

# THE CORVEDALE NEWS

DECEMBER 24/JANUARY 25  
*The Corvedale's Community Magazine*



St Catherine's, Tugford

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)



## STUART ANDERSON

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

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP

Tel: 01584 872 187

Fax: 01584 876 345

Email: [stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk)

## SHROPSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR FOR THE CORVEDALE

**Cllr. Cecilia Motley  
Councillor, Corvedale Division**

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

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192



## SUPPORT & RESOURCES

There is a wealth of information and resources available on the Shropshire Council website: [www.shropshire.gov.uk](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
Mr A Inglefield	Aston Munslow	Aston Munslow
Ms N Fuller	Mill House, Bache Mill	Bache Mill
Mr P Turner	16 Beambridge, Munslow	Beambridge/Millichope
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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	Diddlebury 3, 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 FEBRUARY 2025 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the February 2025 magazines, please send by email to [editor@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:editor@corvedalenews.co.uk) by **MONDAY 20TH JANUARY 2025** 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 JANUARY 2025** 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 and 2025

Firstly, to all of you who have paid your subscriptions, a big thank you. There are still a few people who have yet to pay. If you are not sure whether you have paid or not, please contact Colin Pitcher by email at [colin.pitcher@hotmail.com](mailto:colin.pitcher@hotmail.com).

The Corvedale News Team is very pleased to announce that we are able to hold the subscription prices at the 2024 rates for next year. The paper subscription will remain at £8.00 per annum and the electronic subscription £5.00 per annum. This represents remarkable value for money.

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.

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)

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# LOCAL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

 *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



**ENJOY SINGING?**  
**CORVEDALE CHOIR** is looking to recruit new members who love to sing.

**WHO?**  
 We are a mixed voice community choir based in the Corvedale. Our Musical Director is Ros Crouch. All songs are taught - an ability to follow music and a desire to sing is all that's required.

**WHEN and WHERE?**  
 Monday evenings 7.30 to 9.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall during school term times

**WHAT?**  
 We sing an eclectic mix of harmony songs with a supportive, friendly and fun group of local people. We have an annual summer concert and support a carol service in church at Christmas time. And we raise money for good causes at the same time.

**INTERESTED?** For further information contact Avril Lines [avril.fossilsinshropshire@gmail.com](mailto:avril.fossilsinshropshire@gmail.com) Or 01584 861 339

Or join us any Monday evening for a taster.

**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 Meetings: Thursday 12th December and Thursday 9th January**



**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 832 603



**Corvedale Folk Club**

**at The Seven Stars, Broadstone**  
**on Monday 16th December & Monday 27th January 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)

**RSPB Walks & Talks**

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

**WALKS**

<b>Thursday 12th December</b>	10.30am	Colemere Lake
<b>Sunday 12th January</b>	10.30am	Mortimer Forest

**TALKS** - Second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.  
 £2 members, £5 non-members including refreshments.

<b>10th December</b>	Mortimer Forest	David Arbuthnot
<b>14th January</b>	Wildlife on Camera	Louise Ward



**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 contact Katharine Wale on 07866 408 897 or [katharinewale59@gmail.com](mailto:katharinewale59@gmail.com) to confirm work location.

If any local walkers in the Corvedale notice any stiles or steps in poor condition, please report back to Katharine.

**NO WORKING PARTIES IN DECEMBER**

**ORGANISING AN EVENT OR RUN A LOCAL CLUB?**

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)

# 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</b> - Baby & Toddler Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Blue Hills Choir</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Corvedale Artists</b>	Munslow Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Zumba</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	<b>Yoga</b>	Westhope Village Hall	9.45am
Every Wed	<b>Yoga</b>	Culmington Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	<b>Line Dancing</b>	Onbury Village Hall	7pm & 8pm
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</b> - Beginners/Intermediate Class	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Fri	<b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

## DECEMBER 2024

3rd Tue	<b>Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir Concert</b>	Priority Hall, Much Wenlock	
3rd Tue	<b>Slow the Flow Meeting</b>	Culmington Village Hall	6.45pm
4th Wed	<b>Christmas Wreath Workshop</b>	Abdon Village Hall	9.30am-5pm
4th Wed	<b>Clover Club Christmas Lunch</b>	The Swan Inn, Aston Munslow	12.30pm
4th Wed	<b>Flicks in the Sticks: Thelma</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
4th Wed	<b>Munslow Parish Council Meeting</b>	Munslow Village Hall	7.30pm
5th Thu	<b>Warm Hub Coffee Morning</b>	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
5th Thu	<b>Messy Church</b>	St Peter's, Diddlebury	3.20pm
6th Fri	<b>Christmas Fayre</b>	Culmington Village Hall	
7th Sat	<b>Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir Concert</b>	Much Wenlock Christmas Fair	11am
7th Sat	<b>Christmas Prize Bingo</b>	Westhope Village Hall	
9th Mon	<b>Christmas Whist Drive</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
10th Tue	<b>RSPB Talk: Mortimer Forest, David Arbutnot</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
11th Wed	<b>Christmas Quiz</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
11th Wed	<b>Diddlebury &amp; Westhope WI</b>	The Swan Inn, Aston Munslow	7pm
12th Thu	<b>RSPB Walk</b>	Colemere Lake	10.30am
12th Thu	<b>Lunch Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
12th Thu	<b>Hayton &amp; District WI Christmas Supper</b>	The Clive Arms, Bromfield	7.30pm

12th Thu	<b>Corvedale Book Group</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
14th Sat	<b>Stream of Sound</b>	St Catherine's, Tugford	7pm
14th Sat	<b>Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
16th Mon	<b>Christmas Tree Festival &amp; Hamper Draw</b>	St Peter's, Diddlebury	
16th Mon	<b>Corvedale Folk Club</b>	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
16th Mon	<b>Whist Drive</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
16th Mon	<b>Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir Concert</b>	William Brookes School	7pm
17th Tue	<b>Christmas Tree Festival</b>	St Peter's, Diddlebury	
19th Thu	<b>Warm Hub Coffee Morning</b>	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
31st Tue	<b>Stephano's Hootenanny</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	8pm

## JANUARY 2025

4th Sat	<b>Children's Matinee: Despicable Me 4</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	2.30pm
5th Sun	<b>Children's Party</b>	Munslow Village Hall	2pm
6th Mon	<b>Whist Drive</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
7th Tue	<b>Culmington Parish Council Meeting</b>	Culmington Village Hall	7pm
9th Thu	<b>Corvedale Book Group</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
9th Thu	<b>Hayton &amp; District WI Meeting</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
11th Sat	<b>Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
12th Sun	<b>RSPB Walk</b>	Mortimer Forest	10.30am
12th Sun	<b>Big Breakfast Brunch</b>	Culmington Village Hall	9.30am
14th Tue	<b>RSPB Talk: Wildlife on Camera, Louise Ward</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
15th Wed	<b>Munslow WI Bring a Friend Coffee Morning</b>	Munslow Village Hall	
15th Wed	<b>Flicks in the Sticks: Portraits of Dangerous Women</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
16th Thu	<b>Warm Hub Coffee Morning</b>	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
16th Thu	<b>Lunch Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
20th Mon	<b>Corvedale News Copy Deadline</b>		
22nd Wed	<b>Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
25th Sat	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
27th Mon	<b>Corvedale Folk Club</b>	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
30th Thu	<b>Warm Hub Coffee Morning</b>	Munslow Village Hall	10.30am
31st Fri	<b>Antiques Valuation Evening</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	5.30pm

## VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon - Page 9, Culmington - Page 8, Diddlebury - Page 10, Munslow - Page 8, Westhope - Page 8

The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 20th January

# WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE

## LINE DANCING with Gav



### Wednesday Evening

Onibury Class

Absolute Beginners/Beginners

7:00PM - 8:00PM

High Beginners/Improvers

8:00PM - 9:00PM

Venue

Onibury Village Hall, Onibury, Craven Arms,  
Shropshire, SY7 9AZ

£5.50 Per Hour | £6.00 For Two Hours

\*Subject to Change each April | Card or Cash Accepted

To Book your place please visit:

[www.linedancingwithgav.co.uk](http://www.linedancingwithgav.co.uk)

Text / WhatsApp 07402 633599



### Natural Flood Management in the Corvedale Information Evening

Tuesday 3rd December

6:45 - 8:45pm

Culmington Village Hall

SY8 2DA

Refreshments provided

- Learn about Shropshire Wildlife Trust's Slow The Flow project
- Hear from community groups and landowners
- Find out more about funding available in the Corvedale
- Latest results from Cardiff University's research at Wilderhope
- Free event, no booking required
- Any questions: [sarahm@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:sarahm@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk)

## MUNSLOW W.I.

INVITES ALL CHILDREN LIVING  
IN THE MUNSLOW AND  
SURROUNDING AREAS TO

### A SPECIAL PARTY

On

SUNDAY 5th JANUARY 2025

at 2.00pm

MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

There will be games, a magician,  
tea and more games

TO BOOK SEND NAMES AND AGES TO:

Lorraine: 01584 841 862 or

Val: 01584 861 658



MOVIES@DVH

### Portraits of Dangerous Women

The lives of three strangers collide in a bizarre road accident. After the initial turmoil, they decide to handle the aftermath without involving the police. The unlikely trio forge unusual alliances and as their pasts unravel, grow ever closer, unexpectedly discovering a deep sense of kinship.

A comedy drama - 15

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Bar Opens 19:00

Film Starts 19:30

There will be an interval

# WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

DVH presents our first

## **ANTIQUES VALUATION EVENING**

Bring your antiques, valuables & interesting items to be valued by



**Fine Arts Auctioneers  
of Shrewsbury**

Or just come to watch and enjoy a short talk on antiques by one of their auctioneers,

**Bar open at 17:30**

refreshments available.

**Valuations from 18:00 – 21:00**

£5 entry

**Includes 3 valuations per household**



The Corvedale News team would like to wish all our distributors, readers, and contributors a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

With many thanks for your continued support.

Next issue: February 2025



IF you're at a loose end on

## **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Come and join us for

## **Stephano's Hootenanny**

**BRING YOUR OWN**

**Picnic & Drinks**

**We'll provide**

- The ambience,
- Music for dancing
- Glasses/plates/cutlery

**Stay as long as you wish**

**20:00 - 00:30**

Please let us know if you MIGHT be coming

**At Diddlebury Village Hall**

## **FOR SALE**

Used electric cooker in good condition.  
BEKO (KD532AW model, 19.5" wide)  
4 hot plate hob & built in oven £85.00.  
Collection only, located in Munslow.

Call to inquire 07907 998 723

## **Make your own Christmas Wreath**

All day workshop

**Wednesday 4th December**

9.30 to 5.00pm in Abdon Village Hall

Bring any greenery,  
with other materials provided.

Bring your own packed lunch but  
coffee/tea and cake will be provided  
throughout the day. Cost £25.

Email Margaret to book a place  
abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

# WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

In November we joined together with Culmington Village Hall, for a race night at Westhope Village Hall. And what a great night was had by all! Our thanks to Culmington Village Hall and Westhope Village Hall committees for hosting this event.

Prior to Christmas we have Prize Bingo on **Saturday 7th December** and Christmas Whist Drive on **Monday 9th December**, when our second centenary lottery draw will take place.

The last whist drive of 2024 will be on **Monday 16th December** and then we start again on **Monday 6th January 2025**.

After our AGM more fundraising events will be organized. Details in the next issue of the Corvedale News and on our Westhope Village Hall Facebook page.

Wishing all our loyal supporters a Happy Christmas and prosperous new year.

Everyone is welcome to all our events and our licensed bar is always available.

All enquiries Betty 07860 447 397 or Moira 01584 861 663 or 07542 947 440.

Betty Manley

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Weekly Whist Drive.** Every Monday 7.15pm start.

**Yoga.** Thursdays, 9.45am - 10.45am  
Please contact Sue Pugh 07432 349 933.

**Christmas Prize Bingo**  
Saturday 7th December

**Christmas Whist Drive and the Second Lottery Draw**  
Monday 9th December

# MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

Our first coffee morning in November was well attended and a lovely social meeting.

Dates for further coffee mornings are **5th December** and **19th December** 10.30 till 12 noon. We will be having a craft stall at these meetings with the items being sold in aid of Midlands Air Ambulance.

A children's party is being hosted by Munslow WI on **Sunday 5th January** at the village hall from 2pm. Jack the magician who entertained us all at the last party will be back again, and tea and games will follow the magic performance. The party is for all children in the area. For further details please contact Loraine on 01584 841 862.

Our January coffee mornings will be on **16th January** and **30th January** 10.30 till 12 noon.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a great 2025

Lesley Dobson

# CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

## REGULAR EVENTS

### Coffee Morning

Every Monday, 10am - 11.30am

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

### Bridge Club

Every Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm

Contact Richard Smith [richard.smith404@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.smith404@btinternet.com)

### Yoga

Every Wednesday, 6 to 7.15pm

Contact Jennifer Gennard 07968 817 643

### Lunch Club

Third Thursday of every month

Contact Gwyn Edwards to book 01584 861 666

## DECEMBER EVENTS

### Shropshire Slow the Flow Meeting

#### Natural Flood Management in the Corvedale

Tuesday 3rd December

Open meeting to inform, share and gain information. Learn more about Shropshire Wildlife Trust's Slow the Flow Project and the latest results from Cardiff University's research at Wilderhope. Hear from community groups and landowners. Find out about funding available in the Corvedale. No booking required.

Contact [sarahm@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:sarahm@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk)

### Christmas Fayre

Friday 6th December

Stalls, Father Christmas and more!

### Lunch Club

Thursday 12th December, 12.30pm

Contact Gwyn Edwards to book 01584 861 666

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Big Breakfast Brunch

Sunday 12th January, 9.30am - 2.30pm

To book contact Gwyn Edwards 01584 861 666 or Jo Mear 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486

### Lunch Club

Thursday 16th January, 12.30pm

Contact Gwyn Edwards to book 01584 861 666

### Lunch Club

Thursday 20th February, 12.30pm

Contact Gwyn Edwards to book 01584 861 666

### Steak Night

Friday 28th February

Look out for more details in the next issue

# HOPPIN' JOHN

Those who have seen my recipes before will know that I am fond of the cuisine of the Deep South. This recipe, from Louisiana, is a favourite, and if eaten on New Year's Day is supposed to bring good luck for the year. No-one knows where the strange name comes from. Most supermarkets sell Cajun seasoning and you can get black-eyed beans from good delicatessens (they are sometimes called black-eyed peas). - Martin Jones

## Ingredients - Serves 2

3 oz bacon; lardons, or rashers cut into small pieces	1/4 lb dried black-eyed beans
1 tbsp oil	1 bay leaf
1 celery stalk, diced	1 tsp dried mixed herbs
1 small onion, diced	1 level tsp Cajun seasoning
1/2 green pepper, diced	Salt
1 garlic clove, chopped	Long-grain rice
	Chopped parsley (optional)

## Method

1. Soak the beans for 18 -24 hours in plenty of cold water.
2. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan. Cook bacon slowly till crispy. Add celery, onion, and green pepper and sauté for about 4 – 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook another minute. Drain the beans, and add to the pan, together with the bay leaf, herbs, Cajun seasoning and sufficient water just to cover.
3. Put a lid on the saucepan and simmer very slowly for about 1½ hours till the beans are tender but not mushy. Check the water from time to time and top up if necessary.
4. Shortly before the beans are done cook the rice in accordance with the instructions on the packet. Add salt to taste to the bean mixture and serve over the rice. Garnish with parsley (optional).

Serve with kale or spring greens.

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# ABDON VILLAGE HALL

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS – DECEMBER 2024 / JANUARY 2025

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

*Saturday 14th December 10.30am - 12.30pm.*

*Saturday 11th January 10.30am - 12.30pm.*

On the second Saturday of every month at Abdon Village Hall. 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

*No coffee morning in December.*

*Saturday 25th January 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)

# MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

The choir sings at the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 7th December**. We'll be under the Corn Exchange at 11.00am and always enjoy singing to the many visitors to the town as well as you, our locals!

Indeed, if you do live locally, are available and wish to get into the festive spirit, the choir will be holding its' annual **FREE** Christmas Concert at the William Brookes School at 7.00pm on **Monday 16th December**. We enjoy singing to our friends, supporters and patrons and have a number of tickets available for those who would like to join us. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served and there will be a chance to join in with a bit of carol singing too. Admission is by ticket, obtainable from choir members or from Penny Farthing in The Square, Much Wenlock. Do consider coming along.

We will take a short break for Christmas and be back practicing from **Tuesday 7th January** at the William Brookes School (7.20pm).

As always, we are keen to attract new members. We're a group of over forty choristers who enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits that singing brings. It's nice to think that what we do has been proven scientifically to be good for you as opposed to some of our other favourite activities! January is New Year's resolution time and, from our perspective, an ideal time to look at some new pieces to add to our repertoire, which also makes it an ideal time to come and give us a try. Remember, no prior singing experience is necessary.

Best wishes to you all from the choir for Christmas and the New Year.

Dick Langford , 01952 728 758, [chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com](mailto:chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com)

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# THE TREE OF LIGHT

## LUDLOW ROTARY TREE OF LIGHT TO SHINE AS A BEACON OF REMEMBRANCE

Once again, this Christmas, the Ludlow Rotary Club offers everyone the opportunity to shine a light in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special occasion or to send good wishes to friends or family by making a dedication and donation.

A Tree of Light, organised by the town's Rotarians, has been part of the Ludlow Christmas for almost two decades. The Tree of Light is located in Castle Gardens and will remain lit until Twelfth Night on 6th January.

Forms containing full information on how to submit a dedication may be obtained from St Laurence's Parish Church, Nock Deighton Estate Agents or downloaded from [www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk](http://www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk).

All dedications received by 13th December will be published in the Christmas edition of the Ludlow Advertiser. A complete list of dedications received by Twelfth Night will be recorded on the Ludlow Rotary Club website.

A minimum donation of £5 per dedication is invited with all funds received earmarked by Ludlow Rotary Club for local community projects. Last year some £800 was raised through the Tree of Light.

Barry Forrester

01584 878 872 / 07786 078 470, [forrester.ludlow@gmail.com](mailto:forrester.ludlow@gmail.com)

# DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org What's App/call - 07396 730342 Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall.org  
[diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com)

 <p><b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> <p><b>THELMA</b></p> <p>When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her in a robust feelgood comedy.</p> <p>Bar opens 19:00 Film starts 19:30 £5 – card machine available</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 11 December</b></p> <p>FULLY BOOKED</p> <p><b>Christmas Quiz</b></p> <p>19:00 Bar opens 19:30 Quiz starts Teams of 4 - £10 ***Booking essential*** Text 07396 730342 <a href="mailto:diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com">diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b></p> <p><b>DESPICABLE ME 4</b></p> <p><b>Special Children's Matinee</b></p> <p>2.30 pm doors open 3.00 pm film starts Popcorn, ice cream &amp; soft drinks available 😊 £2.50 children / £5 adults</p>
 <p><b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p><b>PORTRAITS OF DANGEROUS WOMEN</b> 15</p> <p>where three strangers' lives collide in a bizarre road accident only to discover unexpected kinship. A comedy drama shot in Sussex with a great indie British sensibility</p> <p>Bar opens 19:00 Film starts 19:30 £5 – card machine available</p>	<p><b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b></p> <p>Come and enjoy an interesting</p> <p><b>ANTIQUES VALUATION EVENING</b></p> <p>Bring your antiques, valuables &amp; interesting items to be valued by <b>HALLS Fine Arts Auctioneers of Shrewsbury</b></p> <p>Or just come to enjoy a short talk on antiques by one of their auctioneers.</p> <p>Bar open and refreshments available. <b>18:00 – 21:00</b></p>	<p>DVH is a light, bright, modern venue with large and small halls, dedicated bar, large fully equipped professional kitchen, excellent disabled access, a top-quality toilet block, on-site parking and full premises licence.</p> <p>With a new AV sound system and hearing loop it offers flexible and affordable facilities for weddings, family events and celebrations. It is also ideal for conferences and business meetings, regular activity classes, parties and music events.</p> <p>Check out our comprehensive website <a href="http://www.diddleburyvillagehall.org">www.diddleburyvillagehall.org</a></p>

## REGULAR EVENTS

<b>Mondays</b>	<b>10:00 – 12:00 Term Times</b>	<b>Mini Moos Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> £2.50 per family
	<b>19:30 – 21:30</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>Tuesdays</b>	<b>10:00 – 12:00</b>	<b>The Blue Hills Choir</b> - Contact Ros Crouch for mor information
	<b>18:00 – 19:00</b>	<b>Zumba with Cat</b> <a href="mailto:zumbawithcat@outlook.com">zumbawithcat@outlook.com</a> /07817 448832
	<b>19:30 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>RSPB Monthly Talks</b> All Welcome to attend these very interesting talks.
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>10:00 – 11:00</b>	<b>Tai Chi with Enid</b> Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 <a href="mailto:hello@goldenthreadscic.com">hello@goldenthreadscic.com</a>
	<b>18:00 – 19:00</b>	<b>Pilates with Tina</b> Bookings only via <a href="mailto:pilateswithtina@outlook.com">pilateswithtina@outlook.com</a>
	<b>19:30 14<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>The Corvedale Book Club</b> meet once a month to discuss their latest book choice. Contact: <a href="mailto:corvedale.book.group@gmail.com">corvedale.book.group@gmail.com</a>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>09:15 – 10:15</b>	<b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates.</b> Beverley Chumber: <a href="mailto:beverleychumber@sky.com">beverleychumber@sky.com</a> 07967 814412

# CHURCH NEWS

## LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

Writing this in mid-November it is hard to believe that Christmas is as near as it is. However, the word 'nativity' came up whilst I was in school yesterday and it's only a fortnight until the start of Advent. As we look towards Christmas from a few weeks before the big day it can be easy to be overwhelmed by all the things we have to get done and to lose sight of what it is that we prepare to celebrate. Christmas is about the birth of a baby, a baby who Christians believe was the Son of God, a baby who was born in an occupied country in less than perfect surroundings. He was a baby who grew up and spent his life teaching others about the love that God has for all his people and about the love that God's people should have for each other. It is a message which is as important now as it was then. We live in a world in which it is easy for people to stir up division and hatred, and we see the results of that reported on the news every day. A message of love and peace can be harder to spread and is perhaps perceived as less newsworthy, but it has the power to transform lives for the better in all sorts of ways.

We will, of course, celebrate the good news of Christmas when we get there: elsewhere in the magazine you will find details of Christmas services and of events. To help us drag our thoughts away from the frenetic pre-Christmas rush and back to what it is all about, we will have the usual series of Compline services on Wednesday evenings in Advent.

Whether you come to church regularly or you have never been before, we invite you to join us as we celebrate Christmas - everyone is welcome at any of our services: come to the services that suit you, whether or not they are in your nearest church.

I wish you, when we get there, a very happy Christmas.

Rev'd John Beesley

## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL & HAMPER DRAW

The Christmas Tree Festival in Diddlebury Church will be on **Monday 16th December and Tuesday 17th** from **4pm to 9pm**. There will be decorated Christmas trees from each of the parishes and we invite others to have a tree in the church too - either as individuals or as a business. We'll be setting up on Monday 16th during the day and trees can be taken away (hopefully for reuse elsewhere) either after we close on Tuesday night or in the days after that. If you'd like to put a tree in the church, please let me know so that we can allocate a space.

On **Monday 16th at 8pm** we will have the draw for this year's Hamper Draw, and we hope to have the added attraction of some live Christmas music during the evening. The hamper draw is a vital element in raising funds for the very considerable cost of running the parishes.

There are three areas where we would like any help you can give. The first, obviously, is by buying tickets, which will cost, as before, just £1.00. Winners stand to win exciting prizes which, as well as the hampers themselves, include a weekend in Barmouth and also meals for two in The Crown and The Swan - and many more. Secondly, we would like donations of seasonal produce for the hampers themselves. People have been very generous in previous years, and boxes will be placed in our churches by the time you read this, or items may

be left at the Rectory or handed to the various churchwardens or other members of the various congregations. We very much hope that you will be able to support us (we have a lot of alcohol already). Thirdly, it would help if you could sell tickets to your family and friends and any other unsuspecting people you come across.

Best of luck in the draw, and we hope to see many of you 'on the night.'

On **Tuesday 17th at 6pm** we will be joined by the staff, children and parents from Corvedale School for their annual carol service - you are welcome to join us.

Rev'd John Beesley/Martin Speight

## MESSY CHURCH

The next Messy Church will be on **Thursday 5th December** from 3:20pm, when we'll be thinking about Advent and Christmas. We start with a variety of crafts and activities, after which we have a Bible story. We finish with a cooked meal for adults and children to share and we're normally finished by about 5 o'clock. Messy Church is free (although donations towards our costs are welcome) and it's for families to join in together and so all children must have a responsible adult with them - whether that's a parent, grandparent or a carer. Put the date in your diary and come along!

Rev'd John Beesley

## ST CATHERINE'S, TUGFORD

A final reminder that our Christmas music evening will be taking place on **Saturday 14th December** at 7.00pm when we will once more be welcoming the wonderful *Stream of Sound* and *Ros Crouch*, not to mention our evergreen cabaret act aka *Maggie Teague* - so I won't!

Tickets are available from me (01584 841 627) but are mainly a record that you have booked so that we can fit everyone in. All we request is a donation to church funds if you have enjoyed the evening - after all, you can't put a price on Christmas at Tugford!

Colin Porter

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### WEDDING

26th October	Marie Colas des Francs & David Andrews	Diddlebury
1st November	Kate Stevenson & Christopher Markham	Diddlebury

### FUNERALS

11th November	Colin Lane	Diddlebury
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## FLOWERS & BRASSES

### DECEMBER 2024

1st*	Kath Worthington
8th*	Kath Worthington
15th*	Sharon Constable
22nd	Christmas decorations
29th	Christmas decorations

### JANUARY 2025

5th	Liz Jones
12th	Liz Jones
19th	Liz Beazley
26th	Liz Beazley

\* Brasses only



## AMERICAN WIFE, BY CURTIS SITTFELD

The November choice for the book club was American Wife by Curtis Sittenfeld. A small group of us met to share our ideas about the novel and an interesting discussion took place.

Initially it is important to point out that in interviews the author stresses that this is not a biography, but she was inspired by Laura Bush, wife of the President of America George W Bush. She suggests that 85% of the book is made up and that she is ultimately exploring the cost of fame focussed on the heroine, Alice. However, she includes several life changing incidents from Laura Bush's own life that can be clearly identified, and these provide the basis of the book in which the heroine eventually faces consequences and contradictions that are years in the making.

The book starts in the 1940s and tells the story of Alice Lingren who grew up in a small, quiet town in Wisconsin with parents and a sympathetic grandmother – a significant figure in her life. She obviously has no idea that she will eventually marry the President of America and live in the White House. The first significant incident happens when Alice is in her teens and there is a tragic road accident in which a friend dies, and that seems to change her identity and the trajectory of her life. We know a similar accident also happened to Laura Bush at a similar age. A decade later Alice is swept off her feet by a man and into a world of American Republicanism and privilege. When that man then first becomes governor and then the president, she realises that she is in love with him but fundamentally disagrees with his beliefs and that her own beliefs run against her public persona. She then must face issues that are, apparently, impossible to answer.

Several points were raised in our discussion:

We generally agreed that the book was readable and although perhaps too long and included detail that did not necessarily add to the narrative the first-person narrative was in places compelling.

We considered the ethics of an author fictionalizing a living person, mingling non-fiction and fiction and leaving readers asking the question 'how much of this is true?' Did the author need to use a real person as her main protagonist - would the novel have been as effective/popular with an unknown main character?

We also considered that although the author included relatively recent events (George W Bush was president over two terms 2001-2009) could this still be considered an historical novel? The discussion then briefly discussed the role that historical novels play in exploring and shaping our understanding of history.

The book received generally high critical praise, particularly in US. However, this was not unanimous, and one critic used the words gossipy and salacious suggesting that this did not give the work an honest quality and in places became it became almost voyeuristic. There was a general agreement in the group that this was so.

In conclusion there appeared to be a consensus that, although the book was readable, it was not one that could be whole heartedly recommended.

Ann Hedges



## WHEN THE RED-RED ROBIN COMES BOB-BOB-BOBBIN' ALONG...

...you know it must be nearly Christmas! In an annual competition this lovely little bird, with its orange-red breast, is consistently voted the most popular bird in the country.

I was reminded about Christmas and robins as I watched one of the three pairs of robins in our garden. Yes, they are territorial, but they have carved it up between them and respect each other's space. The one that lives closest to the house has started helping itself to the fish food which gets caught on the edge of the fishpond! I watched this amazing activity while peeling vegetables at the kitchen sink, a task it made much more interesting than usual.

For centuries, this tiny bird has been the symbol of good luck, happiness, and sometimes even as a messenger for lost, loved ones. There are tales stretching back to Norse mythology where the robin is the protector from storms and lightning.

But historically, the robin has a good story to tell, especially when Christmas comes around. I mean - why does it have a super orange-red breast? There are several suggestions, mostly tied up with Christianity but certainly not biblical!

Myth has it that after Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem a fire was lit in order to keep the Holy Family and new baby warm. The local robin was concerned that the heat might be too much for the infant so bravely spread his wings to protect him. The fire scorched the robin's breast an orange-red colour and all robins have been that way ever since. A variation similarly claims the robin fluttered his wings to keep the baby cool from the heat and, in the same way, his breast was scorched.

(Interesting fact: the robin's breast was originally referred to as red because the colour orange did not exist. And the redness of the robin *is* orangey (is that a word?). The word 'orange' was first used as a colour in English in 1512, named after the fruit which had become popular in Europe).

The reputation of the robin was enhanced even more in Victorian times when the Post Office came into being. The men who delivered the letters (in what was an amazing revolution at the time) were affectionately known as 'robins.' Their uniform included a bright red jacket. As the sending of cards at Christmas spread, the robin spread likewise from the garden to featuring on the cards. What is not to like about a pretty red breasted robin sitting on a holly tree in a snowy background?

Many of us will choose such a card this year, despite the dwindling numbers sent these days. If you receive cards why not check how many robins you can spot? Oh – and do not forget to feed them if the weather gets tough, too!

Anni Holden Calver, Secretary of Shropshire Churches Tourism Group  
[www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk](http://www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk)  
Trustee of Carving for God's Acre and Churchyard Task Team cheerleader!  
[www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)



# CORVEDALE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



We are rapidly approaching the end of an action-packed Autumn term, but there is still time for our little shepherds and angels to take centre stage before we reach the Christmas holiday – so there is plenty left to be excited about!

Before we look ahead, I want to say a big thank you to Father John for conducting our Remembrance service at St Peter's Church. We were extremely proud of how respectful our pupils were, particularly year six, who spoke so well when sharing facts about D-Day and their own original poetry compositions. It was wonderful to have been joined by so many members of the community too.

This half term has also seen the return of our house activities, in which pupils work collaboratively across year groups to complete activities that reflect our school values. This time the theme was service, so they have cleared a lot of leaves both at school and at the Millichope estate – although

given the weather, we did end up having a snowman building competition on one of the afternoons also! The Corvedale School Association did an amazing job organising and hosting our Autumn disco, and they have now turned their attention to putting on a Christmas wreath-making workshop on Friday 29th November. My advice is to get your tickets early as they are bound to be popular!

Moving into December, we have Christmas Jumper Day, Nativity performances, a Christmas carol service and a trip to the panto to keep us busy right until the end and we hope to see some of you along the way! By the time of my next update, we will be into the swing of Spring, so a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all, from the staff and pupils at Corvedale School.

Neil Davda, Headteacher

## FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE GROUP

As you may have read in the last edition of the Corvedale News Jenny Vine is 'stepping' down as the leader and coordinator of the Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group, a role she has filled with some 'stile(s)' for over a decade.

To Jenny's exacting standards her team of volunteers have dug holes (in the right place) fitted posts and stiles (in the right position) and re-filled the holes (firmly enough) and added signage (in the correct direction), all to ensure continuation of these ancient cross-country routes. However, supervising volunteers is only one aspect of the role that Jenny has shouldered all these years. She has walked the paths, identified the work required, liaised with Shropshire Council and landowners, planned the monthly working parties, managed the tools and equipment, and so much more.

The footpaths in the Corvedale are almost entirely maintained

by Jenny and her volunteers, so all of us who love to walk through this part of the Shropshire Hills owe Jenny an enormous debt of gratitude for the huge contribution she has made to life here.

However, all is not lost, and the members of the Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group are aiming to continue Jenny's good work. While things may be done differently, we'd like to think that the end result will be the same. Our plans are in the early stages, and we will regroup in the coming weeks to work out how we go forward.

In the meantime, if you would like further information, to volunteer, or to offer other help, please contact Katharine Wale at [katharinewale59@gmail.com](mailto:katharinewale59@gmail.com) or on 07866 408 897.

Katharine Wale



## AUTUMN QUIZ NIGHT @ DVH

Thanks to the many people who turned out for our Autumn quiz night. We were thrilled to see a full house with every table booked. As usual there was lots of fun and laughter throughout the evening but also some really good quizzing as Jean had everyone thinking hard with her excellent questions, and the quiz was a great success.

Topping the leaderboard with an impressive score of 86 points were *The Nellie Dean's*. Two shots behind with 84 points were *I Want Richard* and in 3rd were the *Beacon Hillbillies*.

Winner of the star prize in our squares draw was Lucy, winning a £20 note, with John Gould winning the second prize of a bottle of wine. Thanks so much to everyone for supporting DVH by coming to our quiz and buying squares. All the money raised at our quiz nights goes towards keeping our wonderful hall in great shape.

We're now looking forward to our Christmas quiz on **11th December** which will be our last quiz of 2024.

Kim Simm



# CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP



The final event for this year, held on Saturday 9th November in Diddlebury Village Hall, was a fascinating talk from Kevin Alviti on unusual fruit and veg that grow in many parts of the world, and it seems many succeed happily in our climate. Kevin has a smallholding in Worcestershire where he experiments and learns from his successes and failures. I am sure his talk, peppered with lively and entertaining anecdotes, will inspire some of us to be more adventurous with what we plant. We all came home with a packet of Kevin's saved tomato seeds so we can compare notes next year. Kevin, a farmer's son who wanted to explore this aspect of gardening on his smallholding, showed photographs of his produce, and described their uses and how his children are involved in all aspects of the growing and eating. He has over seventy varieties of apple, fifteen varieties of plum, damsons, bullaces etc., plus a range of interesting and unusual vegetables. Also, there was some discussion of the health aspects of many of the vegetables and herbs which is something everyone can benefit from. In addition, Kevin makes woodwork garden items including a unique gooseberry harvesting device and trugs with mesh bottoms for washing the garden veg and I saw several of the group leaving with a purchase or two.

The garden group would like to thank Kevin for his talk, and I would like to thank everyone for the help with the teas, raffle, cakes and the setting out and tidying up of the room.

We have a draft programme for next year set out below with costs per person and the full printed version will be ready for the February meeting. Most of the meetings are on the second Saturday of the month from 10.00am–12.00noon. Any questions contact us at [corvedale.garden.group@gmail.com](mailto:corvedale.garden.group@gmail.com). The Garden Group is free to join - all we need is your email address for sending out details of meetings so if you can't come to the first meeting in 2025 and want to be added just email and we will add you to the list.

Alison Benbow

## 2025 DRAFT PROGRAMME

**8th February** - Pauline Martin with a talk entitled *All About Roses*. 12 tips with special emphasis on pruning, including a practical demo. Diddlebury Village Hall. £10.00.

**8th March** - Amanda and Greg Martin, Elsie Manor, Seifton. Garden being redesigned by James Alexander Sinclair. £2.50.

**12th April** - Ingrid Millington, Hillview Hardy Plants, Worfield. Guided tour of nursery and private stock tunnel of auriculas. £7.50.

**10th May** - Dorothy Clive Garden, Willoughbridge, Market Drayton. The 12-acre garden is a renowned and beautiful Plantsman's Paradise. £13.00.

**14th June** - Alun and Jill Whitehead, Aulden Farm, nr Leominster. An informally planted country garden and nursery surrounding an old farmhouse. £9.

**12th July** - Roger and Sue Norman, Ivycroft, nr Leominster. Cottage surrounded by a garden started in 1997: terraces and borders filled with a wide range of rare and beautiful plants. £9.00.

**9th August** - Julia and Anthony Wood, Brooches House, Craven Arms. A traditional layout with herbaceous borders, rose beds, lawns and terraces with beautiful views towards the Stretton Hills. £2.50.

**13th September** - Mike King, Beaufort, Telford. National collection of Sarracenia in greenhouse. Other carnivorous plants in large garden. £2.50.

**11th October** - TBC but probably Acton Scott farm and hall gardens and house tour.

**8th November** - Sam and Kate Davies with a talk on storing and preserving fruit and veg. Includes techniques that work, and a volunteer will be needed! Diddlebury Village Hall. £1.00

## CHILLI NIGHT @ DVH

Our chilli and live music night was a tremendous success which is verified by the many praiseworthy reviews on our DVH Facebook page. We were really lucky to have renowned professional guitarist Jon Crowe and his talented friend Mick to donate their time to help raise money for the hall. The music was fantastic, and they were cheered after every number. We were thrilled that a 'whip round' raised £100 for Jon who was very touched by the gesture and whilst loath to accept it he was also extremely grateful.

The atmosphere throughout the night was fabulous and as the evening was such a success we intend to repeat it next year, and if the many reviews are anything to go by tickets will sell like hot cakes! Apart from being a great night out for our community it also helped raise much needed funds to keep our hall going.

Here are just two of the reviews from our community - *'Thank you all for your hard work it was a lovely evening with a yummy chilli - good company and foot tapping music. It was a great way to spend a Friday evening.'*

*And - 'Another super & brilliantly organised evening catching up with our friends in the community. The food was absolutely delicious, and the entertainment was fab. A really enjoyable evening again. Well done DVH crew.'*

Our thanks go to Mike at Aston Munslow Garage who very kindly sells tickets for us and also thanks to Ed Morris



of Pinstones who donated a bag of the biggest jacket potatoes we've ever seen! You can find them for sale at Mike's garage and at the farm gate.

And of course, thanks to all the volunteers who gave time both before, during and after the event.

Kim Simm

# CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

## EAST TO WEST AND WEST TO EAST

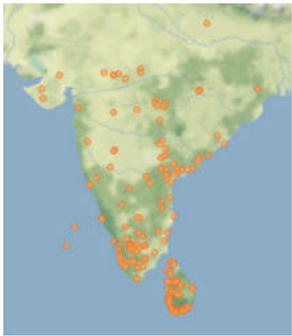
If you're reading this, it is December! If it's December it must be nearly Christmas, literally 'The Mass of Christ.'

You are not supposed to know what you're being given for Christmas but this year I had a sneak preview! Although I've got far too many books already at my bedside, I am really looking forward to reading William Dalrymple's book about the wisdom of ancient India, particularly as I've already heard him talking about it.

The Tibetan plateau is huge and bare; it warms and cools spectacularly during the year sparking trade winds around the vast Indian subcontinent and its seas. Choose the right time and it is easy to travel and trade to both west and east.

Perhaps it is coincidence, but our ancestral religion was literally born in the midst of the Roman Empire. Christianity inevitably became a global force when adopted by the Emperor Constantine, who founded the long-lasting eastern Roman Empire based on the city we today call Istanbul but, in antiquity, was known as Constantinople.

It was inevitable that 'Rome' (the western empire based in Rome) was massively influenced by ancient cultures around the Mediterranean basin, but I'm pretty sure that William is going to make a compelling case for India likewise.



This map shows density of Roman coin hoards found in the Indian subcontinent in orange (on the original map), Kerala and Sri Lanka standing out. The Romans were clearly extremely interested in India - but why, what are we missing? The Roman writer Pliny (who could be dyspeptic at the best of times) belly-ached about the massive trade imbalance:

Rome was being stripped of gold by purchases of Indian luxury goods. Perhaps their Roman world, like ours, was suffering from an accelerating acquisitive spiral.

It seems likely that ancient India gave us a colossal amount of knowledge and culture in maths (including our modern numerology), geometry and philosophy. But this is Christmas time, so the significance of that story and some speculation are in order.

Where commerce flourishes ideas are blown along the trade winds. India was a crucible of thought, so concepts, like fine goods, would have made their way into the Red Sea and after a short land crossing into the Mediterranean.

Here I feel a little nervous. I know next to nothing of comparative theology, but I wonder if there is going to be a Christmas-related notion in the offing! In Christian thought God said to be a Trinity: Father... the ultimate consciousness, Son... the word, and Spirit... wind or breath. This concept is perplexing to many: can't they make up their minds? Is it one or is it three? However, such an idea would be, more than likely, no surprise at all in Ancient India where Buddhism and Hinduism both greatly pre-date Christianity. They also have notions of three aspects of one God. For instance, in Hinduism, the ultimate being is personified by Brahma, consciousness by Siva and bliss by Vishnu. These gods have other properties that complicate matters to western minds, but is this so far from Christian theology? Many have pointed out the similarities between Buddhism and Christianity, even going as far as speculating that Christ's 'missing years' may have been spent on the subcontinent. Many, though, may think there is a more everyday, understandable explanation for the similarities. It turns out that so many other world religions show a trinity principle: was three, then, the perfect number?

The Christian narrative is well-known, God's Son, from the moment of conception receiving the Spirit, or, as some insist, at his baptism. Do these far more ancient resonances diminish the narratives we yearly tell? I would argue not: au contraire, if anything, they make it more interesting and deeper set in humanity.

At any rate the cult of Jesus and Christian God was, you might think, a ready-made trinity, ready to move up smoothly through the gears of world religion.

I hope, like me, you adore Christmas: the music, the stories, the lore (especially our island traditions), the anticipation of Advent and all that. Even the glitz can be exciting once we have a sense of why we are making this age-old yearly remembrance.

Happy ChristMas and (as Tiny Tim observed): 'God bless us all, everyone.'

Peter Cornah

[www.villageadamandeve.uk](http://www.villageadamandeve.uk)

## WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



Westhope Clover Club enjoyed a fun afternoon in November playing bingo. Our thanks to Betty and Allan for keeping us in order and to Phyllis for buying the lovely prizes, and to Dot and Annie for the delicious refreshments.

Our last meeting of the year is on **Wednesday 4th December** 12 for 12.30pm at The Swan, Aston Munslow, for our Christmas lunch and celebrations. With very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to you all.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

### All Saints Church Culmington

Back by popular demand but with a twist.  
Winter is coming!

Willow brash kindling £1 per bag.

Willow mini logs to get your fires really going £2 per bag.

All found in the church porch.

Either leave money in the wall money box or if you're paying by card make a donation using the card reader in the church.

All donations much appreciated.

## MUNSLOW WI

On 2nd November we held a great get-together at Culmington Village Hall with about thirty members of Ludlow North group. We had a delicious lunch prepared by Karen Roberts and her helpers and a table decoration competition was won with a creative design from Clee St Margaret WI. It was a most enjoyable afternoon and good to see so many of us all together.

Our meeting on 13th November at Munslow Village Hall was opened by Loraine with some notices regarding upcoming events. We are holding a party for all children in the area on **Sunday 5th January 2025** at Munslow Village Hall from 2.00pm. The entertainment will be provided by Jack from JD Magic who was so popular last time. Tea and games will follow. Please contact Loraine on 01584 841 862 for further details. We are hosting a *Bring a Friend* coffee morning on **Wednesday 15th January** at Munslow Village Hall from 10.00am. Everyone is welcome - please bring a friend!

Following the notices we were delighted to welcome Tracey Baylis who runs her own business helping people to declutter or downsize their homes. She gave us a talk on the benefits of decluttering our homes and lives. She had many useful insights to impart to us including that decluttering was not only about making physical space in our homes but that it could also help with lifting the worry and weight of a house full of unwanted and unloved clutter from our minds. It was a most enjoyable talk with lots of input from all of us as we recognised ourselves in some of the stories she told us of her experiences. Her mantras included '*a place for everything and everything in its place*' and '*condense the best, let go of the rest*,' which I think resonated with all of us. Tracey was warmly applauded by all and thanked by Loraine. We followed the talk with tea and cake as usual.

Lesley Dobson

## HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

The Hayton & District WI's Annual General Meeting (AGM), held purely for members, on 14th November was well attended with the majority of members present. Both our President, Phyllis, and Treasurer, Joyce, presented their reports for the past year and Secretary, Amanda, presented her overview of the past year's events, fundraisers and outings. Two committee members decided to stand down and members were asked if they would like to volunteer to join the committee with an opportunity to take on those available roles. Once formalities were concluded, we all enjoyed chatting over soup, bread and refreshments brought in by Dot, Phyllis and myself – it was a very enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Supper to be held on **Thursday 12th December** at The Clive Arms, Bromfield. Many thanks to Viv de Haan for organising this, which we are all looking forward to. A branch, members-only, social evening has been arranged for **Thursday 9th January 2025**. We shall therefore welcome our next speaker, Roy Jenkins, to our February meeting on **Thursday 13th February**. Roy, '*The Mad Thatcher*,' will relate stories about his sixty plus years as a thatcher, which I feel promises to be quite entertaining!

All meetings, except for December and August each year, are held at Stanton Lacy Village Hall, Hayton's Bent, SY8 2AT. For anyone who would be interested in attending our WI branch for just a look-see or to join, please contact Phyllis Steventon, Branch President, on 01584 823 436 or our Branch Secretary at [hayton.district.wi@gmail.com](mailto:hayton.district.wi@gmail.com).

Louise Gough

## DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE WI

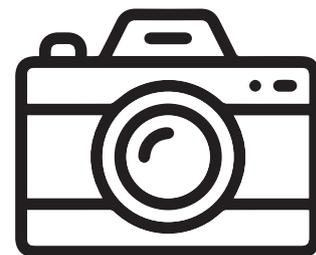
Our November meeting was held at Culmington Village Hall and embraced the fast-approaching Christmas season.

First, we welcomed two new members and then discussed WI matters and notices. Forthcoming meetings include a craft afternoon wreath making at one of the members' houses, a more in-depth programme of meetings and an invitation to Clee St Margaret in May next year for a talk on cyber security with a speaker from the Police force. Next year's resolutions were also discussed as well as a letter from the bank we use, detailing charges they intend to introduce for community groups!

We then went on to the fun part of our evening which was the making of Christmas cards! Joy and Janet, prolific crafters and experienced card makers, very kindly came with machines and kit to enable us to wow our friends and relatives with skillfully made cards, or in my case one card a little on the wonky side which I am sure will be treasured by my husband! Our tutors were immensely patient and instructive, and we loved trying various techniques and generally getting into the Christmas spirit - helped of course by delicious refreshments produced by Eileen and Mary. Grateful thanks to all for a very relaxed and fun evening.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 11th December** at 7.00pm at The Swan, Aston Munslow where we will be gathering to eat delicious food and enjoy full-on Christmas spirit by then. As always, if anyone would like to come along to our meetings either as a visitor for the evening or to join as a member you would be very welcome. Visitor fee is £2.00. Please do ring Joy Williams our secretary if you would like any further information on 01584 861 849.

Jayne Disley



### PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

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

Please send all photos to:

[photos@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:photos@corvedalenews.co.uk)

# CRAVEN ARMS COMMUNITY FOODBANK

This December volunteers at the foodbank will pack Christmas Hampers to be given to those who have been referred to the scheme. In an average month the food bank feeds fifty adults and fifteen children from the donations of food and money kindly given by the community.

The food bank was started over ten years ago by St Andrew's Community Church and is open every Tuesday morning for two hours at 11 Market Street, Craven Arms, opposite the church. All contributions of food and money are appreciated. If you would particularly like to donate for the Christmas Hampers, which provide food for around eighty people (adults, teenagers and children), please contact Angela - details on the flyer below. Equally if you have time to volunteer the team would be very pleased to hear from you.

Jacqueline Turner



## Craven Arms Community Food Bank

**11 Market Street, Craven Arms, SV7 9NW**  
**Open each Tuesday from 10am to 12pm**

We use a referral system, these can be obtained from the Medical Centre, school, mental health services and Connexus Housing amongst others.

Support workers should be able to assist you. If you don't have a referral, please do call in and we will try to help you.

Donations of food (in date please), cheques or cash can be brought to the food bank.

We are reliant on the kind donations we receive to help others in need. There are also food collection points at Tuffins Supermarket, at various local churches.

Contact Angela on  
07852 310 514 if you need help,  
if you want to make a donation or  
are interested in volunteering.  
[www.cravenarmsfoodbank.co.uk](http://www.cravenarmsfoodbank.co.uk)



# NEWS FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

The budget has not generally been very well received in the rural areas. There is great concern at the decision to levy inheritance tax on family farms. Our farms are important drivers of our local economies and this is a harsh decision, especially in the wake of one of the worst harvests in recent memory.

I spent eight years as Chair of the Rural Services Network (RSN), a national group representing rural service providers and rural local authorities. We consistently tried to impress on government the need for fair funding allocations for rural local authorities. RSN is supporting rural authorities and businesses by writing to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Jim McMahon. RSN points out that in the 2024-25 Local Government Finance Settlement, urban councils received 36% per head more in Government funded spending than rural councils. Over the years rural councils have had to rely on increased council tax to help balance the books, resulting in rural council tax being on average 20% per head higher than urban. Rural workers' wages are lower than the national average and their cost of living higher. This needs to be corrected and rural economies supported at a time when costs are rising inexorably.

Shropshire's Planning team had a nasty shock when, completely out of the blue, they received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate regarding our Local Plan. As you may know this had been progressing painstakingly through its different stages and had started on the examination in public. Abruptly they were told that the Inspectors would not be proceeding with the hearings proposed for November and December. They have had no explanation for this yet, but are aware that other local authorities have received similar instructions and, like us, their annual quota of houses to be built has been

doubled by the government. We await more information from the Planning Inspectorate which, to date, has not been forthcoming.

I reported previously on the potential merger of local authorities into combined authorities under a Mayoral system. We understand a White Paper will be released in late November which hopefully will clarify the Government's intentions on Combined Authorities. We hear it may include the demise of District Councils, bringing dramatic change for those authorities with a County and District local government structure, often common in rural authority areas. We presume combined County and District Councils will become unitary, and existing unitaries may be grouped into ever larger combined authorities, potentially including Police & Crime Commissioners and Integrated Healthcare Systems. We await enlightenment!

On a brighter note I'm delighted to report that two members of Shropshire Council's social work teams have won prestigious awards at the National Social Worker of the Year Awards. Chloe Lambert and Sue Bunker both won Gold Medals, Chloe in the Adult Social Care Worker of the Year category and Sue in the Team Leader of the Year category. This is fantastic recognition for our social work teams who work so hard: their awards are richly deserved.

Finally, Christmas is fast approaching; may I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable festive season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Cllr Cecilia Motley  
Corvedale Division,  
Shropshire Council  
Cabinet Member  
for Adult Social  
Care and Public  
Health



# DECEMBER CROSSWORD

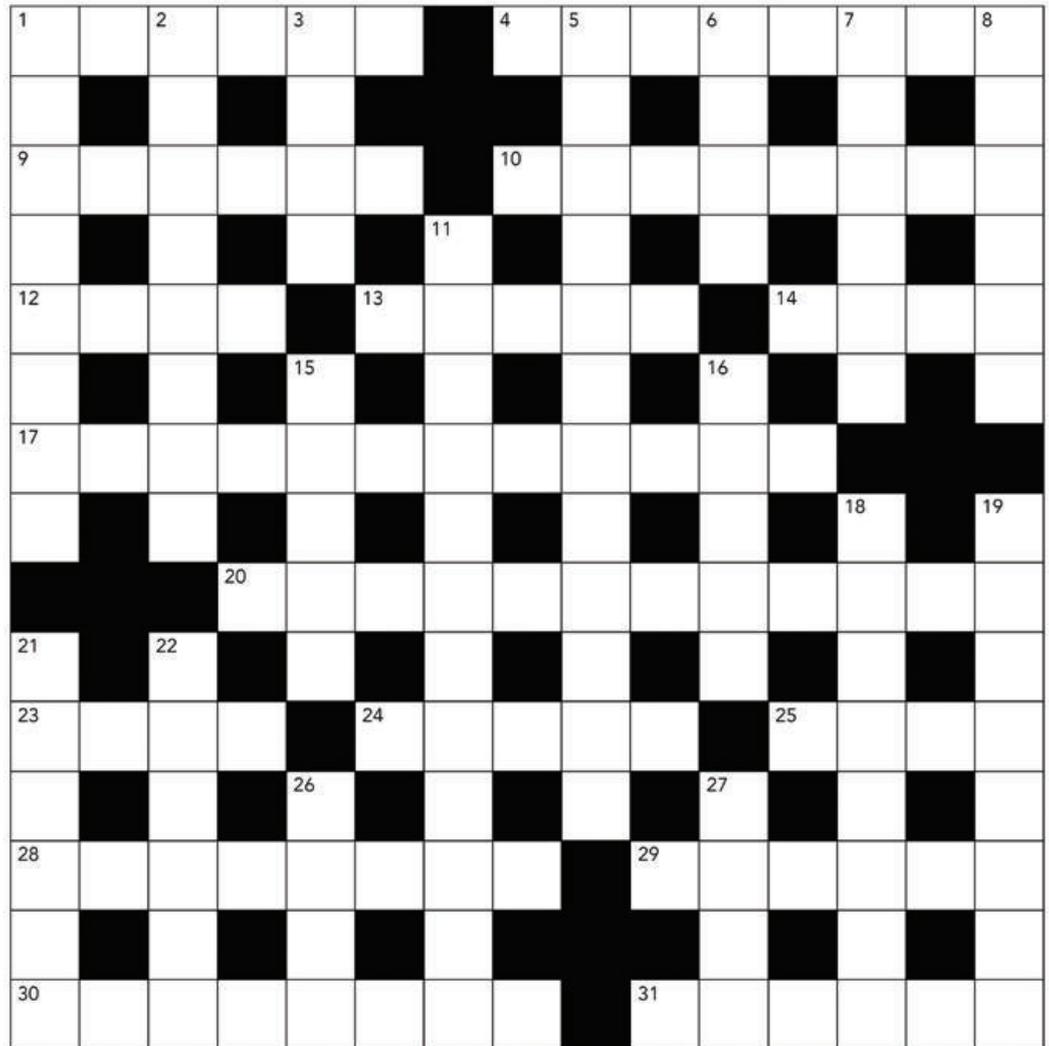
BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword  
can be found on page 21 in this  
edition of the magazine.

## ACROSS

- 1) Can't a female change and wear it? (6)
- 4) Pack tea – a mixed selection – for nursery rhyme (3,1,4)
- 9) Ten, and two articles of the French old city (6)
- 10) Broken rail used to be used in Italy (3,5)
- 12) Spoken for a long time only in part (4)
- 13) Add up the nobleman (5)
- 14) Start to put animal in reserve – two of them (4)
- 17) Twitchers mess around with red crabs (12)
- 20) Thing no miner alters before noon (2,3,7)

- 23) Nameless in a negative direction (4)
- 24) Me and a charity are intended for each other (5)
- 25) Cut it down for dinner? (4)
- 28) Sadly, sir aches, but they still take his money (8)
- 29) Dad and his daughter maybe create sheen (6)
- 30) No deviation and definitely narrow! (8)
- 31) Black group of high-fliers (3,3)



## DOWN

- 1) Boat guide smoothes over the dandies (8)
- 2) Tweak if you are short fans of amusements (8)
- 3) And I did everything first as an assistant (4)
- 5) I'm ill and then about to imagine it (3,2,3,4)
- 6) One of the forces can partly hear my words (4)
- 7) Comic book every year? (6)
- 8) From end of June Jane gets old donkey (6)
- 11) Thatcher's toe could be very expensive! (4,3,5)

- 15) Pigs succeed in Kent for example (5)
- 16) Cornish city tour arranged around mid March (5)
- 18) Decade was endlessly the weightiest (8)
- 19) Urge factory to make veggie (8)
- 21) Balls, hops and twists perhaps? (6)
- 22) Acknowledges the old queen's water carrier (6)
- 26) I'm going around and in a small car (4)
- 27) Take the top off the fire and relax! (4)

# CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

**Present:** Councillors Mr A Pike (Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Mrs M Holland, Mrs J Mear. In Attendance: Cllr C Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

**Apologies for Absence:** Mr M Seabrook, Mr I Steele, Mr J Turley and Ms J Watts.

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

**Public Involvement Session:** One member of the public was in attendance but made no comment.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on 1st October were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

**Reports: Shropshire Council:** Cllr Motley reported that the candidate selected by the Conservative Party for the Corvedale Division of Shropshire Council was Dr Colin Stanford. It was not clear which other parties would stand in the Corvedale at next May's election. Shropshire Council had now moved out of Shirehall and would eventually move into the Guildhall. Inspectors had suspended hearings into SC's Local Plan but had not yet informed the Council of the reason for the suspension.

**Village Hall Committee:** Cllr Mear said that the Tractor Run had been successful and had been supported by residents and the police. There would be a joint Race Night at Westhope Village Hall. The committee continued to work on raising funds for the extension.

**Flood Action Group:** Cllr Byng reported that there had not been a FAG meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.

**Emergency Officer:** Mr Disley went through the draft plan. He stressed the importance of community involvement in the plan and would ensure that it was compliant with General Data Protection Regulations. There would be a team of coordinators to ensure that if one person were not available others could carry out the plan in an emergency. It would eventually be publicised on notice boards, website and in Ripples. A log of activity during an emergency would be kept, to keep everyone safe and to assist with learning after the event. Mr Disley would bring the final version of the plan and costs for equipment etc to the January Parish Council meeting for inclusion in the budget for 2025-26. The Emergency Plan would be placed on the agenda annually in November. The council was supportive of the plan and the Chair thanked Mr Disley.

**South Shropshire Area Committee:** H Coonick (Clerk) reported that she had not attended the meeting on 19th September due to other commitments. The minutes recorded a presentation by the new MP Stuart Anderson – he now had his constituency office in Ludlow and Bridgnorth and had stepped back from the Opposition Front Bench in order to devote his time to constituency matters. He encouraged parishes to raise concerns with him. He believed the current formula for funding local government disadvantaged rural areas and did not feel that funding was being allocated across Shropshire equitably. He wanted to see better service provision in rural areas with a shift towards local medical centres/community hospitals. He also thought there was a resource management issue

in terms of the distribution of policing across the area.

**Flooding:** There would be a landowner engagement event at 6.45pm on 19th November which was aimed at identifying and engaging with landowners who might be interested in NFM features on their land as part of Phase 2 of the 'Slow the Flow' project.

Seifton Lane had experienced severe flooding again recently when the water was 3ft deep and only passable in a tractor. Cllr Mear asked for a joint meeting with the Flood Action Group to look at what action could be taken to alleviate the problem.

**Planning: 24/03834/TCA** Home James, 6 Culmington, SY8 2DB. Fell 1no Silver Birch, crown reduce by 30% 1no Beech & reduce in height by 10ft 1no Leylandii hedge within Culmington Conservation Area. Applicant: Mr Mark Littlejohns. The Council resolved to make no comment.

**24/03914/FUL** Nos. 1-6 Corve View, Culmington, SY8 2DD Removal of chimneys, extension of roof planes and installation of external wall insulation. Applicant: Connexus Housing Ltd. The Council supported this application.

### **Complaint to Shropshire Council re Cuts to Services and Expenditure on a Sports Village and Swimming Pool at Sundorne:**

Cllr Motley explained that the budget used for infrastructure such as the Sports Village came from a different source from the revenue budget The Capital Budget allowed the council to apply for loans and grants to fund infrastructure.

**Policing Priorities:** The Council considered that the priorities for the Neighbourhood Team should be a. thefts (farm) b. speeding c. wildlife crime (which includes sheep worrying).

**Land Registry Entry for the Village Hall:** The Land Registry will complete this application by 5th February 2026.

**Correspondence:** The Clerk would refer the Tree & Urban Forest apprentice at Shropshire Council to Caring for Gods Acre and the National Landscapes Team.

**Website Domain and Emails:** It was agreed to transfer to a .gov.uk domain as it would be a free addition to the website service provided by Hugo Fox. A grant would be applied for if appropriate. The .gov.uk email service was not mandatory at present and would not be taken up due to the cost. All councillors would be encouraged to have designated email for council emails.

**Finance:** The Reserves Policy was adopted. The draft budget for 2025-2026 was considered and would be adopted at the January 2025 meeting when the precept would be set.

**Payments were authorised to:** D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £139.50 H Coonick (Clerk), salary Oct-Dec including pay award and HMRC £959.15 and £8.55 travel expenses.

Mrs Jayne Disley was appointed as the Internal Auditor for 2025-26.

**Items for the Next Parish Council Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 7th January 2025:** a. Budget b. Emergency Plan c. Tree Preservation Order.

Heather Coonick Clerk/RFO

Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent, Ludlow SY8 2BE

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# DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2024 AT DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs. D Hedgley – Chairman, R Povall, A Watson, C Martyn, S Povall, T O'Boyle.

**Apologies:** Cllrs A Rattu, R Morgan and T Pardoe.

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

**Declarations of Interest:** None were made.

**Public involvement session:** No matters were raised.

**The Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th September 2024 were approved.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting:** No information had yet been received from Shropshire Council on how to book a slot to visit Craven Arms Recycling Centre: the new system would come into force on 4th November. No information was available from Cllr Motley about planning applications not being called in by the Planning Committee. Cllr Morgan would be laying the stones in the new playground during half term.

**Reports: The Chairman** had been abroad for most of the month. The Hereford Diocese was being difficult about the proposed WWI information board in the churchyard.

Cllr Motley reported on the continuing financial difficulties at SC and said 19 local authorities were on the verge of bankruptcy.

**Westhope Village Hall:** Mrs Worthington reported on a successful Harvest Supper and a forthcoming concert on 23rd November with

the Newtown Male Voice Choir.

**Flood Action Group:** Cllr Martyn had been abroad for most of October so missed the floods on 16th October. He was assembling information for the next FAG meeting, which he hoped would be well attended.

**Diddlebury Village Hall:** Cllr S Povall reported that the white lines in the DVH car park might need to be changed as some local residents were complaining about cars using their drives as turning circles.

**Louisa Powell Almshouse Charity:** Cllr O'Boyle reported on a recent meeting of the administrators. Repairs and maintenance were well in hand. Pet ownership was an issue and pets would only be admitted in special circumstances such as if the house had a garden.

**Planning Applications: 24/03616/FUL:** Application for the erection of a first-floor extension at The Green Farm, Middlehope, SY7 9JT plus **24/03617/LBC** - application for Listed Building Consent for the above application. Councillors supported this application.

**24/03399/FUL:** Application for the erection of a temporary marquee for longer than 28 days at the Delbury Hall wedding venue, Delbury Hall, Diddlebury. Councillors supported this application.

**24/03830/TCA:** Application to fell and replace one beech tree within the Diddlebury Conservation Area, at Delbury Hall, Diddlebury. Councillors supported this application.

**Highways/Environmental Issues:** Cllr Martyn had visited the site of the flooding on the B4368. A lot of water and mud had been swept onto the B4368 from a field adjoining Pinstones Lane, and due to the camber of the road it collected as flood water on the bridge. Highways had swept the mud up but in so doing had blocked all the drains with mud. They had created a channel to get water off the bridge but Cllr Martyn felt it wasn't large enough to be of use. Ways of stopping the water and mud running off the field and onto the B4368 were discussed but Cllr S Povall said that if 57mm of rain

fell in a short time (as happened on 16th October), flooding was inevitable. Ways of alleviating the flooding were discussed and a supply of sandbags would be further discussed at the November meeting.

**Communications and Correspondence:** Seventeen items were considered and noted. Connexus had responded advising they are planning 1 x 3 bedroom house and 2 x 2 bedroom houses in place of the existing empty Mill Lane properties. Plans were awaited. A complaint had been received about commercial activity at a house in The Moors which was being investigated. The Chairman would make arrangements to meet the new Community Police Officer, PC Henry King-Salter

**Finance Matters:** The Finance Report for October 2024 was considered and cheques totalling £474.67 were approved for payment, after which DPC held funds totalling £15,894.65, of which £928.46 were third party funds. Cllr O'Boyle verified the reconciliation between DPC's cash book and HSBC's bank statements.

**Start time for meetings:** Cllr R Povall proposed that DPC start times should revert to 7.30pm and this was agreed, with effect from 27th November 2024

**Any Other Business:** It was noted that a large park home was situated at Pye Lodge in Lower Corfton and looked like a separate dwelling. It had only been granted temporary planning permission in 2018. It was agreed to investigate the planning position of this caravan.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 27th November 2024, 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall. There will be no meeting in December.**

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 THE MEETING OF MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2024

**Present:** Cllrs Barbara Archer (Chair), Richard Arnold, Nigel Dobson, Val Fotheringham, Chris Meeson, Ed Povey and Graham Williams. In Attendance: H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

**Apologies** were received from Cllrs Richard Wilks and Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

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

**Minutes** of the meeting held on 2nd October 2024 were approved and the Chair signed them.

**Reports: Chair:** Cllr Archer that she had now used the new booking system for the Recycling Centre at Craven Arms and it had worked well.

**Shropshire Council:** Cllr Motley was not present but had sent a report. Dr Colin Stanford had been selected as the Conservative candidate for the Corvedale Division for Shropshire Council. It was not clear which other parties would stand in the Corvedale at next May's election. Shropshire Council had now moved out of Shirehall but would eventually move into the Guildhall. Inspectors had suspended hearings into SC's Local Plan but had not yet informed the Council of the reason for the suspension.

**Munslow Village Hall:** Cllr Dobson reported that the coffee mornings were beginning again and any money raised would go to the Air Ambulance. Those who use the hall needed to remember to turn the heating off after their event.

**Highways:** The Council had responded to SC's report of September 2023 and the joint meeting between Munslow and Diddlebury Parish Councils and SC. There had been no further action so the Clerk would write to SC asking for action on the recommendations in the Highways Report.

Cllrs Povey, Dobson and Fotheringham presented the proposed Place Plan Entry for traffic calming, which was discussed by the council. It was agreed to recommend the following for the Place Plan:

- To adopt Shropshire Council's recommendations for a consistent approach to speed limits along the B4368 from Craven Arms to Morville, including the provision of 40mph buffer zones either side of existing 30mph speed limit areas, and associated infrastructure.
- To introduce and enforce a 40mph speed limit through the length of the Munslow Parish Council area on the B4368, whilst maintaining existing 30mph zones within it.
- To introduce a consistent entry treatment at each settlement along the B4368 to define village boundaries at start/end of specific speed limits.
- To introduce physical infrastructure at the southern entry to the village of Munslow to reduce entry/exit speeds and to evidence illegal overtaking manoeuvres at this location.
- To introduce speed restrictions in and around the Beambridge crossroads due to restricted sightlines and the slow movement of large commercial and agricultural vehicles at this location.
- To ensure a regular programme of maintenance of existing road signs and posts throughout the Parish, particularly on B4368.
- To extend the 40mph speed restriction north of Broadstone to north of Seven Stars pub to reduce risk of collision for vehicles entering/exiting pub car park and access lane.
- To improve visibility of signage on the approaches to villages through regular hedge cutting and verge trimming.
- To alter the perceived character of the B4368 at the northern end of Aston Munslow (between garage and start/end of 30mph restriction) to reduce the number of vehicles increasing speed as they leave the village northbound.
- To resurface or repair potholes at the community car park in

Aston Munslow.

Members of the public had commented on the sites of the vehicle activated signs (VAS). There were only four posts along the B4368 that had been authorised for use for a VAS by Shropshire Council. Volunteers to charge and move the signs were needed and those interested should contact the Clerk.

New Tasks for the Environmental Maintenance Contractor: general winter maintenance of drains.

**Planning: 24/04045/TCA** (validated: 21/10/2024) 6 Park Lane, Munslow, SY7 9EU. Remove 1no. Cherry, 1no. Ash, 1no. Hawthorn, 2no. Spruce, 3no. coppiced Hazelnut and row of Leylandii trees within Munslow Conservation Area. This application was supported.

No action would be taken by the Council in respect of Planning Enforcement re Change of Doors at The Swan Inn, Aston Munslow as the owner had been given permission by the SC Listed Building scheme.

**Caring for God's Acre for Munslow Burial Ground:** The Council would make a grant of £30 in recognition of the work carried out on Munslow Burial Ground by Caring for God's Acre.

**Police and Crime Commissioner 'My Community Fund':** Discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

**Delegation Policy:** The Clerk, in conjunction with the Chair, would

be authorised to spend up to £100 in emergencies.

**'.gov' emails and domain for the website:** The Clerk would investigate how redirects would be managed if the council did transfer to .gov.uk domain.

**Accounts:** As at 5th August 2024 the bank account held £12,681.65. Cllr Williams had signed the bank reconciliation and the accounts were approved.

The following payments were approved: Environment Maintenance Contractor (Maintenance), Munslow Village Hall Rental Fee for (Inv 2024.10) £150.00, H Coonick (reimbursement) Green Bin fee for Burial Ground £56.00.

The Reserves Policy was adopted.

**Draft Budget for 2025-2026:** This was reviewed and would be formally adopted at the next meeting and the precept set for 2025-26.

**Auditor for 2025-2026:** Mr Kevin Adams would be appointed.

**Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Wednesday 4th December 2024 at Munslow Village Hall:** Consider an application to the Police and Crime Commissioner 'My Community Fund'

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

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



# TALLY HO INN



### OPENING TIMES

WED - 6 - 10PM  
THURS/FRI - 12 - 3PM, 6 - 11PM  
SAT 12 - 11PM  
SUN 12 - 8PM

### CONTACT US

[WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK](http://WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK)

01584 841830



## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

**ACROSS:** 1) Caftan; 4) Pat a Cake; 9) Xanadu; 10) Old money; 12) Oral; 13) Count; 14) Pair; 17) Birdwatchers;  
20) In the morning; 23) Anon; 24) Meant; 25) Chop; 28) Cashiers; 29) Patina; 30) Straight; 31) Jet Set  
**DOWN:** 1) Coxcombs; 2) Funfairs; 3) Aide; 5) All in the mind; 6) Army; 7) Annual; 8) Eeyore; 11) Cost the earth;  
15) Swine; 16) Truro; 18) Eighties; 19) Eggplant; 21) Dances; 22) Bowser; 26) Mini; 27) Laze

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# COMMUNITY LINKS

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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.

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#### County Flood Management

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#### Diddlebury Parish Flood

##### Action Group

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#### Ludlow Minor Injuries Unit

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#### Station Drive Doctors' Surgery

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#### Craven Arms Medical Practice

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#### Police (non-emergency)

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#### Voluntary Car Scheme - 9am - noon

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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

Neil Davda, 01584 841630,

admin@corvedaleprimary.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 Ruset, 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: martingcn@gmail.com

### VILLAGE HALL/CLUB ROOM BOOKINGS

#### Abdon Village Hall

Margaret Buckingham, 01746 712296,

www.abdonandheathparish.org,

abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

#### Munslow Village Hall

Frances Sutton, 01584 841654

Peter Turner, pturner767@msn.com

#### Culmington Village Hall

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culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com

#### Diddlebury Village Hall

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

Hall booking enquiries:

bookdvh@gmail.com

General information:

diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com

WhatsApp/text/phone:

07396 730342

#### Diddlebury Church Room

Jan Kennedy, 01584 841372,

jan\_kennedy@icloud.com

#### Westhope Village Hall

Betty Manley, 07860 447397,

mbm3049@icloud.com

### CLUBS & SOCIETIES

#### Abdon Wildlife Group

Miles Leach, 07810 810400,

milesleach712@gmail.com

#### Blue Hills Choir

Ros Crouch, 01584 547385,

ros.crouch@gmail.com

#### Corvedale Artists

Juliet Hole, 01299 832603

Ann Hankinson, 01584 841460

#### Corvedale Book Group

corvedale.book.group@gmail.com

#### Corvedale Choir

Ros Crouch, 01584 547 385,

ros.crouch@gmail.com

#### Corvedale & District Autumn Show

John Woodhouse, 07980 207253

#### Corvedale Folk Club

Ian Fotheringham, 01584 841331

#### Corvedale Garden Group

corvedale.garden.group@gmail.com

#### Corvedale Footpath

##### Maintenance Group

Katharine Wale, 07866 408 897,

katharinewale59@gmail.com

#### Community Environmental Group

Rebecca Bull,

peter17bull@btinternet.com

#### Westhope Clover Club

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841254

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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Joy Williams, 01584 861849

f\_j\_williams@btinternet.com

#### Munslow WI

Jenny Rose, 01584 841 251,

gandjrose@mypostoffice.co.uk

#### Hayton & District WI

Phyllis Steventon, 01584 823 436



### CONTACTS

# THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2024

	1 <sup>st</sup> December Advent Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	15 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	22 <sup>nd</sup> December Advent 4	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	29 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas 1
<b>Tugford</b>			9:45 HC	6pm Carol Service for the parishes of Abdon and Tugford		9am HC	10am  Group Service of Holy Communion  at Diddlebury
<b>Abdon</b>		9:45 HC			9pm HC for Christmas		
<b>Broadstone</b>			8:30 HC	9:45 HC			
<b>Culmington</b>	11:15 HC		6pm	2:30pm Carol Service		10am HC	
<b>Diddlebury</b>	9:45 HC	6pm EP	11:15 HC	For the parishes of Culmington and Diddlebury, with the Corvedale Choir	3pm - Crib & Christingle Service 11:30pm Midnight Communion	11:30 FS Children are invited to being an unwrapped present to show us (avoid things with small parts!)	
<b>Holdgate</b>	8:30 HC			11:15 Carol Service		8am HC	
<b>Munslow</b>	6pm Advent Carol Service	11:15 HC		for the parishes of Munslow and Holdgate		10:15 HC	

Thursday 19th December at 7:30pm – Carol Service at Westhope

Compline for Advent – Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm. 4th December at Tugford, 11th at Holdgate, 18th at Munslow.

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2025

	5 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany	12 <sup>th</sup> January Baptism of Christ	19 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2	26 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> February Presentation of Christ in the Temple
<b>Abdon</b>		9:45 HC		6pm Compline	
<b>Broadstone</b>			8:30 HC		
<b>Culmington</b>	11:15 HC		6pm EP	8:30 HC (BCP)	11:15 HC
<b>Diddlebury</b>	9:45 HC	6pm EP	11:15 HC	11:15 FS attended by 333 Squadron Ludlow Air Cadets	9:45 HC
<b>Holdgate</b>	8:30 HC				8:30 HC
<b>Munslow</b>	6pm Epiphany Carols	11:15 HC		9:45 HC	6pm EP
<b>Tugford</b>			9:45 HC		

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