

THE CORVEDALE NEWS

APRIL 2023
The Corvedale's Community Magazine



**Easter Decorations,
St Catherine's Tugford**
Rev'd John Beesley

COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT



SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE

To access information and advice:

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

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

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

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

On the web
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

PHILIP DUNNE

**Member of Parliament
for the Ludlow Constituency**

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP

tel: 01584 872 187

fax: 01584 876 345

email: philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk

54 Broad Street, Ludlow, SY8 1GP

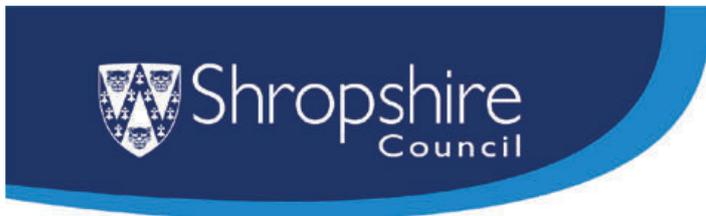
SHROPSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR FOR THE CORVEDALE

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

Cabinet Member for Health and Communities;

Executive member, Rural Services Network;

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192



SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

There is a wealth of information and resources available on the Shropshire Council website:

www.shropshire.gov.uk

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

CHURCH CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

METHODIST CHAPEL

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

COPY FOR MAY 2023 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the **May 2023** magazine, please send by email to editor@corvedalenews.co.uk by **MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023** at the latest.

ADVERTISEMENTS If you would like to advertise in the Corvedale News or amend an existing advertisement, please contact our Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023** at the latest for inclusion in the next issue: advertising@corvedalenews.co.uk. All adverts must be in electronic format and sent in either jpg or Word format.

PICTURES We are always very pleased to receive high quality pictures of scenes or events around the Corvedale to add to our library for use on the front cover. Email to photos@corvedalenews.co.uk.

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

OUR DOMESTICS

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

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

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 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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WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE

RSPB Walks & Talks

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



WALKS

- **Gilfach & Afon Marteg Nature Reserves**
Sunday 30th April, 10am

TALKS

- **Working Forest and Wildlife**, by Alan Reid
Tuesday 11th April, 7.30pm

Corvedale Folk Club

at **The Seven Stars, Broadstone**
on **Monday 24th April**
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



Weekly Whist Drives



Every Monday

All ages and abilities welcome

Doors open 7pm
Start 7:30pm

£3 to include half time refreshments

Westhope Village Hall
SY7 9JL



CORVEDALE TOTS

For Bumps, Babies, Toddlers & Parents!

MONDAYS 10AM-12PM
TERM TIME ONLY

BABY AREA, TODDLER AREA, BALL PIT, PLANNED ACTIVITY
AND SELECTION OF RIDE ON TOYS.
HOT DRINK AND CAKE INCLUDED.

 **£2.50 PER FAMILY** 

WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL,
WESTHOPE,
CRAVEN ARMS,
SY7 9JL

CORVEDALE ARTISTS

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

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

£8.00 per session

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

For further information
telephone 01299 832608

CORVEDALE CAKE WALK

22 or 10 mile walk or run
SATURDAY 22ND APRIL 2023

from
HOLDGATE CHURCH
nr Much Wenlock TF13 6LW

Full Details and route description on
LDWA.org.uk/marches

Entries **ONLINE ONLY** from 1st January 2023
at www.sientries.co.uk

Any offers of help by either baking or joining
the teams manning the refreshment stations
would be greatly appreciated. This is
Holdgate's main annual fundraiser.

Please contact Claire:
Claire.n.brentnall@gmail.com or 07837 361 196

Card craft Cottage Workshops

Come and spend a relaxing afternoon with friends at one of my card designing workshops in our beautiful cottage nestled in the South Shropshire countryside, where with my guidance you will learn various techniques for making your own cards, gift bags and tags, using my gorgeous selection of hand-carved wood blocks, stamps and stencils with paints, inks and embellishments. Novices especially welcome. Tea and home-made cakes during the session makes our afternoon even more appetising!

Total cost, to include all materials:
£30.00 per 3 hours (or group discounts)
E-vouchers available

Currently booking the following dates:

18th, 19th, 26th March
22nd, 23rd April
21st May, 18th June
2pm to 5pm each day.

Please phone Julia or email
to book: 07973 783 506
cardcraftcottage@hotmail.com



CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

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

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

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

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

Next Meeting: Thursday 13th April 2023



Logo design © Yvonne Appleby

Launch Event
for
The 2nd Corvedale Festival
15th to 23rd September 2023
International in Scope - Local in Feel

The Jarualda Quartet

Haydn: Op. 77 No. 1
Shostakovich: Quartet No. 11 Op. 122
Schubert: Quartet in D Minor (Death & the Maiden)

Alex Postlethwaite & David Joyce ~ Violins
Jane Park ~ Viola & Ruth Henley ~ Cello

Saturday 3rd June 2023 ~ Diddlebury Village Hall, SY7 9DH
6.00 pm Buffet ~ 7.30 pm Concert

Tickets £20 including Finger Buffet (Bar Available)
obtainable from

The Festival Office - Tel: 07745 825700
E-mail: corvedalefestival@gmail.com or online @
www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival (booking fee applies)
& Aston Munslow Garage Shop

www.corvedalefestival.org

**Coronation
Funday on the
Sunday**

Free for all Free for all

Sunday 7th May from midday

Westhope Village Hall

<p> Royal scarecrow competition</p> <p> Bring a plate of food to share for a picnic lunch</p> <p> Licensed bar will be open for purchases</p> <p> Tombola</p>	<p> Best Royal portrait</p> <p> Free tea/coffee/squash</p> <p> Apple bobbing</p> <p> Games</p> <p> Free glass of Fizz to toast the King</p>
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For more info contact us on Facebook or 07486 414 742

PIC-COLLAGE

Summer 2023

Ludlow Fringe Festival

Ludlow Fringe is proud to present a star studded fortnight of music, comedy, talks and events at venues throughout Ludlow, from:

17th June - 2nd July

BOOK NOW!

At www.ludlowfringe.co.uk

A Midsummer Night's Dream
by Flabbergast Theatre
Watch a timeless tale in the stunning setting of the inner bailey.
Performances daily from: 17th - 24th June | Ludlow Castle

Nick Owen Interviews David Davies OBE
'Life with the England Football Team'
Sunday 25th June | 3.30pm | Ludlow Assembly Rooms

'Talking Tennis' with John Inverdale
John is interviewed by Alistair McGowan.
Friday 30th June | 6.00pm | Ludlow Assembly Rooms

**ABDON VILLAGE HALL
CORONATION PICNIC**

Sunday 7th May 2023
1pm to 5pm



FREE ENTRY
EVERYONE WELCOME!

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC AND DRINKS
Free tea, coffee, and Coronation cake

Prizes for the 'Best Crown' and 'Best Outfit'
Raffle tickets £1 a strip

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, CULMINGTON
CORONATION FLOWER FESTIVAL
SUNDAY 7TH MAY**



You are invited to visit our lovely church full of flowers to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

Refreshments will be available from 12 o'clock after morning service and in the afternoon from 2.30 - 4.30 pm.

Plus, plants for sale!

Also, if you would like to take part by arranging some flowers, please do get in touch with Avril Lines 01584 861 339 or email avril.fossilsinshropshire@gmail.com

ABDON VILLAGE HALL



ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - APRIL

Meditation Group

Tuesday 4th, 7pm

Just turn up and give it a try. Free of charge, all welcome.

Tea, biscuits, and a chat to end the evening.

UFO (Un-Finished Objects) Craft Morning

Saturday 8th, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Bring along your unfinished projects. Join us and learn a new craft skill or teach your craft skills to someone else. Please supply your own materials.

Meditation Group

Tuesday 18th, 7pm

Just turn up and give it a try. Free of charge, all welcome. Tea, biscuits, and a chat to end the evening.

Coffee Morning

Saturday 29th, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Join us for coffee, cake and a chat. Everyone welcome!

Coronation Party

Sunday 7th May, 1pm to 5pm.

Free entry. Bring your own picnic. Prizes for the 'best crown' and 'best outfit'. Raffle, Coronation cake, free tea and coffee.

Abdon Village Hall Committee is looking for new members.

It's a great opportunity to meet people and join in with community events. We meet four times a year to look after the Village Hall and organise events. We are looking for general members, and a new Treasurer and Secretary. Full job descriptions and training are available. If you live near Abdon or are a regular user of the Village Hall and you are interested in joining us please email Helen at abdon.villagehall@gmail.com or have a chat with any member of the Village Hall Committee. See our website for details www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk and go to the Village Hall section.

Abdon Village Hall is a WARM WELCOME HUB. This is a place where people can gather in the winter to keep warm and receive a warm welcome. We will be holding 'Warm welcome hubs' at Abdon Village Hall on the second and last Saturdays of each month from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Come and join us for coffee, cake, and a chat.

Abdon Village Hall Bookings

Contact Helen Audin:

01746 712 365 or abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

Or visit our website for the booking form and details:

www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk

WESTHOPE VILLAGE HALL



Well, spring is now upon us, and I am sure we are all looking forward to the warmer days and longer summer evenings. Here at Westhope, we have been busy with the arrangements for the ongoing improvements to the village hall, which will

be phased in during the coming months. We are all very excited to be able to achieve this with the help of the grants we have received from Diddlebury Parish Council and the Lottery Fund. Going forward, more fundraising events have been arranged, as well as our weekly whist drives, monthly bingo, tots and toddlers and yoga.

On **Saturday 22nd April 10am - 12.30pm** we are holding a **Grand Rummage Sale**, something for everyone: ladieswear, gents clothing, children's clothes, toys, books, bric-a-brac, tombola, nearly new. All donations greatly received; collection can be arranged. Refreshments available. Admission £1 to include tea/coffee. All enquiries to Betty or Amie.

Last October we joined the Clee skittles league which has been thoroughly enjoyed by many. Thank you Mark for modifying our skittles alley, it is now so much more convenient. We welcome anyone who would like to make use of it to contact us on 07860 447 397. As this has proved so popular we will continue to host a social skittles evening on the second Friday of the month during the summer. We welcome everyone to join us. Refreshments will be available and the bar open. Entrance £1.

We have received a lot of interest in our new venture of a **Community Lunch**. The inaugural event is on **Thursday 6th April 12.30pm for 1.00pm**. Two courses with tea/coffee £10 pp and the bar will be open. Do come along and enjoy a home cooked lunch in our lovely village hall. Everyone welcome. Reservations by Monday 3rd April, please.

Our **Coronation Celebrations** will be on **Sunday 7th May** see posters elsewhere in the magazine for details. On **Monday 8th May** our whist drive will have a Royal theme, with lovely refreshments - 7.30pm admission £3.00.

Betty Manley

All enquiries contact

Betty on 07860 447 397 or Amie on 07486 414 742.

Our village hall is available to hire with a licensed bar and catering if required.

CORVEDALE TOTS

Mondays 10am - 12 noon. Term time only

YOGA with SUE PUGH

Every Wednesday 4.15pm - 5.15pm.

MONTHLY BINGO

Last Friday of each month, doors 7pm. Eyes down 7.30 pm.

WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB

Thursday 6th April. All enquiries to Kath, 01584 841 254.

WHIST DRIVES

Every Monday at 7.30pm. Very popular, all abilities welcome.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

New Venture starting on **Thursday 6th April**, 12.30pm for 1.00pm. 2 courses for £10pp. Book by Monday 3rd April.

GRAND RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday 22nd April, 10am-12.30pm. Admission £1

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Sunday 7th May. See advert opposite.

ROYAL WHIST DRIVE

Monday 8th May, 7.30pm. £3 admission.

DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall



WHAT'S ON AT DVH?

FLICKS IN THE DALE



Ticket to Paradise⁽¹⁵⁾
Comedy
Julia Roberts, George Clooney
7.45 pm Thursday 20th April
Diddlebury Village Hall
Doors & Bar Open: 7.15 pm
Tickets: £5 (Card machine)




Tuesday 11th April, 7.30 pm
A talk by Alan Reid: Working Forest and Wildlife

Looking for the perfect venue?




6 pm every Tuesday
£5 per class
To book contact CAT
07817 448832
@zumbawithcatx
zumbawithcat@outlook.com

DVH is a light, bright, modern venue with large and small halls, dedicated bar, large fully-equipped professional kitchen, excellent disabled access, on-site parking, and full premises licence. It offers flexible and affordable facilities for family celebrations and events, business meetings, regular activity classes, and social events.

Call: 01584 841265
Email: dvhallbookings@gmail.com
Facebook @DiddleburyVillageHall
www.diddleburyvillagehall.org

The Corvedale Festival with the Jarualda Quartet



On 3rd June the Quartet will hold a 'taster' session with buffet for the Festival which will be running from 15th-23rd September.

Further details to follow!

Artwork © Yvonne Apple-

	The Corvedale Choir is a mixed-voice community choir whose members enjoy singing a wide variety of music together, whilst not taking themselves too seriously. Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	Mondays 19.30-21.30
	The Blue Hills Choir meets weekly to sing classical music. All are welcome to join this friendly choir. Contact Ros Crouch: ros.crouch@gmail.com for more information.	Tuesdays 10.00-12.00
	Zumba is a Latin-inspired dance workout that is primarily an aerobic workout — and it's all about having fun. Contact Cat: zumbawithcat@outlook.com /07817 448832	Tuesdays 18.00
	Tai Chi — benefits include improving balance, lowering blood pressure, feeling calm and energised, and improving core strength. Contact Enid Gill: enidgillz1@hotmail.com	Thursdays 10.00-11.00
	The Corvedale Book Group enjoys lively discussions of the books obtained from the Shropshire Library Service. Contact Cath Burley: cathburley@hotmail.com	2nd Thursday each month 19.30
	Physiotherapist-Led Pilates. Contact Beverley Chumber: beverleychumber@sky.com 07967 814412	Fridays 09.15-10.15

If you'd like to run a regular activity or class in our warm and spacious hall, we'd love to hear from you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Every Mon	Corvedale Choir	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Mon	Coffee Morning	Culmington Village Hall	10am - 11.30am
Every Mon	Bridge Club	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 5pm
Every Mon	Westhope Whist Drive	Westhope Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Tues	Blue Hills Choir	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tues	Corvedale Artists	Beambridge Club Room	10am
Every Tues	Zumba	Diddlebury Village Hall	6.00pm
Every Tues	Chair Yoga	Culmington Village Hall	
Every Wed	Working at Home Lunch Club	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 2pm
Every Thur	Tai Chi	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Fri	Physiotherapist-Led Modified Pilates	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

Please note: Culmington Village Hall is currently closed to most events due to a leak

APRIL 2023

4th	Tue	Meditation Group	Abdon Village Hall	7pm
4th	Tue	Brown Clee Medical Practice Meeting	The Surgery, Ditton Priors	
4th	Tue	Culmington Parish Council Meeting	TBA	7.30pm
6th	Thu	Westhope Clover Club	Westhope Village Hall	12.30pm
6th	Thu	Community Lunch	Westhope Village Hall	12.30pm
6th	Thu	Munslow Parish Council Meeting	Beambridge Clubroom	7.30pm
8th	Sat	Un-Finished Objects Craft Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
11th	Tue	RSPB Talk - Working Forest & Wildlife	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
12th	Wed	Diddlebury & Westhope WI	Church Room, Diddlebury	7.30pm
13th	Thu	Corvedale Book Group	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
13th	Thu	Hayton & District WI Meeting	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
15th	Sat	Corvedale Garden Group	Lower House Farm, Tenbury Wells	10am
17th	Mon	Corvedale News Copy Deadline		
18th	Tue	Meditation Group	Abdon Village Hall	7pm
20th	Thu	Coffee Morning	Beambridge Clubroom	10.30am
20th	Thu	Flicks in the Dale - Ticket to Paradise	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.15pm
22nd	Sat	Corvedale Cake Walk	Holdgate Church	
22nd	Sat	Card Craft Cottage		
22nd	Sat	Grand Rummage Sale	Westhope Village Hall	10am
22nd	Sat	Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir	Bridgnorth	
23rd	Sun	Card Craft Cottage		
24th	Mon	Corvedale Folk Club	The Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
26th	Wed	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
26th	Wed	Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
28th	Fri	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
29th	Sat	Coffee Morning	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
30th	Sun	Footpath Maintenance Group	TBA	9.30am
30th	Sun	RSPB Walk	Gilfach & Afon Marteg Nature Reserve	10am

ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon Village Hall - 7 Culmington Village Hall - 10 Diddlebury Village Hall - 8 Westhope Village Hall - 7

The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 17th April 2023.

CHURCH NEWS



LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

This year April is a month dominated, in the church, by Easter. Palm Sunday falls on 2nd April and begins Holy Week, in which we remember the events which led up to the crucifixion, death and burial of Christ – events followed by the resurrection which we celebrate on Easter Day. If we enter into it fully this forms a challenging week and we have to think about things that in some ways we might prefer not to think about: betrayal, denial of a friend, appalling suffering. We are reminded that the story of Easter includes the messiness that we can see in some of the situations happening in the world of today. The resurrection, however, shows the transforming power of God at work, and we are reminded that, in the world around us, we can see God at work today too.

In the weeks after Easter, we will hear readings in church which remind us that, even at the time, there were people who had doubts about what they were told had happened and we are reminded about the presence of Christ walking alongside us, even if he is unrecognised.

All of this reminds us that the story of Easter is not simply a story of something that happened long ago and has nothing much to do with us. It is a story which is central to our faith as Christians. It is a story which reveals to us the full extent of God's love for us, His people. It is a story which gives us hope, even in the midst of the awfulness that surrounds us in the world. It is a story we can appreciate more if we enter into it. You could take time each day in Holy Week to read the gospel accounts of what happened on that day, or you could join us in the churches as we journey through Holy Week together.

Looking at the service rota for the churches this month, due to several factors, there isn't a single week in which the service pattern is completely as normal, so please look carefully at the rota before you set off for church!

I wish you, when it comes, a very Happy Easter.

Rev'd John Beesley

ST MARGARET'S, ABDON THE CHURCHYARD - A SPECIAL PLACE

On a beautiful spring-like morning in February, the Abdon Church working party spent a busy but enjoyable couple of hours gathering dead leaves and branches in readiness for the spring flowers and the emerging new growth. The boundaries were left untouched to preserve areas for wildlife to flourish.

St Margaret's dates back to 1138 and has a small circular churchyard surrounded by farmland and a deserted medieval village on the southern side. When one in seven of the UK's wildlife species is at risk of extinction, churchyards are becoming increasingly recognised for their importance as refuges for wildlife. They contain unspoilt habitats dating back centuries and St Margaret's is no exception. It has a rich variety of wildflowers and other native plants.

We welcome anyone to visit. There are places to sit and contemplate, to be at peace and enjoy the natural surroundings. There is also a poster in the porch to help you identify what to look out for through each season.

Margaret Williams

ST PETER'S, DIDDLEBURY



By the time you read this, Spring will have sprung, though at the time of writing it appears rather unlikely! However, our **Annual Plant Sale** is now on the horizon, and this year will be held on **Friday 19th & Saturday 20th May**. We are going to return to our traditional venue, the **Church Room**, and the sale will be open from **10am - 4pm** both days. I am sure that most readers will be familiar with the format, but for those who are new to the area may I explain that all plants will have been grown in our supporters' gardens and will therefore be acclimatised to local weather and soil conditions. Donations of plants are very welcome; please bring them along on the sale days. This year we are going to provide **free** tea and coffee as we used to do before the plague, and there will be cakes etc. for sale (donations welcome). I expect that like us, many of you will have lost plants in the harsh weather, so here is an ideal chance to restock.

The awful weather, combined with the cost-of-living crisis, has hit many families hard, and the **food banks** are more important than ever. If we could all buy just one or two extra items for the food banks when we do our weekly shop it would make a considerable difference. Boxes for dried or tinned food are available in Diddlebury church porch, and also at Culmington and Abdon churches.

Martin Speight

SPONSORED KNITTING

I would like to thank all of those who supported my knitting for Diddlebury Church funds. I made the wonderful sum of £350.

I knitted two baby matinée coats and bootees, six hats and six pairs of mittens for the shoe box appeal.

Dorothea Clinton

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

18th February	Gordon Ellis Jones	Culmington
22nd February	Margaret Emma Luscott	Culmington
6th March	Marion Ann Steele	Diddlebury

FLOWERS & BRASSES



April 2023

2nd Sharon Constable*	23rd Liz Jones
9th Easter Decorations	30th Liz Jones
16th Easter Decorations	*Brasses only

CULMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Culmington Village Hall remains closed throughout April. There was more damage to the hall than originally thought. Hopefully, by next month we will have an idea of when the hall might reopen.

CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

BEWILDERMENT BY RICHARD POWERS



The author previously won the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for *Overstory*, a book about how our destruction of forests is exacerbating climate change. This story, read by the group in March, also weaves around the impact we are having on the world we live in.

Bewilderment begins with Theo Byrne trying to come to terms with the loss of his young wife Aly, who died in a car crash when swerving to avoid hitting an opossum. She had been an ardent campaigner for saving wildlife. Her passion is also held by their nine-year-old neurodivergent son, Robin, named after her favourite bird. Whilst Robin can be affectionate, amusing, determined and thoughtful, he also has problems managing his temper. When teased in class, he lashed out, injuring his best friend. The headteacher had firm words with Theo, suggesting that, like many other children in the school, Robin needed to be prescribed antipsychotic medication to enable him to conform to school rules.

Needing some time to think about the situation, Theo takes Robin on a camping trip to the Smoky Mountains. Theo's work as an astrobiologist involves him in searching for planets, light years away, and modelling what form of life might exist there given what he knows of the planet's composition and atmosphere. As they walk and enjoy their time in more peaceful surroundings, they talk of nature and other worlds. Sleeping under the stars, Theo begins a nightly routine to get Robin to sleep by encouraging him to pick a planet for their evening discussion.

Returning to the real world, Theo decides to home school Robin. Whilst Theo works on papers, conference presentations and funding bids, Robin begins to paint every endangered species in the world, planning to sell his pictures to fund environmental change. He also decides to lobby the US Government where a very right-wing President had just won a second term. The government has no interest in the environment and cancels the space programme and related research. During Robin's lobbying Theo is arrested when trying to protect his son. He must look for another solution.

A former friend of his wife's offers to include Robin in a behavioural experiment to help him control his temper. It involves spending time in a brain scanner, learning to 'read' his brain waves and match them to the stored brain waves of his mother to gain more emotional resilience. Theo reluctantly agrees. Initially it works and then, inevitably, things change.

In the group discussion, people felt the father/son story was well done and sympathised with Theo who was trying to bring up his exceptional son as a single parent. The rawness of their grief was well described, as were the difficulties they were both facing in coping with day-to-day activities. The affection between the two was warming. The context of overwhelming concern about the future of 'planet earth' and the planetary system beyond it was chilling, but also cautiously offered the possibility of hope.

More concerning was Carrier, the egotistical scientist, who was breaking several professional and ethical boundaries with his human experiments. His behaviour angered Theo and put Robin at risk. Carrier's future world of mind control

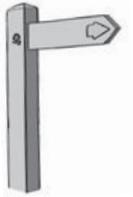
was not one we wished to live in.

The book was an interesting but quite an uncomfortable read, challenging us to wonder how the small efforts we make to help the environment and reduce climate change would ever be effective if governments did not take the issue seriously and make sweeping reforms. There were several loose ends and incomplete themes in the book, which might have been done on purpose but contributed to the sense of living in disjointed times.

In April we will be discussing **Treacle Walker by Alan Garner**, nominated for the 2023 Booker Prize. Alan Garner, now in his eighties, was an author I enjoyed reading in my teenage years. You may also have read *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen*, *The Moon of Gomrath* and *Elidor*? *Treacle Walker* is said to have the same mix of myth, magic and storytelling which is woven into his earlier books. We will find out.

Cath Burley

FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE GROUP



In January and February, David Hardwick, the Rights of Way Officer for our area, spent a lot of time bringing back the path that runs from Peaton Strand up past Hollybush Farm at Cold Weston. This path is difficult to access with a vehicle, so tools and equipment had to be carried much of the way by hand. With his helpers from Shrewsbury, and a few of us at times, several stiles have been replaced and several bridges repaired or replaced, so that the path is now accessible. It has been in a sorry state with broken stiles for many years. On the map, it looks like a bridleway, but in many places, there is only space for stiles, so it has been repaired mainly as a footpath, but where there are gates, a short section can be used as a bridleway. It is known locally as The Waterfall Walk, as when the Strand Brook is in full spate, there are several little waterfalls which can be seen up through the valley.

We have put a couple of steps and a post in the fence near Diddlebury on the path that cuts the sharp corner off, and replaced several steps on some stiles on The Corvedale Three Castles walk near Broncroft. Two steps on a stile in a field between Heath House farm and Peckledy have also been replaced.

So, following a couple of months in the Autumn when we were unable to be out, we are now back in action! How lovely it has been to see so many snowdrops along the streams, grass verges and in some churchyards. Now the primroses are beginning, and it really feels like Spring is almost with us. Enjoy your walking up and down the dale.

Jenny Vine

CORVEDALE NEWS TREASURER

Tony Bennett has been appointed as the magazine's new Treasurer with effect from 1st April. We are very grateful to him for taking on this task.

The Corvedale News Team

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



APRIL IS THE BUSY MONTH.

I'll start with all the church stuff. Palm Sunday, the one before Easter Sunday, sees processions in our small towns as Christians from different churches come together to wave their palm leaves just like the people who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem only a week before he was sentenced to death. Holy Week brings us Maundy Thursday, when in many churches, the vicar will have rounded up twelve 'willing' volunteers to have their feet washed, emulating the act that Jesus performed at the Last Supper. By Easter Sunday, some hardy church members will be climbing a local hill, carrying, in turns, their wooden cross, then returning to the village church for a service of joy and chocolate!

Some of us will be expecting visitors for the long weekend. Sorting out bedrooms, cleaning spare rooms, preparing for grandchildren, student offspring, in-laws, or parents; you could be the ones making the journey! April signals Spring and so the days are longer, the weather is kinder (hopefully), and we all become a bit more sociable. The first event since Christmas is on the village calendar and you could be baking in readiness for the get-together.

As you step outside the door, lulled by the weak April sunshine, the noise will hit you! The birds have found their best voices to attract a mate, keep her happy and sound the alarm should anyone get close to the nest if the hen is sitting on eggs. New birds are arriving from their warm winter sojourn and are back for breeding. Have you spotted the swallows? Meanwhile the fieldfares are gathering for their trek north, to bring up their chicks in colder climes – the north of Scotland and Shetland, for example. The rooks are well established by now and busy feeding their young as noisily as they can, protected by their communal rookeries at the top of tall trees.

Primroses are painting the ground yellow in the local churchyard where they have replaced the snowdrops but are friendly with the daffodils. In woodland, bluebells are opening up the annual debate as to whether they are actually purple or an unusual shade of blue. Just remember not to pick them as they die instantly: enjoy them where they are. You may spot a shuffling hedgehog as they wake up from their dozy winter. If you live in a rural area, the cat will be bringing dead mice and the occasional shrew to the doorstep again as these small mammals venture out more obviously! But their offspring will be many more than the cat can catch. New life is here, and Spring has Sprung!

Anni Holden Calver,

Trustee of Caring for God's Acre,
Member of the Churchyard Task Team and
Secretary of Shropshire Churches Tourism Group

VISITING THE CHURCHYARD TASK TEAM:

April:

11th - Bishop's Castle 13th - Buildwas,
18th - Munslow 25th - Caynham
26th - Bromfield.

May:

2nd - Clungunford

MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

Have you ever considered supporting the choir in a 'non-singing' role? By becoming a **Patron**, you will receive a monthly newsletter telling you what events are coming up in the future, how to get tickets, opportunities for discounts on our home concerts and invitations to our social events. What's more, this opportunity is open to both male AND female members of our community!

Furthermore, you could become a **Business Sponsor**. You will also receive the newsletter but have the additional opportunity to place adverts in our programmes or gain publicity as a concert main sponsor. For more details of either opportunity, please use the contact details below in the first instance.

Concerts for the choir come regularly at this time of year. Although we will not be singing at home now until October, our next event is only a short trip away when we travel to Bridgnorth to sing in a joint concert with Bridgnorth Male Voice Choir on **Saturday 22nd April**. Tickets will be available from choir members or by contacting us through the number below.

This concert will be the first when we will be assisted by our new accompanist, Sally Oak, following the (semi) retirement of David Fisher. David becomes our assistant or 'relief' accompanist, and we will soon be calling on him again as Sally herself has a busy schedule. Indeed, she will be remarkably busy on the 22nd as she also plays for Bridgnorth MVC. Accompanists are hard to come by, but good ones are golden, and we are fortunate to have two pure nuggets to call upon when needed!

Dick Langford
chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com, 01952 728 758

**BROWN CLEE MEDICAL PRACTICE
NEEDS YOUR HELP!!**

PLEASE COME TO THE MEETING
to be held on
TUESDAY 4TH APRIL
at
THE PRACTICE BUILDINGS, DITTON PRIORS

Many people in the Corvedale are patients of the Brown Clee Medical Practice.

This Practice has consistently been rated as one of the best in the country.

To provide some guarantee of continued provision of medical services at this Practice, and to prevent its possible closure due to the planned retirement of the partners over the next five years, a Group has been set up to look at options for community ownership of the Practice buildings.

If you would like to be part of this Group or to receive more information and regular updates about the Practice, please contact:

TINA RANSON (Chair, Brown Clee Patients Group)
tina.ranson@outlook.com
or
SALLY WOODHOUSE
sallyewhome@yahoo.co.uk
who can provide regular updates.



Three months have passed of 2023 with no major flooding instances. In last month's article our survey address was incorrectly published - please note the correct address is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XFQG92M>. Hopefully, this will sort out the error messages you received when responding last month.

On 6th March, we had our scheduled multi-agency meeting, co-ordinated by the National Flood Forum. Attended by representatives from Shropshire Council - Drainage and Flood Risk Manager, Flood Forum - Helen Green and four members of the Diddlebury Flood Action Group. Our list of outstanding issues was reviewed. Shropshire highways confirmed that some contracts have been awarded for the issues at Peaton / Bouldon and they have a start date of the 31st of July 2023.

Items discussed included:

- Peaton
- Corfton's new development
- A new login to Timeview level gauge - persons wishing to have alerts sent by email, mobile text, or recorded phone messages should contact me with their options. I will need contact details and authorisation for the council to use your contact details.
- Bouldon gauge not working
- Upkeep of farmland, contour ploughing, and spiking pastureland both enhance the absorption capabilities of the land. 'Slowing the flow'
- Leaky dams.



The subject of leaky dams was discussed and subsequently a visit was made to look at their current state. A lot of dams are still in place and in good condition.

There were two dams which appeared to have broken down.

The council flood representative noted this and expressed an interest in repairing, subject to funding and landowner permissions being granted.

The leaky dams were built four years ago by Shropshire Wildlife Trust, in conjunction with Shropshire Council and Cardiff University. Their purpose is to cause water to back up and then flow slowly through the dam. This reduces the water surge at times of heavy rainfall protecting properties downstream and beyond. They are maintenance-free and sometimes blockages can occur naturally and create dams - one such is beside the new development in Bache Mill. The dams on our streams reduce flood risk locally. The cumulative effect of these dams across several tributaries in the Corvedale also reduces peak levels downstream in places like Tewkesbury.



2ND CORVEDALE FESTIVAL LAUNCH EVENT

Following last year's extraordinarily successful inaugural Corvedale Festival we are pleased to confirm that there will be another this year! Preparations are well under way and there is an exciting and varied programme for you to enjoy, with a mix of both familiar and fresh faces.

As last year, we will be holding a launch event at Diddlebury Village Hall. This will take place on **Saturday 3rd June**, starting with a hearty buffet at 6.00pm followed at 7.30pm by a concert given by Festival Artists-in-Residence, The Jarualda Quartet. They will be playing Haydn Op. 77 No. 1, Shostakovich Quartet No. 11, and Schubert's splendid 'Death & The Maiden' quartet. This will be your opportunity to find out about the Festival Artists, the programme of events, and to grab the incredible bargain which is the Festival Pass at an even better price! Normally £85 (which is a saving of £77) at the launch you can secure one for £75 - less than half price!

Tickets for the launch are £20 which includes the buffet and concert (bar available). They can be obtained online from TicketSource www.ticketsource.co.uk/corvedale-festival, from the Festival Office by email: corvedalefestival@gmail.com, or by phoning 07745 825 700. From April 3rd, they are also available in person from Aston Munslow Garage Shop. Full details of the festival and the Supporters Scheme benefits can be found on the festival website www.corvedalefestival.org.

Ruth Henley

MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL (AKA BEAMBRIDGE CLUBROOM)

All our winter warm hub coffee mornings have been well attended and enjoyed by all those who came along. Thank you for your support and your generous donations for the village hall. We will not be holding a coffee morning over Easter, but there will be another on **Thursday 20th April** 10.30am until 12 noon.

We are planning an event at the village hall on **Saturday 6th May** (Coronation Day). We will be live streaming the Coronation of King Charles III and Camilla Queen Consort.

Everyone in Munslow parish is invited to come along, and to bring a picnic lunch if you wish. The village hall will provide tea and coffee and soft drinks, as well as homemade cakes. There will be limited places for this event, and we would ask you to RSVP when you receive your invitations. Please email Peter Turner at pturner767@msn.com if you are interested in coming to the event.

Lesley Dobson

Unfortunately, due to the snow and ice this month, we had to cancel our meeting and our planned speaker, Dr Nigel Baker, who was going to give us his talk entitled *Paddling in the Past*. Nigel, an archaeologist, and canoeist with more than 30 years' experience, finds archaeology in, under and next to, the river Severn and other English rivers, by kayaking on floods in Shropshire and deep under Bristol city centre. This speaker and his talk were quite a find (pardon the pun) so Nigel has agreed to come and deliver his talk at our meeting next March (weather permitting): a must for your diaries, ladies!

On a national level, the WI has a long history of campaigning on a wide range of issues that matter to women and their communities, and, over the past 100 years, WI members have campaigned to empower and support women within society, exerting their individual and collective influence and brought a series of controversial issues into the public domain. They have also brought about many changes in legislation and government policy. One of the current WI campaigns is *Thinking Differently: Autistic and ADHD Women and Girls*, which seeks to raise awareness of autism and ADHD and calls for action to improve the diagnostic process and to increase the provision of support available to them. It also seeks to address and challenge stereotypes about autistic women and women with ADHD. For our small part in this campaign, Hayton & District WI has prepared a letter to the Rt Hon Philip Dunne, MP for Ludlow, asking for his support of our campaign locally and in raising the issues presented to the Minister of Health and Social Services in Westminster to encourage Government awareness, investment, and action. Furthermore, to encourage our local members' awareness of autism and ADHD in women and girls and why so many go undiagnosed, we have arranged for Suzy Hopkins, Educational and Counselling Psychologist, to come to our meeting on October 12th to give her talk entitled *Hiding in Plain Sight* which offers her knowledge and experience to help us understand why so many girls and women with autism and ADHD go undiagnosed. If any ladies reading this article feel this subject is in some way close to their hearts, please come along (non-members £5 per head). Hayton & District WI considers our group to be all inclusive, keen to welcome all women and wants to do as much as it can to support this campaign and raise awareness of the struggles women and girls with autism and ADHD have in gaining diagnosis and support.

In the meantime, our next meeting will be on **Thursday 13th April** at 7.30pm and will include a talk by Tracy and Debi from Clun Valley WI representing Days for Girls International, a charity helping young girls and women all around the world to stay in school and go to work. So, please come along members, your guests and, indeed, all ladies who are simply curious, to Stanton Lacy Village Hall, Hayton's Bent SY8 2AT to find out what that's all about!

Club President - Phyllis Steventon - 01584 823436
Club Secretary - hayton.district.wi@gmail.com

MUNSLOW WI

There was a good turnout of Munslow and Diddlebury and Westhope members and their guests on 8th March for Dr Mark Clilverd's excellent talk about his work with the British Antarctic Survey.

Mark has been a research physicist in the Antarctic for the whole of his working life, not returning home at all for the first two and a half years. The early efforts of his team led to the discovery of the hole in the ozone layer. Currently he is stationed on a sea glacier, sending helium balloons into the atmosphere to measure the effects of the solar wind on world weather patterns, with results fed as a variable into climate change models.

The falling snow outside certainly got us into the mood. Mark showed us slides of early Spring sunsets over the icy Antarctic coast; the hundred-foot-high cliff of a great sea glacier; fat, laid-back seals; penguin chicks tucked onto the feet of their parents for warmth; and comical young albatrosses, fluffy and standing to attention on their nests as they eyed his camera. But the overriding impression was of a life which requires a huge amount of physical and emotional strength. Even reaching the base every year involves a two-week journey and no guarantee at the end that the ship will open a passage through the sea-ice. Supplies of food and fuel are snowed on in winter and must be found, dug out and brought to the surface. White-outs hamper movement and work and, back at the base, there is of course no fresh food, just endless tins and a chef who has many different people to please. Getting on with others at the base requires effort - it's impossible to walk away!

Mark took questions at the end of his talk and the afternoon was then rounded off very nicely by tea, coffee, delicious cakes, and friendly chat.

Wendy Brogden

DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE WI

Our March meeting, a joint venture with Munslow WI, was held at Beambridge Clubroom. Those of us who braved the snow showers were welcomed by Munslow WI President, Lorraine Lawrence. She introduced the speaker for the afternoon, Dr Mark Clilverd, a scientist from the Space, Weather and Atmosphere team, British Antarctic Survey. He proceeded to give us an interesting talk about his time working in the Antarctic.

He gave us loads of interesting facts about life living at the research stations in Antarctica. They keep one to two years' worth of food and fuel reserves as those overwintering have no backup. They also use small planes to move between stations and scientific experiments so need to be able to co-pilot a plane (further details can be found in Munslow's WI report).

After some questions, Mark was thanked for his fun and highly informative talk. We then proceeded to enjoy some lovely refreshments before returning home thinking that the weather wasn't so bad after all.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 12th April** at **7.30pm**. As our usual venue is still unavailable, we will be meeting in the **Parish Room, Diddlebury**. We're having a craft evening, decorating Easter eggs.

Jane Cockburn

CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

WHAT IS LURKING IN YOUR THATCH?

Last month I wrote a little about cereal in the Middle Ages and the milling of grain that was necessary to make the cereal digestible for humans.

For many years cereal grains have been turning up in archaeology digs and the types of wheat in particular that have been grown down the centuries have been known.

A few years ago, a strange and wonderful discovery was made; really because somebody was curious enough to look in the right place and had the determination to follow up his finds. Thatch on roofs of medieval houses has been replaced many times during the life of a very old house, but often a base layer of the original thatch was left. Before houses started getting second storeys, staircases and chimney stacks in the 16th century, houses, referred to as *hall houses*, were open to the roof and smoke would blacken the thatch at a smoke hole in the ridge of the roof (think Stokesay Castle). Many of these roofs will have burnt down - but not all. Thatching in the South of England traditionally used wheat rather than the water reed in the north of England, though I imagine wheat straw would have also been used in the middle Welsh March too. The story is that one day, not too many years ago, sooty seeds from such a wheat thatched roof arrived in a shoebox at the Oxford University Museum and landed on the desk of a man called John Letts, a very fortunate occurrence as it has turned out.

Now, despite seeds' longevity I don't suppose any would have germinated. However, these days when, globally, traditional food varieties are being lost faster than a rat could scamper up a medieval thatched roof (for reasons we could debate), wonderful organisations known as seed banks are racing against time to preserve historical plant seed types. So, John's seeds could be matched with traditional wheats procured to make a *landrace wheat*, which he now grows commercially. As I understand it this is a collection of cereals that, as in the Middle Ages, would be suitable to various localities and micro-climates, and, critically, would be highly diverse. These were of all assorted sizes and conformations but were much taller and had much more extensive root systems than are found in modern varieties. Also, such cereal is able to 'communicate and stimulate' the fungal mycelial networks which are said increasingly to be critical to our survival.

I try and claim these articles are about our local medieval landscape so I must attempt to bring this home. With some exceptions most of South Shropshire is these days pastoral in nature and if you are of the 'Ah... *our wonderful unchanging English Countryside*' school of thought you might think that it has always been so. I believe that would be a great mistake. In the 12th and 13th centuries, in particular, we had sizeable open fields, mainly for the production of grain, and, locally, up to surprisingly high levels of altitude. You may have noticed in recent wintry times that the snow tends to linger in the furrow between the old plough ridges in surprisingly many fields. If you are lucky with the light, you don't even need snow. This picture was taken in January sun at Stoke St. Milborough.



Often it is possible to trace these old fields, even on modern maps, with a high degree of confidence. Even for a place with a tiny modern population such as Heath, there were, in the Middle Ages, three open fields which totalled about 420 acres, despite being at 900 feet in altitude. Though poor men did not keep records in those days, monasteries did, and these were sometimes meticulous. From these it is possible to work out what the potential yield of cereals was on certain acreages, and how many loaves a year could be expected. The yields could be affected by a huge number of factors, of course, but it turns out that the unfree peasantry among whom there was a rough and ready equality, typically holding around 30 acres in the open fields, could potentially produce a substantial excess over subsistence. This would support a number of other villagers who had other trades; leathery, woodworking, mining etc. There is also evidence that this wheat is highly likely to have been much more nutritious than modern wheat. Could the sheer diversity of the cereals grown have been a factor in this performance?

'Well, that is all very well and interesting' you may (or may not) think, but could any of this have relevance to our current gathering crisis in food production, nutrition, and increasingly declining public health? Yes, the relevance is potentially enormous, and the evidence is growing - but I feel your Editor breathing down my neck, so that is for next time!

Peter Cornah, petercornah@gmail.com



CORVEDALE FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE GROUP

Working parties are usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month and the following Friday and Sunday, beginning at 9.30am. Please ring Jenny Vine on 01584 841596 to confirm work location.

Also, if any local walkers in the Corvedale notice any stiles or steps in poor condition, please report back to Jenny. The current planned dates are as follows:

APRIL: Wednesday 26th, Friday 28th, Sunday 30th

CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP



The Group's visit to The Vern, Marden in March was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. It has been rescheduled for April 2024.

The next Garden Group visit, at 10.00am on **Saturday 15th April**, will be to **Lower House Farm**, at Sutton, near Tenbury Wells, WR15 8RL. Mrs Anne Durston Smith runs Kyre Equestrian Centre together with a Farmhouse Bed and Breakfast for people, their horses and their dogs. She hosts Early Music workshops in the Grade 2* listed 16th century farmhouse. The Gardens at Lower House Farm are opened for the National Garden Scheme and for groups like ours. The spring garden will still be full of flowers, I hope. In addition to a small box-parterre and a cutting garden, there are extensive herbaceous borders, a vegetable patch, a Haha, a pond and a conservation area. There are also numerous walks across the 32-acre farm, where the Corn Brook forms the farm and the county boundary with Worcestershire.

The black and white timbered house dates from circa 1571 and has a red brick Jacobean chimney stack. The house is thought to have been the property of the Earls of Shrewsbury. An escape tunnel from the house to the churchyard is an uncorroborated local story. Oliver Cromwell is reputed to have stayed in the house before the Battle of Worcester in 1651 when Parliamentary Forces were being mustered by the river Teme to the south. It was extended in the 17th and 19th centuries. Part of the larger manor house was destroyed by fire in the 19th century. If you wish to explore further, the village of Boraston, in which Lower House Farm is situated, was listed in the Domesday Book. The 13th century village church has Norman features and is situated in the Village Conservation Area.

To find Lower House Farm, turn left to Boraston from the A456 Tenbury to Kidderminster Road, then turn right after 0.7 miles into the drive for the farm. To find somewhere for lunch afterwards, The Peacock Inn is 0.7 miles away, back on the main road in the Kidderminster direction, or retrace your journey the two miles back to Tenbury Wells, called 'the little town in the orchard' by Queen Victoria. There are plenty of interesting shops and cafes to explore there.

If you would like to join us to visit this garden, please let me know by 6.00 pm on Friday 7th April so I can let Mrs Durston Smith have numbers for catering purposes as drinks and cakes are provided. The cost per person is £7.50.

Cath Burley,
07746 647 737, cathburley@hotmail.com

THE CORVEDALE KITCHEN

ANZAC BISCUITS – ROSS STOKES

These are an Aussie favourite, usually made to commemorate Anzac Day. On April 25th, 1915, the Australian and New Zealand Army Core (Anzacs) landed on the beaches of Gallipoli to try and shorten World War I by taking the Turkish peninsula to allow Allied ships to pass through the Dardanelles, and capture what was then Constantinople. The campaign was a catastrophic disaster, resulting in a huge loss of life. The story goes that these biscuits were sent out to the troops from loved ones at home, because they travelled well and, unlike bread, didn't go mouldy. These are a far cry from the inedible 'dog' biscuits I remember from my time in the army cadets at school. The Anzac biscuit is a delicious chewy cookie, ideal for dunking in a cuppa.

INGREDIENTS

- 85g porridge oats
- 85g desiccated coconut
- 100g plain flour
- 100g caster sugar
- 100g butter, plus extra for greasing
- 1 tbsp maple syrup
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda

NOTE: You can use Golden Syrup instead of Maple Syrup.

METHOD

1. Pre-heat oven to 180°C.
2. Put the oats, coconut, flour and sugar in a bowl.
3. Melt the butter in a small pan and stir in the maple syrup.
4. Add the bicarbonate of soda to two tablespoons of boiling water, then stir into the maple syrup and butter mixture.
5. Make a well in the middle of the dry ingredients and pour in the butter and maple syrup mixture.
6. Stir gently to incorporate the dry ingredients.
7. Drop dessert spoonful's (or more, if you prefer) of the mixture on to buttered tray or baking sheet, a couple of inches apart to allow room for expansion.
8. Bake in batches for 8-10 mins until golden.
9. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



Kath welcomed thirteen Clover Club members to the March meeting which began on a sad note, remembering Doris, who had died on the Tuesday.

The bingo was enjoyed by all, and a surprise birthday cake was cut to celebrate Mary's 90th. Unfortunately, Mary was not able to be with us - we don't always get it right!

Our next meeting is **Thursday 6th April**, at Westhope Village Hall, when we are joining the new luncheon event, 12.30pm for 1.00pm. This dinner is open to everyone, so please book a seat on 07860 447 397 with Betty, or I can pass your name on.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

APRIL CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

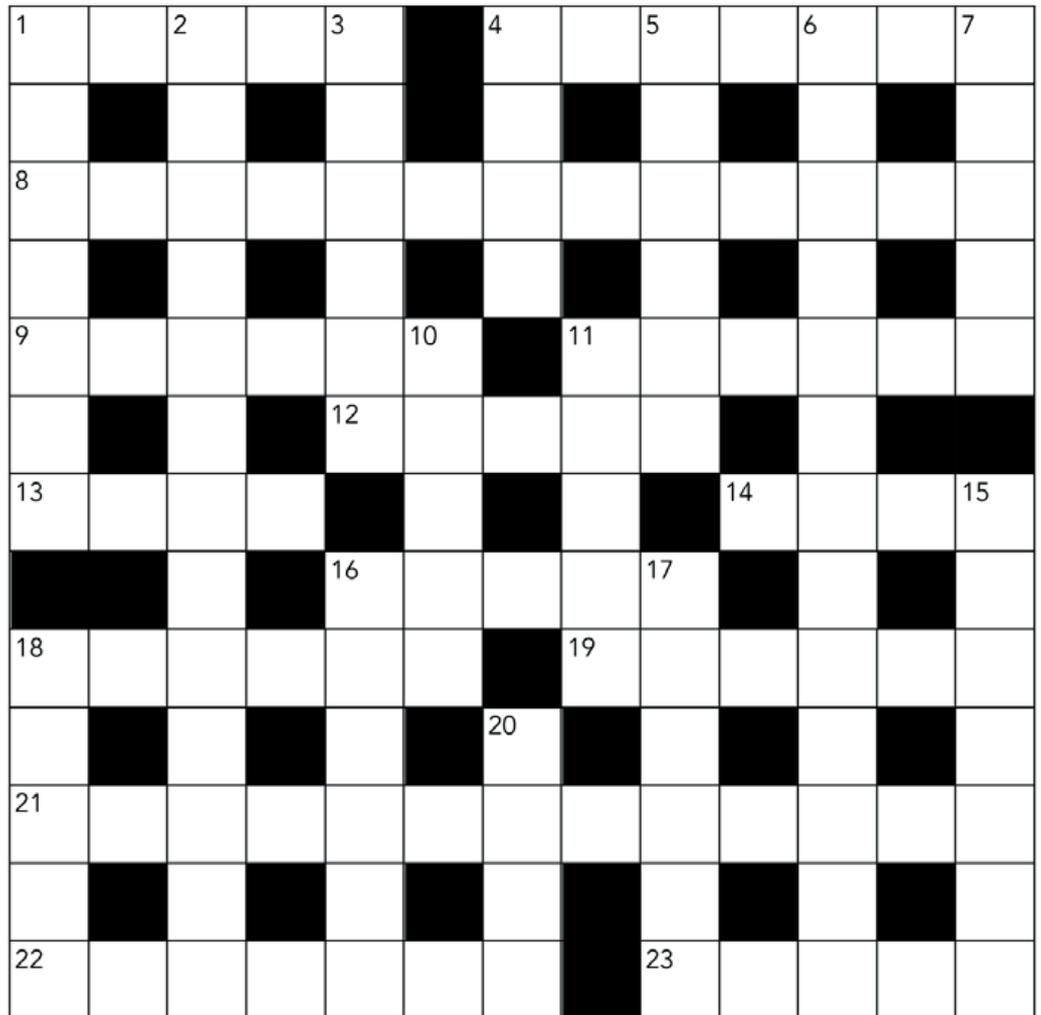
Answers to this month's crossword
can be found on page 18 in this
edition of the magazine.

ACROSS

- 1) An ape revolts at Songs of Praise (5)
- 4) Deserts the failures? (7)
- 8) Student at Holy Island learning of many nations (13)
- 9) Drink of young man who's office junior (3-3)
- 11) Scares in the early morning? (6)
- 12) Hit the boot hard? (5)
- 13) Unusually cooked (4)
- 14) Finished 6 balls (4)
- 16) Little brother's award for cleaning (5)
- 18) No need for piercing with these adornments (4,2)
- 19) Warn soldier inside for rabbits (6)
- 21) Searching for new ideas in boring trams (13)
- 22) Tuesday starts partly with the sun (6)
- 23) They have the water in Somerset (5)

DOWN

- 1) Degas for example, has bow rope (7)
- 2) Additional, not special, is surprising (13)
- 3) Constricted northern weapon (6)
- 4) Hear the animal is much loved (4)
- 5) Mythical being took the student in reasonably enough (6)



- 6) Clover rations somehow disputatious (13)
- 7) Seasoning for sailors (5)
- 10) Long for a time on Nautilus (5)
- 11) Permit some, not all owners in (5)
- 15) Abandons the geese somehow with the navy (7)
- 16) Good French time ready for Easter (6)
- 17) The vegetable has got in the bones (6)
- 18) Cut up to the power of three (5)
- 20) Move around in prison (4)

CORVEDALE NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS '23

As advised in previous issues the subscription price for your Corvedale News is now £8.00 per annum. Subscriptions for electronic copies remain unchanged at £5.00 per annum.

May we remind you that subscriptions are due annually in advance and should be paid in full by the end of March 2023, at the latest..

If you have not yet paid your subscription for 2022, please let your distributor have your outstanding money as soon as possible if you wish to continue receiving the Corvedale News.

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ANSWERS TO APRIL 2023 CROSSWORD

DOWN: (15) Reneges, (16) Bonnet, (17) Marrow, (18) Cubes, (20) Stir
(1) Painter, (2) Extraordinary, (3) Narrow, (4) Dear, (5) Fairly, (6) Controversial, (7) Salts, (10) Yearn, (11) Allow,
ACROSS: (1) Paeon, (4) Defects, (8) International, (9) Tea-Boy, (11) Alarms, (12) Wells, (13) Rare, (14) Over,
(16) Broom, (18) Clip On, (19) Warren, (21) Brainsstorming, (22) Daystar, (23) Wells

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

In Attendance: the Clerk, Unitary Cllr Cecilia Motley and two members of the public.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th January 2023 were approved by councillors and three matters arising were dealt with.

Reports:

The Chairman having just returned from leave had nothing to report but thanked Cllr R Povall for covering for him during his absence. He also offered condolences on behalf of the parish council to Mr Peter Drakes' widow and family.

Cllr Motley reported on mainly health and social welfare issues, this being her current brief at SC. Social Services are working hard to deal with bed blocking. More children are coming into care with complex needs and this is putting

pressure on the social care budget. The Local Plan is still a work in progress: Shropshire is under pressure to provide housing land for Black Country residents, and the Green Belt is under threat especially around Oswestry. Gypsy and traveller sites are also a big planning issue.

Flood Action Group: Cllr Martyn said a flood action multi-agency meeting will take place on 6th March. The Bouldon/Peckledy flood gauge is currently not working.

Westhope Village Hall Report: Cllr Watson said that a full schedule of events is planned at Westhope Village Hall on 7th May 2023 to celebrate the Coronation.

Diddlebury Village Hall Report: Cllr Rattu reported that the DVH committee is liaising with Munslow Parish Council about a possible joint Coronation event at Millichope Park.

Planning Applications: 23/00457/VAR and 23/00538/VAR: applications for the variation of original planning conditions 12 and 13 (ref. 1/05/16792/LB), including the listed building consent element, for the wedding venue business at Delbury Hall, Diddlebury. The variations sought were a 30-minute extension to the closing time of the Coach House (from 11.30pm to midnight) and removal of the condition limiting the restaurant and bar facilities to residents only. The applicant explained why the variations were necessary and confirmed advice has been sought from the Environmental

Protection Officer and that his recommendations will be followed. The parish council supported both applications.

Highways/Environmental Issues: It was agreed that when the second Speed Indicator Device is received and installed the original one will be returned to the manufacturer for recalibration and maintenance.

Communications and Correspondence: Fourteen items were considered and items 1, 4, 5 and 14 were responded to.

Finance Report for February 2023: Cheques totalling £438.24 were approved for payment. DPC held a balance of £20,808.74 following payment of the approved cheques. Cllr O'Boyle approved the Clerk's reconciliation of HSBC bank statements and DPC's cash book. £3,500 was agreed to be transferred from the Neighbourhood /CIL funds into a

reserves fund for future maintenance of the DVH car park: the fund to be match-funded separately by the school and DVH.

Appointment Of An Auditor: The parish council resolved to appoint Mrs Jennie Griffiths of Leebotwood as its internal auditor.

Next Meetings: Wednesday 22nd March 2023, 7.30pm at Westhope Village Hall and Wednesday 26th April at Diddlebury Village Hall.

Agendas and full copies of the Minutes can be viewed by visiting the Diddlebury Parish Council website or obtained from the Clerk, Mrs J de Russett. No 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH, Tel: 01547 519282 • diddleburypc@gmail.com www.diddleburyparish.co.uk

MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023 AT BEAMBRIDGE CLUBROOM

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer (Chair), Nigel Dobson, David Marston, Chris Meeson, Edward Povey and Graham Williams. H Coonick (Clerk)

Apologies For Absence: Cllrs Antonia Bury and Val Fotheringham; Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council).

Declarations Of Interest: None.

Public Forum: A member of the public enquired whether there was a local litter picking group as they had recently collected a considerable amount of litter on the B4368. Cllr Archer reported that the WI had done an occasional litter pick but there were issues with insurance for this on the B4368. The Environmental Maintenance contractor can litter pick as part of his duties but again not on the B4368. Litter can be reported to Shropshire Council on 'Fix My Street'. This issue will be put onto the agenda for the next meeting in April.

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2023 were approved (with a correction of spelling on item 10) and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

Matters Arising From Those Minutes That Are Not Covered On The Agenda: Cllr Dobson reported that he had met with Janet Cobb (Restoring Shropshire Verges Project), Cllr Antonia Bury and Mr Frank Bury to look at rewilding verges. Mr Bury will provide wildflower seed for areas in Munslow and Hungerford.

Urgent Items For Discussion At The Discretion Of The Chair: Cllr Williams reported that he had been contacted by a resident in the Rowe Lane area who was trying to gather a group of households and businesses in that area interested in High Speed Broadband. The Clerk will put a piece on the Council website and Facebook page and suggest to the resident that they put an article in Corvedale News.

Reports:

Shropshire Council: Cllr Motley had offered her apology.

Beambridge Club Room: Cllr Dobson reported that a new front door had been installed.

South Shropshire Area Committee: Cllr Archer reported that there had not been a recent meeting.

Update On The Installation Of A Defibrillator At The School House, Munslow And Application To Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust: The electricity supply for the defibrillator cabinet had been prepared and the application to the trust will be considered by the trust within three weeks.

Review of Environmental Maintenance and New Tasks: The environmental maintenance contractor had continued to work on clearing drains, gullies and grids on Rowe Lane and the Beambridge to Rushbury Road. The Clerk had reported to 'Fix my Street' that the road surface on Rowe Lane is very poor and the drains and grids on the Beambridge to Rushbury Road need jetting.

Advice from Community Resource Regarding the Beambridge Club Room Lease: The Millichope Foundation had contacted Cllr Povey regarding the issues raised at the last meeting. Community Resource advised that the Parish Council should be Custodian Trustee only and the lease should be between the Club Room Committee and the Foundation. Cllr Povey would discuss the matter with the Foundation and agree that the Parish Council is Custodian Trustee only.

Plans and Expenditure for the Coronation: It was proposed to open the Beambridge Club Room to show the Coronation on a big screen. Financial support requests would be brought to a future meeting for consideration.

Priorities for the Policing Charter: It was agreed that the three priorities should be a) speeding b) thefts from outbuildings c) parking at the war memorial. The contract should be renewed annually.

Support for Brown Clee Medical Practice: A steering group is being set up to attempt to secure the long-term status of this practice. Information on the developments can be seen on the Patients' page of the Brown Clee Medical Practice Facebook page. The Clerk will write in support of the steering group.

Highways: Delivery of the Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign had been delayed but it was expected within the next few days. Cllrs Dobson and Williams would move the sign on a regular basis, when it was delivered, to the various sites already agreed throughout the parish.

The B4368 Traffic Calming Report by Shropshire Council had not been forthcoming despite reminders. The Clerk would write to the head of Shropshire Council Traffic Engineering to ask why the report was now almost a year overdue and

express concerns from the council on behalf of residents about the issue of speeding through the parish.

Finance: The Bank Account held £14,816.17 as at 21 February. After expected expenditure for the remainder of the year the carry forward was expected to be in the region of £3,819.08. There had not been a recent bank statement; a reconciliation would be completed before the next meeting.

Payments were agreed to D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £114.75, Richard Lane (mowing of Munslow Burial Ground) £84.00, Clerk Reimbursement (Admin Supplies & Land Registry) £40.63, H Coonick, Clerk's Pay £638.56 (Jan-

March) and Travel Expenses (Aug-Feb) £40.95.

Items for the Next Meeting: a) Litter picking b) Coronation c) potholes d) payment for the Clerk's copy of Corvedale News.

Date Of Next Meeting: Thursday 6th April 2023 at Beambridge Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

Minutes and Agendas are available on www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk or from the Clerk on munslowpc@gmail.com or 07817607355

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 7TH MARCH 2023 AT 7.00PM ON ZOOM (DUE TO UNEXPECTED UNAVAILABILITY OF THE VILLAGE HALL).

Attendance: Councillors Mr A Pike (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting, Mr I Alderson, Mrs C Byng and Mrs Jo Mear.

Apologies: Cllrs I Steele, Mrs M Holland and Mr J Turley; Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).

Declarations of Interest: None.

Public Involvement Session: None.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2023 were approved and signed by the chair.

Matters Arising: None.

Planning: 23/00627/LBC Culmington House Culmington SY8 2DB. Resolved: support.

Reports from Representatives:

Cllr Motley (SC) had sent an apology.

Village Hall: Cllr Mear reported that the repairs to the hall had been delayed by the loss adjuster. There would be a meeting the following week to review progress. The next Culmington Parish Council meeting will need to be held elsewhere.

Flood Committee: Cllr Byng had submitted a report. The River Severn Partnership is working with the Welsh government regarding 'Slow the Flow' and Cardiff University has produced its report on 'Slow the Flow'. Shropshire Highways reported that the drainage problem at the Quarry in Seifton Batch will be addressed in May/June. It is hoped that repairs will be made to the broken pipes outside the pottery, Manor Orchard etc. He acknowledged there is still more jetting and camera work to be done on the village drains. Shropshire Council is planning to set up a new partnership regarding flooding with either the Wildlife Trust or the Rivers Trust.

South Shropshire Area Committee: Cllr Steele had sent an apology.

Environment Agency and Fire Service visit to the Laundry Works: The report from the Environment Agency stated that Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service was satisfied with the fire alert and fire prevention measures in place

at the site. The site does not carry out washing activities as previously thought and within the building where granulation of plastic takes place there is sealed drainage which leads to the sealed sump. The site currently utilises dust extractor 'socks' attached to the end of the plastic granulators which should capture any dust generated as part of the plastic granulation process. He stressed that any further concerns should be reported on the Hotline: 0800 807 060 and accompanied with pictures if possible.

Black Poplar Near Development Site: Cllr Seabrook had informed the Clerk that he had considered the drainage plans for the development site and did not think they would damage the black poplar. Mrs Jenny Norton had taken cuttings from the tree.

New SmartWater Kits: The SmartWater kits have gone beyond their use-by date. The Council can purchase a minimum of 50 new kits at a cost of £445 but there was not sufficient funding in this year's budget to purchase them. The Clerk will write an article for 'Ripples' asking parishioners to register an interest in a kit which can be included in the budget for 2024/25.

Desilting of Seifton Brook: This was deferred to the next meeting.

Priorities for the Policing Charter and Frequency of Renewal of the Contract: It was agreed that the priorities are: a) Theft from outbuildings b) theft of livestock c) poaching.

Emergency Rest Centres: This will be referred to the Village Hall Committee.

Finance: Report, Bank Reconciliation and Budget: these were deferred to the next meeting.

Payments were authorised to: D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance), H Coonick, Clerk (pay including back pay £950.95, travel expenses £32.40, reimbursement £20.70), Information Commissioners Office £35.00.

Delegation Policy and Donations Policy: These were deferred to the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 4th April 2023 at 7.30pm. Venue TBA.

Heather Coonick, Clerk/RFO

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Clive Martyn, 01584 841346,
happy4clive@gmail.com

Ludlow Minor Injuries Unit
Community Hospital, 01584 874297

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

Station Drive Doctors' Surgery
01584 872461

Portcullis Doctors' Surgery
01584 872939

Craven Arms Medical Practice
01588 672309

Police (non-emergency)
PC 2693 Grant, 07773 054602,
stephen.grant@westmerci.pnn.
police.uk

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

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

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

Corvedale School, Playgroup and Nursery

Jonathan Brough, 01584 841630,
admin@corvedaleprimary.co.uk

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Diddlebury & Westhope WI
Jane Cockburn, 01584 841483
pmc1989@btinternet.com

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

PARISH CLERKS & WEBSITES

Abdon & Heath Parish Clerk
Wendy Richards, 07813 271274,
abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com

Culmington Parish Council Clerk
Heather Coonick, 07817 607355,
culmingtonpc@googlemail.com

Diddlebury Parish Council Clerk
Mrs Jean de Rusett, 01547 519282,
diddleburypc@gmail.com

Munslow Parish Council Clerk
Heather Coonick, 07817 607355,
munslowpc@gmail.com

Diddlebury Parish Website
www.diddleburyparish.co.uk

Corvedale Google Group
This is a free service and issues purely local information such as road closures, flood warnings, planning applications, local events and so on to its members on a regular basis. If you would like to join this service, please email Martin Jones: martinggc@gmail.com

VILLAGE HALL/CLUB ROOM BOOKINGS

Abdon Village Hall
Helen Audin, 01746 712365,
www.abdonandheathparish.org,
abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

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

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

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

Diddlebury Church Room
Jan Kennedy, 01584 841372,
jan_kennedy@icloud.com

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

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

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

Blue Hills Choir
Ros Crouch, 01584 841053,
ros.crouch@gmail.com

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

Corvedale Book Group
Cath Burley,
cathburley@hotmail.com

Corvedale Choir
Ros Crouch, 01584 841053,
ros.crouch@gmail.com

Corvedale & District Autumn Show
John Woodhouse, 07980 207253

Corvedale Folk Club
Ian Fotheringham, 01584 841331

Corvedale Garden Group
Cath Burley,
cathburley@hotmail.com

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

Community Environmental Group
Rebecca Bull,
peter17bull@btinternet.com

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

Wednesday Badminton
Val Fotheringham, 01584 841331

Westhope Clover Club
Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841254

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



THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

CHURCH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2023

Please that note in April a lot of services are at different times to the normal pattern.

	2ND APRIL Palm Sunday	9TH APRIL Easter Day	16TH APRIL Easter 2	3RD APRIL Easter 3	30TH APRIL Easter 4
ABDON	10am Group Service of Holy Communion at Tugford	Holy Communion & Vigil on Saturday 8th at 7:30pm		10am Group Service of Holy Communion at Diddlebury	6pm Songs of Praise
BROADSTONE			8:30 HC		
CULMINGTON		10:30 HC	9:45 HC		8:30 HC
DIDDLEBURY		11:30 HC	11:15 HC		11:15 FS
HOLDGATE		8:30 HC			
MUNSLOW		9:45 HC			9:45 HC
TUGFORD		6pm HC			

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

Services for Holy Week:

5th April	Wednesday in Holy Week	7:30pm	Compline and Address at Broadstone
6th April	Maundy Thursday	7:30pm	Holy Communion at Holdgate
7th April	Good Friday	10:00am	Children's Service at Diddlebury
		5:30pm	Sung Compline at Culmington
8th April	Easter Eve	7:30pm	Easter Vigil and Holy Communion at Abdon