet corner of the Shropshire hills to take part in one of four challenge events - the mighty SW80k, Mammothon, Half-Mammothon or Tusker's 10k.

The festival offers stunning routes taking in the rugged beauty of this fascinating area, including Iron-Age hillforts, the jagged quartzite peaks of the Stiperstones, ancient woodlands, upland heath, beautiful river valleys and traditional market towns. The event is about supporting the charity's mission to connect people to the food, history and landscape of the Shropshire hills and delicious local food is served at the checkpoints along the way.

Grant Wilson, the centre manager and event organiser says 'We're super excited to be running the event again next year. We just love showing off this spectacular landscape and hearing all the positive comments from our runners and walkers who discover them for the first time. For me though, the event is all about the food - we serve Shropshire Fidget pies, local cheeses and sausages, our famous Bara Brith and a local beef stew in a barn high in the hills. This all gives the event a real taste of Shropshire and is the reason why people return year after year. If you want to challenge yourself and help raise some money for our centre, why not enter one of our events!'

The event is fully insured, and entry fees include food and drink throughout the event, car parking, a rescue vehicle and a finishers medal and certificate. It's a fun way to get some exercise, connect with nature and make some new friends so why not get training now and sign up to take on one of these spectacular challenges?

For more information and to enter, please head to the centre's website at www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk.

CORVEDALE SCHOOL

I believe I have one of the best jobs in the world. My colleagues on the staff are dedicated, a great team and show tremendous loyalty to me and the school. We work with some amazing children whom I watch grow and develop. I enjoy watching them learn and they make me smile. The school's surrounding environment makes it a pleasure to come to work each morning. However, my job is very demanding and time consuming: I'm not getting any younger. So, after forty years teaching, twenty-three of those as a headteacher of three different schools, I have decided to stop before the job stops me! I have given notice to the governing body that it is my intention to retire in July at the end of the summer term.

The governors are preparing to appoint my successor. The position will be advertised shortly. I will endeavour to work with everyone during the months ahead to provide a successful handover to my replacement. I cannot express enough my gratitude to everyone for allowing me to lead the local village school for the last nine years in the community where I live and which I love.

Our toddlers group has changed to Friday mornings from 9.30-11.30am - £2 per family per session. Mums and dads, come along for a coffee, cake and a natter while your little ones play.

For more information on what's going on, to keep up with the latest happenings / news at school, visit the school website www.corvedaleprimary.co.uk or follow us on Facebook.

Jonathan Brough, Headteacher

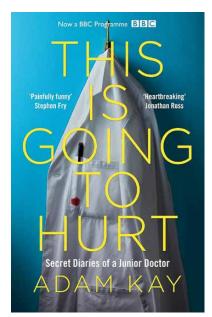
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CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

THIS IS GOING TO HURT BY ADAM KAY





Our pre-Christmas read was accompanied by mulled wine (thank you, Elaine). It helped to soften the traumas Adam Kay wrote about the working life of a junior doctor. You may have seen the TV version of the snapshots of his career or listened to his music choices on Desert Island Discs. If so, you may be familiar with this account already.

We learned, not unexpectedly, that being a junior doctor is tough. Tough physically, tough emotionally, tough on

personal relationships. It is also exhausting — long and difficult training, long shifts, few meal breaks and little sleep. It is relentless: constantly moving jobs every six months, searching for rented housing, always wondering what your new team would be like, whether the consultant would support you, what else you needed to learn. It was also extremely rewarding when things went right, such as when he had time to make relationships with patients, to reassure them and to see them through childbirth safely. He talked of the privilege of his ongoing conversations with patients towards the ends of their lives and how he made time to be at their funerals. He talked of the effort he put into his work. His compassion showed through.

The book was unexpectedly amusing and highly informative with many timely asides about NHS acronyms and common medical procedures. Although the diary format of selected anecdotes made it seem a light book, the entries were carefully chosen and made us think more deeply about the unremitting demands on the Health Service and its staff. At times, the language used towards patients or other staff seemed dismissive or verging on shockingly offensive: a

coping style to get the team through the day? At other times, the sense of a close connection with patients or the deep joy that was felt when challenges were successfully overcome, increased our engagement with the young man still finding his feet in a challenging job. We wondered about what the real level of supervision, mentoring and mental health support was for these (generally) young people. We discussed what continued training was available. With the media full of the junior doctors' strikes at the time, we were also aware of their basic hourly rate of £14.09 at the beginning of their career, often being less than the hourly rate earned by some workers at 'Pret' (*The Guardian*, March 2023).

Adam Kay was clear it wasn't just the job that was challenging. He recounted the difficulties with finding a parking space, of being wheel clamped after working all night; of accessing appropriate clothing or equipment; of having nowhere to sleep when on call. The constant over-running of shifts, needing to stay for a birth or a complicated delivery meant any commitments in his personal life - being a best man, going to a party, going out to dinner for a special birthday or anniversary - were frequently cancelled. He also commented on his experiences of working in both NHS and private hospital settings. The difference in patient expectations was striking. He resented the NHS having to pick up patients ambulanced in and the times when things went wrong. He reflected on the degree of political and media intervention in the way the health service worked and questioned why the targets they had to meet sometimes felt ridiculous and time consuming. He also felt overwhelmed by having to deal with adults outside the hospital system who expected miracles from him and other staff. Sadly, he found it personally too devastating when a patient died in his care. He is now working as a comedian. The book is well worth reading, even if it isn't always comfortable to hear about the shortcomings of a service we all depend on for ourselves and our families.

When we met on Thursday 18th January we discussed another diary. It is an account of the early days of the Bloomsbury set called Vanessa and Her Sister by Priya Parmar. We next meet on **Thursday 8th February.**

Cath Burley

CORVEDALE COOKBOOK

SIMPLE STUFFING FOR PHEASANT - MARTIN JONES

INGREDIENTS

- 2½ oz black pudding
- 4 rounded tablespoons oatmeal
- Drop of milk

METHOD

- 1. Skin and roughly chop the black pudding and mash together with the oatmeal. Add a tiny drop of milk just sufficient to help to bind everything together. No salt or pepper or herbs.
- 2. The quantities are approximate. You can make your own the oatmeal simply by blitzing porridge oats in a liquidiser.
- 3. If you normally don't stuff a pheasant before roasting, you will need to add a bit of extra cooking time.

My thanks to Martin Speight who told me about this stuffing about 20 years ago.

CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP 2024

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

February 10th - Mellie Lewis

'A botanical journey beyond my wildest dreams' Discovering Aeoniums in the Canary Islands. Holder of the National Plant Collection Diddlebury Village Hall • 03 mins • 1.4 miles • £7

March 9th - Andrea Cowan Taylor

5 acres designed by Percy Cane for Roger de Quincey. Spring bulbs, magnolia, rhodedendron, azaleas, HaHa. Lake and River Lugg, walled kitchen garden, rose garden.

The Vern, Marden, nr Bodenham HR1 3EX 44mins • 29 miles • £15

April 13th - Robert Bland

10 acre garden, rhododendrons, azaleas, beautiful borders, 5 lakes, arboretum, unusual trees. The Leasowes, Cound, Shrewsbury SY5 6AF 23 mins • 16 miles • f6 • BYO refreshments

May 11th - Jo Salmon

Playwright John Osborne's former home.

Azalea & rhododendrons, Coast Redwoods, pond, kitchen garden, 26 acre bluebell woods.

The Hurst, Anyon Centre, Cluston SY7,014

The Hurst, Arvon Centre, Clunton SY7 0JA 22 mins • 14 miles • £8

June 8th - Katherine Moynes

Parkland, woodland, lake, mixed borders Victorian walled garden, roses, peonies. Eyton Hall, Eyton upon the Weald Moors, TF6 6ET 41 mins • 23 miles • £12

July 13th - Pamela & Alistair Thompson

SW facing 3/4 acre garden looking out to Abberley Tower. Mixed flower borders, Shady woodland planting, lawns & seating, 'Shed of the Year' runner up.

Pear Tree Cottage, Wichenford WR6 6YX
56 mins • 34 miles • £6 • Partial Wheelchair Access.

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 & Vicar's Choral Garden, Dean's Garden & Bishop's Garden. Cathedral Gardens Hereford HR1 2NG

48 mins • 33 miles • £7 • Refreshments available at 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

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

Do you have an hour or so to spare each month?

The Corvedale News Team is looking for a volunteer to take on the distribution of the Corvedale News in the Broadstone, Hungerford and Rowe Lane area. The delivery round is to approximately thirty households. Magazines are distributed each month from February to December inclusive.

Why not get some fresh air and exercise whilst contributing to your local community?

If you feel you could help with this task, please contact our distribution manager Colin Pitcher at colin.pitcher@hotmail.com.

The Corvedale News Team

WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



The Clover Club ended a successful year, with its annual Christmas lunch and party at The Swan Inn. Aston Munslow last December.

We restart our meetings at Westhope, on **Thursday 7th March** at 2.30pm, when we have a film show entitled 'Pictures in Harmony.'

A sincere thank you to all our members who help in so many different ways. I look forward to seeing you all in March.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

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CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

TWO CARLS, A LYNN, AND MR GREGORY

It does seem extraordinary that human beings seem to forget really important things, sometimes for hundreds or even thousands of years.

At my desk, if I stretch my legs, I get a lovely view of the Brown Clee and can never help wondering what it looked like in various phases of our past. One of the most intriguing and one of the hardest to work out is what happened when our forebears decided they had had enough of wandering the land simply hunting and foraging. If you read the standard textbook of archaeology, it will tell you that the first farmers in this country were right at the end of what we call the Stone Age – the Neolithic.

It would be absolutely silly to think of this as a snap decision one Monday morning. Deeper books go into the possible stages of domestication of animals and plants, which might have been quite long drawn out, and fluctuated and varied from one area to another. If you are inclined to feel starry-eyed about Stone Age people, you may subscribe to the view that 'the farming thing' was the poorest decision humanity ever made, tying him to endless labour on the land instead of a free flowing, art loving, but sometimes war-torn, storytelling life (I digress).

My first 'Carl' is Carl Linnaeus, an 18th century Swedish doctor. He loved plants and produced the binomial system of genus and species based on physical characteristics of plants and animals. So far so good; the system is still much used, yet our Carl was completely stumped when it came to the hidden bits of nature - the tiny microbes. What he couldn't do was pretend he didn't know about them: the little beasties had been described fully 100 years and more previous thanks to an eccentric Dutch draper with a surprising talent for knocking out his own microscopes.

Amazingly, we have to wait another 200 years for our second 'Carl', Carl Woese. His is probably not a household name, but it blooming well should be! He hit on an ingenious method of classifying all life on a particular section of its genetic makeup that has to do with generating a vital part of the living cell, the ribosome, where all proteins are synthesised. No ribosomes = no life. His extraordinary discovery was that all

life is divided into three groups: archaea (ancient single cell organisms), bacteria, and absolutely everything else which he termed eukarya! The news that we had common origin with a bed bug or slime mould might not be too welcome to some parts of humanity!

Lynn Margulis (bizarrely married to another Carl), was, like our second 'Carl' pouring her revolutionary ideas into the world in the 1970s, though, yes, you've guessed it, they weren't new: they had been proposed in Germany nearly a century before. Her big idea was symbiosis, cooperation, common cause, as the driving force for life and evolution. You shouldn't be surprised at this. As you read this every cell in your body is cooperating with every other cell in some way – or should be! Symbiosis is a direct challenge to local hero Charles Darwin who thought progress came through dominance and aggression. Still, he was born in 19th century England, so you can hardly blame him!

And those forager-hunters? Well, they are making a big comeback in the sense that there is now huge interest in their cultures even if their territories and lives become ever more squeezed. The reasons? Perhaps vibrant luminous wisdoms that come from long and absolute connection with land, beast and plant. No surprise to them that their bodies, at best, form a harmonious whole nourished by the plants and animals that nature provides, and they honour. It does just make you wonder what critically important things they carry that the rest of us have long forgotten.

Peter Cornah, 01584 823 858, petercornah@gmail.com

PS. Mr Gregory? He taught me Biology in the 1960s. No charisma, but supremely organised and seemingly obsessed with the idea of symbiotic cooperation between all forms of life: this a decade before big scientific beasts like Woese and Margulis! If he yet lives – God bless him: if not - here's to his memory!

PPS. Also, homage to David Montgomery and Anne Bicklé 'The Hidden Half of Nature.'

MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

The choir enjoyed a busy and successful programme over Christmas, singing carols and other favourites at the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre; to the Much Wenlock and Cressage Wellness Support group; to the clients at The Lady Forester Care Home and a concert at The Wheatlands Care Home; and finally at our own Christmas mince pie and mulled wine concert where we entertained a full house.

After a well-earned break we are now working on some new pieces to add to our repertoire for the coming months. We have a full spring and summer timetable in front of us with concerts in March, April, May and July. However, we were due to sing at the Much Wenlock Festival in June which has recently been postponed until 2025. We therefore have an unexpected gap in our schedule for June and are keen to fill it.

There is therefore an opportunity for a group or organisation to use us as the focus of a fundraising event. We only charge enough to cover the fees of our two professionals: any other monies raised going directly to the good cause or charity of the hosts. All organisers need to provide is the venue and to sell the tickets. We do the rest, we even buy lots of raffle tickets! Perhaps if after reading this you would like some other details, please ring me on the number below to explore the possibility further.

Finally, new year, new activity, try singing, it's good for the brain! We're always happy to welcome new faces on a Tuesday evening at The William Brookes School, 7.20pm every week.

Dick Langford, chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com, 01952 728 758, www.mwmvchoir.org.uk

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

SONG OF SONGS

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

For lo, the winter is past
The rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of the singing of birds is come
And the voice of the turtle dove is
heard in the land.

I know it's still only February, but I find this short quote from the second song in the Songs of Solomon (a book found in the Bible) comforting. A short message of hope for better things to come, at least the weather if not the world situation. I'm hoping that by the time you read this the world will be a safer, happier place than it has been lately.

I keep telling myself I have to adapt and move with the times. One of my New Year resolutions is to be a nicer person. So far, I think I am doing all right: I love offering a 'good morning' to a passing stranger. In most cases people respond cheerfully too. You get a beaming smile and sometimes a comment on the weather – just a small thing to do, but it's making me feel better every time. I recommend having a go!

I think in winter we all get bit grumpy. There is not enough light in the day. I know the days are getting longer but it's not quick enough for me.

A couple of years ago at this time – or was it before Covid? – I was feeling a bit down. I picked up my camera and visited a local open garden to see if I could find something colourful

to photograph. I found 10 different plants in flower! I have had snowdrops in my garden since the middle of January, but this year I found hellebores, winter flowering honeysuckle, primroses in sheltered places, winter aconites as well as the expected



crocuses and more besides. We can learn a lot from the natural world around us and often it is good news. The plants have had to put up with rain and floods just like we did, as did all those small mammals that live in our countryside. They seem to be recovering so perhaps we can follow?

So our little part of the second Song of Solomon addresses the flowers and I think we can all agree that the birds are singing again. St Valentine's Day, 14th February, is the date in medieval times that birds were thought to pair up, so they should be making plenty of song before the end of this month; something to look forward to. It may not be turtle dove locally. It's more likely to be the local wood pigeons or occasionally collared doves if you are lucky, calmer than the pigeons!

Anni Holden-Calver, Trustee of Caring for God's Acre and member of the Churchyard Task Team, Secretary of Shropshire Churches Tourism Group

WILD ABOUT WESTHOPE

TREE PLANTING EVENT AT WESTHOPE

Join the next family volunteer day for Wild About Westhope on **Sunday 18th February** from 10am to 1pm which will involve the planting of new trees.

The group will be planting a range of native British trees and shrubs to create a new woodland corridor to link existing woodland habitats.

Wildlife corridors are important to help wildlife move safely between suitable habitats. This year the group will be planting a range of trees and shrubs to provide a future food source for birds.

All ages and abilities are welcome, and participants can drop in at any time and stay and plant as many trees as they like.

The event is taking place near to Westhope Green Burial

Ground SY7 9JL and the chapel car park will be open for parking. The site is easy to get to and has good access for all. Spades will be available but if you are able to bring one, that would be useful along with a mug so you can be topped up with refreshments.

For further information please contact: wildaboutwesthope@gmail.com

Sue Corfield

Wild about Westhope is a not-for-profit group who promote sustainable land management to benefit wildlife and the local community. The group manages a local nature reserve with the help of volunteers who meet regularly to undertake conservation management, green wood crafts and charcoal making.

THE EDGE CHAMBER CHOIR

The Edge Chamber Choir will mark its tenth birthday this February with a concert celebrating two hundred years since the birthday of Bruckner. In this, the choir will be assisted by the addition of the English Trombone Consort. Come along to St Laurence's Church, Ludlow on **Saturday 17th February** at 7.30pm to hear a feast of music by Bruckner interspersed with items by other composers beginning with B – including Brahms, Beethoven, Bairstow and Briggs, and in particular the concert will include the beautiful Agnus Dei by Samuel

Barber, his arrangement for choir of the Adagio for Strings. Bruckner's music will reverberate magnificently around the walls of St Laurence's, particularly with the addition of the four trombones, creating a birthday concert not to be missed!

Tickets are £12 in advance (under 16s free) from www.trybooking.com/uk/DAVZ and will also be available on the door at the higher price of £15.

Ros Crouch

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Chase away the winter blues by joining us to explore
the stories, themes and stagings of
Shakespeare's most popular comedies
and gain a deeper appreciation of Shakespeare's theatrical craftsmanship



The Merchant of Venice - The Winter's Tale

Come for one session or two

Exploring Shakespeare's Comedies

Participatory Study Sessions led by Clare Smout

Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Studio 2
Saturdays, 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm; £22 per session



Saturday, February 24th: The Merchant of Venice

In this morally challenging comedy of courtship and revenge, the merchant Antonio borrows a vast sum of money from his enemy Shylock, in order to help his best friend woo an heiress, Portia. However, when Antonio is unexpectedly unable to repay the loan, Shylock demands the penalty of a pound of his flesh. The play ends in a gripping court scene in which only Portia's quick-witted intervention saves Antonio's life.

Saturday, March 30th: The Winter's Tale

In this magical story of second chances, loss and redemption, sin and forgiveness, death and birth, a king wrongly accuses his wife of adultery, only to spend 16 years bitterly regretting her loss and that of his rejected baby daughter. However, winter finally gives way to spring and the play ends in hope and reconciliation.

This session provides an excellent basis for enjoying the Royal Ballet's live-streamed adaptation in May.

Each session starts with an introductory lecture, followed by group discussion. After a break for coffee and cake, we will watch and discuss video clips of key scenes from a range of contrasting productions.

The session will end with a group examination of the play's climax or turning point.

Clare Smout is a local Shakespeare specialist with a passion for sharing her enthusiasm for theatre. After 20 years in professional theatre, she moved sideways into academic work and has taught Shakespeare to students of all ages, from primary and secondary school to university students to adult learners, including 15 years lecturing at the University of Birmingham and as a guest tutor at the University of Cambridge's Institute of Continuing Education.

Tickets are on sale at the Ludlow Assembly Rooms (ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk)

For further information on these sessions, and on longer courses via Zoom, email shakespeare.courses@smout.org

MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT

When you receive your Council Tax bill each Spring you will notice a section entitled 'Munslow Parish Council'. It will indicate the amount of money requested and allocated to run the Council for that year (the Parish Precept) along with the percentage increase from the previous year. Over the last two years Munslow Parish Council has not increased the Parish Precept in recognition of the difficult financial circumstances being experienced by so many people. However, due to the increase in inflation and the tasks being undertaken by the Council, it has been found necessary to increase the Precept for 2023-24. As a result, the Council Tax bill you will receive in Spring 2024 will show an increase in the region of 18%. This means an increase of 56p per month for a band D property.

It is important for all parishioners to know and understand how this money is spent and how active Munslow Parish Council is on their behalf. To give an idea of this, here are some of the actions taken by the Council over the last couple of years:

- The purchase of three vehicle activated signs (VAS) which operate along the B4368.
- The maintenance of a defibrillator, located in Munslow.

- The employment of an Environmental Maintenance Officer, tasked to clear drains and cut verges on the side roads (not the B4368).
- Maintenance of the closed burial ground in Munslow. The burial ground has an ash tree which will eventually need to be felled when it succumbs to ash dieback: the Parish Council needs to set aside money for this work.
- The maintenance of a website (a legal requirement) and a Facebook page, so parishioners know what is happening regarding the Parish Council.

This is not an exhaustive list, as Munslow Parish Council also reviews planning applications, is in discussions with Shropshire Council about speed reduction on the B4368, and has just renewed the lease on The Beambridge Clubroom. It holds a small reserve to cover the repairs and replacement of notice boards, Vehicle Activated Signs, defibrillator batteries etc. and fees for elections and audits. The Council holds at least ten meetings per year which members of the public are welcome to attend. All the councillors are volunteers and are supported by just one paid member of staff (the Clerk), who is responsible, inter alia, for ensuring the Parish Council follows its legal and financial obligations.

BCMP COMMUNITY GROUP PUBLIC UPDATE - JANUARY 2024

The BCMP Community Group Committee would like to wish all the patients of the Brown Clee Medical Practice a happy, healthy and prosperous 2024. We would especially like to thank all those patients who came to the various roadshows. Your participation and feedback has made an invaluable contribution to the initiative.

We're delighted to see there is clearly a great deal of support for the path the group is taking. The review of the comments received at the roadshows indicates almost 90% of attendees were 'very happy' with the approach being taken.

A similar number supported the features proposed for the new 'incorporated' Community Benefit Society (CBS) needed to own the premises. The CBS model meets the criteria of being community-owned, for community benefit and not-for-profit, while being able to issue community shares and, if so decided, to have charitable status.

There was a great deal of interest in being able to invest in 'community shares' as well as to make donations or loans. The indications people gave on the forms they completed at the end of the roadshow about the extent of financial support they would be willing to provide gives us real confidence that, together with grants obtainable to support community investment, we will be able to raise the sums of money necessary to purchase the premises and equip them for the future.

One final piece of feedback received from some of those attending the roadshows suggests there is sometimes confusion between the roles of the BCMP Community Group and the Brown Clee Medical Practice Patient Group (PPG),

currently chaired by Tina Ranson. Both groups recognise this and may issue a joint statement this year to further add clarity. However, our new Community Benefit Society will have a new name and will supersede the BCMP Community Group, and this should help in differentiating the activities going forward.

The Community Group will be soon at the stage where it requires funds so that it can meet the fees associated with the forming of a legal entity. In the first instance we have requested a small grant from each of the Parish Councils within the surgery catchment area. If this request does not raise the required amounts, then we will look to organising some fund-raising events in the spring.

The BCMP Community Group will be holding an event, provisionally **9th June 2024** and will be at Pam's Pools in Underton. Pam Yuille has kindly offered the venue for the event, and we thank her for her generosity. The date will be confirmed soon. In addition it is hoped that there will be an 'open garden' event kindly hosted by Bob Browning in July 2024

A small group of patients from Ditton Priors has suggested an event to raise awareness of the initiative by organising a 'Climb Everest' walk to the top of Brown Clee. The idea is that if the required number of people participate it would be the equivalent of climbing Everest. The group wholly supports this, and we look forward to this event in the autumn of 2024.

The next milestone of registering the incorporated legal entity, CBS, should conclude during the first quarter of this year and this will be announced once completed. Many thanks for your continued interest and support.

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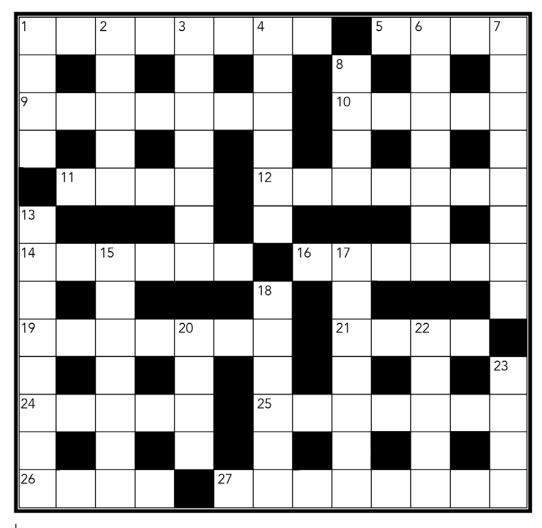
FEBRUARY CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword can be found on page 23 in this edition of the magazine.

ACROSS

- 1) Fancy hosiery to catch the cod perhaps (8)
- 5) Fracas back to front for these three? (4)
- 9) It's a ton round the stopping place (7)
- 10) Bingo shout at home (5)
- 11 Put down returned cakes (4)
- 12) Diner is somehow a member of the group (7)
- 14) Our red dung? (6)
- 16) Rattle hammer? Coward!(6)
- 19) Broken instrument in Royal Institution provides pasta (7)
- 21) Square question for job (4)
- 24) Cut up when took risks (5)
- 25) Walker, maybe, is mainly happy and relaxed (3,4)
- 26) Take a chance, but break right ski (4)
- 27) Stage way round and escapes (4,4)



DOWN

- 1) Don't eat so quickly! (4)
- 2) At the start she was actually Ivan's new lover (5)
- 3) Fix pole to make beautiful hands (4,3)
- 4) Obviously nets in this game (6)
- 6) Circular symbol is louder around the North (7)
- 7) Owen and Root only got a few (3,2,3)
- 8) So huts may fall (4)

- 13) Rid roc, or go round to the passage (8)
- 15) Gadgets of the French sins (7)
- 17) Gets money from old legal terms (7)
- 18) Round the best seats in the theatre?(6)
- 20) The chances of 3, 5, 7 for example (4)
- 22) Takes back lumps to make a hat (5)
- 23) Extremely important part of everything (4)

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2023 AT DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

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

Apologies: Cllrs A Rattu and S Povall.

In attendance: The Clerk, Shropshire Councillor C Motley and one member of the public.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

Public Involvement Session: A resident of Bache Mill attended, seeking assistance from DPC. Jack's Cottage in Bache Mill is used as a holiday home, but owns no dedicated parking space, despite being advertised as having onsite parking: sometimes visitors have more than one car. Renters frequently park in a way that obstructs access to the resident's driveway. He frequently has to ask visitors to move their cars and often receives abuse: he is finding it all very stressful. DPC has checked with SC's planning department and they can offer no help. No one on DPC knew who owned Jack's Cottage so no direct appeal to them could be made. The resident was advised to place plastic cones and No Parking signs in a manner to deter Jack's Cottage users from parking inconsiderately by his property. Measures are still being investigated to deter Jack's Cottage users from parking their cars in The Moors.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 25th October 2023 were approved by councillors.

Five matters arising included information that the proposed review of parish boundaries will not now occur before 2025.

Reports: *The Chairman* reported that he had suggested that the school playground could be adapted so as to allow children access after school hours. The headmaster, school governors and DVH committee all agreed to support the proposed project. DPC will now investigate the feasibility and cost. The Chairman is continuing to work with the PCC concerning the proposed WWI information board to complement the War Memorial.

Clir Motley reported on SC's CrowdFunding scheme and advised DPC to investigate it as a method of helping to fund the proposed playground scheme. There have been long meetings of SC's Cabinet concerning the 2024/25 finance budget: the government had not increased funding for adult and child social care despite ever increasing need. The Home Office had advised that 200 Afghan refugees are to be housed at Nesscliffe Barracks and 17 families at RAF Cosford, which will place additional burdens on schools and medical services.

Flood Action Group Report: Cllr Martyn said that he was still finalizing his report on the recent flooding events. He

had spoken to Professor Wilson about the effectiveness of the leaky dams: her view is those upstream from Diddlebury had been overwhelmed by the sheer quantity of water. Culmington and Diddlebury's FAGs were going to hold a joint meeting to consider the Corvedale valley as a whole: they also hoped more people would join the Groups. He had welcomed Mr Ian Baston who had joined the group and will represent Middlehope.

Planning Applications: The Chairman reported that application **23/04452/FUL**, for the erection of an agricultural machinery building and a separate field shelter, plus formation of field access (part retrospective) at Clowes Farm, Great Sutton, had been dealt with under DPC's Standing Order 27 procedure. The application had been approved, but with the proviso that the SUDs recommendation concerning drainage be acted upon.

Highways/Environmental Issues: The parking and speeding issues at The Moors were further considered. The Clerk would write to Severn Trent and would also obtain four signs designed to deter parking on verges: Cllr Martyn agreed to erect them. Cllr Morgan said the Police had been active with speed cameras along the B4368. Cllr Motley was asked to encourage Mr Newton to produce his report on speeding on the B4368 through the Corvedale.

Communications and Correspondence: Ten items of correspondence were considered. A request that a DPC councillor be nominated as a Trustee to the Louisa Powell Almshouse Charity was considered and Cllr O'Boyle agreed to accept the nomination.

Finance Matters: DPC supported a proposal that £300 be made available for the production of the WWI information board. The Finance Report for November 2023 was considered and cheques totalling £385.18 were approved for payment, after which DPC held funds totalling £23,851.56. Cllr O'Boyle verified the reconciliation between DPC's cash book and bank statement 347.

Councillors considered a first draft of DPC's 2024-2025 Precept Budget. Further information and costings were awaited. The budget would be further considered and voted on at the meeting on 24th January 2024.

Any Other Business: The Chairman said the complaint made against Cllr Rattu was not being pursued.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 24th January 2024 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall

Agendas and full copies of the Minutes can be viewed by visiting the Diddlebury Parish Council website at 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 519 282. diddleburypc@outlook.com.

Please note DPC's new email address

MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2023

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer (Chair), Val Fotheringham, Nigel Dobson, Andy Johnson, Ed Povey, Chris Meeson and Graham Williams.

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

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Antonia Bury.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Povey (Planning: The Miller House).

Public Forum: Ten members of the public were in

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attendance. Comments on Planning - Aston Hall - there were concerns about the visibility from the higher ground surrounding, including footpaths, the middle Corvedale valley. The hedge referred to in the application is not owned by the applicant. The application already approved for solar panels is preferable. It would remove the beauty of the area for residents as it could be seen from properties in Aston Munslow. It would be very noticeable from local footpaths affecting the views. The proposed shielding will not be effective in the winter. The proposed work will include traffic jams on the B4368. Although not in the AONB and Conservation Area it would affect the views from it, thus affecting businesses and tourism. They are only of benefit to the applicant rather than the whole community. The glare from the panels for traffic on the B4368 is of concern (this Item was brought forward to this point in the meeting by the

Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 2nd November 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Urgent Items for discussion at the discretion of the Chair: There were none.

Reports: The Chair had no issues in addition to those on the agenda.

Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley reported that the council had made substantial changes so far in its attempts to reduce the £51 million deficit. It had not had to make any staff redundant but had made savings by reorganising services. The government had provided £5 million for potholes. Ofsted was reviewing the Children's Services and there was a planned inspection of Adult Social Care by the Care Quality Commission.

Beambridge Club Room – Cllr Dobson reported that the Annual General Meeting was held on 21st November. They are planning future events and refurbishments. The Clerk reported that there had been no response so far from the Land Registry regarding the registration of the lease.

Highways: B4368 Report and Meeting with Shropshire Council: Three dates in January 2024 would be provided to SC for a meeting with four representatives each from Munslow and Diddlebury Parish Councils to discuss the report.

Vehicle Activated Signs – the new post requested from Shropshire Council had not yet been provided. The Clerk continues to request that this work be completed.

Environmental Maintenance and New Tasks: the contractor had been working around Aston Munslow and Rowe Lane to clear drains and cut back verges.

Planning: 23/04654/FUL Change of use of annexe to separate dwelling, subdivision of outdoor amenity space, conversion of stables into annexe to new dwelling, and installation of solar panels on roof of existing garage, The Chains, Munslow SY7 9ET. Members resolved to make representation to Shropshire Council a. noting the previous planning application conditions b. overdevelopment of the site.

23/04903/LBC Replacement of two casement windows on the northern elevation of the northern wing of the Miller House, Munslow, SY7 9ET. Cllr Povey left this meeting for this item. It was agreed to support the application.

23/04929/FUL Aston Hall, Aston Munslow, SY7 9ER Erection of storage building, and installation of PV panels, irrigation

borehole and water storage tank. Members resolved to object to the application on the following grounds: A. visibility from footpaths, bridleways and properties along a large section of the middle Corvedale B. within metres and visible from the Aston Munslow Conservation Area, listed properties in Aston Munslow Village C. some of the hedging that is being proposed to be used for screening does not belong to the applicant D. will affect local businesses by reducing the attractiveness of the area E. the previous application for the solar panels was more acceptable F. Lengthy traffic issues caused by the need to route the power lines under the B4368 and the work involved in the scheme itself G. the scheme does not benefit the local community but will have a considerable detrimental effect upon it and visitors to Shropshire H. concerns about the glare from the panels on traffic on the B4368 I. the PV panels will vastly affect the beauty of the area, impacting local businesses J. the omission of a Heritage Impact Assessment K. it is important that the AONB consultation is followed up as this scheme will have detrimental effects upon it even though it is just outside of the AONB L. the visual impact assessment only considered a very small area and did not consider the whole of the middle Corvedale which will be affected by this development.

Correspondence: Members noted correspondence with the Millichope Foundation regarding a contribution toward the cost of drawing up the lease for Beambridge Club Room, and the transfer of funds re the Corvedale Walking and Footpath Group. The Council thanked the Group and will hold the funds for work on footpaths within Munslow Parish.

Accounts: Clerk's Pay: it was agreed to increase the Clerk's weekly hours to five from 1 December 2023 and review the pay rate annually starting on I July 2024. The Clerk's contract will be changed to reflect this. The Clerk will move to point 12 on the NJC SCP scale from 1 October 2023 to recognise the achievement of the Certificate in Local Council Administration and the period of service. Back pay from 1 April 2023 for the 2023-24 pay award was also agreed.

Budget and Precept: The budget was adopted and the precept was set at £6,620.24, an increase of 17.84%. A report would be published in the Corvedale News.

It was agreed to appoint Mr Kevin Adams as the Auditor for 2024-2025.

Payments were authorised to: H Coonick (salary including back pay and rate changes as per above) £900.95 and travel expenses £27.90 (Oct-Dec), H Coonick £33.29 (reimbursement for postage, inks and collection boxes), D Lewis £68.00 inv 437 (Environmental Maintenance) and authorisation for the December invoice. Mr R Lane £94.00 (Munslow Burial Ground Maintenance).

Item for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Thursday 1st February 2024 at Beambridge Village Hall: Update on the B4368 meeting.

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

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Diddlebury Parish Flood Action Group

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PARISH CLERKS & WEBSITES

Abdon & Heath Parish Clerk

Wendy Richards, 07813 271274, abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com

Culmington Parish Council Clerk

Heather Coonick, 07817 607355, culmingtonpc@googlemail.com

Diddlebury Parish Council Clerk

Mrs Jean de Rusett, 01547 519282, diddleburypc@outlook.com

Munslow Parish Council Clerk

Heather Coonick, 07817 607355, munslowpc@gmail.com

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: martinggcn@gmail.com

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

Beambridge Club Room

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

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Jeff Williams, 01584 861849, culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com

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Corvedale Artists

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Corvedale Folk Club

lan 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

Diddlebury Dancing Group

Sally Woodhouse, 01584 841265, 07813 019010 sallyewhome@yahoo.co.uk

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.





THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2024

	4TH FEBRUARY 2nd Sunday before Lent	11TH FEBRUARY Sunday next before Lent	18TH FEBRUARY Lent 1	25TH FEBRUARY Lent 2	3RD MARCH Lent 3
ABDON		9:45 HC		6pm Compline	
BROADSTONE			8:30 HC		
CULMINGTON	11:15 HC		6pm Songs of Praise	8:30 HC (BCP)	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		

Wednesday 14th February, Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion at 7:30pm at Abdon.

Compline for Lent 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings:

21st Feb at Diddlebury, 28th Feb at Tugford, 6th March at Munslow, 13th March at Holdgate, 20th March at Culmington, 27th March at Broadstone.

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