

THE CORVEDALE NEWS

NOVEMBER 2023
The Corvedale's Community Magazine



Munslow War Memorial

COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT



SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE

To access information and advice:

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

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

**FREE Citizens Advice Consumer
Helpline:** 0808 223 1133

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

On the web
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

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

54 Broad Street, Ludlow, SY8 1GP

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



SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL SUPPORT AND 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**.

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 1QZ
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

COPY FOR DECEMBER 2023 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the **December 2023** magazine, please send by email to editor@corvedalenews.co.uk by **MONDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2023** 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 20TH NOVEMBER 2023** 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.

FINANCE If you have an outstanding subscription, please pass it to your distributor. If this is not possible, you can contact our Treasurer (giving your name and address): *Tony Bennett, Lower Middle Barn, Corfton, SY7 9LB*.

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Ms C Morgan	Ludlow	Sutton
Mrs P Baynham	Garage Cottage, Westhope	Westhope

WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE



Mini Moos

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 9th November



CORVEDALE ARTISTS

meet every Tuesday
from 10.00 am until 1.00pm in
Beambridge Village Hall

Portrait Model and Still Life
provided at each session
with tuition, or bring your
own artwork

**£8.00 per
session**

A warm welcome awaits new
members of all abilities
so why not come along?

For further information
telephone 01299 832608

Corvedale Folk Club

at The Seven Stars, Broadstone
on Monday 27th November
at 7.30pm

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

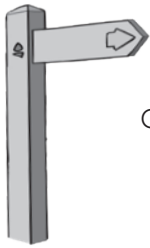
Meetings will be the 4th Monday of each month

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:
NOV: Wed 22nd, Fri 24th, Sun 26th



Enjoy singing?
Corvedale Choir



is looking for new members who love to sing

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@gmail.com or 01584 861 339

PAGE'S MEADOW TALKS AND FILMS



JOE PIMBLETT CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Find out how the Trust is working towards a healthy, resilient River Severn for everyone!

Joe will talk about river restoration, community work on the river and farming with the environment advice and grants.

**7.30pm Thursday 9th
November 2023**

CLEE ST MARGARET VILLAGE HALL

ALL welcome donation suggested £3.00. Includes tea coffee local apple juice and biscuits.

DIDDLEBURY CHURCH
Christmas Fair
2pm Saturday
2nd December
at
Diddlebury Village Hall
Gifts, Prizes, Teas
Santa's Grotto



*Stanton Lacy
Artisan
Craft Fair*

*Stanton Lacy Village Hall
1.00-4.30pm
Sat 11th Nov 2023*

Further details from
AJ Gatehouse on 07971 916167

CLEE ST MARGARET'S

HISTORY

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
19th**
2.00 - 3.30pm
Village Hall


A talk by Lesley Thirlwell exploring the history of Clee St Margaret from the Iron Age to the present day.
Followed by refreshments and discussion.

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
26th**
2.00 - 3.30pm
Village Hall

An opportunity to look at artefacts and documents found in and around the village and interpret their historical context.

Have you found anything interesting? Bring it along for us to look at. Anything historic you've found that you'd like to tell us about? If you don't know what it is, let us see if we can help!

Page's Meadow Talks and Films.
£3 contribution towards the event and refreshments appreciated.



**All Saints Church
Culmington**

Past; Present; Future
Sunday 5th November 2023 2-4pm

All Saints Church PCC would like to welcome you to this wonderful church for an afternoon where we :

Celebrate what All Saints has meant to the parish; How did that spire get there?
Share what we are currently doing and what support is needed to keep going

Look to the future

What does the Culmington Parish and Corvedale Group of parishes need to do to keep both the ministry and church alive for all.

Come along and be part of the conversation

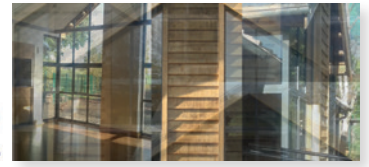

For over 600 years All Saints Church has been an important part of our community; a place marking for all the passages of life; so how do we move forward together as a vibrant, living, relevant faith in this ever changing world?

There will be something for all including tea and cake and "I spy" for children (or the child in all of us!) both inside and outside the church

DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org








Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall

Starring Tom Cruise
Mission Impossible
Dead Reckoning Part 1 12A
 7.45 pm Thursday 23rd November
 Doors & Bar Open: 7.15 pm
 Tickets: £5 (Card machine)

Curry Night
 Homemade
 Punjabi
 curries, onion bhajis
 and samosas
Friday 17th November
 Bar open from 5.30 pm
 Food from 5.30 – 9.30 pm

Christmas Quiz
Wednesday 6th December
 7.00 pm Bar opens
 7.30 pm Quiz starts
Teams of 4
Booking essential
 via DVH Facebook page
 Or 01584 841265

	<p>RSPB South Shropshire Local Group Terry Moore - Wildlife Photography (Finalist on BBC Countryfile Calendar for 2024) Admission: Local Group Members £2; visitors £5 including refreshments</p>	<p>19.30 Tuesday 14th November</p>
	<p>Move Well - Keep Well Gentle Yoga, Pilates, stretching and other gentle movements. Movement Workshop with Jill Wallbank To Book: email jill@yogabodymatters.com or call 07813 055145</p>	<p>2 hours from 10 am Sunday 19th November</p>
	<p>Mini Moos Baby & Toddler Group Baby Area, Toddlers Area, Ride Ons, Craft Activities, Song Time and Lots More. £2.50 per Family See Facebook for more information:</p>	<p>Mondays 10.00 - 12.00 Term time</p>
	<p>The Corvedale Choir is a mixed-voice community choir whose members enjoy singing a wide variety of music, whilst not taking themselves too seriously. Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.</p>	<p>Mondays 19.30-21.30</p>
	<p>The Blue Hills Choir meets weekly to sing classical music. All are welcome to join this friendly choir. Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.</p>	<p>Tuesdays 10.00-12.00</p>
	<p>Zumba is a Latin-inspired dance workout that is primarily an aerobic workout and it's all about having fun. Contact Cat: zumbawithcat@outlook.com /07817 448832</p>	<p>Tuesdays 18.00</p>
	<p>Tai Chi - benefits include improving balance, lowering blood pressure, feeling calm, energized and improving core strength. Contact Enid Gill: enidgill21@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Thursdays 10.00-11.00</p>
	<p>The Corvedale Book Group enjoys lively discussions of the books obtained from the Shropshire Library Service. Contact Cath Burley: cathburley@hotmail.com</p>	<p>2nd Thursday each month 19.30</p>

WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

October has been another busy month. The Harvest Supper was well attended and was a great success, with everyone enjoying the three-course meal and entertainment by Paul Ray. He made everyone laugh, which is just what we all need in these times of such uncertainty. A huge THANK YOU for all the volunteer helpers setting up and laying tables etc., all the kitchen helpers and organisers. Without this teamwork we would not be able to hold events like this.

We have just taken delivery of a defibrillator, kindly donated by Sally at the Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust. This will be mounted on the outside of the village hall in full view of the road.

Training on how to use the defibrillator has been arranged for **Saturday 18th November** 10:30am - 12noon at the village hall. We are inviting anyone who would like to learn how to use a defibrillator to come and join us. You never know when it might be needed to save a life. Please do come along to this vitally important session, it costs nothing. Tea and coffee will be served.

The skittles season has begun with our first game against Culmington, a lovely sociable evening with Jo and her team. Thank you all, we are looking forward to the coming season.

Our centenary events for 2024 are still in the planning. There are some dates for your diary opposite.

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

NOVEMBER (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 Wednesday, 3.30 - 4.30pm.

All enquiries Sue Pugh 07432 349 933 or Betty 07860 447 397.

Skittles Evening

Friday 10th November

With the Corvedale group of Churches.

Christmas Prize Bingo

Saturday 9th December 7.00 for 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome.

Race Night

Saturday 20th January

It is proposed to have eight races and we will be looking for sponsors for each race. A great fun night out.

Tapas Evening & Show

Saturday 16th March

With Paul Ray 'unusualist' comedian, magician, vocalist.

Centenary Celebration Party

Sunday June 9th

CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - NOVEMBER

Coffee Morning

Monday 6th and every following Monday, 10am - 11.30am

Everyone welcome! Mug of tea or coffee for £1 with free refills plus a biscuit or two.

Bridge Club

Monday 6th and every following Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm

Contact Peter Whitehead pst.whitehead@gmail.com

Can Do Crafts -

Simple Textile Printing and Stamping

Saturday 11th 10.00am - 12.30pm

£25 includes all materials and refreshments. Contact Rosemary Jones to book your place via Facebook or on 07837 609 229

Lunch Club

Thursday 16th, 12.30pm for 1pm

Join us for a delicious two-course meal for only £10 plus a raffle and a bar. Vegetarian option available.

Let us know in advance so we know numbers.

Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666 or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 787.

St Andrew's Lunch

Sunday 26th November

£15 for three-course meal. Please book with Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666.

FUTURE EVENTS

Christmas Fayre

Friday 1st December

Come along for some festive fun.

Contact Jo on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

The Men from Off

Friday 8th December

A local singing group who perform folk, shanties and the like. Bar open at 7pm, performance starts at 7:30. Tickets £5.

Contact John Hart on 01584 861 802

Can Do Crafts - Nordic Felt Decorations and Christmas Rag Wreaths

Saturday 9th December, 10am to 12.30pm

£25 includes all materials and refreshments. Contact Rosemary Jones to book your place via Facebook or on 07837 609 229.

RSPB Walks & Talks

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

WALKS

25th November - Wood Lane / Colemere

14th December - Bromfield

TALKS 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall

14th Nov Terry Moore - Celebrating Shropshire Wildlife

12th Dec Geoff Hall - Shropshire and Beyond



STANTON LACY VILLAGE HALL

EVENTS NOVEMBER 2023

Pub Night every Wednesday at 8.00pm

Artisan Craft Fair

Saturday 11th November, 1 - 4.30pm

Community Coffee Mornings

First and third Wednesday of the month 10am - 12noon.

For more details ring Phyllis 01584 823 436

Hayton & District WI

Second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm.

For more details ring Phyllis 01584 823 436.

New Year's Eve with 'Elvis'

Steve Knight joins us again to celebrate the arrival of 2024.

Info and tickets: AJ Gatehouse 07971 916 167

For more info.

Email: slvh.info@gmail.com

or Facebook: Stanton Lacy Village Hall Events

ABDON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - NOVEMBER

Coffee Morning

Saturday 25th, 10.30am to 12.30pm

This coffee morning will be our last one of 2023. As Christmas will be just around the corner we will have a Christmas theme coffee morning with mince pies, and other yummy Christmas goodies! Do come and join us!

We do not have a coffee morning in December, but we will be back in 2024, as usual on **Saturday 27th January 2024!** Happy New Year.

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

CORVEDALE FESTIVAL UPDATE AND 2024 DATES!

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who supported this year's Corvedale Festival in any way. Whether you attended one concert or all of them, supplied sandwiches or cake, distributed publicity, helped with accommodation, fundraised, supervised parking, put flowers in your church or did something else I've not thought of – **thank you!**

Secondly, believe it or not, preparations are already underway for the 2024 festival. For those of you planning holidays or other commitments in September, the dates for next year are **20th - 28th September 2024**. If you are keen to be kept in the loop as to what's happening, do join the mailing list if you haven't already done so. You can do this either via the website, www.corvedalefestival.org or by emailing Ruth at corvedalefestival@gmail.com

Finally, the launch event will be happening on **11th May 2024** at Diddlebury Village Hall. Be among the first to see the programme for next September's main event and help support next year's Festival.

Ruth Henley



Bringing Christmas Cheer To All
This December

Whether it be a quiet christmas dinner for 2, or a festive outing for friends & family, we have everything covered.

Bring us a xmas decoration for our tree and get a free drink too.
(1 drink only per customer)

Our Christmas Menu served from November 29th, can be found on our website at www.thetallyho.co.uk

Bookings can be made via our website or call us directly on 01584 841830

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 Tues	Blue Hills Choir	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tues	Corvedale Artists	Beambridge Club Room	10am
Every Tues	Zumba	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	Yoga	Westhope Village Hall	3.30pm
Every Thur	Tai Chi	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am

NOVEMBER 2023

2nd	Thu	Clover Club	Westhope Village Hall	2pm
2nd	Thu	Munslow Parish Council Meeting	Munslow Village Hall	7.30pm
5th	Sun	Past; Present; Future	All Saint's Church, Culmington	2pm
7th	Tue	Culmington Parish Council Meeting	Culmington Village Hall	7pm
9th	Thu	Craft Group	Diddlebury Church Room	2pm
9th	Thu	Corvedale Book Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Thu	Page's Meadow Talks	Clee St Margaret Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Thu	Hayton & District WI	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
10th	Fri	Skittles Evening	Westhope Village Hall	TBA
11th	Sat	Can Do Crafts: Simple Textile Printing & Stamping	Culmington Village Hall	10am
11th	Sat	Garden Group Talk: Prepare for the Perfect Spring	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
11th	Sat	Artisan Craft Fair	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	1pm
13th	Mon	Act of Remembrance	Diddlebury War Memorial	10.50am
14th	Tue	RSPB Talk: Terry Moore - Wildlife Photography	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
16th	Thu	Warm Hub Coffee Morning	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
16th	Thu	Lunch Club	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
17th	Fri	Curry Night	Diddlebury Village Hall	5.30pm
18th	Sat	Defibrillator Training	Westhope Village Hall	10.30am
19th	Sun	Move Well - Keep Well	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
19th	Sun	Clee St Margaret's History	Clee St Margaret Village Hall	2pm
20th	Mon	Corvedale News Copy Deadline		
22nd	Wed	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
22nd	Wed	Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
23rd	Thu	Flicks in the Sticks: Mission Impossible Dead Reckoning Part 1	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.15pm
24th	Fri	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
25th	Sat	RSPB Walk	Wood Lane / Colemere	TBA
25th	Sat	Coffee Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
26th	Sun	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
26th	Sun	St Andrew's Lunch	Culmington Village Hall	TBA
26th	Sun	Clee St Margaret's Artifacts	Clee St Margaret Village Hall	2pm
27th	Mon	Corvedale Folk Club	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
30th	Thu	Warm Hub Coffee Morning	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
30th	Thu	Corvedale & District Autumn Show AGM	Diddlebury Church Room	TBA

ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Village Halls: Abdon - Page 9, Culmington - Page 8, Diddlebury - Page 7, Stanton Lacy - Page 9, Westhope - Page 8
The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 20th November

CHURCH NEWS

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

The new Church year begins on Advent Sunday, which this year is on 3rd December, so we are now approaching this Church year's end. As we do so we are encouraged to think particularly about how the things we have heard about during the previous eleven months affect the world of today. Whilst this is something we really should be thinking about all the time it is good to be prompted to take time to do it. One of the times which brings this into a particular focus is Remembrance. As I write this the war in Ukraine continues, but it has largely been knocked out of the headlines by the events in the Holy Land. Whatever I write about the Israel/Palestine situation will be massively out of date by the time you read this, but it is important that we remember that on both sides are many people longing to get on with living their lives and supporting their families but who have suddenly found themselves caught up in a horrendous situation.

Amongst the various hats I wear I am Chaplain to the Ludlow Air Cadets. Every year I spend time with them in the weekends before Remembrance Sunday helping to sell poppies. As I do this, every year someone tells me that as one of the clergy I should not be taking part in the glorification of war. If I was taking part in the glorification of war I would agree with them, but that's not what I think Remembrance is about. As we remember, and give thanks for, those who fought so that we can enjoy the lives we lead here, we need to think too about the world of today, praying for those who are not able to live in the same way as us because they live in war zones or under oppression. We need to pray for those, including members of the armed forces, who work to make the world a safer place for all its people.

Details of the services on Remembrance Day are given elsewhere in this magazine. There will also be an Act of Remembrance at Diddlebury War Memorial at 10:50am on **Monday 13th November**. Do join us.

Rev'd John Beesley

DIDDLEBURY CHURCH

WANTED! HOLY DUSTERS / HOOVERING HEROES



Some time ago I asked for volunteers to help with church cleaning, and Sharon and Clive kindly answered the call. Now I am putting out another plea. After a quarter of a century, Megan is now giving up church cleaning due to the worsening of her back problems, and we really need at least two more individuals or couples to join the rota.

The task is not onerous (they always say this when looking for volunteers, but it is true!) It consists of hoovering between the pews, along the aisles, and the chancel. Woodwork has a light dusting, and we have tended to spray polish on a different block of pews each time, though this is not essential. We have tried to ensure that the church is cleaned each month. This means that if there are three volunteers or couples of volunteers, they will do it four times a year. If there are more than three, the frequency diminishes accordingly. It has usually taken Megan and myself about an hour and a half to get the job done.

If you would like to volunteer, your help would be really appreciated. If you would like to volunteer, or would like to know more, please telephone Megan on 841650.

CRAFT GROUP

I have been asked to remind readers that the Craft Group meets on the second Thursday of each month from 2 until 4pm. The November meeting will be in the Church Room, and all are welcome to come and practise their crafts or just to enjoy the chat. Why not try it?

CHRISTMAS FAIR

You will see elsewhere in the magazine that the Diddlebury Church and Village Hall Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday 2nd December**. I have it on good authority that Father Christmas will be there!

Martin Speight

FLOWERS & BRASSES

November 2023

5th Liz Jones
12th Liz Jones

19th Liz Jones
26th Liz Jones

LOOK UP

LOOK DOWN

LOOK AROUND

YOUR PARISH CHURCH
ALL SAINTS CULMINGTON
SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2023
2.00—4.00pm
Discover its history, architecture and
future plans
Play the "I Spy" Quiz
Finish with Tea and Cakes

DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE WI

Members met at Westhope Village Hall for a short business meeting before welcoming Craven Arms Ladies for our annual Tom & Henry challenge cup.

Craven Arms Ladies won the first round, and, fortified by the usual excellent refreshments provided by the Craven Arms team Diddlebury & Westhope, helped out by three members of the Westhope Skittles team, managed to draw the first game of the second round. They were, though, soundly beaten in the second round and the cup was retained by the Craven Arms Ladies. Gwyn Morgan was declared 'Woman of the match.'

It was the usual good-humoured evening, and we look forward to meeting the ladies next year and having a good try at winning back the cup.

Mary Holland

HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

Our meeting on 12th October was unfortunately cut short as our scheduled speaker, Child Psychologist Suzy Hopkins, was unexpectedly called away for personal reasons and unable to attend, but she hopes there will be another opportunity to deliver her well-thought-out talk, Hiding in Plain Sight on a future occasion.

Interestingly enough, the meeting turned out not to be short at all, as the eleven of us present took the opportunity to discuss the future of our WI branch. This has suffered somewhat in the last year going from twenty-five members to seventeen, along with some committee resignations and a general feeling by many for change. Many positive ideas and suggestions were put forward and discussed, giving us plenty to raise at our forthcoming AGM in November. That will be on **Thursday 9th November** at 7:30pm and it would great to see as many current members as possible to offer their thoughts on the matters raised and to share their own thoughts about the future of the branch. All suggestions and ideas will be more than welcome. This is also the opportunity for members to put themselves forward for any vacant committee roles. Positive change is important to ensure the future of the branch. We want to remain an inclusive, forward thinking, fun branch and encourage new members to join us.

To any ladies interested in further information about the WI and, if considering joining our branch, please contact our President, Phyllis Steventon on 01584 823 436 or Secretary, Amanda Brooks at hayton.district.wi@gmail.com.

Louise Gough

READER'S LETTER

Coming in the same period as the tragic Hadrian's Wall sycamore vandalism, congratulations to Jill Wardle for her brilliant Corvedale oak which we feel merits national recognition or at the very least submitting to Midland News.

Val and Jeremy Hardwick

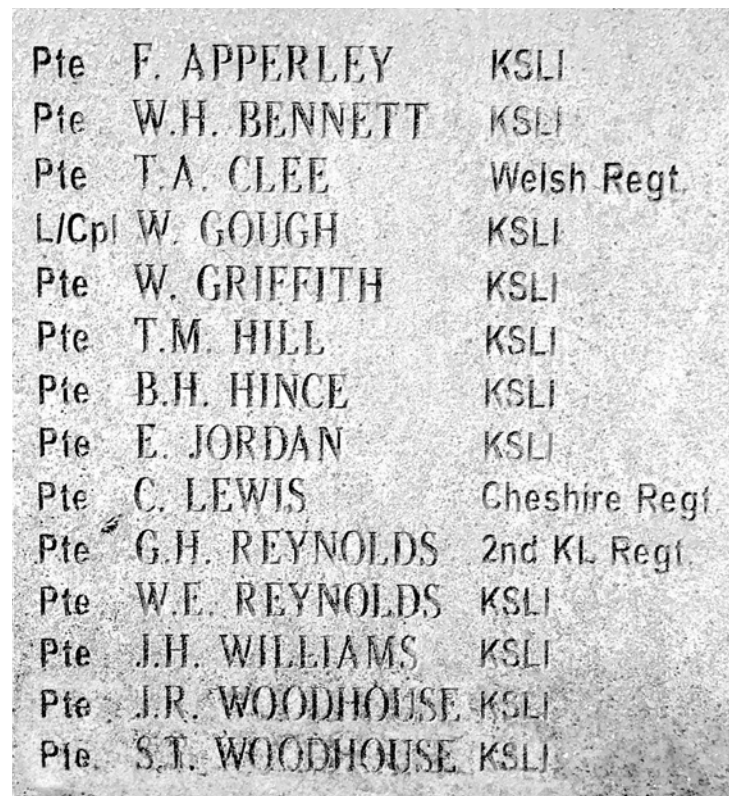
THE WAR MEMORIAL

The war memorial stands stark and cold
Against the evening sky
It was erected here many years ago
In memory of war service men who die.

There's a few flowers in front ,and a poppy wreath
To add colour to the old grey stone
But there's a wealth of meaning and utter content
As I stand and gaze alone

I read the roll of honour names,
Pressed in that old grey stone
Family and friends from years gone by
Many of them now unknown.

Kath Woodhouse



Diddlebury War Memorial

WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



Unfortunately, only three members arrived for the bingo session - Dot, John and Kath, along with Betty our caller. So we enjoyed doing the quiz, had a prize draw, and a tea party. Hopefully, we will be back to normal on **Thursday 2nd November**, when Jacki will be telling us about her life as an Air Traffic Controller. Mary will be taking details for our Christmas lunch. Everyone welcome.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

CHARLES LEWIS

50727 PRIVATE 11TH BATTALION CHESHIRE REGIMENT

Born 1897 in Bromfield, one of seven children of John Lewis, farm labourer, and his wife Annie. His siblings were: William (1889), John (1890), Agnes Frances (1894), Margery Annie (1895), Sidney James (1899) and Gladys May (1909). In 1911 the family were living at Pools Cottage, Bromfield though they had moved to Sparchford Villa, Stanton Lacy by 1915.

Charles attested, aged 18, on 24 November 1915 and was called up on 18 September 1916. At his medical he was 5ft 3½" tall, had a 30" chest and weighed 7 stone 7lbs. He also required dental treatment. Charles was then working as a labourer at Church Farm, Diddlebury. After five months training Charles had put on 9lbs in weight and 1" on his chest.

Charles landed in France on 27 February 1917. After returning from home leave on 8 March 1918 Charles was listed as missing in action on 21 March 1918 at the start of the German Spring Offensive. His parents received a card informing them

that he was a prisoner of war and German records state that he was not wounded when captured. However in September 1918 they were told that he had died, aged 20, on 2 July 1918 at the Auxiliary Hospital, Hohenzollern Park, Magdeburg. This occurred whilst having his left upper arm amputated.

Charles is buried in Berlin Southwest Cemetery.



Cheshire Regiment Badge

FIVE BROTHERS WENT TO WAR

Samuel, Richard, Harry, Bert and George Woodhouse, five brothers from the Corvedale, all fought in WWI. Samuel and Richard were already serving in the King's Shropshire Light Infantry when war broke out.



Samuel & Richard Woodhouse



Harry Woodhouse

Unfortunately, Samuel and Richard died in the service of their country and are commemorated on the Diddlebury War Memorial. Harry, Bert and George all returned home safely.

Harry was grandad to the current Woodhouse family living in Middlehope. He worked with horses during the war, serving in the Veterinary Corp in WWI and the Home Guard in WWII. Note the horse whip in the photograph rather than a gun. He returned to farm work at Shipton.

Bert was gassed very badly, and only ever did light gardening after the war. George lost a leg due to war wounds and went on to become a butcher.

Kath Woodhouse

QUIZ NIGHT AT DIDDLEBURY

Thanks to all the quizzers who turned up for our first DVH quiz night. It was a really enjoyable evening with keen and close competition and a great atmosphere throughout the evening.

Winners on the night were 'The Check Shirts' - initially a group of three who were very pleased to not only find someone who was looking to join a team but then go on to win the quiz!

Thanks to all who bought 'squares' in the draw. And a big thank you to Shirley, who having won both first and second prize, kindly donated her first prize to the two junior quizzers who had drawn her numbers out of the bag.

The top three scores were:

The Check Shirts 88
Top of the Dale 87
The Spare Parts 84.5

Special thanks to Jean Drakes for compiling a very interesting and varied set of questions - well done Jean!

Our next quiz will be a CHRISTMAS QUIZ on **Wednesday 6th December**. Make sure to put the date in your diary.

Kim Simm



The winning team

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



A MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

November is a month of Remembrance. We get led into the month via Halloween, when it was believed the spirits of the dead appeared and witches were out and about. While All Hallows Eve has been modernised, mainly by American imports, the celebrations - a strange word to use perhaps, when people used to mark the death of loved ones - have been toned down.

In the past, remembering these early November days was a reason for festivities. Fires were lit, church bells rang out, prayers for the dead were said and souling customs happened. On 1st November - All Saints' Day - the local church would be busy with services and prayers for the dead. Meanwhile, the local children would be going round the village 'a-souling', begging for soul cakes. Beggars were also asking too, as charity was seen as part of the revels.

It is believed that soul cakes were still popular in Staffordshire and Shropshire until the 1950s. The cakes were more like biscuits than sponge and had currants in them. All Souls day on 2nd November was a more serious day after the previous night's enjoyment, but fasting and abstinence did not stop children and beggars from asking for cakes.

*Remember, remember the fifth of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot;*

Hardly have we stopped thinking of our loved ones, than it's time to remember Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators' failure to blow up King and Parliament in 1605. Bonfires and effigies of Fawkes and friends were made and thrown on top of the blaze as a reminder of what happens when you commit

treason. Children would beg for ha'pennies and farthings and even more cake!

Parkin was popular as was something called Thar or Tharf cake. Parkin I know well, as it is still a popular version of ginger cake. My mother was a Lancastrian and on Bonfire Night we ate Parkin. Thar cake was made with similar ingredients, oatmeal, butter and treacle, but, like soul-cake, was more a biscuit than a sponge, and has not survived.

So now we come to Remembrance as we mark it each year. The 11th day of November 1918 saw the end to what should surely have been the 'war to end all wars'. World War I ended at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month and has been marked in Europe ever since, now incorporating remembrance of WWII and all that have followed.

We have come a small way through this month when the idea of remembrance has been marked in a variety of ways. And we have moved through prayers to frivolity and effigies and lots of cake to what is now a solemn occasion. So let's finish with the fourth verse of Laurence Binyon's poem, 'For the Fallen':

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We shall remember them.*

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

MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

On 23rd September Munslow and the other local WI groups hosted a barbeque and ceilidh at the village hall. This event was well attended by WI members and their partners, and many families from Munslow. We all enjoyed a great barbecue before the dancing got under way. The ceilidh was a lot of fun and enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see so many children from the village joining in and having such a good time.

The following weekend on 30th September we were very busy again as the village hall hosted a breakfast in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support and the village hall charity. This event was organised by Chair of the village hall committee, Mr Alan Golden. Alan got together a number of volunteers to cook and serve the breakfast. These hardworking men cooked and served a delicious full English breakfast, as well as tea, coffee, toast with homemade jam and marmalade, to around 40 very satisfied people from all over the Corvedale.



Alan had arranged with local businesses to donate all the food. D. W. Wall and Son, butchers in Craven Arms, donated bacon, sausages, and black pudding. Tuffins supermarket in Craven Arms donated milk, bread, butter, and fruit juices. Matt and Anabelle of Hundred House coffee donated lovely fresh coffee, and Gareth Morgan a farmer at Little Sutton Farm donated 180 fresh eggs. This meant that 100% of the money raised on the day, an amazing £425, will be divided between Macmillan and the village hall charity. Our grateful thanks to all those who did the hard work, and all of you who came along to support us.

Our warm hub coffee mornings at the village hall will be back this autumn and winter, beginning on **Thursday 16th November**, then **Thursday 30th November**, and **Thursday 14th December**, all from 10.30am until 12 noon. Further dates will follow. It was so good to have such opportunities to meet up last winter, and we look forward to seeing you all again.

Lesley Dobson

CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP

With recent Midlands news items highlighting the year's fantastic local grape harvest, it was a great opportunity for the Corvedale Garden Group to visit Coddington Vineyard, situated between Ledbury and Malvern. We were, therefore, able to admire not only the 2300 vines, but also the beautiful gardens which feature terraces, wildflowers and a woodland walk alongside a large pond and stream. A visit earlier in the year would reveal masses of spring bulbs, primulas, hostas, and hellebores. However, at this stage in the season the garden was full of late flowering roses, verbena bonariensis, ferns and late flowering perennials such as asters, rudbeckias and astrantia.

The current owners of the vineyard have lived in the beautiful Grade 2 listed property complex (house, barns, and apple press house) for just over 11 years. Initially, the focus was on the 400-year-old house, then the garden, before they finally started the A4 sheet of instructions on how to manage a vineyard! From four hundred bottles of wine produced in their early years, 4,000 bottles are the norm today. Reflecting on the transition, the owner pondered on the hard work but also the great enjoyment.

The house has a superb view onto the garden, and we took a circular walk alongside the large pond and the stream flowing from it towards the woodland area and then up to the vines. The hamamelis are clearly enjoying their position along the stream with the cornus, while the Persian ironwood (*Parrotia persica*), Ginkgo, Indianbeantree and the *Betula Jacquemontii* (white stemmed birch trees) were worth pointing out. The autumn colour from the Liquidambar (sweetgum) will also be spectacular. Six thousand wild daffodil bulbs have been

planted in what is now a wild area and we learned that, after 5 years, the owl box has been occupied, its occupants with the two resulting owlets clearly enticed by the longer grasses growing below, habitat for voles and other small creatures offering a ready-made food supply. Another section of the garden contained some old species of fruit trees. The quince was heavily laden, and the Pitmaston Pineapple (an old apple variety) offered an interesting texture as well as a rich flavour with pineapple notes.

Harvesting of the Bacchus and Ortega grapes had been in full swing for a few weeks, but the Pinot Gris grapes were hanging heavily on the stems ready to be picked. The two-acre vineyard is south facing and with its own special sheltered microclimate produces a small selection of acclaimed wines, available to buy in the old apple press house. The Garden Group was fortunate in being offered a tasting of both the Bacchus and Pinot wines and a few sales were made!

The Garden Group's final meeting for 2023 is on **Saturday 11th November** at 10.00am in Diddlebury Village Hall. This should not be missed as Tamsin Westhorpe of Stockton Bury Gardens offers her gardening advice on how to 'Prepare for the Perfect Spring.' Gardening is and always has been a major part of Tamsin's life. She is both a practical firsthand gardener and someone extremely well regarded in the horticultural field. As an entertaining, humorous, and knowledgeable speaker this talk should not be missed by anyone aiming to create a fabulous garden in 2024. Admission is £10 to include refreshments and there will be a raffle.

Val Fotheringham

CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

The annual Corvedale and District Autumn show on 9th September was a huge success, with a good number of entries across all categories of a high standard. This year's show coincided with the school fete, which added to the numbers. Supporters of Corvedale School (SOCS), once again, served tasty afternoon teas and homemade cakes and scones which appeared to go down well. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks everyone for making it such a fun day.

AGM

The Corvedale and District Autumn Show committee is holding its Annual General Meeting on **Thursday, 30th November** at the Parish Room in Diddlebury (next to the church). If you have any ideas for next year's show or would like to get involved, please come along. Everyone welcome.

Ross Stokes



CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

NOTHING BUT GRASS BY WILL COHU



This month's book was published in 2015 and described by one reviewer as a 'memorable rural novel'. Cohu was a new author to the group, and this was his debut novel although he has published other non-fiction works and been a columnist for the Daily Telegraph. He lives in Lincolnshire, the location for this novel. Cohu himself describes the book as a romance in the sense that it has mystery and love and hopefully entertaining Gothic aspects. He says that it began with a strongly political enquiry about the bewilderment he experienced as a teenager at the conservatism of the people of Lincolnshire who had historically suffered so much. His love of the countryside and respect for the working people of rural Lincolnshire resonates through the book.

In the summer of 1985, two travellers walk south across the Lincolnshire Wolds to a village riven with dark secrets. When Norman Tanner kills his workmate and, he thinks he has gotten away with it. But he doesn't know about his workmate's girlfriend or the child who will come back to haunt him; and how he is caught up in a story that stretches back to that Victorian summer. For some in the village of Southby and its nearby grand estate, people are in charge of their fate and the world is full of meaning; for others, there is nothing but grass.

Set almost entirely in a small, vividly described part of the Lincolnshire Wolds, the main body of the novel is concerned with the 30-year period from 1985 to the present day, but there is an early section set in 1875 and the book returns to the Victorian period at its close. This allows the reader to visit and revisit the manor house, the market town, the woods, farms, and quarries, and watch them both persist and alter. It let's us see, too, the differing ways in which they are used and understood across time. The past informs the present in more direct ways, too. In *Nothing But Grass's* central incident, in 1985, when Norman kills his workmate with a spade and secretly buries him, the act creates a hidden instability like a sinkhole under the lives of not only Norman but a dozen of the book's other characters. Some years later a skeleton is dug up, but it proves to be from the Victorian era: another secret, another sinkhole, another distortion in the collective history of this ordinary Lincolnshire community.

There are no central characters; instead, a large cast of individuals and families arrive and depart over 30 years. Some of the group enjoyed this aspect of the novel but it made the

novel feel more like a series of short stories which left you wondering what was significant in uncovering the secrets and what was less so. Some of these short stories interrelated, sometimes closely, sometimes loosely, to each other rather than contributing to any central narrative. This feels much like life and the way it unfolds over time: our friendship groups form and dissolve and overlap like Venn diagrams, things matter and then fade, and there is much we don't know about our neighbours and relatives. However, this made it hard to keep track of all the characters and their relationships to one another. We found ourselves struggling to remember names, incidents, and the timeline!

Cohu is a writer who clearly understands human frailty, and one of the most appealing things about *Nothing But Grass* is the dignity it grants its characters. Nobody – not even the slow-witted Norman with his lethal edging spade – is easily judged or mocked. There is real compassion in the way the book traces the effects of time on people's hopes and dreams. It was refreshing to read a novel set in a rural location, and which depicts the lives of ordinary people so well.

Most of us enjoyed the book and wanted to uncover the truths and secrets held within it. We found it professionally written on the whole with evocative descriptions of places and clearly drawn pictures of the characters. However, it had some flaws. Cohu's male characters are stronger than his female ones, with the exception of Frances, the child mentioned earlier. The dialogue works well in places but elsewhere it doesn't always ring true. As the narrative approaches the present day, Cohu throws a lot of other contexts at it – the Iraq war, flooding, the financial crash - and this made the book seem a little over long and confused at times. But the desire to know what happened one hundred years ago, and whether Norman will get away with his more recent crime, is enough to hold the attention, while Cohu's insightful, moving depictions of both people and place illuminate what is an accomplished novel.

The group's next meeting will be at 7.30pm on **Thursday 9th November** at Culmington Village Hall when we will discuss *Home Going* by Yaa Gyasi, a story of two sisters with quite different destinies: one sold into slavery; one a slave trader's wife.

Elaine Gardner

MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

Our concert with the Midlands Choir of the Year, Biddulph Male Voice Choir, early last month was really successful and well attended. On a fine warm evening, Holy Trinity Church provided the perfect acoustic for our voices, a venue that was really appreciated by our guests from Staffordshire, and one we will use again for future concerts.

By the time of publication, we will have also sung at Ditton Priors Village Hall to support fundraising for their church, having enjoyed performing in both venues previously.

November is a month of preparation for the choir in that we

look towards the Christmas period and review and add to our seasonal repertoire for performances in December. We will again be singing under the Corn Exchange at the Christmas Fayre on **December 2nd** from 11am and will be entertaining the Much Wenlock and Cressage Medical Practice Wellness Group on Tuesday afternoon, **5th December** in the Priory Hall.

We will finish the year with our own FREE Christmas concert for all as a thank you for your support at William Brookes School on **Tuesday 12th December**, with details of how you can attend in next month's publication.

Dick Langford, chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com, 01952 728 758

CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

NOVEMBER THOUGHTS ON OVALS, AND SOME OTHER SHAPES

When Linda suggested to me that we might have a little more about oval shapes this month I had to have a little think! If you look at the earth and man's impact on the land and the marks he has left, and still leaves on it, ovals appear everywhere both historically and down to the modern day, including all sorts of things from enclosures of unknown antiquity to contemporary stadia. Hardly surprising, I suppose, because when you look at the natural world, they are even more pervasive. It's a real shape of nature.

Let me try to explain.

Fractals seem to be a popular word these days. My poor understanding of them would probably drive anyone who understood any mathematics mad. It is, though, a fascinating subject, so here goes! A shape or pattern which seems random and isolated can, in fact, be repeated on various levels, from the tiniest to the most immense. So, one of our ancestors, standing on Nordy Bank two thousand five hundred years ago, developed from a single human cell which was ovoid in shape. The structure in which he or she stood is also ovoid, as is the shape of the trajectory of the innumerable planets circulating round numberless stars seen whilst gazing through a cloudless sky. Those stars themselves are not isolated but configured in galaxies, which, if represented in two dimensions, appear as ovoid shapes. These galaxies are, of course, three dimensional and, I understand, helical in shape: presumably, the two-dimensional dynamic ovoid spread into a third dimension. (I hope someone will correct me if this is wrong). As such, they are analogous to the human chromosomal arrangement which is also based on the helix. So, it begins to look like genetic information in a single human cell is arranged in a similar way to the largest structure in the universe that we can encompass with our small minds.

Going back to our stargazer on Nordy Bank (I am dictating this article to voice recognition which always interprets 'Nordy Bank' as 'naughty bank' – so much more entertaining!), every one of the trillions of cells in his or her body is reflecting an inconceivably massive structure in the heavens above.

To push this a little further, astronomers are now telling us that those galaxies consist of stars of all ages which are dying and being born. Exactly the same is true of the human cells which have replaced themselves many times since we were conceived.

The most spectacular example of this is in our guts! Some have calculated that every cell of our gut lining – the epithelium – is successively replaced in days (some say three, some say up to ten). Epithelium literally means 'above the nipple' which seems strange, but an associate word is 'affiliate' i.e. to have a close association.

Startling, you may agree, but so what? Well, the gut lining is an area of contact with the outside world and the rest of the universe and is without parallel. It's far larger than the skin area. What is more, just below this very thin layer (about half the thickness of a human hair) is, some estimate, 80% of our immune heavy-lifting capacity and 20 percent of our 'brain' function. It begins to look as if this is of incalculable significance to our future and those who come after.

This is, of course, a vast subject and most of it is new. When I was a lad, although everyone knew about the islands of immune tissue in the gut and the massive plexus of nerves below the epithelium, they were simply ignored so that we could get onto the disease!

I hope this type of stuff is of interest: I would love to expand on it.

Peter Cornah
petercornah@gmail.com
01584 823858

P.S. The ovoid nodules of immune-ready tissue in the gut are traditionally known as 'Peyer's Patches.' Peyer was an 18th century Swiss astronomer – honestly, you couldn't make it up!

P.P.S. There is a tendency these days to drop eponymous names like Peyer, as being 'unscientific' – I would vote no... they tell us so much.

CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP TALK

11th November 2023 at 10am at Diddlebury Village Hall

What does your garden look like in spring? What are you planning to keep or to change? Will it be colourful? Which plants should you cut down in autumn or leave for overwintering insects to hibernate in? Are there seed heads for birds and small mammals? Maybe by November you will have ordered your bulbs, planted snowdrops, crocus and daffodils and be considering where to plant your tulips. This will be a perfect occasion to learn more about how to create the most fabulous garden for 2024.

I am delighted that Tamsin Westhorpe will be explaining to us how to:

- Prepare for the Perfect Spring
- Select plants for a spring garden
- Practical tasks to achieve perfection

Tamsin is curator and gardener, working with her sister at the beautiful Stockton Bury Gardens, on the Kimbolton road, just off the A49 between Ludlow and Leominster. Gardening, as she will tell you, is part of her upbringing and a huge part of her family's life. She is both a practical hands-on gardener and someone hugely well regarded in the horticulture field. She is an extremely entertaining and humorous speaker. After starting her career, like Alan Titchmarsh, in the Parks and Gardens department, she worked in the magazine industry, spending six years as editor of *The English Garden Magazine*. She regularly judges at RHS shows and is a celebrated author. Her publications include *'Grasping the Nettle'*, *'Diary of a Modern Country Gardener'*, *'Grow Houseplants'*.

Admission £10 to include refreshments. There will be a raffle. Please feel free to spread the word and bring family, friends, and neighbours to this lively local event.

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword
can be found on page 31 in this
edition of the magazine.

ACROSS

1) Stinger to rot down (8)

5) Insects escape from
peasants (4)

9) A bed after shortened
month (7)

10) Goodbye to the gold
about to depart (5)

11) Starts to own houses in
our state (4)

12) Vehicle falls apart (7)

14) Soon in another way (6)

16) Plan to outwit (6)

19) Ask Alan about his
statehood (7)

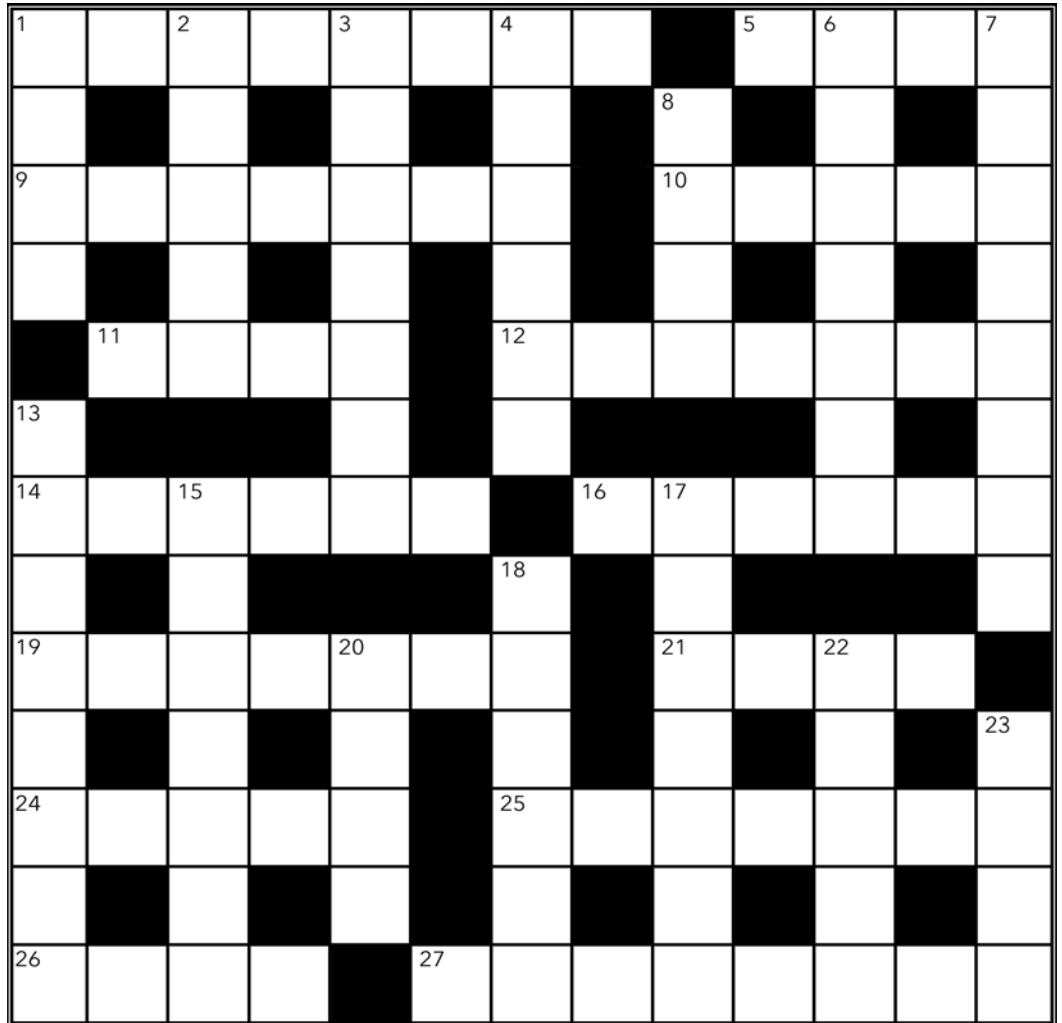
21) Cook, but only in liquid
first (4)

24) Lie or relax in window (5)

25) Wash hair in Horsham
pool (7)

26) Wise old herb (4)

27) No violence for winner? (8)



11 clues are of a kind and are not further defined

DOWN

1) No longer present it's said (4)

2) Clear that it was part of a
planet (5)

3) Di drops out of crazy accordion
group to look for animal (7)

4) It's cop that somehow
dispenses drinks (6)

6) One record does change part
of the story (7)

7) Flattens (8)

8) Quiet tune for two (4)

13) Mixed peat and soot product (8)

15) Picturing that I'm a green mixed
drink (7)

17) Old school exam is about pop
group (7)

18) World organisation is on
together (6)

20) Fixed leak? (4)

22) World leader breaks for
contribution (5)

23) Turning without hesitation (4)

MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2023

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer (Chair), Antonia Bury, Val Fotheringham, Andy Johnson, Ed Povey, David Marston, Chris Meeson and Graham Williams.

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

Apologies for Absence: None.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Bury (Beambridge Clubroom Lease). This item was moved to the end of the agenda.

Public Forum: Two members of the public were in attendance. One asked if the council was collecting data from the Vehicle Activated Signs. Cllr Dobson said the data was being collected and he would report on it later in the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2023: Item 13 should read 'to contribute £150 to the Trust'. The amended minutes were then signed by the chair as a correct record.

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

Compliance with the Eligibility Criteria for the General Power of Competence: The eligibility criteria are that a. a majority of councillors are elected rather than co-opted and b. the Clerk has attained a Certificate in Local Council Administration. The Council resolved that it complied with the eligibility criteria and now had the General Power of Competence.

Reports: Cllr Motley reported that the Boundary Commission had agreed most of the suggestions made by Shropshire Council. However, the Corvedale division would now include Cardington Parish. The proposals would be ratified by Parliament in November. The Parliamentary Boundary Commission Review had been completed but this had resulted in some parishes being split, so the electoral team would be working on this alongside the review of the polling stations. It was unlikely that the Community Governance review of the parish boundaries would be completed until after the next election (no later than 2025). British Telecom planned to move over to a digital service but there were concerns about how this would affect some groups of people. The government's plan to ban the installation of oil and gas boilers had been delayed until 2035. A memorandum of understanding had been agreed between Shropshire, Herefordshire, Powys and Monmouthshire Councils and is called The Marches Forward Partnership. They would join forces to apply for funding from Government on major projects that would benefit the Marches region. There had been some progress in Cllr Motley's portfolio with funding for people to be cared for at home. There continued to be a high number of children in care.

Beambridge Club Room - Cllr Dobson reported that the Big Breakfast has raised £430 for the club room and Macmillan Cancer Support. He would like to thank Alan Golden and the team who did the cooking and the generous donations.

New Beambridge Club Room Lease: (dealt with at the end) Cllr Bury left the meeting for this item. The new lease had been signed by all parties. A letter had been received from Mr Lindsay Bury on behalf of the Millichope Foundation with concerns about the cost to the Foundation of preparing the lease. It was agreed that the Clerk would register the lease with the Land Registry. A letter would be sent to Mr Bury responding to the issues raised by his letter.

The Washwell: The council agreed that it should apply to the Land Registry for the entry for the Washwell to be changed to return it to public land. The Clerk would gather information from minutes, correspondence and historical records and then apply

for a change of the Land Registry entry.

Fundraising for the Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust for the Defibrillator: The village fete raised £150 and with other donations a total of £280 could be sent to the Memorial Trust. The teas at the Millichope Park Open Garden would raise further money alongside the money in the collection box at the village shop in Aston Munslow.

Website: Hugo Fox, the present website provider, would begin charging a fee in April 2024. The Clerk reported on possible alternatives. It was agreed that Hugo Fox should retain the website and the fee for this would be included in the budget for 2024-25.

Attendance at the War Memorial on Remembrance Day and the Purchase of a Wreath: Cllr Archer would attend a short service on Saturday 11th November and lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

Highways: The Clerk reported that comments from Councillors on Shropshire Council's report on the B4368 had been sent to SC on 22nd September. She would request a response before the next meeting.

Vehicle Activated Signs: Cllr Archer said she had heard from Shropshire Council that the sign for the western entrance to Aston Munslow had been delayed but should be in place by 10th October. Data from the mobile sign at the western entrance to Munslow showed that the majority of vehicles were now travelling at below 30mph. Cllr Williams reported that he has noticed a reduction in the speed of vehicles as they approached the second mobile sign now sited to the east of Broadstone.

Environmental Maintenance and New Tasks: The Clerk reported that the Environmental Maintenance contractor had completed work in the Rowe Lane, and Munslow and Aston Munslow village areas. The stream near the Swan Inn needed digging out: the Clerk would report this to Shropshire Council. She would ask the contractor to carry out work on the verges up to Five Ways.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should ask for the speed limit at Broadstone to be extended to beyond the Seven Stars, preferably to Slaughterhouse Lane, and a speed limit for Beambridge due to the increase in traffic entering and exiting the B4368 with more events at Millichope Park, Beambridge Club Room and the Nursery.

Communications with West Mercia Police: The Neighbourhood Team officer for the area is changing.

Accounts: As at 1st August 2023 the bank account held £16,619.51 with an expenditure since 1 April 2023 of £3,511.73. There had been expenditure over budget for the Clubroom rental, defibrillator costs and grants. VAT for the new vehicle activated signs has been added to the budget but this would be reclaimed. There was a reserve and unallocated funds which would cover the additional expenditure. The bank reconciliation was signed as correct by Cllrs Meeson and Williams.

Items for Inclusion in the Draft Budget: Website fee and Defibrillator costs. Councillors would inform the Clerk of any other proposals prior to the next meeting when the draft budget would be presented for consideration.

Payments Authorised: D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £131.75, Wreath £17.00, Land Registry for the Washwell £40.00, Land Registry Beambridge Club Room Lease £45.00.

Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Thursday 2nd November, 2023 at Beambridge Village Hall: a. draft budget b. B4368 report c. Washwell.

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 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

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

Apologies: Cllr. C Martyn.

In attendance: The Clerk, Unitary Cllr C Motley and five members of the public.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th July 2023 were approved by councillors.

Reports: The Chairman reported, sadly, the untimely death at the age of 64 of Chris Jackson, the best Highways Officer this parish council had ever had the pleasure of working with. He extended the parish council's sympathies to his family for their loss.

He has been approached by the Clerk of Culmington PC who wished to hold a meeting to discuss the parish council boundaries review. Cllr Motley's advice was to take no action until the Constituency Boundaries Review had been published, as it might involve parish boundary changes. He reported a deplorable act of vandalism at one of the new houses in Bache Mill and pointed out that the agreed tree planting, which seemed to be the subject of the graffiti, could not be carried out until November. He had taken up concerns about the possible demolition of a historic cottage in Bouldon with the Heritage Team at SC who advised that planning permission would be needed for any works or demolition.

Cllr Motley said the outcome of the Constituency Boundaries Review was due to be published the following week: once received, work needed to be resumed urgently on the parish boundaries review. SC had launched a £150,000 community projects fund for capital projects: information would be circulated soon. A Community Hub would be opening shortly at the Youth Centre in Ludlow to assist families struggling with various problems. A Community Equipment Loan Scheme had been set up from which wheelchairs, crutches etc. could be borrowed and returned when no longer needed. BT was planning to shut down all land telephone lines by 2025/26: it is not clear what will happen to those who have no internet or mobile phone signal. The government was planning to legislate for all gas and oil fired boilers to be removed and replaced by other heating methods by 2030.

Flood Action Group Report: Cllr Martyn had submitted a written report saying that a meeting had been held with the National Flood Forum team plus SC Flood Manager (John Beliss), and SC Emergency Response Team (Angela Hollyway). Topics discussed included the fallen wall at Bouldon (no action), and drainage at Warwick Cottage, Corfton (cleared through and fenced off). The possibility of individual support in developing individual flood action plans had also been discussed.

There had been a stream clearance on 19th September. Flyers had been distributed to properties at bottom end of Mill Lane. Thanks were given to volunteer Colin Pitcher, who cleared Himalayan Balsam and other growth restricting the stream below the Diddlebury weir. Alison Cope of Mill Lane had contacted the Clerk about the growth of Himalayan Balsam at the Bache Mill development. The Clerk had

contacted Jack Wrigley, who promised to clear the weed in the next few months and replied to Alison Cope accordingly.

Westhope Village Hall: Mrs Kath Worthington would represent WVH's Committee at DPC meetings. She reported on the refurbishment works which had been carried out, including a new kitchen, new lavatories and refurbishment of a storeroom. A request from the WVH Committee for grant funding towards repairing and repainting the exterior of the hall would be submitted in writing, together with three estimates, following which it would receive DPC's consideration.

Planning Applications: 23/03928/TCA – an application to fell one sycamore tree at The Malt House, Delbury Hall, Diddlebury was supported by the parish council.

23/03819/FUL – an application for a single storey extension, insertion of a new roof light, erection of a new porch and the replacement of external timber cladding with render at The Old Hen and Ferret Cottage, Sutton, SY98 2AJ was supported by the parish council.

23/03991/FUL and **23/03492/LBC** – applications for planning permission and Listed Building Consent for the erection of a two storey extension to Grade II listed The Green Farm, Middlehope, SY7 9TT. The parish council was not able to support these applications.

23/03497/PAAFC – an application for prior approval under Class R of the General Permitted Development Order 2013 for the change of use of an agricultural building to a holiday let property, at Preens Barn, Middlehope, SY7 9JT. The parish council supported this application.

Highways/Environmental Issues: The continuing problems with drivers speeding and non-residents taking up scarce parking places at The Moors/Moors View were discussed and various options to remedy the problems would be pursued. The access arrangements proposed for the highways operations at Bouldon had not, in the event, been carried out, as asbestos had been discovered in the water mains pipe. All work had stopped and the contractors had withdrawn from the site.

Communications and Correspondence: Eighteen items of correspondence were considered and responded to as necessary. No response had been forthcoming from the Sorting Office in Craven Arms to explain the very poor mail delivery and collection service in the Corvedale.

Finance Report: The Finance Report for August & September 2023 was considered. Cheques totalling £837.34 were approved after payment of which DPC held the sum of £24,877.89. Cllr O'Boyle verified the Clerk's reconciliation between HSBC bank statements and DPC's Cash Book.

Consideration of the Place Plan Review: DPC had submitted the following proposed projects to the Place Plan Officer for inclusion in the revised Craven Arms Place Plan.

- Improvement to Broadband and mobile phone signal in outlying areas (Westhope and Middlehope in particular)
- A playground in Diddlebury
- Provision of public transport
- Measures to slow the speed of traffic using the B4368 in the Corvedale.

To date the Place Plans Officer had not responded about Broadband or Public Transport. All the measures DPC wanted to slow the traffic on the B4368 were rejected on the basis of the lack of any serious accidents. Street lighting

proposed by DPC would have to be paid for by DPC. The parts of Mill Lane which have no pavements cannot be provided with pavements as there is insufficient road width to accommodate them. A playground in Diddlebury cannot be funded from the Craven Arms Area CIL fund as it is not linked to any development.

Councillors were seeking means other than CIL to fund a playground for Diddlebury and were exploring possible sites for it.

Any Other Business: The Chairman would be attending some SC courses on emergency planning with a view

to producing a written emergency planning procedure for Diddlebury parish, perhaps in conjunction with other Corvedale parishes.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 25th October 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 Russett at No 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH. Tel: 01547 519 282. diddleburypc@outlook.com.

Please note DPC's new email address

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON TUES 3RD OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.00PM AT CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Members Present: Councillors Mr Ian Alderson (Temporary Chair), Mrs C Byng, Ms J Mear and Mr I Steele.

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

Apologies for Absence: Mr A Pike, Mrs M Holland, Mr M Seabrook, Mr J Turley and Ms J Watts.

Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting: none.

Public Involvement Session: Cllr Byng raised an issue on behalf of the public in requesting a 20mph limit in Culmington Village. This issue had been raised previously and when monitored there had been no incidents of vehicles travelling faster than 20mph.

Cllr Mear asked if a card could be sent to the family of Mr Chris Jackson, who has recently died, in recognition of the support he had given the parish over many years. The clerk would send a card.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

Compliance with the Eligibility Criteria for the General Power of Competence: The majority of the councillors had been elected rather than co-opted and the clerk had attained the Certificate of Local Council Administration. Accordingly, it was agreed that the Council complied with the eligibility criteria and now had the General Power of Competence.

Management of the Defibrillator at Culmington Village Hall: Janet Stuart, who is responsible for maintaining the defibrillator, presented the issue of the funding for batteries and pads for the defibrillator and for replacement for the machine in the longer term. The battery needed replacing now and the pads in February 2024. The cost of replacement batteries and pads would be included in the Parish Council budget for the next and following years. If sufficient money remained in the budget for 2023-24 the parish council would provide funding for a new pad and battery in March 2024. If the defibrillator itself needed replacement this would need to be covered by local fundraising or approaches to organisations which donate defibrillators. Responsibility for insurance for the equipment would remain with the village hall.

Community Governance and Boundary Review: Cllr Byng would meet with Cllr Povall (Diddlebury Parish Council) to discuss the boundary at Seifton and report back to the next meeting. There was agreement with Stanton Lacy Parish Council that six properties presently in Stanton Lacy parish should transfer to Culmington Parish Council area.

Highways: Shropshire Council would be asked to agree that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) at the Eastern Entrance to Culmington Village be placed on the pedestrian sign just inside the speed limit to the east of the village.

Reports from Members: **Cllr Motley** reported that the Local Government Boundary Commission had accepted most of the proposals made by Shropshire Council except that Cardington would be moved to the Corvedale Division. She would find it difficult to attend all nine of the Parish Council meetings due to the distances involved. The election team would now sort out the changes to the parliamentary boundaries. The Community Governance Review would not need to be completed before the next election. The government's proposals to stop the sales of oil-fired boilers had been extended and there was concern about the timescale for the changeover by BT to digital landlines. There was government funding available for rural areas called the Rural Prosperity Fund.

Village Hall Committee – Cllr Mear said building regulations approval for the village hall extension had been applied for. There were fundraising events planned and the recent Tractor Run had been well supported. The committee were trying to get broadband installed in the hall.

Flood Committee – Cllr Byng had nothing to report.

Renewing the Parish Plan: Cllr Motley suggested that the Shropshire Council Place Plan was now a more important document than the Parish Plan and the Clerk reported that the Council had put forward several items for inclusion in the Place Plan earlier in the year. The Council agreed not to renew the Parish Plan at this point.

Preparing an Emergency Plan: The Clerk reported that she had discussed this with Cllr David Hedgley (Chairman of Diddlebury Parish Council) who had suggested that a meeting with Shropshire Council's emergency planning team be organised. Cllr Motley would look into this request.

Website Options: The Clerk presented the options, none of which provided a cheaper user-friendly alternative to Hugo Fox, the present website provider. It was agreed to remain with Hugo Fox after they begin charging a fee in April 2024.

Finance: As at 15 September 2023 the bank account held £12,842.43, with expenditure from April-September of £2,143.86. This was within budget. The bank reconciliation was signed by Cllrs Steele and Mear.

The November meeting would include discussion of the financing of the Defibrillator battery and pads, and website fees. Councillors were asked to notify the Clerk of any suggestions so they could be costed and included in the draft budget.

Payments were authorised to D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £238.00, H Coonick (Clerk) Stationery and inks £54.74.

Chairperson for the Next Meeting: Cllr Ian Alderson would remain as temporary chair.

Items for the Parish Council Meeting at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 7th November 2023: a. Parish boundary review b. Draft budget.
Heather Coonick Clerk/RFO Telephone: 07817 607 355, culmingtonpc@gmail.com www.culmington.org
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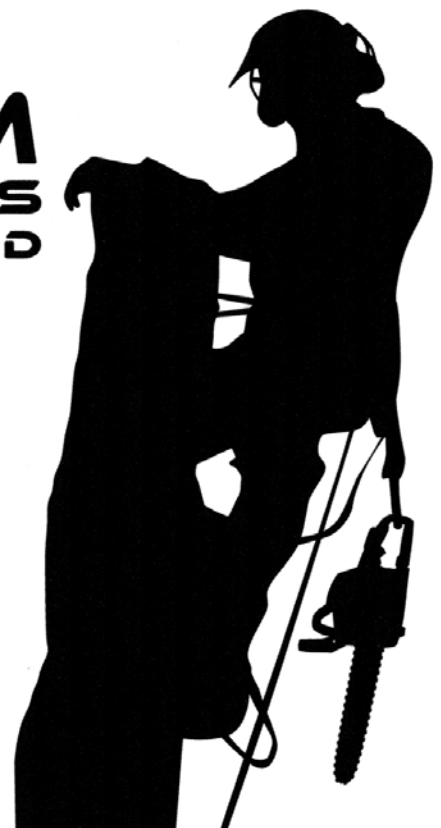
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Diddlebury & Westhope WI
Joy Williams, 01584 861849
f_j_williams@btinternet.com

Munslow WI
Jenny Rose, 01584 841251,
gandjrose@mypostoffice.co.uk

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: martinggc@gmail.com

VILLAGE HALL/CLUB ROOM BOOKINGS

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

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

Culmington Village Hall
Jeff Williams, 01584 861849,
culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com

Diddlebury Village Hall
Sally Woodhouse, 01584 841265,
sallyewhome@yahoo.co.uk,
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

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 841053,
ros.crouch@gmail.com

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

Corvedale Book Group
Cath Burley,
cathburley@hotmail.com

Corvedale Choir
Ros Crouch, 01584 841053,
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

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.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

1) Beetroot; 5) Peas; 9) Apricot; 10) Adieu; 11) Ohio; 12) Carrots; 14) Onions; 16) Scheme; 19) Alaskan; 21) Boil; 24) Oriel; 25) Shampoo; 26) Sage; 27) Unbeaten

DOWN:

1) Bean; 2) Earth; 3) Raccoon; 4) Optics; 6) Episode; 7) Squashes; 8) Pair; 13) Potatoes; 15) Imaging; 17) Cabbage; 18) Unison; 20) Kale; 22) Input; 23) Corn



THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2023

	5TH NOVEMBER All Saints	12TH NOVEMBER 3rd Sunday Before Advent Remembrance	19TH NOVEMBER 2nd Sunday Before Advent	26TH NOVEMBER Christ the King	3RD DECEMBER Advent Sunday
ABDON	8:30 HC			6pm EP	
BROADSTONE		9:00 HC at Munslow	8:30 HC		
CULMINGTON	11:15 HC		6pm EP	8:30 HC (BCP)	11:15 HC
DIDDLEBURY	9:45 HC	10:50 Service of Remembrance at Holdgate	11:15 HC	11:15 FS	9:45 HC
HOLDGATE		6pm Evensong at Diddlebury			8:30 HC
MUNSLOW	6pm EP			9:45 HC	6pm Advent Carol Service
TUGFORD			9:45 HC		

Please note that there are several changes in the early part of November!

Monday 13th November – Act of Remembrance at Diddlebury War Memorial at 10:50am

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