THE CORVEDALE NEWS

OCTOBER 2026
The Corvedale's Community Magazine



Autumn in the Woods - Jill Wardle

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

SUPPORT & RESOURCES

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

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

STUART ANDERSON

Member of Parliament for the South Shropshire Constituency

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP
Tel: 01584 872 187
Fax: 01584 876 345
Email: stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

SHROPSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR FOR THE CORVEDALE

Cllr. Colin Stanford
Councillor, Corvedale Division

colin.stanford@shropshire.gov.uk
07966 459 412

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	The Mount, Aston Munslow	Aston Munslow
Ms N Fuller	Mill House, Bache Mill	Bache Mill
Mr P Turner	16 Beambridge, Munslow	Beambridge/Millichope
Mr D Hedgley / Mrs M Holt	Bouldon	Bouldon, Wynett's Bank
Mrs A Benbow	Thonglands Farm, Stanton Long	Broadstone, Rowe Lane, Hungerford
Mr I Hankinson	Broncroft, Broncroft	Broncroft, Baucott, Balaam's Heath, Tugford
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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
Mr B Sanders	The Orchard, 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 NOVEMBER 2026 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the November 2026 magazine, please send by email to *corvedalenewseditor@gmail.com* by **MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2026** at the latest.

ADVERTISEMENTS If you would like to advertise in the Corvedale News or amend an existing advertisement, please contact our Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2026** at the latest for inclusion in the next issue: *corvedalenewsadvertising@gmail.com*. 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 *colin.pitcher@hotmail.com*

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

OUR DOMESTICS

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

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

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info@cravendesignandprint.co.uk Unit 1, Craven Arms Business Park, Craven Arms, SY7 8NR. Tel: *01588 673972*

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2026

To those of you who have already paid your subscriptions for 2026 – a huge thank you from the Corvedale News Team. However, at the last count we still have just over £300 outstanding. And whilst this is a huge improvement on previous years it still represents around 10% of our total subscription income for the year.

To those of you who have not yet paid, well, we like to think you may have just forgotten to pay! We now have in place an extremely robust database, so we know exactly who has not paid yet! Please make your payment as soon as possible. Failure to pay may result in you not receiving your magazine.

If you are unsure if you have paid, please contact Colin Pitcher by email: *colin.pitcher@hotmail.com*

The Corvedale News costs just £8.00 a year for a paper subscription and an electronic subscription is only £5.00 per annum.

You can make your payment in three ways: -

1. Online:

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

2. 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

3. Your Corvedale News distributor: Hand your cash or cheque over to your distributor.

With thanks for your continued support.

The Corvedale News Team

CHURCH CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Rev'd John S Beesley
St Michael's Rectory
Munslow
SY7 9EU
Tel: (01584) 841488
revjbeesley@gmail.com

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Canon Christopher Walsh
St Peter's RC Church
Henley Road, Ludlow
SY8 1QZ
Tel: (01584) 872906
st.peters.ludlow@talktalk.net

METHODIST CHAPEL

Craven Arms: for service times and ministers, please contact the Shropshire and Marches Circuit Office
Tel: (01743) 874923
circuitoffice2803@gmail.com

LOCAL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Mini Moos

Baby and toddler group

Every Monday
9.30-11.30 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* 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.

We will be discussing books selected from the annual library list.

Please contact *corvedale.book.group@gmail.com* if you would like to join us.

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

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th October 2026



Corvedale Artists



meet every Tuesday
from 10.00 am until 1.00pm in
Munslow Parish 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 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* to confirm work location.

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

RSPB Events

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

WALKS

Saturday 10th October
Wyre Forest, 10.30am

Wednesday 11th November
Whixall Moss, 10am

TALKS

Third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at Wistanstow Village

Wednesday 21st October
Mid Wales Reserves – Jonathan Cryer

Wednesday 18th November
40 Years in Conservation – Simon Cooter

Wednesday 16th December
Christmas Festivities with guest speaker Andrew Fusek-Peters

Culmington Lunch Club

Meet new friends
Catch up with old friends
whilst you enjoy a delicious, freshly-cooked, 2-course meal

All for just £12



Bar

Raffle

Every third Thursday of the month
12.30pm for 1pm

Culmington Village Hall

To book your place contact:
Gwyn Edwards on **01584 861666** or **07891 904504**

CAP job club

You're not alone – let's take the next step together.

EVERYONE WELCOME
ALL AGES & EXPERIENCES

CAP JOB CLUB

CRAVEN ARMS

A friendly way to build skills and confidence.

SUPPORT · SKILLS · CONFIDENCE · CONNECTIONS



STARTS NOW

10.30AM – 12.00PM

Followed by a light lunch

FREE
✓ No cost.
✓ No pressure.
✓ Just support.

✓ New skills
✓ More confidence
✓ New opportunities

ST ANDREWS COMMUNITY CHURCH
Market Street, Craven Arms SY7 9NW

FOR MORE INFO
Talk to us at church or contact Julia: 07962 641581

We're here for you.

christians against poverty

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2026

Fri	2nd	**Catwalk Collective Fashion Show**	Diddlebury Village Hall	6.45pm
Tue	6th	**Culmington Parish Council Meeting**	Culmington Village Hall	
Wed	7th	**Messy Church**	St Peter's, Diddlebury	3.20pm
Thu	8th	**Corvedale Book Group**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Thu	8th	**Hayton & District WI Meeting**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
Sat	10th	**Rummage Sale**	Westhope Village Hall	10am-12.30pm
Sat	10th	**Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Morning**	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
Sat	10th	**RSPB Walk**	Wyre Forrest	10.30am
Sat	10th	**Habitat Box Building Day**	Munslow Parish Hall	11am-3pm
Sat	10th	**Corvedale Harvest Supper**	Culmington Village Hall	6pm
Wed	14th	**Winter Warmer**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	12.30-2.30pm
Wed	14th	**Diddlebury & Westhope WI**	Westhope Village Hall	TBA
Wed	14th	**Flicks in the Sticks** - *The Devil Wears Prada 2*	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
Thu	15th	**Lunch Club**	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
Sat	17th	**Harvest Supper**	Westhope Village Hall	7.30pm
Sun	18th	**Corvedale Tractor Run**	Seifton Farm	10am
Mon	19th	**Corvedale News Copy Deadline**		
Tue	20th	**Brown Clee PPG Meeting**	Ditton Priors Village Hall	6.30pm
Wed	21st	**RSPB Talk** - *Mid Wales Reserves, Jonathan Cryer*	Wistanstow Village Hall	7.30pm
Thu	22nd	**Coffee Morning**	Munslow Parish Hall	10.30am
Sat	24th	**Learn to Sew** and use your sewing machine	Culmington Village Hall	9.30am-12.30pm
Sat	24th	**Hedgerows in the Hills**	Acton Scott Working Farm	10am-4pm
Sun	25th	**Hedgerows in the Hills**	Acton Scott Working Farm	10am-4pm
Sun	25th	**Family Halloween Bingo + Hot Dog Tea + Games**	Culmington Village Hall	4-9pm
Wed	28th	**Quiz Night**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
Sat	31st	**Community Market**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
Sat	31st	**Coffee Morning**	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am

NEW ADVERTISER ALERT

Barn Store - Millichope Self Storage - Page 22
Middleton Wallpapering - Page 22
Tropic Skincare - Page 22

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	1st	**Tabletop Sale**	Diddlebury Village Hall	11am - 1pm
Thu	5th	**Coffee Morning**	Munslow Parish Hall	10.30am
Wed	11th	**RSPB Walk**	Whixall Moss	10am
Thu	12th	**Corvedale Book Group**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Thu	12th	**Hayton & District WI Meeting**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
Fri	13th	**Colour Analysis Demo**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
Wed	18th	**RSPB Talk** - *Forty years in Conservation - Simon Cooter*	Wistanstow Village Hall	7.30pm
Wed	18th	**Flicks in the Sticks**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
Thu	19th	**Coffee Morning**	Munslow Parish Hall	10.30am
Thu	19th	**Lunch Club**	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
Sat	21st	**Race Night**	Westhope Village Hall	7pm
Sat	28th	**Community Market**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Every Mon	**Corvedale Choir**	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Mon	**Coffee Morning**	Culmington Village Hall	10am-11.30am
Every Mon	**Bridge Club**	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 5pm
Every Mon	**Whist Drive**	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
Every Mon	**Mini Moos - Baby & Toddler Group**	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.30am
Every Tues	**Blue Hills Choir**	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tues	**Corvedale Artists**	Munslow Parish Hall	10am
Every Tues	**Zumba**	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Tues	**Yoga**	Westhope Village Hall	9.45-10.45am
Every Weds	**Line Dancing**	Onibury Village Hall	5.45 - 8.45pm
Every Wed	**Pilates Beginners/Intermediate Class**	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Weds	**Yoga**	Culmington Village Hall	6 - 7.15pm
Every Weds	**Pub Night**	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	8pm
Every Thur	**Tai Chi**	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Thur	**Slow Flow Yoga**	Diddlebury Village Hall	4pm
Every Fri	**Physiotherapist-led Pilates**	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

CLASSES & ACTIVITIES:

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Culmington - Page 11
Diddlebury - Page 8
Munslow - Page 11
Stanton Lacy - Page 11
Westhope - Page 10

The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 19th October 2026

WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE

100 YEARS CPRE Campaign to Protect Rural England Shropshire

"A celebration of the Shropshire countryside"

Hedgerows in the Hills

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 October 2026, 10-4
Acton Scott Heritage Farm, Church Stretton

- Walks
- Talks
- Country crafts
- Hedgelaying demos
- Films
- Children's activities & Big Hedge Hunt
- Hedgerow exhibition
- Border Poets
- Bob's Tree Quiz
- Heavy Horses
- Marches Artists for Nature
- Sense of Place winners
- Geology exhibit
- & More!

Come to a weekend celebration of our countryside and the hedgerows that criss-cross it. Talk to a hedgelayer, try Bob's famously tricky Tree Quiz, go on a fungi or tree walk, see a hedgelaying demo, listen to talks, browse the stalls! There will be fun nature activities for children on both days. This one-off event also celebrates the Hedgerow Heroes project in CPRE's Centenary year in the beautiful setting of Acton Scott Heritage Farm.

More information and booking link at:
www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/hedgerows-in-the-hills
Contact Sarah Jameson: admin@cpreshropshire.org.uk

Acton Scott Heritage Farm | Shropshire Hills National Landscape

One-day ticket (adult): £6.00
Under 16s go free. Includes free parking and all activities. Please book your ticket to avoid disappointment!

PAGE'S MEADOW TALKS AND FILMS

Agroecology in action on the Clee Hills



With
Lucy Grove, (MRes, BSc Hons) - Agroecologsit
"Agroecology in Action"

Farmers are vital to the regeneration of our landscapes and associated ecosystems. This talk explores how farmers and agroecologists, working together, can create powerful opportunities for landscape regeneration.
Discover local examples of farm-scale wetlands, landscape-scale habitat connectivity projects for Dormice, Great-crested newts and Redstarts and examples of innovative farming practices.

Lucy will talk about her role in the 'Regenerative Agriculture Accelerator Programme' for local farmers, and how by engaging and empowering these farmers, and the next generation, we can produce nutrient dense food, restore biodiversity, and help combat climate change.

7.00pm THURSDAY 8th Oct 2026

CLEE ST MARGARET VILLAGE HALL

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

THE CATWALK COLLECTIVE

FASHION SHOW



Diddlebury Village Hall

Friday 2 October

Bar Stefano opens: 18:45
Show starts: 19:30

Ticket £10 *includes glass of fizz/soft drink*

Fashion by
BODENHAMS
OSKA
eclectica

Let's Talk Skincare by THE beauty centre LUDLOW

Available from:
- Bodenhams
- Aston Munslow Garage
- Online - *See DVH web page Forthcoming Events*

SY7 9DH
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org
07396 730342
diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com
All funds raised go to DVH
registered charity no. 522511

MUNSLOW PARISH COMMUNITY NEST BOX MAKING DAY

BUILD A HOME FOR LOCAL WILDLIFE

Come along and join your local community for a fun, hands-on Nest Box Making Day!

- MAKE YOUR OWN NEST BOX
- ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
- LEARN HOW NEST BOXES HELP OUR LOCAL WILDLIFE
- FUN FOR FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS AND ALL AGES
- OR SIMPLY COLLECT A FREE READY-MADE NEST BOX TO TAKE HOME!
- TEA AND CAKES

10TH OCTOBER
11AM TO 3PM
MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

GIVE OUR FURRY AND FEATHERED FRIENDS A HELPING HAND

Come along, get creative and help make a difference to local wildlife.

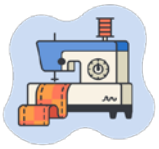
FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY EVENT

For info and to book a place contact Sara on sskelby@outlook.com

This project made possible with funding and support from the Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust, Munslow Parish Council and volunteers

Shropshire Hills National Landscape

LEARN TO SEW AND USE YOUR SEWING MACHINE WORKSHOP



Saturday 24th October
Culmington Village Hall

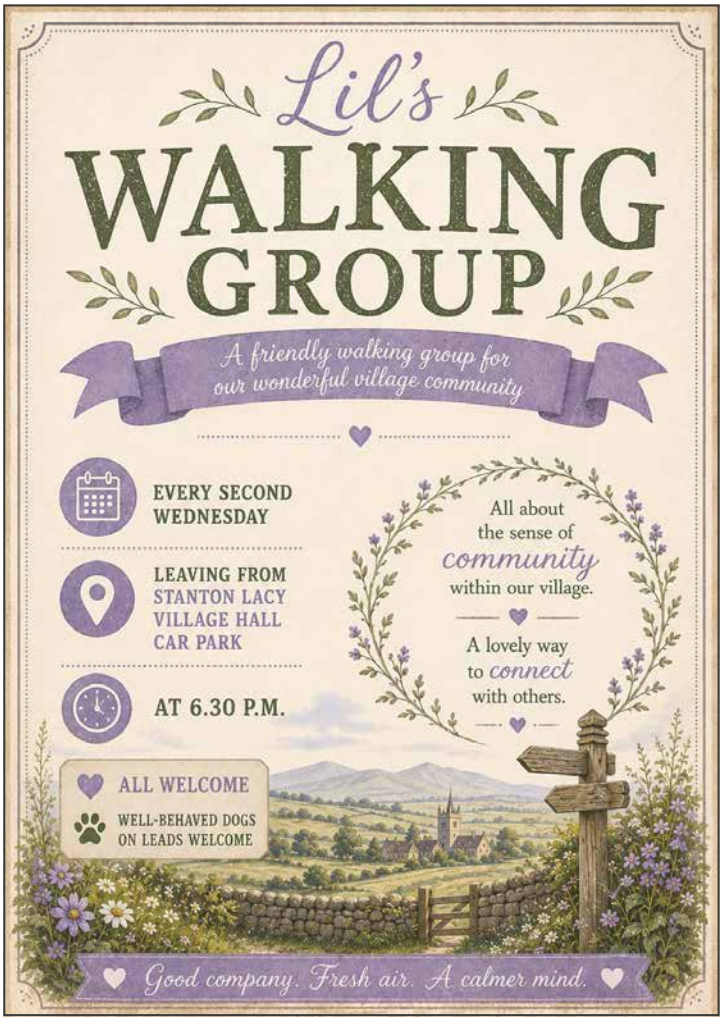
9.30 to 12.30 £30.00

Bring along your
sewing machine and a project

Limited places - for further information and to book contact

Catherine Crowther on
07972743613 or catherinecrowther@gmail.com

More workshops possible if requested.



Diddlebury Village Hall



INDOOR TABLETOP SALE

SUNDAY 1ST NOV.

11:00 – 13:00

Set up from 10:00

Booking in Advance Only

Sorry No Traders

Homemade cakes, bacon baps and hot drinks available

TABLES provided

£10 Large 6ft ***£12 Large** + space for rail* ***£5 Small 3ft***

Contact DVH **07396 730342**
bookdvh@gmail.com

Raising funds for DVH Charity number 522511

CORVEDALE HARVEST SUPPER

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER
AT 6 FOR 6:30PM
CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

SAUSAGES, MASH & PEAS
PLUS AN ASSORTMENT OF
DELICIOUS PUDDINGS
AND INCLUDING YOUR
FIRST DRINK
PAY BAR AVAILABLE



TICKETS £10, OR £5 FOR CHILDREN AT PRIMARY SCHOOL OR YOUNGER.
PLEASE BOOK BY MONDAY OCTOBER 5TH
PHONE (01584) 841348 OR
EMAIL: sharonconstable@msn.com

FUNDS RAISED ARE FOR THE CORVEDALE CHURCHES

DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

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

QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 28th October

&

Christmas Quiz

Wednesday 9th December

For more information on **What's coming up @ DVH** Scan the QR Code with your phone camera to take you to the Forthcoming Events page on our website: **diddleburyvillagehall.org**

MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesdays

14th October

Devil Wears Prada 2

18th November

DVH FASHION SHOW	We are thrilled to announce our first ever fashion show featuring the new season's fashions from **Bodenhams, Oska** & **Eclectica** of Ludlow plus a talk on Skincare by The Ludlow Beauty Centre	**Fri 2nd October**
TABLETOP SALE	**Back by popular demand** Have lots of "stuff" to get rid of? Then book a table at our next sale and sell it! Homemade cakes, bacon baps and hot drinks on sale too!	**Sun. 1st November**
Colour Analysis	**Colour Analysis Demo by Practical Style of Ludlow** An evening with a Style Coach – numbers limited for comfort	**Friday 13th November**
	**The Corvedale Book Club** Meet to discuss their latest book choice Contact: Corvedale.book.group@gmail.com	**Thursday 8th October 19:00**
	**Mini Moos Baby & Toddler Group – term time only** £2.50 per Family	**Mondays 10:00-12:00**
	**The Corvedale Choir** Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	**Mondays 19.30 -21.30**
	**The Blue Hills Choir** Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	**Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00**
	**Zumba** Contact Cat: zumbawithcat@outlook.com /07817 448832	**Tuesdays 18.00**
	**Pilates with Tina** has changed to Wednesdays **Bookings only** via pilateswithtina@outlook.com	**Wednesdays 18:00 – 19:00**
	**Tai Chi** Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 hello@goldenthreadscic.com	**Thursdays 10.00 - 11.00**
	**Slow Flow Yoga with Dani** £5 first class offer - £10 drop in/PAYG Booking essential – Contact Dani - 07973 178377 to reserve your spot	**Thursdays 16:00 – 17:00**
	**Physiotherapist-led Pilates** Contact Beverley Chumber: beverleychumber@sky.com 07967 814412	**Fridays 9.15 - 10.15**

UPCOMING EVENTS At DVH

October

Friday 2nd

Fashion Show by Bodenhams, Oska & Eclectica

Wednesday 14th

Movie Night

Wednesday 28th

Quiz Night

November

Sunday 1st

Tabletop Sale back by popular demand

Friday 13th

Colour Analysis Demo Evening by Practical Style

Wednesday 18th

Movie Night

December

Friday 4th

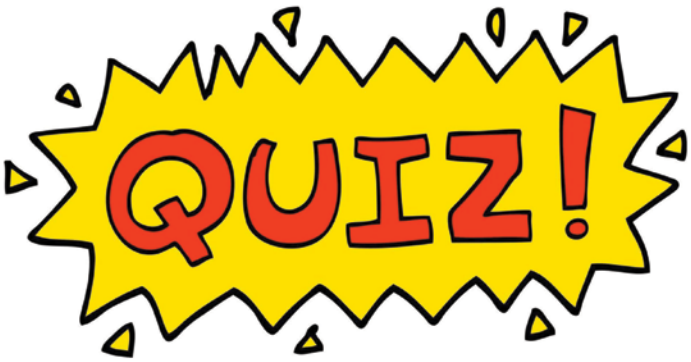
Pub, Food & Band Night with ROCKFALL

Wednesday 9th

Christmas Quiz

Friday 18th

Carols & Brass Band by the Diddle Brook



Nights at DVH

Wed 28 October

Wed 9 December

Teams of 4 – £10 a team

Already taking bookings!!!

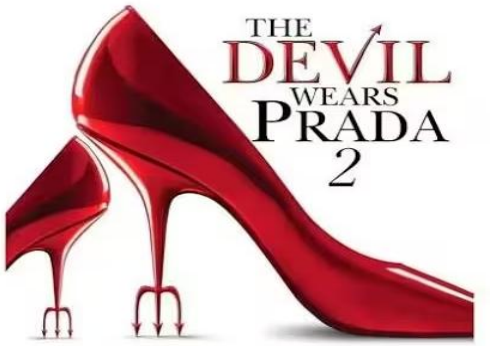
Message or email to book

07396 730342

diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com

arts alive FLICKS IN THE STICKS

12



Starring Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, Emily Blunt…

The team returns in a sequel to the film that defined a generation.

This time Runway Magazine's Miranda Priestly is up against Emily Charlton, her former assistant turned rival executive, as they compete for advertising revenue in a world of declining print media.

WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER

Bar Opens: 19:00

Film starts: 19:30

Interval with Full Bar, tea/coffee/ice-creams

Entry £5

MOVIE NIGHT @ DVH

For more information contact bookdvh@gmail.com 0r 07396730342

PRACTICAL STYLE

Show you how to use Colour Analysis to look and feel your best at their

Colour Analysis Demonstration

At Diddlebury Village Hall

Friday 13th November

Bar Opens 19:00 for a 19:30 Start

Tickets £10 with free glass of fizz/soft drink

Take part in the raffle for the chance to be our Colour Model for the evening worth £75!

Tickets from

Aston Munslow Garage

Online – see Forthcoming Events page on DVH website

For more info

WhatsApp 07396 730342

Diddlebury Village Hall
SY7 9DH

Reg. charity: 522511



WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL

The 2026/27 Clee Winter Skittles League starts in October (see below for home match dates). All are welcome to come along and enjoy the evening. Tickets are now on sale for the Harvest Supper, which promises to be a popular event!

The QR code to the right links to our page on the Diddlebury Parish website.



REGULAR EVENTS

Weekly Whist Drive
Every Monday, 7pm for 7:15pm start.

Weekly Yoga
Every Tuesday, 9:45am
Enquiries Sue Pugh 07432 349 933.

Skittles League Home Matches
Friday 16th October,
Friday 30th October,
Wednesday 4th November,
7:30pm for 8pm.
All welcome. We always end the evening with 'killer skittles' which is open to all and costs £1 to enter which goes into a pot. Players start with three lives and take it in turns to knock down a single skittle using just one ball, losing a life for every miss. The last player remaining takes the pot.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rummage Sale
Saturday 10th October, 10am - 12:30pm
£1 entry which includes a cup of tea or coffee. All donations welcome and we can collect donations locally on request.

Harvest Supper
Saturday 17th October, 7:30pm. £15 per person
Three-course home cooked meal with tea/coffee and country music provided by Rocking Ryder.
This is a ticket only event, so booking is essential. Your ticket also includes entry into our lucky ticket prize draw.

Race Night (Please note change of date)
Saturday 21st November, 7pm - late.
More details to follow.

Newtown Male Voice Choir
Saturday 5th December 7:30pm.
£15 per person which includes festive refreshments
This is a ticket only event, so booking is essential. Your ticket also includes entry into our lucky ticket prize draw.

Christmas Whist
Monday 7th December, 7:30pm.

Christmas Prize Bingo
Saturday 12th December 7:00pm, eyes down 7:30pm

All events include a licenced bar.
We can only accept credit card payments when we have a signal due to the poor or non-existent coverage at the hall, we may occasionally have to decline card payments.

We are taking advice on how to connect and/or boost the signal at the hall, but the solution is likely to be expensive.

Enquiries and booking details to:
Betty 07860 447 397 or Moira 01584 861 663
Email: *WesthopeVillageHall@protonmail.com*

WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB

The Clover Club celebrated the 50th anniversary of their first meeting at the Discovery Centre on Thursday 3rd September, with a delicious tea party, enjoyed by all. Before we started we all bowed our heads to remember John Watkins, a member who had died in August.

There will be **no meetings** now until our Christmas dinner in December.

Kath Woodhouse, *01584 841 254*

CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

REGULAR EVENTS

Coffee Morning
Every Monday, 10am - 11.30am
Come along for a cuppa (coffee or tea) for just £1.
Good company, free refills and biscuits!

Bridge Club
Every Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm
Contact Richard Smith *richard.smith404@btinternet.com*

OCTOBER EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE:
The hall will be closed from **Monday 28th September** for a week for drainage work to take place.
Regular events will therefore be suspended.

Corvedale Harvest Supper
Saturday 10th October, 6 for 6.30pm
Sausage, mash, and peas plus pudding. Bar open.
Adults £10, children of primary school age £5.

Booking required by 5th October.
Telephone *01584 841 348*
or email *sharonconstable@msn.com*

Lunch Club is back
Thursday 15th October
Contact Gwyn Edwards to book:
01584 861 666 or 07891 904 501

Corvedale Tractor Run
Sunday 18th October
Starting 10am from Seifton Farm. Don't miss it!

Also back... Yoga With Jen
Wednesday 21st October, 6.00 – 7.15pm
Contact Jennifer Gennard for details *07968 817 643.*

Family Halloween: Bingo + Hot Dog Tea + Games
Sunday 25th October, 4 - 9pm
Booking required: Contact Avril *01584 861 339* or *culmingtonhallbookings@gmail.com*

ABDON VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Group
Saturday 10th October, 10.30am - 12.30pm, as usual.

Coffee Morning
Saturday 31st October,10.30am - 12.30pm.
Our coffee mornings continue on the last Saturday of the month. Lively chat, coffee and, of course, cake!

Abdon Village Hall Bookings
Contact Sue Bedford on *07766 771 969* or by email at *abdon.villagehall@gmail.com* or *bedford.s1@sky.com*
or visit our website for the booking form and details:
www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk
You can also find us on Facebook.

MUNSLOW PARISH HALL

Warm Hub coffee mornings will begin again on **Thursday 22nd October** from 10.30 am till 12 noon. **November** dates will be the **5th** and **19th**, same day, and times. Further dates will be **3rd** and **17th December**. We look forward to seeing you all again.

We mentioned the open gardens day at Millichope Park in our last message, but unfortunately this has been cancelled due to ongoing work. The gardens remain closed for the time being.

Lesley Dobson
On behalf of the parish hall committee



HARVEST SUPPER & CEILIDH

Saturday 10th October at 7.30pm
Stanton Lacy Village Hall

Admission £12.50 (£5 per child)
Includes food - BYO drinks

Raffle Prizes !!

To reserve your place contact:
Jennette Arnold on
07568 083322

All proceeds to St Peters Church, Stanton Lacy

Music by much loved Ludlow band



'JOIN THE DOTS'

St Peter's Church, Stanton Lacy

Harvest Festival and Evensong Service

Sunday 11th October 2026
6.30pm

This is our annual opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for the Harvest.

The service is based on the Book of Common Prayer.

Donations of dried goods for the Ludlow Food Bank are welcome. Their aim is to supply food parcels for those in crisis. Please leave your contribution at the church.

All are welcome.

Contact 07568 083322 for further details



Book now

The Tally Ho Inn
Bouldon

COUNTY WINNER
THE NATIONAL PUB & BAR AWARDS 2024



Food Times

Wed 6-8pm
thur 12-2, 6-8pm
fri & sat 12-2, 6-8:30pm
sunday 12-4pm

www.thetallyho.co.uk
01584 841830

Join us for our Events

October 8th - Corvedale Supper Club

October 15th - Sip & Paint Night

November 12th - Corvedale Supper Club

Sip & Paint Night

Join us for our first Sip & Paint Night

- Pick a picture to Paint from our selection
- Enjoy a glass of prosecco
- Help yourself to some nibbles

£20pp booking essential 6pm start

CHURCH NEWS

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

As I write this, the field next to the Rectory is being harvested. As with everything else this year, it's a crop which has had to struggle through a long, hot, dry summer – which will inevitably have had an effect on the quality and quantity of what there is to harvest. This in turn will have an effect on food prices, and on the amount of food which will be imported from other places so that we can maintain the standard of living we have become used to enjoying – with all the waste that is involved in that.

Most years, as I prepare the sermon for Harvest Thanksgiving, I look up the latest data on food waste in the UK. Although the trend is generally going down – partly because of the increasing cost of living – it still makes for horrifying reading. The current 'headline' figure is that about one third of the world's food is wasted overall: a figure that drops to about one fifth for the UK. At the same time, farmers struggle to make ends meet and the cost of food seems to keep increasing. Most of us can't do much about many of the factors involved in a complicated situation, but we can, perhaps, play a part in reducing the amount of food which goes to waste.

The Harvest Collect (special prayer) includes the thought that we should use the food we have to the glory of God, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being. Many of us probably manage one out of three. As we come together to celebrate the harvest we have been given by God, we are challenged to think about how we can make better use of all that we have. Do join us in Holdgate, Diddlebury, Abdon, Westhope or with the school, as we celebrate the harvest, pray for those who work so that we can enjoy it and think about what we do with all that we have.

This year, too, we have a joint parishes Harvest Supper on **10th October** at Culmington Village Hall. Please book by **5th October** by ringing *(01584) 841 348* or by email: *sharonconstable@msn.com.*

Rev'd John Beesley

MESSY CHURCH

The next Messy Church will be at Diddlebury on **Wednesday 7th October** (please note the change from Thursdays to Wednesdays) starting at 3:20pm and running until 5pm. All children are welcome, with a parent or guardian. We have craft activities, hear a Bible story and end with a shared meal. If you haven't been before you're welcome to come along and join us. Messy Church is free (although donations towards the costs involved are welcome). We hope to see you there!

Rev'd John Beesley

FLOWERS & BRASSES

OCTOBER

4th Zena Morgan
11th Harvest Decorations
18th Harvest Decorations
25th Simon Brandes

REGISTERS

WEDDINGS

21st Aug	Natalie Downes & Simon Bradley	Diddlebury
1st Sep	Charlotte Plumb & Shaun Oswald	Diddlebury

BAPTISM

23rd Aug	Rupert Alfred John Brown	Holdgate

ST CATHERINE'S, TUGFORD

This year marks the 20th anniversary of our Christmas Music at Tugford concerts when we have consistently been able to fill this ancient church to the rafters - almost literally, as the gallery will accommodate twelve to fourteen people, allowing us to increase capacity to over one hundred provided you are on good terms with your neighbour!

As ever, the evening will be the tried and trusted format of audience carols, seasonal readings and, yes, *Stream of Sound* will be joining us again, along with other familiar contributors to the festivities.

Please make a note in your diaries to join us if you can on **Saturday 12th December** at 7.00pm. More detailed information will be in next month's News or contact me on *01584 841 627* or *colingporter47@gmail.com*

Colin Porter

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT FOR ALL

The Corvedale Buzzard provides a dial-a-ride service throughout the Corvedale for those who find it difficult, or impossible, to use regular public transport or where public transport is not available.

If you live in an area where there is no public transport or you need a little extra support the Corvedale Buzzard is there for you.

From shopping trips to medical appointments, we help turn essential activities into everyday possibilities.

Collecting from the Corvedale and going on:

Mondays to Bridgnorth

Thursdays to Craven Arms

Fridays to Ludlow

Monthly trips to Shrewsbury

The Corvedale Buzzard operates as a subsidised membership scheme. Annual membership is £15. Each trip costs just £3 each way making it £6 for a return journey.

Affordable, accessible, and designed to support your independence. Join today and enjoy reliable, door-to-door transport when you need it.

Contact us to learn more or to book your journey on *01584 700 907.*

GREEN MATTERS

MARCHES MEADOW GROUP AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MEADOWS

A widely cited statistic suggests that over 75% of species-rich hay meadows in the UK have been lost over the past eighty years; the wording may vary and the quoted percentage is too conveniently equivalent to three-quarters to be a precise figure, but it is close enough to the reality to be acceptable.

Why does this matter? Most of Britain's farmland supports very few species – modern pastures and silage fields may be almost solely perennial ryegrass, or a ryegrass-white clover mix, and arable fields no longer have the wide variety of 'weeds' they once did. With so few plants there will be fewer insects and fewer seed or insect feeding birds, bats and other small mammals.

One has only to think of the number of species that have meadow as part of their English names to realise how important the meadow habitat was: meadow buttercup, meadow crane's-bill, meadow foxtail, meadow saffron, meadow saxifrage and meadowsweet (all plants), meadow pipit (bird), meadow brown (butterfly) and meadow grasshopper. Many more species use meadows even if the word doesn't feature in their name.

Marches Meadow Group (MMG) was set up in 2015 under the less-than-snappily entitled Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme. MMG's original aim was to provide a haymaking service for owners of small or hard to access meadows, but it has since expanded its activities. It has grown in membership and influence and its geographic range now includes all of Shropshire and neighbouring areas of Powys.

MMG offers members a free plant survey and advisory report to help them achieve their aims of maintaining or creating species rich meadows at all scales from lawns upwards. When diverse meadows and haymaking were more widespread plants were able to move between adjoining meadows. Nowadays we usually have to help spread additional species, either by sowing seed or using green hay from an existing species-rich meadow. MMG can help with identifying sources of seed or green hay.

MMG also provides talks, visits and workshops and was instrumental in organising the first National Meadows Conference (NMC) in 2024 and the NMCs in 2025 and 2026. In the past two years MMG has organised an Open Meadows Day which allows anyone interested in meadows to visit a selection of MMG members' meadows. Details of these activities can be found on the MMG website *(www.marchesmeadowgroup.com)* where there is also a free to download leaflet on creating a meadow.

Before retiring to Shropshire in 2012 Richard Small lectured at Liverpool John Moores University, where he led the Wildlife Conservation degree course. His academic interests include ecology and its application to conservation of habitats and species. He specialises in conservation grazing and now manages a 10-hectare smallholding at The Bog, near the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve, with hay meadows and hill grassland for its wildlife interest and for his flock of Hebridean and Manx Loaghtan sheep. Richard is Secretary of the Marches Meadow Group and a Middle Marches Community Land Trust Board member.

Sue Steer



CORVEDALE FOOTPATH & MAINTENANCE GROUP

We have countless miles of footpaths and public rights of way in the parishes of Munslow, Diddlebury and Abdon & Heath, and these have hundreds of gates, stiles and footbridges. Some are used daily, some occasionally and some probably never. Many are in good condition, others less so and some do not align with the map or cannot be found.

If you know of a problem or issue with a local footpath, especially if it is on the Corvedale Three Castles Walk or the Shropshire Way, please contact the Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group. To aid identification please use What3Words or provide the Ordnance Survey map Grid Reference or at the very least a good description of its location. A photograph of the problem would also help.

Now the weather is cooling and ground softer we can start to make up for limited progress in recent months. We aim to keep our footpaths accessible to local and visiting walkers and generally have up to three working parties per month. New members are always welcome, so if you would like to join us for a one-off or longer-term commitment, please do get in touch.

For more information, or to report a problem with a local path, please contact Katharine Wale:
katharinewale59@gmail.com or on *07866 408 897*.

Katharine Wale

CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

Scorching temperatures may have challenged many keen gardeners this summer but the Autumn Show attracted a healthy number of entries across the sixty four classes.

The sunny day and the promise of tasty cream teas ensured a good turnout, including some new faces. Hopefully, they will feel encouraged to enter next year.

The show has been a popular community event for around seventy years and the committee is always looking for fresh blood and new ideas. If you would like to be involved in next year's event contact *ross.stokes@icloud.com*.

Ross Stokes







TACKLING FLY TIPPING IN SHROPSHIRE

WHAT IS FLY TIPPING?

Fly tipping is the unlawful dumping of waste on land or in water that is not licensed to receive it. It can range from a single bag of rubbish to large-scale deposits of construction or commercial waste.

Fly tipping is a criminal offence and carries significant penalties, including:

- An unlimited fine.
- Up to five years' imprisonment.
- Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) and other enforcement action.

Importantly, if your waste is fly tipped by someone acting on your behalf, you may still be held responsible if you failed to take reasonable steps to ensure it was disposed of legally.

THE IMPACT ON SHROPSHIRE

Fly tipping damages the environment, blights communities, creates health and safety hazards and places a significant financial burden on public services. Every pound spent clearing illegally dumped waste is money that could otherwise be invested in providing essential local services.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR HOUSEHOLD DUTY OF CARE

Every resident has a legal Household Duty of Care for the waste they produce. Residents must take reasonable steps to ensure their waste is passed only to authorised individuals or businesses who can legally transport and dispose of it. If waste is later found fly tipped, residents may be required to demonstrate the checks they undertook before handing it to someone else.

A resident could receive a £600 Fixed Penalty Notice if they:

- Fail to check that a waste carrier is registered.
- Cannot demonstrate what happened to their waste.
- Allow waste to be removed without taking reasonable precautions.

COMMON SITUATIONS THAT CAN LEAD TO FLY-TIPPING

Many people are unaware that they may accidentally contribute to fly tipping by:

- Leaving unwanted items outside for a passing 'scrap man.'
- Placing furniture or household items on pavements or verges for collection.
- Advertising items as "free to collect" and leaving them in public areas.
- Arranging waste collections through unverified social media contacts.
- Allowing unregistered individuals to take away waste.

If these items are abandoned or illegally dumped, both the person disposing of the waste and the person who handed it over may be committing an offence.

FOLLOW THE SCRAP CODE

Residents are encouraged to follow the national SCRAP Code whenever arranging for waste to be removed.

S – Suspect
Suspect all waste carriers until they can prove they are legitimate.

C – Check
Check that the waste carrier is registered with the Environment Agency.

R – Refuse
Refuse unexpected offers to remove waste.

A – Ask
Legitimate waste carriers should be happy to answer any questions.

P – Paperwork
Always keep evidence of the transaction.

REPORTING FLY TIPPING

Members of the public are encouraged to report fly tipping using FixMyStreet.

Prompt reporting helps ensure incidents are addressed quickly and effectively.

FLY TIPPING ON PRIVATE LAND

Landowners are responsible for removing fly tipped waste from their own land. While the Council will collaborate with landowners to identify solutions and prevent future incidents, private landowners should be aware of their responsibilities and potential enforcement implications if unlawful waste disposal is permitted to continue.

Together, we can help keep Shropshire clean, protect our environment, reduce unnecessary costs to taxpayers, and create safer, cleaner communities for everyone. - Shropshire Council

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

Summer is over and Autumn is appearing – but not all on 1st October. It usually lets us get used to it as the month unfolds. I like this month and I love the colour changes October paints for us. The leaves are turning so we have shades of green lightening to oranges and yellows and then to brown. Enjoy this landscape from 1st to 31st of the month.

Apples are something else to enjoy. Living in rural Shropshire, many of us have fruit to share or we know those who have fruit falling off the trees as they have so many. My offering is apple cake, my best (and only) baked offering, always appreciated by friends and grandchildren. The apples are cooked with cinnamon – what is not to like about this warm tasty combination? Sticking with food, I resort to my favourite breakfast, the bowl of porridge, which in my case is topped with stewed apple all winter, if possible. How often does the conversation at the coffee morning turn to who likes what on their porridge!

A dry October day can encourage a walk and if you are near a park or field the chances are the horse chestnuts are shedding conkers – sometimes still in the bright green case, or already freed and showing off their bright shiny winter coats. I can pick up lots of green and brown things and love building up an annual bowl of nature's offering. Hydrangea heads dried and touched with a spray of gold (or silver) spray paint in a bowl shared with acorns and conkers; small pieces of ivy with the seeds still attached; or sprigs of polished holly leaves which add a bit more colour, although I leave the potential red berries to the winter. This concoction adds a talking point to any house.

Putting regular food out for the birds is another job for this month and the local hedgehog will really enjoy a bit of the dog/cat's meaty food: *www.hedgehogstreet.org* gives ideas on how to help a hedgehog! Water in saucers and in bird baths is also good for all sorts of small mammals and birds. It's the start of a winter routine.

Getting out for walks is good for our health and many a village has a walking group. If there is not one in yours then it's time to start one – just remember: walks not marathons! A brisk walk also justifies hot chocolate when you get home. Harvest festivals at the local church are usually a nice outing with lots of colour and music and people and cake, but remember to take a tin for the Food Bank basket.

Watch out for 'Trick or Treat' at the end of the month and be generous with the sweets.

October is a busy month but I think you can make the best of it if you stay positive. I hope I have given you some pleasant ideas.

Anni Holden Calver
Secretary of Shropshire Churches Tourism Group and Trustee of Caring for God's Acre
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk
www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk

MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

Following our summer break, the choir is busy rehearsing new songs including a four part version of Paul Simon's song *'The Sound of Silence'*.

We are looking forward to our forthcoming concert tour to Kent in early October. Maybe you can catch us there? We will be singing two joint concerts with the Snowdown Colliery Male Voice Choir, a long standing choir dating back to 1929 with its history in the Kent coal field and mining welfare traditions.

For our first concert of the tour on **Friday 2nd October** at 7.30pm, we will be joined by the Snowdown Colliery Male Voice Choir and the Revelation Strings, at St Peter and St Paul's Church, St Alphege Road, Dover, CT16 2PU.

Our second and final concert of the tour is in Canterbury on **Saturday 3rd October** at 7.30pm, where we will be joined again by the Snowdown Colliery Male Voice Choir, at Canterbury Baptist Church, St George's Place, Canterbury, CT1 1UT, very centrally located in Canterbury!

As usual, our Musical Director, Richard Fox, will be at the helm, along with our piano accompanist David Fisher. It would be lovely to see you in Kent if you are able to join us there! Please contact us for details of tickets sales.

Item contributed by Peter Smith
MWMVC Contact:
Dick Langford, *07530 545 298, rlangfordchoir@gmail.com*

NEWS FROM BROWN CLEE PPG

(PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP)

The last meeting of 2026 is on **Tuesday 20th October**, at Ditton Priors Village Hall, from 7 to 8pm (doors open 6.30pm and hot drinks will be available).

The first part of the meeting is the AGM. The Chair's report will be given by Tina Ranson, for the final time, as she is stepping down from the committee. Judith Miles will give the Treasurer's report and we hope that committee members Yemmi Agbebi, Ade Robinson, Linda Jackson and Judith Miles will confirm they are willing to serve another year.

This will be followed by the normal open meeting where we hope to hear from either Dr Bassett or Dr Bravey. Vicki Brassington and Luke Allen will also be attending to answer your questions about any aspect of practice administration, and Luke will explain to us how to take photographs suitable for attaching to an eConsult message. If you would like to ask Vicki or Luke a question, please let the PPG know in advance, so that Vicki can make sure they have an answer for you on the night. Just message *browncleeppg@gmail.com*.

We look forward to seeing lots of you on the night.

Tina Ranson, Chair BCPPG, *browncleeppg@gmail.com*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE and MUNSLOW WIs



Diddlebury & Westhope and Munslow WIs enjoyed an interesting joint meeting in September with a talk by Sharon Smith of Wild Welsh Wool.

In 2014 Sharon found an old spinning wheel in her house, learnt to spin, and liked it so much that she was inspired to join the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. The following year she moved to Wales and acquired some Boreray sheep. They proved rather wild! After experimenting with other native breeds, she settled on Hill Radnors and Grey-faced Dartmoors which she crossed successfully with Cotswolds.

By 2017 Sharon had started her own business, using her own fleeces as well as buying fleeces from many of the sixty breeds native to the UK. She makes and sells felted purses, oven gloves, bags and rugs, woollen seat pads, wall-hangings, runners, scarves, and cushions and also sends off some of her wool to be turned into knitting yarn. We were able to see these lovely items for ourselves as Sharon brought examples to the meeting. The evening finished with delicious refreshments provided by Diddlebury & Westhope.

Our next meeting will be a skittles evening on **Wednesday 14th October**. Craven Arms and Diddlebury & Westhope will be hoping to take the cup from reigning champions Munslow.

Please contact our secretary, Val Hardwick at *sparchford@btinternet.com* if you would like more information.

Wendy Brogden, *wendy@brogden.info*

HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

Thursday 8th October - 7.30pm - Stanton Lacy Village Hall. Guest Speaker: Kate McLanachan – On the origins of Shrewsbury foundling hospital

A fascinating look at abandoned children, orphan care, and the social forces that led to the creation of the foundling hospital in Shrewsbury.

SEPTEMBER'S MEETING

Phyllis welcomed Keely Simpson from The Ludlow Wool Shop. Keely told us that both her parents were creative, as was she at an early age, but then went to university to do a law degree and let the crafting slip. She was in corporate recruitment for eighteen years and did some cake icing in her spare time. During Covid Keely changed her perspective on life, and after being told not to apply for promotion(!) decided to reduce her hours to four days per week so she could do things that made her happy. On a day out to Ludlow, from her home in Dudley, she exited the Roundabout Stationery shop and saw that The Wool Shop was up for sale, gave in her notice at work and took on the shop almost two years ago. Keely has kept many of the original fittings in the shop, including a WWII button box, but introduced many lovely, colourful materials and started workshops for crochet, knitting and sewing.

After refreshments Viv and Sue shared their 'seasonal' limericks for the group dinner competition, which will be held on Thursday 17th September.

Thank you to our hostesses for the evening – Barbara & Janet.

New members and visitors are always welcome, so come along on the night or contact us for more information.
President: Phyllis Steventon - *01584 823 436*
Secretary: Jennette Arnold OBE - *haytonanddistrictwi@wi-shropshire.co.uk*

Barbara Wright

THE LATE SUMMER STREAM CLEAN IN DIDDLEBURY



A merry band of neighbours from Mill Lane gathered at the Diddle brook to weed and tidy the banks ready for whatever the autumn and winter brings. It's vital we keep the stream running freely because if we do have days of heavy rain the stream certainly rises and lets us know it's not happy!

We want to avoid flash flooding, if at all possible, so keeping the banks and stream free of the sedge and weeds all helps, allowing any build-up of water to flow through quickly.

The weeds are stacked at the weir to allow any creeping and crawling wildlife to escape back in the water!

A huge thanks to the merry band of strimmers and weeders! The drinks and nibbles afterwards certainly help, but by then we are all creaking and we trudge home for hot baths to ease the aching muscles!

For those of us living by the Diddle brook we are so appreciative of all the hard work to keep the water flowing well! Thank you everyone!

Sharon and Paul Constable

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATE

Access to health and social care in rural communities is something I have always cared about and tried to improve since starting work as a local GP nearly forty years ago.

Last week I met with the Council portfolio holder for Health and Social Care and we discussed the best ways for us to protect and improve what we already have and resist the pressures that always threaten GP services, Community Nursing services and Social Care in our communities. These include the relentless drive from governments to centralise and spend more and more on new hospitals and headline grabbing new management structures at the expense of the family doctor service that provides and organises the majority of the care that we receive. South Shropshire is not only very rural and difficult to get around but we have an increasingly ageing population as younger people seek employment in cities and retirees move to the countryside. This comes at a cost and needs to be resourced properly rather than based on economic calculations focussed on urban populations.

It is little surprise then to read the 'damning' report from CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) published two weeks ago, which describes the council as *'in extremely poor financial health'*, with a predicted £120 million budget shortfall in 2026-27 rising to £180 million in 2027-28. The costs of adult social care services and children's services are the main drivers of the increase in expenditure. Most of this shortfall is attributed to adults requiring long term support and a high proportion of children in need, especially those in residential care. It highlights poor financial management in the past and recognises the work that the council is doing to reduce costs. Unfortunately, the demands for proper and fair funding for rural councils in England have largely been ignored despite pressure from the current and previous administrations and from our local MPs.

A proposal for a solar farm near Onibury has caused major upset for many local people and I have been working with those affected to ensure that their voices are heard by our planning department and by the developers. Whilst I support renewable energy and the need for energy security, I do not believe that 130 acres of productive farmland on the doorstep of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape AONB is the right place for it. We could learn from our French neighbours where large supermarkets are mandated to cover their carparks with solar panels providing power and shelter and use our own retail and business parks and larger farm buildings in the same way. I was encouraged by the turnout near the proposed site last month and at Onibury Village Hall when local campaigners and other local residents came to raise their particular concerns about the local habitat, protected birds nesting in the area, diversity of plant life and of course the noise and disruption that would inevitably happen. I was pleased to see our local MP Stuart Anderson supporting these efforts too.



Dr Colin Stanford
Shropshire Councillor
for The Corvedale
colin.stanford@shropshire.gov.uk
07966 459 412

CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

GABRIEL'S MOON BY WILLIAM BOYD

In September we discussed *Gabriel's Moon*, the eighteenth novel by British author William Boyd, where we are introduced to the central character Gabriel Dax, a travel writer who becomes increasingly embroiled in international espionage.

The novel starts in the 1930s, when he is a small boy, with a traumatic house fire from which he escapes but which kills his mother and is blamed on the naked flame of his moon globe, leaving him haunted by confused memories and chronic insomnia. The bulk of the novel occurs in the 1960s however, and the now adult Gabriel has established himself as a somewhat glitzy travel writer.

The novel introduces a blend of history and fiction, starting in the Congo where Gabriel's contacts enable him to get an interview with Congolese Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba which includes incriminating details of western intelligence agency operatives whom the Prime Minister correctly believes are planning to assassinate him. This leads to Gabriel being put under surveillance and there follows an increasing array of suspicious characters, shady assignments, and multiple story threads. There is his sexy girlfriend Lorraine and her wideboy brother Tyrone, Faith Green his intriguing and increasingly alluring MI6 handler, Gabriel's somewhat estranged and dubious older brother Sefton, art dealer Uncle Aldous, 'Dr' Katrina Haas who is trying to help Gabriel uncover the truth about his past, Blanco the Spanish artist and his charismatic ex-lover Kit Caldwell, plus an assortment of transient characters whom Gabriel meets on his assignments and a rather endearing persistent mouse in his house.

We felt Boyd's description of the cold war 1960s, Franco's Spain, the clothes, cars, smoking, drinking, seedy hotels, quirky pubs and speed of travel and information flow were evocative and enjoyable. The humorous contrast to James Bond's slickness was also entertaining and the metaphor of the mouse hunt that weaved through the narrative was pleasing. However, we wondered if there were too many threads and though we all enjoyed the read we would describe it as intriguing rather than thrilling. The theme of deception, betrayal and double agents was typical of the time but we didn't much warm to the protagonist nor were we convinced by all the scenarios. The tragic true story of the Lumumba assassination we felt sadly has parallels with today's continuing power struggles over the world's resources.

We would recommend the book as an entertaining easy read rather than a literary venture and some members will go on to read the further books in the planned Dax Trilogy including *Predicament* published in 2025 and *Cold Sunset* which has just been released.

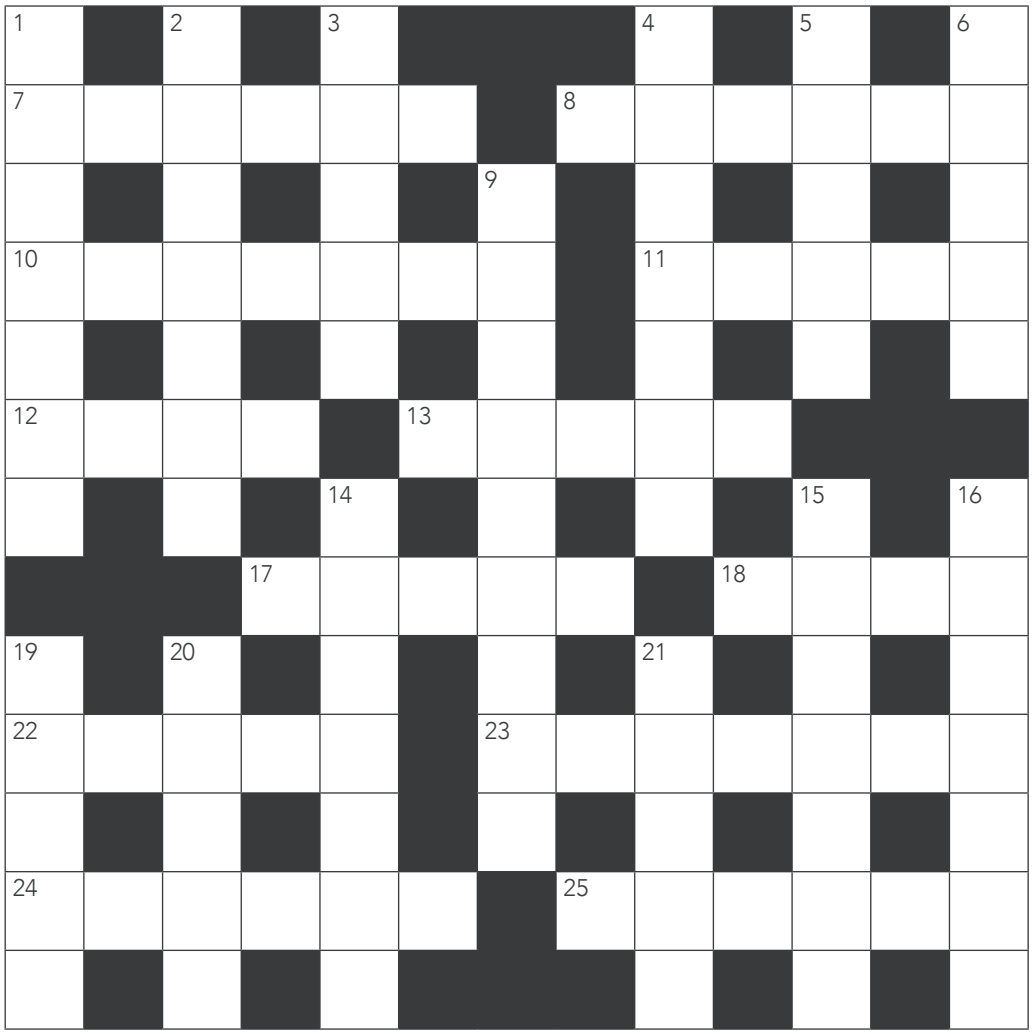
Corvedale Book Group's next read is *The Fair Botanists* by Sara Sheridan.

Cathy Beardes

OCTOBER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY ARTEMONAS

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



ACROSS

7) Liquid that's first mixed with chopped Lemon (6)

8) London police let off for courage (6)

10) 1+1000+1000 = (7-5) roughly = that's huge (7)

11) Goblin has time to tumble (5)

12) Some awful name for a bone? (4)

13) Paradise back in the Caerphilly district (5)

17) For example in cathedral it is recited (5)

18) More than half of the rich show mark of brutality (4)

22) Barry and little Elizabeth took in time for attack (5)

23) I'm given lentil and have a sudden urge to act (7)

24) Museum for the windows? (6)

25) Left one pound for a drink (6)

DOWN

1) Godless little devil with debts (7)

2) Celt men surprised Liberal leader (7)

3) Dye chicken with sodium (5)

4) Rich base from wobbly English trifle (7)

5) Bend down at the doorway (5)

6) Kingdom originally lauded in lots of papers (5)

9) GI's driver removed green coat (9)

14) They burn part of school uniforms (7)

15) Passionate Greek god embraces a little love (7)

16) A student prepared now (7)

19) Able to add nothing to deadly disease (5)

20) Dash for a takeaway (5)

21) Divide in Croatian city (5)

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026

Present: Councillors Mr Mathew Seabrook (Chair), Mr Ian Alderson (Vice Chair), Mrs Carol Byng, Mr John Caine, Mrs Jayne Disley, Mr Adrian Lewis, Mrs Jo Mear, and Mrs Joy Williams.

In Attendance: H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Colin Stanford (Shropshire Council).

Declarations of Interest: None.

Public Involvement Session: No members of the public were present.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th July 2026 were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the chair.

Reports from Members: *Shropshire Council* – Cllr Colin Stanford had sent a report. He had met with the Council portfolio holder for Health and Social Care and discussed the pressures on GP services, Community Nursing services, and Social Care, including the drive from governments to centralise and spend on new hospitals and management structures at the expense of the family doctor service. South Shropshire was very rural and had an ageing population. This came at a cost and needed to be resourced properly. The recent report from CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) described the council as being 'in extremely poor financial health', with a predicted £120m budget shortfall in 2026-27, rising to £180m in 2027-28. The costs of adult social care services and children's services were the main causes of the increase in expenditure. It highlighted poor financial management in the past and recognised the work that the council was doing to reduce costs. Unfortunately, the demands for proper and fair funding for rural councils in England had largely been ignored, despite pressure from the current and previous administrations and from our local MPs.

A proposed solar farm near Onibury had caused major upset for many local people and he had been working to ensure that their voices were heard by our planning department and the developers. Whilst he supported renewable energy, he did not believe that 130 acres of productive farmland on the doorstep of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape was the right place for it. He was encouraged by the turnout near the proposed site last month and at Onibury Village Hall when local campaigners and other local residents came to raise their particular concerns about the local habitat, protected birds nesting in the area, diversity of plant life and, of course, the noise and disruption that would inevitably happen. He was pleased to see our local MP Stuart Anderson supporting these efforts too.

Village Hall Committee – Cllr Mear reported that work on the new cesspool would begin at the end of September. They had approached three local builders for quotes for the extension. The Flower and Produce show was very successful and the committee wished to thank show secretaries Sue Lewis and Joy Williams.

Flood Action Group – Cllr Disley said there had been a meeting in July. Funding for projects was going through a new process which was delaying work. Work at Westhope College and Burley had been completed. Payment to landowners to accommodate flood waters was still being considered. The group had met with Shropshire Flood Forum.

Proposed Solar Farm at Norton: The developer had arranged a public session at Onibury Village Hall on 15th September. The information from the session would be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 6th October with comments being forwarded to ILOS after that meeting.

Assisting the funding of Ludlow Library: No other parish or town council was willing at this point to enter into this agreement, and it would raise the parish precept by around £2 per Band D property per year. Shropshire Council would be informed that Culmington Parish Council was not willing to enter into any agreement.

Verge Cutting: The Clerk had written to Shropshire Council highways on 10th August enquiring when verges would be cut. A response had not been received. Councillors wanted clarification about who had a legal duty to maintain the verges, and clarification would be sought from SALC regarding duty to maintain verges and completion of the Expression of Interest Form.

Closed Footpath at Seifton Batch: Shropshire Council had reported that the fallen tree had been removed from the footpath and the Emergency Temporary Closure lifted. Sections of overgrown surface vegetation along the route had also been cleared. They noted a locked gate further along this path with no means to bypass it. Officers were currently working to have this issue resolved.

Speed Limit on the B4365 through Culmington Village: An email had been received from Nick Newton, Shropshire Council, stating that they had funding for a traffic count and, depending on the results, would then apply for a speed limit scheme for 2027-28. This was noted by the council.

Police and Crime Commissioner Survey: Cllr Alderson would complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

Revised Complaints Policy and Procedure: This now incorporated the General Data Protection Regulations. The procedure for the investigation of a complaint should state that the investigation would be carried out by two people. The policy was adopted with this change.

Three policing priorities for the Neighbourhood Team: West Mercia Police Neighbourhood Team would be informed that the new priorities were: thefts (farms), speeding, and wildlife crime.

WhatsApp Emergency Group: The Clerk reported that the system had been set up and Mr Disley was discussing it with residents who may be willing to be included in the group.

Finance: Payments received: VAT reclaim for 2025-26 of £142.36.

Payments were authorised to: D Lewis (environmental maintenance) inv 1065 £325, H Coonick and HMRC, (clerk salary July-Sept) £912.17 (including National Salary Increase of 3.3% and back pay to 1st April), travel £18, and stationery reimbursement £9.33.

It was resolved that the Clerk would have a debit card with a limit of £300 with expenditure reported at the following meeting.

Items for the Parish Council Meeting at 7pm on 6th October 2026: a. Update on the expression of interest to provide verge cutting b. Update on the solar farm public session.

Heather Coonick Clerk/RFO
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ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 7) Molten 8) Mettle 10) Immense 11) Troll 12) Ulna 13) Idyll 17) Elegy 18) Weal 22) Blitz 23) Impulse 24) Louvre 25) Liquid;

DOWN: 1) Impious 2) Clement 3) Henna 4) Fertile 5) Stoop 6) Realm 9) Verdigris 14) Blazers 15) Zealous 16) Already 19) Ebola 20) Minus 21) Split;

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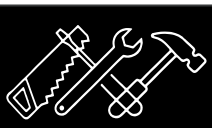

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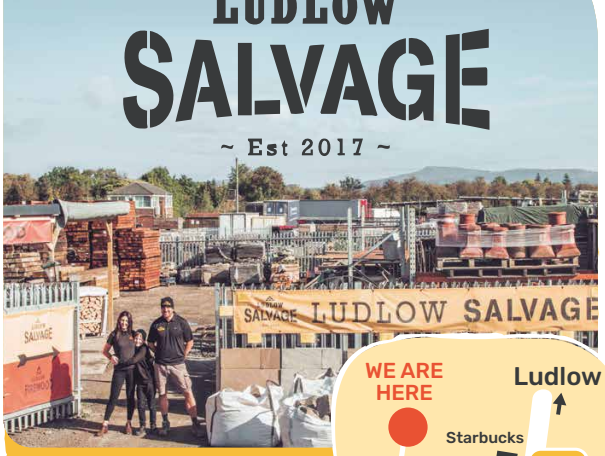



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Munslow Parish Hall
Frances Sutton, 01584 841654
Peter Turner, pturner767@msn.com

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

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

Diddlebury Church Room
Jan Kennedy, 07941 681 927,
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 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

Diddlebury & Westhope WI
Joy Williams, 01584 861849
f_j_williams@btinternet.com

Munslow WI
Wendy Brogden, 01584 841 649,
wendy@brogden.info

Hayton & District WI
Phyllis Steventon, 01584 823 436

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



THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2026

	4th October Trinity 18	**11th October** Trinity 19	**18th October** Trinity 20	**25th October** Trinity 21	**1st November** All Saints
Abdon		9:45 HC		6pm - Harvest Songs of Praise Joint service for Abdon and Tugford in Abdon Church	
Broadstone			8:30 HC		
Culmington	11:15 HC		6pm Harvest Songs of Praise Joint service for Culmington and Diddlebury in Diddlebury Church	8:30 HC (BCP)	11:15 HC
Diddlebury	9:45 HC			11:15 FS	9:45 HC
Holdgate	6pm Harvest Songs of Praise Joint service for Holdgate & Munslow in Holdgate Church				8:30 HC
Munslow		11:15 HC		9:45 HC	6pm EP
Tugford			9:45 HC	6pm Joint Service See above	

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

Wednesday 7th October Messy Church, 3:20pm in Diddlebury Church (note change of day)
Wednesday 21st October Corvedale School Harvest Service. 9:30am in Diddlebury Church.
Thursday 22nd October Westhope Harvest Service at 7:30pm