

# THE CORVEDALE NEWS

MAY 2024  
*The Corvedale's Community Magazine*



Colourful Skies - Clare McNally

Printed Copy £8.00 per annum

Digital Copy £5.00 per annum

# COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT

## SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE



To access information and advice:

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

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

**FREE Consumer Helpline:**  
0808 223 1133

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

**On the web:** [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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;

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192



## SUPPORT & RESOURCES

There is a wealth of information and resources available on the Shropshire Council website: [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)

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

*More useful contacts can be found on page 31*

# LIST OF DISTRIBUTORS & AREAS

NAME	ADDRESS	AREA SERVED
Mrs M Buckingham	The Old Rectory, Abdon	Abdon
Mrs C Evans	Aston Munslow	Aston Munslow
Ms N Fuller	Mill House, Bache Mill	Bache Mill
Mr P Turner	16 Beambridge, Munslow	Beambridge/Millichope
Mr D Hedgley / Mrs M Holt	Bouldon	Bouldon, Wynett's Bank
Mrs A Benbow	Thonglands Farm, Stanton Long	Broadstone, Rowe Lane, Hungerford
Mr I Hankinson	Broncroft, Broncroft	Broncroft, Baucott, Balaam's Heath, Tugford
Mrs N Brentnall	Holdgate Pool Farm, Brookhampton	Brookhampton
Mr M Jones	Yew Tree Cottage, Corfton Bache	Corfton/Corfton Bache
Mrs C Crowther	Corfton Lodge	Corfton, Pedlar's Rest
Mrs V Hardwick	Sparchford Cottage, Sparchford	Culmington 1
Mrs C Byng	The Meadow, Culmington	Culmington 2
Mrs S Morgan	1, The Moors, Diddlebury	Diddlebury 1
Mr N Kennedy	The Old Byre, Diddlebury	Diddlebury 2
Ms S Walters	Roseford, Bache Mill	Middlehope
Mrs A Donnelly	The Ashlings, Munslow	Munslow
Ms S Lewis	New House Farm, Peaton	Peaton, Peaton Strand
Ms C Morgan	Ludlow	Sutton
Mrs P Baynham	Garage Cottage, Westhope	Westhope

# COPY FOR MAY 2024 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the **June 2024** magazine, please send by email to [editor@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:editor@corvedalenews.co.uk) by **MONDAY 20th MAY 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 20TH MAY 2024** at the latest for inclusion in the next issue: [advertising@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## 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.

**DESIGN & PRINTING** Our magazine is designed, set and printed by Craven Design and Print. [info@cravendesignandprint.co.uk](mailto:info@cravendesignandprint.co.uk) Unit 1, Craven Arms Business Park, Craven Arms, SY7 8NR. Tel: 01588 673972

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## SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024

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

You can make your payment in three ways:-

### 1. Online:

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

### 3. By post:

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

### 2. Your Corvedale News distributor:

Hand your cash or cheque over to your distributor.

## 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](mailto:colin.pitcher@hotmail.com).

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Corvedale News Team

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## CHURCH CONTACTS

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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

Tel: (01584) 841488

[revjbeesley@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:circuitoffice2803@gmail.com)

# 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](mailto: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 May**



## 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



# Aussie Night

## Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

It's time to slap on the sun cream, pop on your cork hat and celebrate all things Antipodean, with a fun night of entertainment and mayhem!!!

A ticket only event so...

### Save the Date!

More info to follow.

# GREAT DIDDLEBURY CHURCH PLANT SALE

DIDDLEBURY CHURCH ROOM

FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY  
10AM – 4PM

SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY  
10AM – 1PM

Teas, coffee and home-made cakes as well!



*Come along to*

## Culmington Village Hall

*for a fun evening with the very talented*

### Gabriela la Foley



She will enchant you with her unbelievable energy and off-the-wall humour

The picture says it all

### Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May

*Fun starts 7.30pm - Tickets: £8 - Bar open 6.30pm*

Contact: John or Yvonne - 01584 861802

## TOWER HOUSE GARDEN (SY7 9LN)

### OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND

\*\*\*\*\*

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May

#### National Garden Scheme

11am-5.30pm

*Teas in aid of Culmington Church*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May

#### Open all day

Entry £5, Children free.

*In aid of Culmington Church.*

You could even make a day of it and walk here, along the bridleway from the village hall and the Beefy Boys event.

Diddlebury Village Hall  
**Grey Wolf**  
in concert

**Friday 17th May**

**7.00pm doors & bar open**  
**7.30pm Performance**

Adults £14.90  
U-16s (accompanied by adult) £6.60  
Prices include booking fee

Tickets from [WeGotTickets.com](http://WeGotTickets.com) or contact Ian  
Fotheringham 01584 841 331  
e-mail: [ianfotheringham@btinternet.com](mailto:ianfotheringham@btinternet.com)

Further details on DVH Facebook page,  
Grey Wolf's website or contact Ian.

The  
**Jarualda Quartet**

The 2024 Corvedale Festival  
**Launch Event**

Haydn: Quartet Op 76 No 2 'Fifths'

Beethoven: Quartet Op 18 No 6

Dvorak: Quartet in F Op 96 'American'

**Saturday 11th May**

**Diddlebury Village Hall SY7 9DH**

Cold Buffet 6pm Concert 7.30pm

Tickets £20 (includes buffet)

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival)

Phone: Festival Office 07745 825 700

or Email: [corvedalefestival@gmail.com](mailto:corvedalefestival@gmail.com)

2024 Festival 20<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> September

[www.corvedalefestival.org](http://www.corvedalefestival.org)



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](mailto:avril.fossilsinshropshire@gmail.com) or 01584 861 339

**Diddlebury Village Hall**

**Miriam**  
**Backhouse/Erasmus**  
in concert

**Friday 28th June**

**7.00pm Doors & bar open**  
**7.30pm Performance**

Adults £12.50  
U-16s (accompanied by adult) £6.00

Tickets from [WeGotTickets.com](http://WeGotTickets.com) or contact Ian  
Fotheringham 01584 841 331  
e-mail: [ianfotheringham@btinternet.com](mailto:ianfotheringham@btinternet.com)

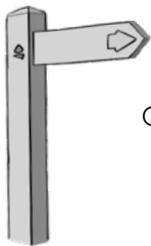
Further details on DVH Facebook page or look up  
Miriam on Facebook or her official YouTube site or  
contact Ian

## Corvedale Folk Club at The Seven Stars, Broadstone on Monday 27th May 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](mailto: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:  
**May: Wed 22nd, Fri 24th, Sun 26th**

# Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir in concert

FEATURING SOLOIST  
BASS-BARITONE PIRAN LEGG

SHREWSBURY ABBEY

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2024

DOORS: 6:45PM

ON STAGE: 7.30PM

PARKING: ABBEY FOREGATE CAR PARK, SY2 6BS

TICKETS £12 PER PERSON

£14 ON THE NIGHT  
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

The concert is being held in aid of both Macmillan Cancer Support in Shropshire and the Shrewsbury Parish.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please email [shrewsburymacmillanfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburymacmillanfundraising@gmail.com).

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS:

In aid of



Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

# Family Bingo

STANTON LACY V HALL

Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May

Doors open 6.30 for  
7.00 p.m. start



Teas and coffee

Bar



Raffle

For more information ring 07542 939 720  
Website :- [www.stantonlacyvillagehall.com](http://www.stantonlacyvillagehall.com)  
Facebook :- Stanton Lacy Village Hall Events

## Hayton and District Women's Institute

NORTH LUDLOW WI GROUP MEETING

DATE: Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 7.30pm

VENUE: Stanton Lacy Village Hall,  
Hayton's Bent, SY8 2AT



Image by Natalie Cumming

GUEST SPEAKER:  
Natalie Cumming

Natalie will be talking about her book '*The Fiddle*'. It tells a true story, tracing a precious family violin through war, terror and the Holocaust, to safety and restoration in 21st century Britain.

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

£3 members; £5 guests, inc. refreshments.  
All proceeds to the Air Ambulance Charity.

Contact for more information:

Club President - 01584 823436

Club Secretary - [hayton.district.wi@gmail.com](mailto:hayton.district.wi@gmail.com)

# DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall




**2024 Corvedale Festival**  
Launch Event  
**Jarualda Quartet**  
*Haydn, Beethoven, Dvorak*  
**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
Cold Buffet 6.00pm Concert 7.30pm  
Tickets: £20 (Includes buffet)  
www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival



**Grey Wolf**  
Americana/old-time folk band  
from the Welsh Marches  
7.30pm Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May  
wegottickets.com/event/610468



Riotous comedy mystery  
**Wicked Little Letters(15)**  
*Olivia Coleman, Timothy Spall*  
7.45 pm Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
Doors & Bar Open: 7.15 pm  
Tickets: £5 (Card machine)

	<b>2024 Corvedale Festival Launch Event</b> <b>Jarualda Quartet</b> See Facebook for more information:	<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Buffet 6pm</b> <b>Concert 7.30 pm</b>
	<b>Grey Wolf</b> Americana/old-time folk band from the Welsh Marches wegottickets.com/event/610468	<b>7.30pm Friday</b> <b>17<sup>th</sup> May</b>
	<b>Wicked Little Letters (15)</b> Starring Olivia Coleman & Timothy Spall <b>NB. Film Night is now a Wednesday</b>	<b>19.45 Wednesday</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>
	<b>Aussie Night - Save the Date!!</b> All things Australian for a night of fun and games.	<b>7pm Saturday</b> <b>22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>
	<b>Mini Moos Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> £2.50 per Family See Facebook for more information:	<b>Mondays</b> <b>10.00 - 12.00</b> <b>Term time</b>
	<b>The Corvedale Choir.</b> Contact Ros Crouch: <a href="mailto:ros.crouch@gmail.com">ros.crouch@gmail.com</a> for more information.	<b>Mondays</b> <b>19.30-21.30</b>
	<b>The Blue Hills Choir</b> Contact Ros Crouch: <a href="mailto:ros.crouch@gmail.com">ros.crouch@gmail.com</a> for more information.	<b>Tuesdays</b> <b>10.00-12.00</b>
	<b>Zumba</b> Contact Cat: <a href="mailto:zumbawithcat@outlook.com">zumbawithcat@outlook.com</a> /07817 448832	<b>Tuesdays</b> <b>18.00</b>
	<b>Tai Chi</b> Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 <a href="mailto:hello@goldenthreadscic.com">hello@goldenthreadscic.com</a>	<b>Thursdays</b> <b>10.00-11.00</b>
	<b>New! Pilates Beginners/Intermediate Classes</b> For men and women of varying fitness levels Contact Tina Ranson: <a href="mailto:pilateswithtina@outlook.com">pilateswithtina@outlook.com</a>	<b>Thursdays</b> <b>18.00-19.00</b>
	<b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates.</b> Contact Beverley Chumber: <a href="mailto:beverleychumber@sky.com">beverleychumber@sky.com</a> 07967 814412	<b>Fridays</b> <b>9.15-10.15</b>

# CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - MAY

### Coffee Morning

Monday 6th and every following Monday, 10am - 11.30am  
Come along for a cuppa and a chat. Tea or coffee for £1 with free refills. Good company and biscuits.

### Bridge Club

Monday 6th and every following Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm  
Contact Peter Whitehead [pst.whitehead@gmail.com](mailto:pst.whitehead@gmail.com)

### WI Talk: Adventures up the Family Tree

Wednesday 8th, 7.30pm  
A talk on tracing your roots. Visitors welcome for just £2.  
Contact Joy Williams on 01584 861 849.

### Lunch Club

Thursday 16th May, 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 861 787.

### Beefy Boys

Sunday 19th May  
Back by popular demand! Plus, the return of the Animal Man and a donut stall. Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

### Gabriela la Foley Plays The Ukulele

Friday 31st May, Bar from 6.30pm, performance at 7.30pm  
£8 for a good night out. Pay on the door.  
Contact John on 01584 861 802 for more information.

## PLANNING AHEAD

### Lunch Club

Thursday 20th June, 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 861 787.

### Beacon Day

Thursday 6th June  
80th Anniversary of D-Day. Beacon will be lit at 9:15pm.  
Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666  
or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 787.

### Mexican Night

Friday 28th June, bar open from 7:00.  
Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666  
or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 787.

## RSPB Walks

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

### WALKS

May 15th, 10am

Gilfach & Afon Marteg Nature Reserve



# WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

April saw our first community lunch which was well attended and enjoyed by all, despite quite a lot of illness and holidays during the Easter break. The next one will be on **4th July**.

The first family prize/cash bingo on Saturday 13th April was a great success. Date to be arranged for the next one very soon and also our next a Rummage Sale.

The Centenary party invitations have now been distributed. Responses by **21st May** please. There is a full programme of events and music throughout the afternoon and evening. Plus, children's face painting, horse racing, bingo, tombola, and a collage of pictures from over the years. Hog roast to include vegetarian option and an ice cream van. Tickets £6 to include food.

We still have a few tickets left for the Centenary lotto - £12 for the year. Two draws of £150. £100. £50 drawn at the party on 9th June and Christmas Whist 9th December. Please contact Moira 01584 861 663 mobile 07542 947 440 or Betty 07860 447 397.

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

Betty Manley

## MAY (AND FUTURE) EVENTS

### Whist Drives

Every Monday, starting at 7.15pm.  
£3 entry. All abilities welcome.

### Community Lunch

Thursday 4th July, 12.30 for 1pm  
Home cooked two course lunch with tea / coffee £10.  
Pre-booking is essential, call Kath Woodhouse on 01584 841 254 or Betty 07860 447 397

# ABDON VILLAGE HALL

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - MAY

### Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Group

11th May, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

On the second Saturday every month, 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

25th May, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

On the last Saturday of each month.

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](mailto:abdon.villagehall@gmail.com) Or visit our website for the booking form and details: [www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk](http://www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk)

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Every Mon	<b>Corvedale Choir</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Mon	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Culmington Village Hall	10am - 11.30am
Every Mon	<b>Bridge Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 5pm
Every Mon	<b>Whist Drive</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
Every Mon	<b>Mini Moos - Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Blue Hills Choir</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Corvedale Artists</b>	Beambridge Club Room	10am
Every Tue	<b>Zumba</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	<b>Yoga</b>	Westhope Village Hall	3.30pm
Every Wed	<b>Pub Night</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	8pm
Every Thu	<b>Tai Chi</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Thu	<b>Pilates Beginners/Intermediate Class</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Fri	<b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

## APRIL 2024

1st	Wed	<b>Quiz Night</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
2nd	Thur	<b>Clover Club</b>	Westhope Village Hall	2.30pm
7th	Tues	<b>Culmington Parish Council Meeting</b>	Culmington Village Hall	7pm
8th	Wed	<b>Family Bingo</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	6.30pm
8th	Wed	<b>Diddlebury, Westhope &amp; Munslow WI Meeting</b>	Culmington Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Thur	<b>Corvedale Book Group</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Thur	<b>Hayton &amp; North Ludlow WI Meeting</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
9th	Thur	<b>Munslow Annual Parish &amp; Parish Council Meeting</b>	Munslow Village Hall	7pm
9th	Thur	<b>Abdon &amp; Heath Parish Council Meeting</b>	Abdon Village Hall	7.30pm
11th	Sat	<b>Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
11th	Sat	<b>Corvedale Garden Group</b>	The Hurst, Clunton	TBC
11th	Sat	<b>Corvedale Festival Launch Event</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
15th	Wed	<b>RSPB Walk</b>	Gilfach & Afon Marteg NR	10am
16th	Thur	<b>Lunch Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
17th	Fri	<b>Diddlebury Church Plant Sale</b>	Church Room, Diddlebury	10am-4pm
17th	Fri	<b>Grey Wolf</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
18th	Sat	<b>Diddlebury Church Plant Sale</b>	Church Room, Diddlebury	10am-1pm
18th	Sat	<b>Tower House, Open Garden</b>	Tower House, SY7 9LN	10am-1pm
19th	Sun	<b>Tower House, Open Garden</b>	Tower House, SY7 9LN	11am-5.30pm
19th	Sun	<b>Beefy Boys</b>	Culmington Village Hall	
20th	Mon	<b>Corvedale News Copy Deadline</b>		
22nd	Wed	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBC	9.30am
22nd	Wed	<b>Diddlebury Annual Parish &amp; Parish Council Meeting</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.15pm
23rd	Thur	<b>Messy Church</b>	St Peter's, Diddlebury	3.20pm
24th	Fri	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBC	9.30am
25th	Sat	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
26th	Sun	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBC	9.30am
27th	Mon	<b>Ludlow Rotary Duck Race</b>	Dinham Bridge, Ludlow	11am
27th	Mon	<b>Folk Club</b>	Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
29th	Wed	<b>Flicks in the Sticks - Wicked Little Letters</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.15pm
31st	Fri	<b>Gabriela la Foley plays the Ukelele</b>	Culmington Village Hall	6.30pm

## VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon - Page 9, Culmington - Page 9, Diddlebury - Page 8, Westhope - Page 9

The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 15th April

# CHURCH NEWS

## LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

May 2024 sees us starting something new here in the Corvedale Parishes. On **Thursday 23rd May** we will have the first gathering of 'Messy Church', beginning at 3:20pm in Diddlebury Church.

Messy Church has been running in various places for some years now, focussing on families and children. Although 3:20pm might seem a strange time of day to be starting, it's timed around the end of the day at Corvedale School. Whilst we hope that some of the children from the school will come straight across the road to Messy Church, if your children go to school elsewhere, are home schooled, or are not yet at school you are very welcome to join us, either at 3:20pm or as soon after that as you can. Each Messy Church session has a theme, and we spend much of the time engaged in craft and other activities which help us to think about that theme, before drawing it all together to think about the story or event on which our theme is based and sharing in a song and some prayers. After that, we will have food ready for everyone to share in a meal. We expect to be finishing at about 4:45-5:00pm.

Messy Church is for families to share in together and so all children must have a responsible adult with them, whether that's a parent or grandparent or a carer.

For our first Messy Church, we will be thinking about Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, empowering them to go out and begin the task given to them by Jesus to proclaim the gospel throughout the world. Pentecost is often known as the birthday of the church, and it seems appropriate to celebrate this by starting something new and exciting here in the Corvedale as we look to continue that work of proclaiming the gospel and sharing God's love with all His people.

Rev'd John Beesley

## DIDDLEBURY PLANT SALE

To quote the Rolling Stones – 'This could be the last time!' unless someone is willing to take over the plant sale in the future, as Megan's back problems are becoming more disruptive. If there is anyone out there who would like to take over next year, Megan would be delighted to hear from them (tel. 841 650) The plant sale is a major fund-raiser for the church (£1,000 last year) and it would be a pity for it to end.

This year the plant sale will take place in the Church Room on **Friday 17th and Saturday 18th May**. As usual there will be an array of home-grown plants, which will be suited to conditions in the Dale. Tea and cakes will be on sale, and the sale should be a jolly occasion where you can meet old and new friends and talk plants. An important change this year is that on the Saturday this year we will close at 1pm rather than at 4pm. This is because Saturday afternoon produces very few customers, and the helpers are usually in need of a good rest! As usual we would be very grateful for help with the sale, in the form of donations of plants, or help on the days.

Martin Speight

## FLOWERS & BRASSES

### MAY 2024

5th Liz Beazley

19th Pat Baynham

12th Liz Beazley

26th Pat Baynham

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### FUNERAL

21st March

Kenneth Clinton

Munslow

### BURIAL OF ASHES

2nd April

Dorothea Clinton

Munslow

## CORVEDALE SCHOOL

An essential item of footwear I keep in my office is a pair of size ten wellington boots and a supply of thick socks. In the past I have worn them for school walks out and about, pond-dipping, forest school activities, gardening, and maintenance work around school. During the last winter months they have been crucial footwear around school for anything that is not concrete or tarmaced. Like many this year, our school has suffered due to the wet weather. Twice the school has had to close due to flooding on access roads and on several occasions flood water has poured off surrounding fields on to the back playground and school field, once leaking into the building damaging carpets and other flooring. Last week I was walking across the school field on my way to inspect Nursery's new mud kitchen and Seedpips raised beds when I very nearly walked out of my wellingtons, leaving them behind as they stuck in the sodden earth. I couldn't believe the depth of footprints I was leaving behind on the soft ground. Usually, at this time of year, we are able to have playtimes and PE lessons on the field, but I think this year it maybe a while yet. However, come July, we'll probably be worrying that the ground is rock hard and like last year have to water the running track in readiness for sports day.

I'm delighted to announce that we have appointed a new headteacher who will be taking over in September. His name is Neil Davda. Neil is currently a headteacher at a school in Shrewsbury but had heard about our school and he was 'bowled over' by the school on a visit. He is in his thirties and will be a dynamic and enthusiastic leader and says he cannot wait to start in September.

We are excited to be starting our swimming lessons in the Summer Term for Classes 2 and 3. There is also a busy schedule of after-school sports clubs. On Mondays we will have Multisport for years R, 1 and 2. On Tuesday we have Netball Club and on Wednesdays we have Rowing Club for years 3 to 6. The Baby and Toddler group on Friday mornings from 10.00 - 11.30am is popular and costs £2 per family per session. Mums and dads, come along for a coffee, cake and natter while your little ones play.

At the time of writing, I have sixty-four more school days until retirement and no, I don't have any plans of what to do when I retire except to have more time for my family, my garden, my dogs, and my bike. Although I have discovered that holidays are cheaper in September! Where did I put those brochures?

Jonathan Brough, Headteacher

**TIRED OF  
POTHOLES  
FLY-TIPPING  
LOOSE PAVING  
DOG POOP VANDALISM  
BROKEN STREET LIGHTING?**

**REPORT THEM TO  
THE COUNCIL WITH  
FixMyStreet.com**

it has been noted that potholes and blocked drains reported this way are dealt with much more quickly. The more people using the resource, the quicker our council builds a database of 'hotspots' and places where the local community has issues. The database is then used to prioritise resources.

1. You can use FixMyStreet to report street problems like potholes, broken streetlights or dangerous paving, anywhere the UK.
2. All you have to do is mark where the problem is on a map, add a short description, with a picture if possible, and submit it. You don't need to know who's responsible for fixing the problem, the website automatically sends it to the right department.
3. Your report is displayed on the FixMyStreet website, so that others can comment or leave advice. Your name

# FIXMYSTREET

## AN EXPLANATION OF HOW FIXMYSTREET WORKS

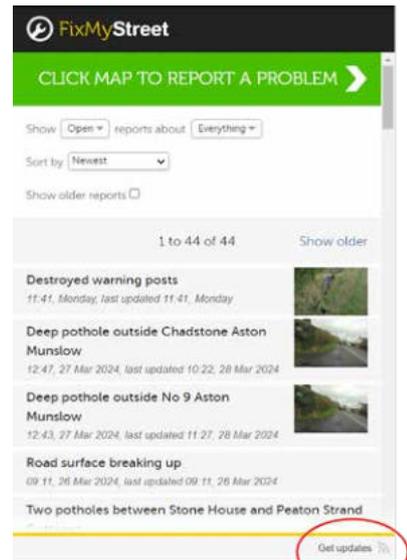
I have been at many parish council meetings when the state of local roads has been raised. The response from the county council is that Shropshire Council promotes *FixMyStreet.com* as the primary route to reporting issues in the county. In Diddlebury Parish

and address are NOT displayed unless you agree.

4. The council replies directly back to you, and the council is responsible for doing the fixing.

5. If you put your postcode in on the homepage, you can see all the problems that have recently been reported in your own area, which is great for tracking what the biggest concerns are in your own community.

6. To see closed and completed issues – select **Get updates**. Then follow the options.
7. Over 50% of FixMyStreet users say that they've never reported anything to the council before, so it's a great gateway towards civic engagement.



Clive Martyn

# THE TALLY HO INN

## BOULDON



**'SHROPSHIRE PUB OF THE YEAR  
2024'**



**FOOD TIMES**  
**WED 6-8PM**  
**THUR 12-2, 6-8PM**  
**FRI & SAT 12-2, 6-8:30PM**  
**SUNDAY 12-4PM**

**WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK**



# LUDLOW ROTARY CLUB LAUNCHES DUCK RACE

From 11am on Bank Holiday **Monday, 27th May**, some 2,000 bright yellow plastic ducks will be launched from Dinham Bridge to race down the River Teme. This fun event is being arranged by Ludlow Rotary Club to raise funds for Ludlow Rotary Cares, the club's community grants scheme,

There will be four 'duck races.' Everyone who sponsors a duck for £2 will have the chance of winning £100 if theirs is the first across the winning line.

There will be plenty of opportunity to cheer on the ducks from the banks of the river on the day. The races will also be filmed to watch afterwards on the Ludlow Rotary Club website.

Speaking about the event, Adrian Carter of Ludlow Rotary explained '*Planning a duck race is no mean feat. The ducks have to be corralled into pens of 500 then decanted into boxes of 100. Each box of 100 ducks is then put into numbered bags, checked and double checked to make sure each ticket we sell is allocated to a duck. When all the ducks are sorted, they are stored in bags ready for the big day. We also have to ensure that all the ducks are collected at the end of each race. During this process we expect there to be a lot of cleaning of ducks, laughing and counting.*'

Ducks are available to sponsor online at [www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk](http://www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk), by using the QR code on the posters displayed around the town, or from the Rotary stall in the marketplace on **Sunday 26 May**.



Barry Forrester

## MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

By the time of publication, the choir will be on tour in Cornwall enjoying the cream teas, pasties and abundance of coastal scenery whilst singing our way around the county.

However, our next event when we return will, I'm sure, be one of the highlights of our year. We have been invited to sing at Shrewsbury Abbey on **Saturday 15th June** to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support in Shropshire. This should be a marvellous occasion raising funds for such a worthwhile charity that has supported so many of us who either personally or through family members have been affected by this illness.

The charity has been in existence since 1911 when a young man named Douglas Macmillan watched his father die of cancer. His father's pain and suffering moved Douglas so much, he founded the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer which in 1924 was changed to Cancer Relief, and the name Macmillan being used in the title from the 1970s after Douglas himself died of the illness in 1969.

Coming up to date and much of Douglas's legacy lives on, with the charity continually adapting to offer appropriate

support for people today. Monies from our concert will go directly to the organisation's local branch, so we do hope it is well supported.

From the choir's point of view, the opportunity to sing in Shrewsbury Abbey is a great honour. This ancient venue, originally part of a Benedictine Abbey first founded 1083-90, continued as a parish church after it was dissolved in 1540 and has a really super acoustic. We are also pleased to be joined on the night by professional bass-baritone soloist Piran Legg to add to the occasion.

Tickets for the concert are on sale now at Penny Farthing in The Square or can be obtained through choir members, the Abbey or by using the QR code included in the advert elsewhere in the magazine or on any flyer distributed locally. Do please try to support both us and Macmillan with your attendance. Thank you.

Dick Langford, chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com,  
01952 728 758, [www.mwmvchoir.org.uk](http://www.mwmvchoir.org.uk)

## STOP PRESS... CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

Save the date - **Saturday 7th September** 2-4pm.

Official seed potatoes for the Spud in the Bucket competition are now available from John Woodhouse on 07980 207 253.

## HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

Our April meeting was well attended to hear a talk by Tullis Matson, FRAGS, HonDTech, Chair and Founder of Nature's Safe (Saving Animals From Extinction), based in Shropshire. Granted charitable status in December 2020, Nature's Safe is one of Europe's first charitable living biobanks dedicated to storing tissues from animals threatened with extinction. In a nutshell, cells stored with Nature's Safe remain in a dormant state until thawed. Nature's Safe is unique in its ability to store multiple cell and tissue types. Following an animal's death or neutering, sperm and eggs, reproductive tissue and skin cells from tissue that would otherwise be disposed of are processed and indefinitely stored by Nature's Safe for the future regeneration of endangered species all over the world. Tullis gave an enlightening talk of how, being dyslexic, he left school early without any qualifications, became a jockey and worked in the equine industry from 1985. He began running a small natural covering stud at the family farm in 1989 and in 1990 went to New Zealand to learn the practice of AI before returning home to set up one of the first equine AI only units in the UK, continuing to this day as Managing Director of Stallion AI Services Ltd. This work led to Tullis' idea to create a cryopreservation biobank in the UK and, from this idea, the charity Nature's Safe was born. This information is the tip of the iceberg with much more to tell. A highly recommended and entertaining talk – a fascinating subject with much more to learn.

Our two competitions for this month were: 'Flower of the Month', won by Eileen Pritchard with a Magnolia, with Phyllis Steventon in second place with a Postie Currant and Joyce Randle, with a Tulip, in third; and 'Item Beginning with 'K', kindly judged by Tullis, won by Phyllis with her toy Koala, and closely followed by Janet Bryan with a photo of 'Kin' in second place and Barbara Wright with a tin of Kidney beans in third place.

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th May** at 7:30pm. We have invited all members of the North Ludlow WI group of branches to join us, and we hope they are able to attend. All members, friends and family are invited to hear Lady Natalie Cumming's talk about her book, *'The Fiddle'*, a true story tracing a precious violin across landscapes devastated by war and terror, from St Petersburg in 1917, through the Holocaust and to safety and restoration in 21st century Britain. Natalie has also taken part in the BBC show *'The Repair Shop'*, where the fiddle was brilliantly restored. Since publishing this story, Natalie has received an award from King Charles and Queen Camilla for her outstanding contribution towards ensuring the horrors of the Holocaust are never forgotten through the numerous talks given to many different groups and schools in Shropshire, to Synagogues and on cruise ships. We very much look forward to seeing everyone at Stanton Lacy Village Hall, Hayton's Bent SY7 2AT. Full details can be found on the flyer published elsewhere in this magazine. For further information, please contact our Club President, Phyllis Steventon on 01584 823 436, or our Secretary at [hayton.district.wi@gmail.com](mailto:hayton.district.wi@gmail.com).

Louise Gough

## MUNSLOW WI

Lorraine opened the April meeting with a few notices and reminders, one of them being a talk entitled *'A Fiddle'* at Stanton Lacy Village Hall on **Thursday 9th May** at 7.30pm.

Our Speaker for the evening was Mr Grant Wilson from Craven Arms Discovery Centre. Grant spoke with great enthusiasm of the past seven years that he has been running the Centre. He spoke of the plant-based cooking courses celebrating Shropshire lamb. He told us of country crafts such as hedge laying courses. Wildlife is being encouraged into the new wetland area where otters have been spotted and is also inhabited by dragonflies and a rare damselfly. From here there are plenty of interesting walks to be taken and dogs are welcome. Children's services including pond dipping and painting sessions take place at certain times. The café and gift shop are a big part of the scheme, and these are part of a scheduled refit in the not-too-distant future. Grant received an enthusiastic vote of thanks from Barbara.

The raffle took place, after which we enjoyed supper provided by Christine and Sheila.

We will join Diddlebury & Westhope WI for our next meeting which will be held in Culmington Village Hall on **Wednesday 8th May** at 7.30pm. For more information call me on 01584 841 251.

Jenny Rose

## DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE WI

Our April meeting began with discussions around the newsletter, Ludlow North Group events for the year, the Spring Council meeting in Shrewsbury and our planned garden and craft group meetings on 23rd June and 14th May, respectively. There was also a lively discussion around one of the resolutions put forward by the National Federation, for adoption at the annual general meeting in June, on 'Dental Health Matters;' relevant to the shortage of dentists across the country and which the group unanimously supported.

We then moved on to the more relaxed part of the evening and what a fun evening we all had! France was the country of choice for our DIY evening and with slightly dodgy French music we feasted on delicious food brought by members and visitors alike, drank French wine and had time to chat, which we always enjoy. A lovely evening was had by all. We admired Jacqui's new boxes made out of recycled paper, held our raffle, and judged the competition.

Next month our meeting is a joint one with Munslow WI, to be held at Culmington Village Hall and titled *'Adventures up the Family Tree.'* If you would like to come along, please do. Ring Joy Williams (secretary) on 01584 861 849 for any further details – you will be most welcome

Jayne Disley

## 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](mailto:editor@corvedalenews.co.uk)

# CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

## WHITE HOUSES BY AMY BLOOM

This novel is based on the author's research into 3,000 plus letters and other documents about the long-standing love affair between Eleanor Roosevelt and Leonora Hickok. Written in Leonora's voice, it charts her thoughts and feelings about the ups and downs of the affair, in the context of their lives and the era in which they lived. Some of the characters are real, others, like the gay cousin Parker Fiske, are imaginary. Eleanor and 'Hick' came from quite different backgrounds.

Eleanor was born in 1884 to Anna Hall and Elliot Roosevelt. Her mother described her as 'not a looker.' Despite her many achievements, she was modest and lacking in self-esteem. As the niece of the former President Theodore Roosevelt, she was no stranger to politics. She is described as coming from a wealthy but troubled New York family. She had many homes in her childhood and attended private schools, including a boarding school in London. She spent a period of time living with her grandmother who was a huge influence on her life after the death of both parents and a brother when she was young. She was used to European travel and had a background of 'genteel volunteering.' She was described as religious, moral, and generous and prepared to live her values.

Franklyn Roosevelt (FDR) was born in 1882. He attended Harvard and Columbia universities before studying law and going into politics. He had a variety of political roles, becoming Governor of New York in 1928, and was voted in as the 32nd President from November 1932-1945. He served three terms and was on his way to a fourth term when he died on 12th April 1945. He and Eleanor married in 1905 and went on to have six children, losing a much-loved son in infancy. In 1914-18 he had an affair with her secretary Lucy Mercer, going on to be a 'serial womaniser'. His domineering mother, Sara Roosevelt (nee Delano), persuaded Eleanor not to desert him during his presidential campaign and to 'do the right thing' and stand by him. He had a long-term affair with his carer Missy Le-Hand, several cousins, and a Danish princess, and later with Lucy again, in what he described as their 'open marriage.' FDR contracted polio in 1921, at the age of thirty-nine, and became paralysed from the waist downwards. Although a wheelchair user, he took great pains not to be photographed in his wheelchair nor to be seen as disabled. He exercised fiercely, swimming as much as possible to keep himself fit and strong. He became president as the Depression was starting to bite. There were 13,000,000 unemployed and the banks were going under. He is described as helping the people regain their faith in themselves, alleging '*the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.*' His 'New Deal' helped to establish economic stability. He then took responsibility for America's involvement in the second world war.

Eleanor never forgave him for his behaviour and their marriage became a political partnership. She ensured the White House family and its staff adhered to the same standards of austerity as the majority of Americans had to endure in terms of food and clothing on a day-to-day basis, other than for state occasions. She wrote a daily political column called 'My Day' for several years. As an heiress she could afford her own establishments and they largely lived apart. She continued her social and political causes whilst supporting his career. Following his death, she continued to be a politician, diplomat, and activist. She was the US spokesperson at the

UN until 1962, overseeing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She died aged seventy-eight by which time she was regarded as 'one of the most esteemed women in the world.'

Hick could not have been more different. She was born into an extremely poor, 'trailer trash' family in Nebraska. Her mother died when she was young; her father abused her. She escaped to work as a housemaid and then to work in a circus where she began her writing career, going on to become America's most acclaimed female journalist. Plain, overweight, gruff, and outspoken, she and Eleanor met in 1932 on FDR's first presidential campaign and began an intense sensual, consensual sexual relationship. FDR encouraged her to have her own room at the White House, explaining the benefits of keeping her in-house rather than reporting scoops outside it. Despite her dislike of how FDR treated Eleanor, Hick found him to be captivating, charismatic, an irresistible friend and a complicated rival. She became Chief Investigator for the Federal Emergency Relief Organisation, reporting to him directly.

The novel portrays the three relationships with all their ups and downs. We discussed the role of power, privilege, and entitlement. It was interesting to wonder how such an open secret would now be handled by the media. A tale of public life and private flaws at a time when same sex relationships were not the norm.

Cath Burley, cathburley@hotmail.com

### **Burwarton & District Agricultural Society Burwarton, Bridgnorth WV16 6QJ**

is seeking to appoint

## **SHOW MANAGER**

Burwarton Show is a large one-day agricultural show, held annually on the first Thursday in August.

The Committee is looking for a competent and confident candidate to organise and manage all the behind-the-scenes preparation for Burwarton Show. Excellent communication and computer skills are a prerequisite.

Applicants **MUST** be available full time and more for June, July and August; hours are flexible outside of these months. Start date will be September 2024.

This is a salaried position. Predominantly office based in the Show Office, WV16 6QJ.

For a detailed job specification and application instructions, please visit the Show website:  
[www.burwartonshow.co.uk](http://www.burwartonshow.co.uk)

# THE CORNEWALLS OF DIDDLEBURY

## PART THREE: FAREWELL TO DIDDLEBURY



Delbury Hall as extended by F.H. Cornwall in 1836

When Bishop Cornwall died in September 1831, his elder son Frederick Hamilton entered into his life interest in the Delbury estate. Earlier in that year he had lost his seat in Parliament as member for Bishop's Castle when his patrons, the Clives,

decided that he was insufficiently hostile to parliamentary reform to represent their interests. In 1827 he had married Fanny Caulfield, the daughter of an Irish landowner, by whom he had two daughters. Frederick seems to have settled into domestic life in Diddlebury and began modernising the mansion. Two wings were added to the original building in 1836, and the Georgian brickwork was covered in cement render in imitation of stone. The 1841 census return shows that the household was served by no less than fifteen servants, together with two governesses, one of whom was French, for the young ladies. However on 30th December 1845 this domestic idyll was shattered when Frederick died at the early age of 54. Ownership of the life interest in the estate then passed to the younger son, Herbert Cornwall, of whom I shall say more below.

Fanny Cornwall was not exactly left destitute, as she was entitled to an annuity of £1,000 per year out of the estate, but she had, nevertheless, to leave the family home. She was not thrown helpless into the street and appears not to have fully left until 1851 when 'in compliance with directions from Mrs Cornwall, who is leaving the county,' Messrs. Nock and Wilson of Bridgnorth held a five-day sale of the furniture and effects of the Hall. Fanny and her daughter, Mary Fanny, had by this time moved to Wilton Place in Westminster. The census returns for successive decades reveal that she was to be found in various properties in London and the southeast, before her final move to Dover, where she died in 1887. Her personal estate was valued at £10,268, a sum comparable to that of several comfortably off tradesmen whose wills were proved at the same time, but nowhere near the wealth she had known when a married woman.

Herbert Cornwall, who had inherited the life interest in Delbury on his brother's death, is an interesting if somewhat shady character (in several senses of the term). He had made a good marriage to Charlotte Augusta, the daughter of General Lord Charles Henry Somerset, the Governor of Cape of Good Hope. She bore him four children between 1825 and 1833, but the couple would appear to have separated some time afterwards. At the time of his brother's death Herbert was living at Pau in the south of France, and he does not appear ever to have returned to England. Herbert's interest in the estate was purely financial, and only three months after coming into his inheritance he began to mortgage it, thus beginning the eventual process of dissolution. In fairness to Herbert, the estate was burdened with the annuity of £1,000 to his mother and repayment of a loan of £6,000 at five percent interest to provide another annuity for his sister Marianne. The estate produced a rental income of just under £3,200 per year, so his continued residence abroad most likely was

prompted by financial considerations. The Hall became let to tenants and remained so until its sale in 1910. There were at this time plenty of landless gentry in need of suitable homes to rent, a subject to which I hope to return in a later article. This helped to keep some semblance of financial solvency, but by 1854 further mortgages had been raised, so that by then £16,500 was owing. What was needed was the ending of the entail so that the estate could be sold, and the proceeds used to clear the mortgages.

Herbert died at Bruges in September 1863, with assets worth under £200. He was succeeded by his son Herbert Somerset Cornwall, who was determined to break the entail, and with his own son, Charles Somerset Herbert Cornwall, he began a complicated and collusive legal process known as a common recovery. By 1884 this had succeeded in removing the entail, but unfortunately Charles Somerset was persuaded by his legal advisers to re-mortgage the estate to pay off his father's debts of over £31,000. Charles Somerset, however, died in 1890 at the young age of 37, leaving his interest in the estate to his mother (who died shortly after him) and his sister, Mrs Ada South. Mrs South's title to the estate was successfully challenged by the lawyers who had provided the mortgages, which were subsequently bought by another lawyer, Richard Trentham Prioleau, in 1895. Prioleau then set about establishing his title to the estate and was challenged unsuccessfully in the High Court in 1904 by Mrs. South on behalf of her son. With Prioleau's victory, to quote *The History of Parliament* the estate passed out of the family 'as a result of inept disentailing and mortgaging arrangements.' As in Dickens' famous case of *Jarndyce v Jarndyce*, none of those who had an interest in the estate received a penny, and only the lawyers benefitted. In just over 150 years since Captain Cornwall had first purchased the estate, the link between the Cornwalls and Diddlebury had been finally severed.

©Martin Speight 2024

## CORVEDALE FESTIVAL LAUNCH EVENT

The launch event for the third Corvedale Festival is taking place on **Saturday 11th May** and the date is fast approaching! The quartet is rehearsing, food is being ordered and preparations are well under way, but – we need an audience! Tickets, which must be bought in advance, are on sale from TicketSource - [www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival), from the Festival Office 07745 825 700 or by emailing [corvedalefestival@gmail.com](mailto:corvedalefestival@gmail.com). Get yours and come and enjoy an evening of great food and music, while finding out what delights this year's festival will bring and having the opportunity to buy a Festival Pass at a super-discounted rate. The bar will be open during the buffet and in the interval, and it's a great programme, full details on our advert. Do come and join us!

Ruth Henley

# CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

## RELATIVES, CREDITORS AND THE HOLY INQUISITION

Jean Baptiste van Helmont was a doctor and alchemist in 17th century Holland. He was most probably asleep when there was a thunderous knock on his door. He may have thought only relatives, creditors and the Holy Inquisition (as Oscar Wilde didn't quite say), knock like that! Sorry J.B. it is the Inquisition!

You really have to know that at this time Holland was under the grip of Spanish overlords and the Inquisition no doubt came on their political coattails. It's not that our friend J.B. had been that naughty a boy but he was very interested in the processes of the natural world and wanted to know 'what was going on 'under the bonnet'. The chaps from the Inquisition were none too impressed. It was blasphemy, they said, to inquire into such things. God was responsible for everything. Jean Baptist showed 'impudent arrogance'.

When it came down to it, J. B. didn't do that badly: his sentence was house arrest. It could have been a lot worse and the Inquisition may well have lived to regret the decision.

Now, a lively and inquiring mind like van Helmont's was never going to be content with sitting at home doing the crossword (or the 17th century Dutch equivalent). He got to work straight away and did something so simple and yet so profound.

Our man had several years in front of him: time for a long term experiment. He was already fascinated to know how a large tree could develop from a small seed, possessing no mouth or teeth or gut or legs to take it to grub; so where was the seed getting its nourishment from? The current idea in his time was that the seed somehow ate the soil, but how could this be? His experiment followed this recipe; take 1 willow sapling, 200 lbs of dried soil and a large pot. Next, plant the willow sapling in the dry soil and water, yes, and keep watering for a few years! In fact, it was five years at the end of which the tree had gained 164 lbs weight and the soil had lost just 2 pounds!

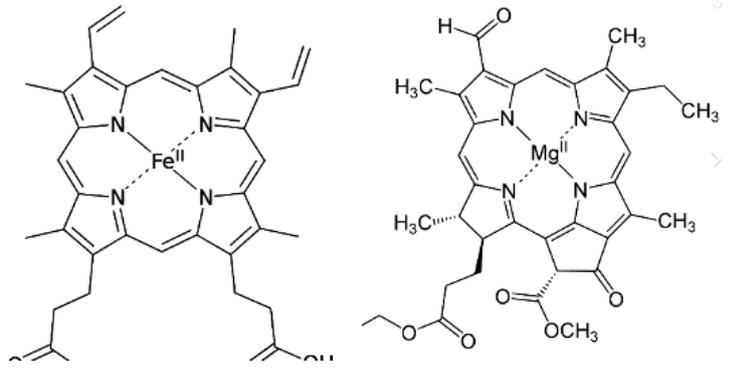
Glory be! Jean Baptiste had discovered the carbon cycle! Of course, clever science in the intervening years has worked out all the stages that Jean Baptiste would not have realised. We now know that green plants contain a chemical called chlorophyll. This, in combination with water from the ground, sunlight, and carbon dioxide from the air makes carbohydrates (organic because their basic structure is formed by carbon atoms), in form of sugars. Even cleverer people in recent years have worked out a glorious symbiosis between the plants and the soil. In a transition zone around the roots of the plant is the so-called 'rhizosphere'. The biology of living soil takes up the sugars of the plant and thrives. In exchange, health giving chemicals derived from the activity of the soil microorganisms, their life and death cycles, are taken up by the plant and these are vital in its growth. What is more, if the soil is healthy (which unfortunately it isn't always these days), these natural chemicals which are now in the plant, (phytochemicals), can be of enormous benefit to animals such as ourselves. We eat them and breathe out carbon dioxide. It's a cycle.

I think we can be justifiably dismayed when we walk around our local garden centre and see shelves of products claiming that they will feed plants. No, in a healthy world it just shouldn't be like that! The other side of the argument is that when we

put lots of organic matter into our soil we are feeding the biology and that is how it should work!

If you want a bit of convincing that we are closely linked to this process.... below is the basic chemical structure of chlorophyll, which makes plants green and haemoglobin which makes blood red. They have some differences but generally show remarkable similarity.

Presenting haemoglobin to the left and chlorophyll to the right.



Of course, we now have to take up the story of what happens when we take up all those life-giving chemicals into our bodies – next time I hope!

Peter Cornah, villageadamandeve.uk

## Live in the Parish of Munslow?

### Munslow Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 9th May at 7pm

Munslow Village Hall, Beambridge

Join us for informal drinks and nibbles, followed by:

1. Welcome
2. Annual Report from Munslow Parish Council
3. An update from the Village Hall
4. Open forum for Parish issues and ideas

The Annual Meeting of Munslow Parish Council will follow at 8pm.

## WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



The Clover Club enjoyed a delicious Easter lunch at the Westhope Community Lunch Club in April. Our May meeting is on **Thursday 2nd May** at 2.30pm at Westhope Village Hall, when Mr Ken Pugh will be our entertainer. Everyone very welcome.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

# CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP

## THE LEASOWES AT COUND

If you like trees, you will love this. Our April garden was termed 'amazing, stunning, completely unexpected, inspirational,' by group members. It is hidden on the left-hand side just off the A458 Much Wenlock to Shrewsbury road, before you get to the Riverside pub on the right. Once we had all turned around and realised it was off to the left, when you had reached Oakleys' Machinery, it was all a delight. Robert and Tricia Bland have taken 25 years to turn what was a 50-acre family farm into a delightful 10-acre arboretum running up a valley. Mr Bland regretted that his health didn't make it possible for him to walk the valley with us at the moment, but happily answered questions on our return. From the well-proportioned farmhouse which will be festooned with roses later in the year, there are formal gardens where the emerging perennials promise colourful beds. In the productive fruit and vegetable patch, apple trees were looking cheerful with their pink and white blossoms and there was a range of other fruit bearing trees.

A stream runs down the valley linking five interconnected lakes and ponds. There were colourful and unusual pink, red, yellow, and purple rhododendrons, and azaleas, interplanted with the 700+ rare trees and shrubs. The skilful planting in the contours of the valley meant you could look down upon some of these magnificent specimens. Hidden away were a number of rustic seats affording different views of the garden. From the top of the valley, the views across the plain highlighted the shape of the Wrekin in the near distance.

Tucked into the trees, nestled back into the bank, was a timber chalet shaded by a tall beautiful white cherry tree which afforded different views of the stream and the bridge below. The chalet was surrounded by a bank of emerging bluebells creating a beautiful shimmer of blue.

The infrastructure of mature larches sheltered the more tender shrubs. There are 140+ acers to provide year-round colour, some just coming into leaf. When the roses are in bloom the Robinia will be in flower too. Amongst the more unusual trees there was a foxglove tree (*Pawlonia tormentosa*), a Chinese Tulip tree (*Liriodendron Chinensis*), a Katsura tree which will smell of burnt sugar in the autumn, (*Cercidiphyllum japonica*), and a dragon tree (*Paulonia fortunei*). My favourite for its stunning cerise colour was the *Cercis chinensis* 'Avondale.' Nearer the house on lower land were more delights around the teardrop pond - an easier walk for those who don't want to make their way up the valley.

For us, it was a good time to get an idea of the trees' structure and to see what would be to come. I'd love to see it with the roses out and, again, in its full blaze of autumn colour. If you missed our visit, The Leasowes will be open for Shropshire Historic Churches Trust on **5th May** from 10.00-16.40 - £6 per person to include tea and cake which you could enjoy on deckchairs scattered around the swimming pool (not open). Private visits are also available on request.

Cath Burley, [cathburley@hotmail.com](mailto:cathburley@hotmail.com)

## CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

### LOOKING AFTER THE GRANDSONS

So here we are in May – but I am going to tell you about something I did last month which cheered me up and was a good day out. It was the week leading up to Easter and I was responsible for three of my seven grandchildren. We had some plans in place including swimming, a walk at a local National Trust place they are familiar with, baking with Granni and the big day out. We had train tickets to Oxford and a booking for an art exhibition.

Needless to say, it was raining when we set off around 8.30am and was still raining when we got off the train after 11am. We abandoned the walk around this ancient university city and headed straight for the Ashmolean Museum, which was warm and dry, especially after we left our wet coats in the lockers provided. So where do we go now?

The grandsons are 11, 9 and 7 years old. The oldest one is as keen as I am on art, and we had ticket entry for the brand new 'Bruegel to Rubens' exhibition – but not until the afternoon. So we picked up some maps of this mind-blowing building and had a chat. Isaac was happy for his younger brothers to choose and off we went to 'Egypt.'

It was fascinating as we wandered through the 'origins,' then the 'dynasties' that made up ancient Egypt. The highlight was the CT scan of the Mummy of Meresamun on display in a very ornate nest of coffins but with a screen nearby from

a local hospital, showing us all what was inside: the body of Djed-djehuty-iuef-anekh (no, I do not know how to pronounce it!), better known as 'Jed.'

But for me it was the everyday artefacts that brought a lump to my throat. There were the pieces of a jug. The top of the jug with the spout, a piece of the handle and some others obviously from the same jug. But what amazed me was that the maker of the pot had bothered to decorate something that was obviously usable without added pictures. The human spirit pushed that person forward and that makes it more than just a jug. As the Egyptians got more sophisticated so did their artwork on everyday pottery. And it's the same in all peoples; Indian, Japanese, Africans, Europeans of every sort and Anglo-Saxon England.

Another highlight for me was seeing the Alfred Jewel, made for the great king himself sometime between 871 and 899, which had been unearthed by a farm labourer on a peat moor in Somerset in 1683. What amazing work had gone into that beautiful jewel! Human spirit again.

So inspired, the boys, Granni and Grandad will be back in Oxford at half term to see what else can entertain us - China perhaps?

Anni Holden-Calver,  
Trustee of Caring for God's Acre



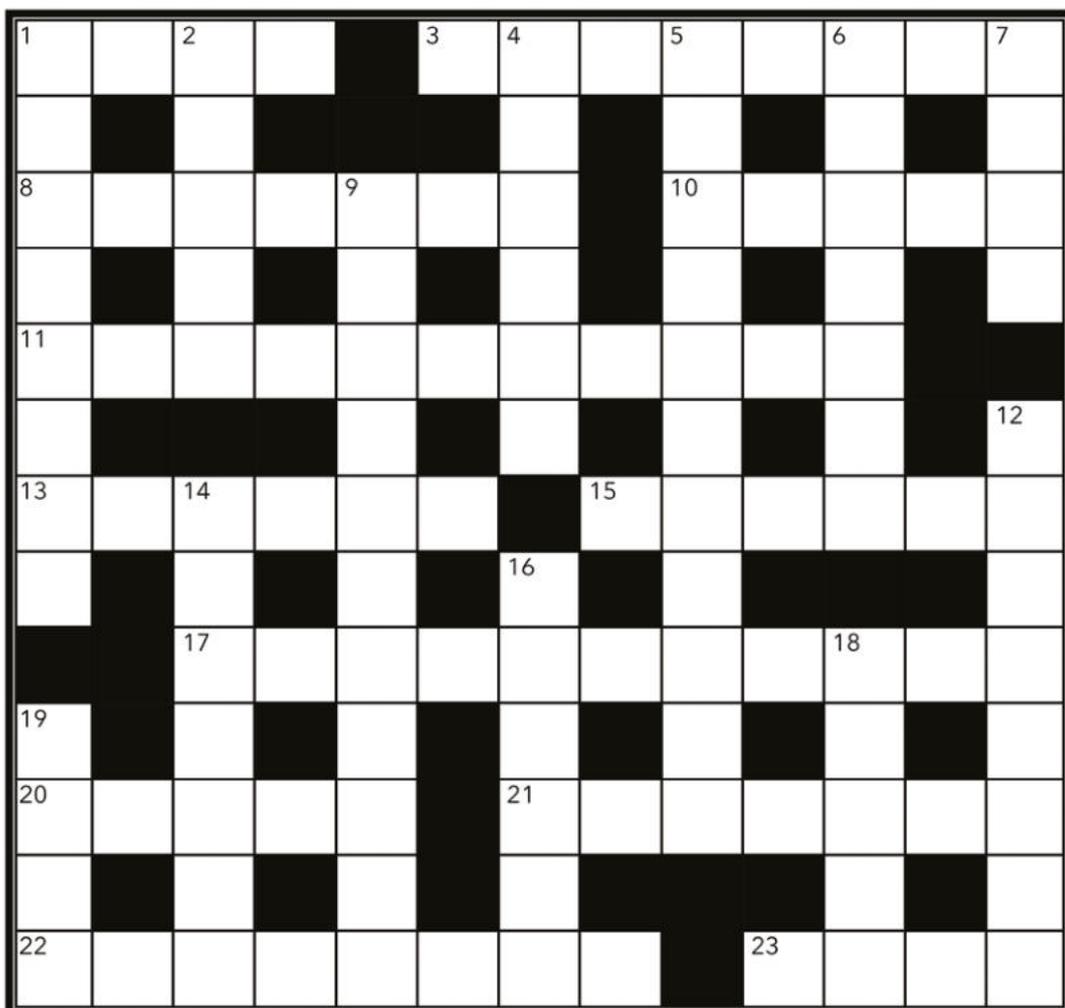
# MAY CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword  
can be found on page 24 in this  
edition of the magazine.

## ACROSS

- 1) A real coach and horses start at the entrance (4)
- 3) Tree dynasty round bad throw (8)
- 8) Sat back round a poet and heard about tunics (7)
- 10) Perhaps scare the trees? (5)
- 11) Needing the 'L' to be made aware (11)
- 13) Destroy entrance to Newcastle, say (6)
- 15) Sounds like unknown mother has skin complaint (6)



## DOWN

- 17) Former US President they say has space for the military (7,4)
- 20) Fifty five went in the river to dig down (5)
- 21) Goes to holiday destination? (7)
- 22) Dai's tour used to check the numbers? (8)
- 23) Is the odd band use din publishing? (4)
- 1) Finally go with the man inside (2,3,3)
- 2) Group see part of the minicab alight (5)
- 4) Animals around junction provide funds (6)
- 5) Kate dances a jig followed by afternoon snack (3,3,5)
- 6) Rue dove could be library books or babies (7)
- 7) Head of Monster? (4)
- 9) OK, or felt confused about the way to go? (5,2,4)
- 12) Mare naps after chewing cheese (8)
- 14) Bishop in architectural style, spoke too fast (7)
- 16) The blacksmith, although confused, is mainly the more even handed (6)
- 18) Sounds like you lost from the rascals and were still left with monsters (5)
- 19) Maybe hide a part of a thought (4)

# CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING ON TUESDAY 2ND APRIL 2024

**Present:** Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Temporary Chair), Mr A Pike (Vice Chair), Mrs C Byng, Mrs M Holland, Ms J Mear, Mr I Steele and Mr J Turley.

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

**Apologies for Absence:** Mr Ian Alderson and Ms J Watts.

**Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** None.

**Public Involvement Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.

**Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th March 2024 were approved as being correct and were signed by the chair.

**Community Governance and Boundary Review:** Cllr Seabrook had attended the Diddlebury Parish Council meeting on the 20th March 2024. The councillor tasked with dealing with the review had not been there. The issue would be raised with him by the chair of Diddlebury Parish Council.

**Reports from Members: Shropshire Council:** Cllr Motley reported that the Council was still trying to deal with the funding issue that faced them this financial year and they were reviewing services, including the collection of garden waste and waste recycling centres. They were keen not to close the centres and there would be a consultation on the options before any major changes were made. The costs of providing social care support to older people was high due to the rural nature of the council. A Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection was planned for the next few months. She continued to encourage networking between the parishes.

**Village Hall Committee:** Cllr Mear reported that there was still an issue with obtaining broadband for the hall. Bookings were now being taken by Mrs Avril Lines. The committee was reviewing the hall's governing documents. The AGM would be on 14th May: everyone was welcome to attend.

**Highways:** The post for the Speed Indicator Device at the eastern entrance to Culmington Village had been installed and the Clerk was in contact with the company who would supply the sign to arrange for its installation. The Council would like to thank Cllr Motley for moving this issue along.

**Seifton Brook:** The Clerk said a contractor would carry out a site visit on 5th April and provide a quote for desilting. It was agreed that she would review the contractors and arrange for the desilting to take place during June, and ensure that the correct procedures were followed with regards to the licence.

**Proposed Closure of Shropshire Council Recycling Centres:** Cllr

Motley confirmed that a consultation would be conducted before there were any major changes to the recycling centre at Craven Arms. The Council would write to Shropshire Council and respond to the consultation supporting the maintenance of the centre at Craven Arms.

**Shropshire, Telford, Wrekin and Mid Wales Hospital Transformation Programme:** The Clerk reported that the NHS plans to have mainly emergency services at Shrewsbury Hospital and planned services at Telford.

**Blocked Bridleway:** Outdoor Partnerships was still working on this matter.

**Telephone Box at Vernolds Common:** Stanton Lacy Parish Council had requested that the telephone box be retained but BT did not agree and the only option would be for the Council to adopt the box. There were concerns about the ongoing cost to the Parish Council of maintaining the box and it decided not to adopt the telephone box: this would result in BT removing the box at some point.

**Items for the Annual Parish Meeting Agenda:** a. Expenditure of the Neighbourhood fund b. Infrastructure projects for inclusion in the Place Plan c. Consider donations.

**Risk Assessment:** It was resolved to adopt the assessment with the proposed additions.

**Finance:** Payments were authorised to: a. Easily Limited (Website Domain Name) £18.00 b. Hugo Fox (website host) £11.99 (and to set up a direct debit for the future) c. Microsoft 365 (share with Stanton Lacy and Munslow Parish Councils) £21.20. Norton Antivirus £25.00 (share with Stanton Lacy and Munslow Parish Councils).

An additional signatory for online banking was agreed.

**Chairperson for the Next Meeting:** Cllr Pike would chair the Parish meeting and the beginning of the Annual Parish Council meeting and would hand over to the chair elected at that meeting.

**Any Other Business:** a. Cllr Turley was concerned about the manhole cover on Seifton Lane. The Clerk informed him that this had been reported to Shropshire Council several times. They had it on their scheme of works for this financial year but were not able to provide a more detailed timescale.

b. Cllr Pike had received reports of an issue with overhead lines being obstructed by trees. This was not a matter for the Parish Council and those concerned should report the matter to Openreach or Western Power.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting would be on Tuesday 7th May

[www.culmington.org](http://www.culmington.org) • Heather Coonick Clerk/RFO  
Telephone: 07817 607 355 • [culmingtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:culmingtonpc@gmail.com)  
Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent, Ludlow SY8 2BE

# DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH 2024 AT WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllr D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllrs S Povall, R Morgan, C Martyn, T Pardoe, A Watson, A Rattu.

**Apologies:** Cllrs R Povall, T O'Boyle.

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

**No Declarations of Interest** were made.

**Public Question Time:** Seven residents of Westhope attended to raise three issues. First, what had happened to the £92,000 CIL charged on the Hillside Coppice development and how would Westhope benefit from it. The Chairman explained parish councils receive only 15% of the CIL charge and it is paid for the benefit of the whole parish. He advised £7,100 of DPC funds have been spent on Westhope Village Hall. The current CIL funds are earmarked for a

public playground in Diddlebury. Secondly, Mrs Manley complained that matters relating to a grant application for Westhope Village Hall had been included in the January Minutes, although withdrawn shortly before the meeting. Thirdly, residents sought help from DPC about the blight of potholes and frequent road closed signs affecting Westhope, even when work was completed or just not carried out. The Chairman commiserated and gave advice about FixMyStreet. Cllr Seabrook of Culmington Parish Council attended to discuss the Community Governance Review.

**Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting of 21st February 2024 were approved by councillors and one Matter Arising was considered.

**Reports: The Chairman** reported on actions taken about planning issues in Bache Mill. He had held further site meetings to obtain quotations for the works needed for the proposed public playground in Diddlebury and had had discussions with SWS re Broadband coverage in the parish, and with Rev'd. Beesley about new requirements imposed by the Diocese relating to the proposed information board relating to the war memorial in Diddlebury.

**Shropshire Councillor Motley** reported on the Cabinet's ongoing

difficulties with setting its annual budget. The Cabinet was now looking at redundancies in addition to the cost cutting measures previously mentioned: she feared established teams which work well in terms of providing services could be decimated.

**Cllr Rattu** mentioned that payment by householders of their council tax bills is due in eleven days' time, and yet no households have actually received their bills. He noted the council tax had risen by 4.9%.

**Flood Action Group:** Cllr Martyn said he would be attending a meeting of the Shrewsbury Flood Forum shortly and would report on it in April. He had cleared a blocked drain by the Pinstones Farm entrance which had been causing flooding on the B4368.

**Planning Application:** Councillors considered 24/00730/FUL, an application for the demolition of existing outbuildings and the erection of a new garage/car port at Bache Cottage, Bache Mill, SY7 9JX. The parish council supported the application.

**Highways/Environmental Issues:** Cllrs Rattu and O'Boyle had sent their report, setting out various inexpensive measures to reduce the speed of vehicles on the B4368, to Munslow Parish Council for their comments. Thereafter it would be submitted to Mr Newton of Highways. Cllr Martyn was thanked for fixing the blocked drain and for erecting four 'No Parking' signs in The Moors. The possible closure of the Craven Arms Recycling Centre was discussed at length and a letter from DPC opposing the proposal would be sent to Mr Ian Nellings, the portfolio holder for Waste and Climate Change at SC.

**Communications And Correspondence:** Thirteen items were considered and responded to as necessary.

**Public Access Playground:** From April DPC would hold Neighbourhood Funds of £21,946.43.

The necessary fencing work is under way. Quotations were still being

obtained for the all-weather surface. These range from £10,915 to £20,896, depending on the groundworks and the type of rubber matting base to be used. One further quotation is awaited.

**Ev Electric Car Charging Unit For Diddlebury:** It was agreed such a unit sited at Diddlebury Village Hall would be a good thing for the parish. The Village Hall Committee's views would be sought.

**Finance Matters:** A request for a £200 S.137 LGA donation was requested for the Louisa Powell Almshouses and was unanimously awarded by councillors.

The Finance Report for March 2024 was considered and cheques totalling £512.64 were approved for payment, after which DPC held funds totalling £23,628.71. Cllr Watson verified the reconciliation between DPC's cash book and HSBC bank statement 379.

The Chairman proposed that DPC should assume responsibility for the maintenance, including spare parts, for the two defibrillators in the parish. This was seconded by Cllr Rattu and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Any Other Business:** The Chairman said that a new Headmaster had been appointed for Corvedale C of E primary school.

Cllr Watson raised the issue of Nos 3 and 4 Mill Lane, Diddlebury, housing association houses which had been empty for a long while despite the housing crisis in the country. It was agreed to ask an officer of Connexus to come and explain the position to the parish council.

**The next Parish Council meeting would be on Wednesday 24th April 2024, 7.15pm at Diddlebury Village Hall**

Agendas and full copies of the minutes can be viewed on the Diddlebury Parish Council website [www.diddleburyparish.co.uk](http://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 519282, [diddleburypc@outlook.com](mailto:diddleburypc@outlook.com)

## MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024

**Present:** Cllrs Barbara Archer (chair), Antonia Bury, Nigel Dobson, Andy Johnson, David Marston, Chris Meeson and Graham Williams.

**Apologies** for Absence were received from Cllrs Val Fotheringham, Edward Povey and Shropshire Cllr Cecilia Motley.

**A Declaration of Interest** was made by Cllr Bury (first item of 'Correspondence'. This item was considered at the end of the meeting.

**Public Forum:** No members of the public were present.

**Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st February, 2024 were agreed and signed by the chair as a correct record.

**Reports: The Chair** reported that Aston Munslow now had a WhatsApp group which was proving very successful so far. There were concerns about the possible closure of one of the council recycling centres with concerns that fly-tipping would increase. There had been a considerable amount of flooding on the B4368 with jetting needed. Members of the public could report issues on FixMyStreet. Shropshire Council is consulting about dogs in public places. Councillors could report to the Clerk who would make a response on behalf of the Council.

**Shropshire Council:** Cllr Motley had sent a report: 'Shropshire Council finances have been seriously stretched by the ever-increasing cost of providing statutory services to local populations. Rocketing costs in service delivery are forcing many local authorities to consider deep service cuts to manage their budgets. In Shropshire, a whopping 80% of the disposable budget is sucked into the demand for adults' and children's social care services and special education needs transport. Currently we have over 700 children in the care system. Unlike the NHS the council cannot carry forward a deficit budget. The budget decisions are likely to include library and leisure provision, reviewing the number of

recycling centres, charging for green waste collections (households can opt out if they wish), reducing the number of council buildings and assets and accelerating the move from Shirehall to alternative offices and reorganising special needs transport. Significant changes will go through further consultation involving the public and council staff but some redundancies will be inevitable. The challenge would be much greater without the savings of £41.3 million that have already been made in this financial year, including £13m from my own portfolio of adult social care. Throughout all of this and alongside our Local Government colleagues we have been lobbying government for funding reform that takes into account the challenges faced by local government. I will keep the Corvedale residents updated on the budget situation. We are determined to continue to provide the best quality services possible to our residents, but the road ahead is likely to be bumpy.'

**Beambridge Club Room:** Cllr Dobson reported that the back door to the hall was now operational. There was a record attendance at the last coffee morning.

**South Shropshire Area Committee:** Heather Coonick (Clerk) said the new planning enforcement protocol was discussed. Whilst investigations by planning enforcement are mandatory the powers are discretionary and they would consider enforcement action in the public interest, having regard to the risk and planning harm arising from the breach. They would focus on those cases where the impacts or planning harm arising was significant.

**Highways:** The clerk had emailed the Traffic Engineer, Traffic Engineer Manager and Cllr Motley with the priorities for the B4368 identified at the last meeting. She had not had a response. The priorities were also uploaded to the Place Plan but this needed to be agreed by the Traffic Engineers before it could be entered onto the Place Plan.

Both mobile Vehicle Activated Signs were operational and proving to be effective according to local residents. The police had handed out several speeding fines recently in the parish.

The Clerk reported that she had emailed the Police and Crime Commissioner as there had been no response to the application for a further Vehicle Activated Sign. She would request that the application be pushed forward to the next financial year.

Work on the drains and ditches in Aston Munslow, Rowe Lane and the Rushbury Road had been carried out. The drains needed jetting in Upper Munslow.

It was agreed to apply to Shropshire Council for matched funding of £600 in the Environmental Maintenance Application for 2024-25.

The new contract for Environmental Maintenance was agreed, which included a statement that no pesticides be used by the contractor. The contractor would be paid £18 per hour from 1st April 2024.

**Planning:** 24/00643/TCA, Primrose Cottage, Aston Munslow, SY7 9ER Proposal: Crown reduction by 30 percent of 1no. Silver Birch within Aston Munslow Conservation Area.

24/00704/FUL, 6 Greenyard Cottages, Munslow, SY7 9EX. Proposed front entrance porch and replacement of existing lean-to conservatory.

Both applications were supported.

**Correspondence:** An email from Mr Lindsay Bury, Millichope Foundation re the Beambridge Village Hall Lease was considered after the end of the meeting. (Cllr Bury had left the meeting). Cllr Dobson would provide a report on activities carried out by the Parish Council during the negotiations regarding the lease and

send that to Mr Lindsay Bury.

It was agreed to sign the maintenance contract with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and to continue to pay for maintenance of the Churchyard and to apply for a free sign at its entrance.

The Council would not have a .gov domain due to the high cost. Any Councillors wishing to have a specific Parish Council email address should inform the Clerk.

**Accounts:** The following payments were authorised: Cllr Archer (Corvedale News) £8.00, H Coonick, Clerk's Salary and Travel (Jan – March) £740.15, HMRC £178.40, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Inv 468 and 458 £123.25.

**Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Thursday 4th April 2024 at Beambridge Village Hall:** a. Robberies

**Noted:** Cllr Bury raised concerns about the code for the defibrillator not being available when emergency services were contacted. The Clerk agreed to investigate why this had happened. Since the meeting it had become clear that the parishioner had not been referring to the Munslow defibrillator. Emergency services should give callers the site and code for their nearest defibrillator if it was needed.

**Minutes and Agendas** are available on [www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk) or from the Clerk on [munslowpc@gmail.com](mailto:munslowpc@gmail.com) or 07817 607355

## ABDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Date Of Next Meeting:** The next meeting (which would be the AGM) would be on 9th May 2024.

Wendy Richards - Parish Clerk: [abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com](mailto:abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com)  
Tel: 07813 271 274

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**DOWN:** 1) At the end; 2) Cabal; 4) Assets; 5) Tea and cakes; 6) Overdue; 7) Ness; 9) Right or left; 12) Parmesan; 14) Gabbled; 16) Fairer; 18) Ogres; 19) Idea;



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# COMMUNITY LINKS

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### LOCAL SERVICES & EMERGENCIES

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**County Flood Management**  
Shropshire Council, 0345 678 9006,  
flood@shropshire.gov.uk

**Diddlebury Parish Flood Action Group**  
Clive Martyn, 01584 841346,  
happy4clive@gmail.com

**Ludlow Minor Injuries Unit**  
Community Hospital, 01584 874297

**Shropdoc (out of hours service)**  
Doctors Co-operative, 111

**Station Drive Doctors' Surgery**  
01584 872461

**Portcullis Doctors' Surgery**  
01584 872939

**Craven Arms Medical Practice**  
01588 672309

**Police (non-emergency)**  
Sgt Jen Price,  
jennifer.price@westmercia.police.uk.

**Voluntary Car Scheme - 9am - noon**  
Craven Arms Good Neighbours,  
01588 673732

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### CHILDREN'S & YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

**Corvedale Brownies**  
www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter'

**Corvedale School, Playgroup and Nursery**  
Jonathan Brough, 01584 841630,  
admin@corvedaleprimary.co.uk

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### WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

**Diddlebury & Westhope WI**  
Joy Williams, 01584 861849  
f\_j\_williams@btinternet.com

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

### PARISH COUNCILS

**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](mailto:martinggc@gmail.com)

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### 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**  
Avril Lines, 01584 861 339  
culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com

**Diddlebury Village Hall**  
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org  
**Hall booking enquiries:**  
[bookdvh@gmail.com](mailto:bookdvh@gmail.com)  
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[diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com)  
**WhatsApp/text/phone:**  
07396 730342

**Diddlebury Church Room**  
Jan Kennedy, 01584 841372,  
jan\_kennedy@icloud.com

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

### CLUBS & SOCIETIES

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

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

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

**Corvedale Book Group**  
Cath Burley,  
cathburley@hotmail.com

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

**Corvedale & District Autumn Show**  
John Woodhouse, 07980 207253

**Corvedale Folk Club**  
Ian Fotheringham, 01584 841331

**Corvedale Garden Group**  
Cath Burley,  
cathburley@hotmail.com

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

**Community Environmental Group**  
Rebecca Bull,  
peter17bull@btinternet.com

**Diddlebury Dancing Group**  
Sally Woodhouse,  
01584 841265, 07813 019010  
sallyewhome@yahoo.co.uk

**Westhope Clover Club**  
Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841254

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*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 MAY 2024

	5TH MAY Easter 6	12TH MAY Easter 7	19TH MAY Pentecost	26TH MAY Trinity Sunday	2ND JUNE Trinity 1
ABDON		9:45 HC		6pm Compline	
BROADSTONE			8:30 HC		
CULMINGTON	11:15 HC		6pm Songs of Praise	8:30am HC	11:15 HC
DIDDLEBURY	9:45 HC	6pm EP	11:15 HC	11:15 FS	9:45 HC
HOLDGATE	8:30 HC				8:30 HC
MUNSLOW	6pm EP	11:15 HC		9:45 HC	6pm Evensong
TUGFORD			9:45 HC		

Thursday 9th May  
Wednesday 15th May  
Thursday 23rd May

**Holy Communion for Ascension Day**  
**Taizé Service**  
**Messy Church**

at Broadstone at 7:30pm  
at Abdon at 7:30pm  
at Diddlebury at 3:20pm

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