

MARCH
2026

Vol 67 No 1

The Wenlock Herald

News of events in the Churches, Parishes and Communities
on and around Wenlock Edge.



THE SEASON OF Lent



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

"Fast from hurting words and say kind words, fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude, fast from anger and be filled with patience, fast from pessimism and be filled with hope, fast from worries and trust in God, fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity, fast from pressures and be prayerful, fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy, fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others, fast from grudges and be reconciled, fast from words and be silent so you can listen"

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND: THE WENLOCK TEAM OF PARISHES

✂ *Berrington with Betton Strange* ✂ *Church Preen* ✂ *Cound* ✂ *Cressage* ✂ *Easthope* ✂ *Harley* ✂
 ✂ *Hughley* ✂ *Kenley* ✂ *Sheinton* ✂ *Shipton* ✂ *Stanton Long* ✂ *Much Wenlock with Bourton* ✂

WENLOCK TEAM MINISTRY

Team Revd Preb Matthew Stafford, The Rectory, New Road, Much Wenlock TF13 6EQ
Rector: Tel: (01952) 727396 e-mail: wenlockrectory@btinternet.com
Team Vicar: Revd Lisa Harper (Rector of Apedale & Team Vicar of The Wenlock Team)
 The Rectory, Hope Bowdler, Church Stretton SY6 7DD Tel: 07808 924223
Team Curate: Revd Sam Rigby, 3 Park Road, Much Wenlock TF13 6JH Tel: 07437 523274
Associate Priests: Revd Canon Robert Bull email: robertdb8083@gmail.com
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 Donations payable to PCC Much Wenlock with Bourton or direct to the Bank account 00012460 Sort code 40 52 40
 Please specify the donation is for The Wenlock Herald. If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider gift aid—for every
 £1 donated, we, as a charity, can claim an extra 25p from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)
 or see page 4 for QR code



Web Sites

Team: www.wenlockchurches.co.uk
Holy Trinity, Much Wenlock: www.muchwenlockchurch.co.uk
Berrington: www.friendsofberringtonchurch.weebly.com



THE FLAG OF ENGLAND (CROSS OF ST GEORGE) WITH THE HERALDIC BEARINGS OF THE DIOCESE OF HEREFORD WILL FLY FROM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH TOWER

during on the following days, *except on St David, St Patrick and St Andrew Days when the appropriate flag will fly.



1st March = St David, Patron Saint of Wales
 29th March to 4th April—Holy Week

17th March—St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland
 5th April—Easter Day

MEMBERS OF CHURCHES WITHOUT A PLACE OF WORSHIP IN MUCH WENLOCK

Much Wenlock Ecumenical Committee invites members of any Christian Church to united services and interdenominational events in the Wenlock area. Details published in editions of this magazine. We hope that you will worship with us at local church services, in so far as your conscience permits.

WENLOCK HERALD DELIVERY

We have a wonderful group of volunteers who deliver the Herald in Wenlock and surrounding areas each month. However, it is always useful if we have helpers available to take up a route as and when required. If you think you may be able to help in the future, please contact Sally Cooper 07854 975829 or sally-cooper@hotmail.co.uk
 Thank you!

SUNDAY LECTIONARY—YEAR A	1st March 2nd Sunday in Lent	8th March 3rd Sunday in Lent	15th March Mothering Sunday	22nd March 5th Sunday in Lent	29th March Palm Sunday
	First Reading: Genesis 12.1-4a Psalm 121 New Testament: Romans 4.1-5,13-17 Gospel: John 3.1-17	First Reading: Exodus 17.1-7 Psalm 95 New Testament: Romans 5.1-11 Gospel: John 4.5-42	First Reading: 1 Samuel 16.1-13 Psalm 23 New Testament: Ephesians 5.8-14 Gospel: John 9.1-41	First Reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14 Psalm 130 New Testament: Romans 8.6-11 Gospel: John 11.1-45	First Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a Psalm 31.9-16 New Testament: Philippians 2.5-11 Gospel: Matthew 26.14 - 27.66 or Matthew 27.11-54

CLERGY LETTER



Dear Friends

As you read this letter, we will be in the season of Lent, which began this year on 18th February, Ash Wednesday. There are of course many different ways to observe Lent, which usually coalesce into the three main categories of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The most obvious observance is the fasting element, or more usually the perennial question: 'so, what are you giving up for Lent?'

I was under the impression that this was still quite a common practice for the general population, whether a churchgoer or not - or perhaps at least to have the intention to give something up for Lent, but give up a few weeks or perhaps even days in. However, I recently read a YouGov poll from 2023 that found only 5% of Britons said they were giving something up for Lent. I was even more surprised to see the figure only marginally increased to 11% for the survey participants who identified as Christians! Half of the survey participants said they were planning to give up chocolate and/or sweets, with other top responses being alcohol/going to the pub (17%) and eating fatty foods (10%).

If you have given something up for Lent, then I do hope your fast is going well and you've managed to resist temptation, as we remember in these days the story of our Lord Jesus fasting for 40 days in the wilderness and resisting temptation himself. It's also important to remember that Lent isn't just about going without something nice in the pursuit of a healthier diet, but is fundamentally about drawing closer to God in these days leading up to Holy Week and Easter. Lent is often said to be a good time for a 'spiritual MOT' - for Christians to consider their relationship with God and the wider creation. In our busy and chaotic world with an endless torrent of bad news being hurled at us, it can be all too easy to lose ourselves and our focus on the present moment. Lent offers a time for to re-centre and re-connect with the God who brings order out of chaos and a peace that surpasses all human understanding.

The word we use for this time of year, Lent, comes from the Old English word 'lencten', which meant spring time. In Dutch, a similar word 'lente' is still their word for Spring today, and they call Lent 'vastentijd', literally translated 'fasting tide'. I'm always grateful that Lent is accompanied by the arrival of Spring and the lengthening of days, as it reminds us as we journey with Christ through the wilderness, that there is hope on the horizon as we move towards Easter. I hope that all of us, whether you observe Lent or not, would find the opportunity to re-centre ourselves and look towards the future with hope for our world, a hope that is renewed every year as we move into brighter days.

With my prayers for a peaceful and holy Lent.

Sam

The Reverend Samuel W. Rigby SMMS
Assistant Curate
Wenlock Team Ministry

FROM THE TEAM REGISTERS

BAPTISM:

Through the waters of baptism, may all be guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit

MARRIAGE:

Bless marriages, we pray, and walk beside them, through all their life together

FUNERAL: Joyce Anne Pratt (nee Childs) (Emstrey)

Christine Ann Brown (Cound)

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them



RECTORS SABBATICAL

Every 7-10 years clergy can apply for what is known as a Sabbatical. Sabbatical leave is an extended break from parochial duties, allowing clergy to rest, travel, study, volunteer, or pursue personal growth.

With the blessing of The Bishop of Hereford and The Wenlock Team Ministry, the Team Rector, **The Reverend Prebendary Matthew Stafford will be on Sabbatical Leave from Friday 1st May to Friday 14th August 2026.**

During the Team Rectors absence The Revd Lisa Harper, Rector of Apedale and Team Vicar of Wenlock will be pastorally in charge, supported by members of The Wenlock Team Ministry.

LECTIONARY HOUR

Did you hear something in one of the readings in church that surprised you, challenged you, or wasn't quite sure what it meant?

Do you want to dig deeper into something that came up in the sermon, or consider what God might be saying to us through that particular passage?

Join us in the Brookes Room at Holy Trinity, Much Wenlock each Monday afternoon at 2pm to explore the readings from the Sunday service in more detail. We meet for an hour with no agenda, other than sitting with the readings and seeing where the discussion takes us.

For more information, please contact the Curate.

Pray and Share for the Climate

Wednesday 4th March

12.00pm at Holy Trinity Church

A small group of us meet on the first Wednesday of the month, at **12 noon** in Holy Trinity Church, to give thanks for creation and to share our anxieties

and concerns about the climate emergency. We use the very moving and inspirational liturgy and the monthly news items published by Pray and Fast for the

Climate. We are a very friendly group and we feel supporting each other is very important in this difficult time. Everyone is welcome.

For anymore information please contact Gill Davis, 01952 727524, gillvdavis@gmail.com.

The Catholic Community in Much Wenlock



Please contact Elizabeth Sutherland 01952 727 548 for Dates of Mass celebrations at the Priory Hall at 3pm when all are welcome,

Tea/coffee afterwards

The Catholic parish priest:

Fr Iain Griffiths, St John's,

13 Northgate, Bridgnorth WV16 4ER

01746 762348 iaingriffiths@hotmail.com

The Methodist Church MUCH WENLOCK



Minister: Rev Nik Wooler 07732 263838

The Prayer Board in Holy Trinity Church



is open to all who want to write their requests or express their gratitude.

The meetings to read these prayers takes place at 10. a m on Monday mornings in the Lady Chapel.

All are welcome.

Beryl Bull 01952 727427

Much Wenlock Methodist Church Food Bank collection



Thank you to all who contributed to our Food bank collection every Friday morning. As always it is a tremendous effort by everyone who comes week by week giving whatever they are able. We are boosted by donations from the Spar and also St. Mary's Church Harley. Apart from food / toiletries / household goods we also receive money in our collecting box and in 2025 we received the amazing total of £5184 which is used to buy things that have not been donated but are needed. People of Much Wenlock are very generous and we hope to continue seeing you on Friday morning between 9:30am and 11:30 am outside the Town Library.

Craft, Chat and Cake



Usually meet on 1st Thursday each month Methodist Church, King Street, 2-4pm. Bring along your knitting, sewing, painting etc. There will be tea and cake and good company. Sue Freeston 727628 or Lesley Cammies 726735

Holy Trinity Coffee Morning

A warm and friendly venue for both local people and visitors to the town and also providing a much needed financial contribution to our Parish Church.

If you wish to book a coffee morning please contact one of the Churchwardens:
Susan 01952 727988 or Francine 07779 000450



March 7th	Sunday morning coffee team
April 11th	Bell Ringing team
May 2nd	Wednesday Eucharist team
June 6th	Choir team
July 4th	Sidespersons Team
Aug 1st	Flower Guild team
Sept 5th	PCC team
Oct 3rd	Soup lunch team
Nov 7th	Environmental team and other small groups

Any queries or issues please contact
Francine Coulson-Joy 07779 000450
francine.coulsonjoy@btopenworld.com

Events at the Community Room Pinfields Close & High Causeway

For information about Housing Support, Group Activities or use of the Community Room, please contact Julie Painting (Housing Support Officer) on 07582 004047 Julie.Painting@starhousing.org.uk

Mondays:

Extend Exercises weekly 10.15—11.15 (not Bank Holidays)
Ukelele Group 2:00 – 4:00pm

Tuesdays:

Coffee Group—every other week 10.00—12.00
Age UK Friendship Group 10.30—12.30 last Tues each month
U3A Art Group weekly 2.00—4.00
Belly Dancing Class. 5:30 – 7:00pm

Thursdays:

Housing Support Drop In 10.00 – 12.00



Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan Review Referendum Thursday 19 March 2026

In January, Shropshire Council agreed that the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood

Plan, covering the period 2024 to 2038, meets the 'basic conditions' and other legal requirements and agreed to the modifications proposed by the Independent Examiner.

In addressing Shropshire Council's Cabinet meeting, Much Wenlock Town Mayor, Cllr Dan Thomas said "We have worked tirelessly to ensure our policies are not just aspirational, but practical, viable, and in conformity with the Shropshire Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan works to protect everything in Wenlock that people love. It ensures development reflects local needs, protects green spaces, and influences design standards, while increasing the Town Council's share of developer funds." He continued: "At the heart of our approach has been the delicate balance between preserving Much Wenlock's unique character and heritage whilst ensuring our town remains vibrant and fit for purpose in the 21st century. Our steering group, comprising both members of the public and Town Councillors, has worked tirelessly to craft policies that reflect the aspirations and concerns of our community - those whose families have been here for generations and those who have moved to our town and villages more recently."

A referendum will be held on **Thursday 19 March 2026** to decide whether Shropshire Council should use the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan to guide planning decisions in the area.

Residents who are registered to vote in local government elections whose address is in the Much Wenlock neighbourhood area as of 3 March 2026 are entitled to vote. If you're not sure whether you're registered or wish to check your entry on the current register of electors, please email your request, including your full name, address and contact details to registration@shropshire.gov.uk, or call the Elections Team on 0345 678 9015. If you wish to register to vote, go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote with your National Insurance number to hand.

You can find out more online www.muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan-3/ Or in person at Much Wenlock Library or Shrewsbury Guildhall.



Much Wenlock WI

Usually meet on third Wednesday of the month

Wednesday March 18th.

**Come and join us for a presentation by
Geet Athwal from The Wenlock Wardrobe -
the colour spectrum of fashion and how it
works.**

Visitors especially welcome.
Non-members £5.

Contact muchwenlockwi@gmail.com
01952 726748.





**Every Monday
7pm - 8pm
at the Sports Centre**

PLAYERS WANTED

We are a group of friendly social Badminton players looking for new adult members of reasonable ability for an hour of fun and gentle exercise.

Visitors fee just £5* Over 18's only

*3 visits maximum

Call Rob on 07527 153736 or just turn up on the night



THE MUCH WENLOCK BOWLING CLUB

Club Secretary at
muchwenlockbc@gmail.com



CRESSAGE & DISTRICT WI

Cressage Village Hall

Nineteen members met, for the first time in 2026, on February 12th. Our January meeting was cancelled due to forecast snow so it was good to see so many members coming out for the evening despite the rain. Josephine chaired the meeting as Celia was enjoying blue skies and sunshine in Spain.

Business was soon dealt with. Sue is organizing another of our popular Craft Dabble Days on **March 14th**, so members were invited to sign up. Cressage will be hosting the Shrewsbury East Group meeting on April 29th, with a Roman theme. Ideas for our 2026 Charity were taken and a decision will be made for next month.

Guest speaker was Shaun Higgins looking very smart in uniform from WW1 giving a presentation called 'Strange Meetings', the words of Wilfred Owen. Shaun was in role for an hour giving a very moving, and believable enactment of the horrors endured by the Poet who was so determined to do his duty as a serving soldier. Sadly Wilfred died one week to the day before the war ended. Marg spoke for us all when she thanked Shaun.

We ended our meeting with refreshments served by Veronica and Julia, then the competition for a bowl of Spring Bulbs won by Amanda, and the raffle.

Next month on **March 12th** Kim Russell, one of our own members, will be demonstrating Felting, and inviting everyone to have a go.

Visitors are always welcome at any of our meetings.
Details from Ruth 510 546

BIBLE STUDY

Please do not let the word study deter you from thinking about attending to see for yourself. This is not a Bible knowledge competition and there are no tests. Rather we are a friendly supportive fellowship who meet every Thursday morning in Homer, or occasionally in Much Wenlock, to consider parts of the Bible, to share views on what it means to us and, particularly, if it raises questions or confusion for us.

If you would like to try it out or for any further information please contact Alan Gainer on 01952 727879; or John Cumberland on 01952 727386



SOUP LUNCH RAISING FUNDS FOR CHARITY

WHERE: Holy Trinity Church
Much Wenlock

WHEN: **Friday 13th March 2026**

FROM: Midday till 1.30pm

ON OFFER: 4 soups, one of which is Gluten Free

COST: Donations to this month's chosen charity

WHICH IS: Water Aid

February's Soup Lunch raised £345.00 for Lend with Care

This is a dementia friendly activity.

Usually 2nd Friday each month apart from August and December



CAR BOOT AND TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday MARCH 28th 2026

10am until 3pm

At The Priory Hall, The Bull Ring,

Much Wenlock, TF13 6HS,

with coffee, tea and cakes.

To raise funds for The First Responders

To book a space call 07971 100812 or
01952 727693.

*Community
Coffee
Afternoon*

- everyone is welcome -

LADY FORESTER NURSING HOME,
FARLEY ROAD,
MUCH WENLOCK,
TF13 6NB

THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2-4PM

RUSHBURY AND CARDINGTON WI

We meet in Cardington Village Hall for late Autumnal and Winter months and in Rushbury Village Hall for rest of the year, usually on the third Wednesday of every month at 2.00 pm Jan and Feb and at 7.30 pm for the rest of the year.

We welcome all - fellow WIs and those from our local communities. Anyone interesting joining or even road testing us please call or text our President, Carole Martin 07967 715350

HARLEY NEWS!



Coffee, Chat and Carpet Bowls

10.30 am—Wednesdays

4th and 18th March 2026

HARLEY VILLAGE HALL

All are most welcome for coffee (or tea), biscuits, carpet bowls and a chat.

For further information please phone 01952 510547

FARMER'S BUTTY VAN



The February Butty Van will be held on Thursday **19th March 2026** at 1030 to 1200 hrs at Pool Farm, Hughley, Shrewsbury. SY5 6NS. (not an exact post code) Follow the road side BV signs. By kind permission of David & Carolanne Powell.

Friday **6th March 2026**

6.30pm for a 7pm start

COME ALONG TO A

FUN NIGHT OF BINGO

**WITH FISH AND CHIP SUPPER
AT HARLEY VILLAGE HALL!**

Please Bring Your Own Drink -Tickets £10

Please order by Monday 2nd March
from Anne Sharpe (01952 510556).



Harley's Spring Crafts, Gifts, Plants
& Produce Fair



Saturday 21st March 10am-4pm
at



Harley Village Hall, Harley, SY5 6LP

Pop along & enjoy refreshments of tea, coffee,



hot chocolate, soup & cakes ~



& admire the 1000s of daffodils in bloom



FREE ENTRY

Dogs Welcome



Happy
Mothering
Sunday

St Mary's Church Harley PCC are delighted to announce that they will be holding a Family Mothering Sunday Service with refreshments at 9.30am on **Sunday 15th March**. All Welcome



**THE ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING
of the
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE PRIORY HALL,
MUCH WENLOCK**

will be held on

MONDAY 9th MARCH, 2026 at 7pm

at the hall

Please join us to learn about what your community hall has achieved over the last year and to contribute to our plans for the future.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Agendas and details of meetings
are on our website

**STANTON LONG COMMUNITY SOUP LUNCHES
DELICIOUS VARIETY OF SOUPS & HOMEMADE
BREAD PLUS CAKE AND HOT DRINKS**

Stanton Long Church
12 noon - 1pm on the following dates.

All for £5

Saturday 14th March

Please put these dates in your diary - we really look forward to seeing you.



CLOSING DATE for April edition is 12th March

MUCH WENLOCK DOG WALKING GROUP 'UNLEASHED'



Come and take your dog on a Sniffari! Meet likeminded friendly and fun people for a lovely off leash walk and a good sniff around and a good natter about all things dogs. The walk will be approximately 1 to 1.5 hours long. There will be a brief etiquette chat to ensure all dogs are safe and enjoying the walk. Bring your best friend! (don't forget the poo bags). Every Saturday at 8.30am and meeting place varies week to week. Fb group: dog walking group unleashed Bridgnorth Further information from Daniela 07976 411425

MOTHERS' UNION

Christian Care for Families



At our AGM on February 19th we elected offices and committee en bloc. Suggestions were made for speakers for this coming year and we will approach them to confirm dates...

March will see several changes to our usual meetings. We are hosting the Lady day service for the northern end of the diocese. Due to a previous booking of Holy Trinity the service will be held on **Thursday 26th at the METHODIST CHURCH starting at 2.30.**

In April we will revert back to our usual 3rd Thursday of the month and the venue and speaker will be announced in the Herald.

Visitors are always welcome to our meetings.

For further information please contact one of the following.

LEADER: Gill Reynolds 727620
SECRETARY: Jean Gladstone 728520



MUCH WENLOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

Tuesdays 7.30pm
at William Brookes School.
New members are always welcome.

Our first concert of the year will take place at the end of the month, but with a change of venue. Rather than using Idsall School as first planned, our joint four choirs' concert has been moved to Wrekin College which has better facilities for the number of singers and audience expected to be involved.

This is the Harmony4Hope event on **Saturday 28th March** at 7pm when we will join forces with Hadley, Newport and Shifnal Male Voice Choirs in an event to support Hope House Children's Hospice. Their mission statement says that (the charity) 'gives every local child with a life-threatening condition, and their family, access to professional care, and improves their quality of life from the point of diagnosis'. However, with only 16-17% of their funding coming from government, we can see how vital events such as ours are to support that aim.

The choirs will join to sing several pieces, most notably Another Day which was composed specifically for Hope House with the themes of support, sanctuary and hope, with lyrics to match. The song has since been performed by many choirs and recorded for the charity by the world-renowned singer Bryn Terfel. We very much look forward to this unique event and hope that some of you will be able to join us too.

Tickets for the concert are available from choir members or from Penny Farthing in the Square in Much Wenlock.

Website www.mwmvchoir.org.uk
Facebook facebook.com/mwmvchoir
Instagram mwmalevoicechoir
Email chairmanmwmvc@gmail.com
Phone 01952 728758

Dick Langford



Singing for Fun

Usually held on 2nd Thursday of the month
Except August

Thursday 12th March
2pm at the Methodist Church

and mid session refreshments are planned.

n.warrington993@btinternet.com

This is a dementia friendly activity



MUCH WENLOCK FRIENDSHIP GROUP

A social group for people aged over 60 to meet up, enjoy some light refreshment and make new friends. The Pinefields Community Centre, 1 Pinefields Close, Much Wenlock TF13 6DA, usually on the **last Tuesday of the month**, 10.30am - 12.30pm, but meeting dates can change, so please check with Wellbeing services for details of the next meeting.

Cost: Free, but we would welcome a donation of £2.00 per session to cover costs

Contact: Wellbeing services 01743 233 123
Email: enquiries@ageukstw.org.uk

5k Your Way Move Against Cancer A support group with a difference for anyone affected by cancer

Parkrun events on the **last Saturday of every month**. Afterwards we go for coffee and chat! Our groups are all very friendly and supportive.

We meet at Shrewsbury parkrun in the Quarry park and one in Telford who meet at Telford parkrun in Telford town park. Both groups meet at 8.45am for a 9am start on the last Saturday of the month.
shrewsburygroup@5kyourway.org
telfordgroup@5kyourway.org



CENTENARY WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 6th March 2026—3.00pm

Service for everyone

Followed by tea and cake
Much Wenlock Methodist
Church





Willow Obelisk & Plant Support Sale At Priory Hall

Saturday 7th March 9am – 12.30

Hand Crafted & locally made
plant supports, obelisks, bird feeders,
trugs and a selection of baskets

Unique Mother's Day gifts Or just treat yourself!

Willow Workshops also available

For Willow Workshop bookings and information
scan QR code

Or contact Lesley Butler

Farleyding1@gmail.com



TELFORD STAMP and CARD CLUB

Telford Stamp and Card Club meets on the second Monday
monthly at the Belmont Hall, off the TN Bank Car park,
Wellington, Telford, TF1 1HJ, at 7.30pm until 9.30pm
and has a varied programme on stamp or post card related
items. We are a friendly club and visitors are welcome.

There is no charge for visitors.

Any enquiries: Richard Camp. Tele: 01952-405458.



girlguiding
Much Wenlock

Our Rainbows meet on Wednesdays
5.30pm–6.30pm

Brownies meet on Fridays 6.00pm –
7.30pm

Guides and Rangers meet on Fridays
7.15pm – 8.45pm during term-time.

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer/>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/>

For an informal chat, feel free to call Lily (Rainbows)
at 07711 111346, or Katie (Brownies and older) at
07503 893532.



The Much Wenlock Probus Club

is an association of retired or
semi-retired gentlemen from all walks of
life who meet up regularly, network,
exchange stories and are entertained by
a wide range of fascinating speakers. If you're
interested in learning more, contact the Hon.Sec.
initially to arrange to join us at the Gaskell Arms on
the 1st Thursday of every month (except August -
2nd Thurs) for a social lunch and get together.

Stephen Pridmore (Hon. Sec.)

Phone: 01952 727796

www.probusonline.org/much-wenlock/

A grandmother was taking her young grandson for
a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and
it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage
her grandson's spiritual understanding of the world,
she said: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this
scenery? Did you know God did all this?"

Her grandson replied: "Oh yes, and God did it left-
handed, too." In astonishment, the grandmother
asked what he meant. "Well, He must have done,"
said her grandson, "because we learned at church
last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand."



Brockton and District WI

catieegeton@me.com



We met on Tuesday February 3rd at Shipton
Village Hall. We voted for this year's WI resolutions
and discussed outings to Brynkinalt Hall and Ludlow
Food Centre and a lunch at Acton Scott Farm Cafe.
We then enjoyed an highly informative and
entertaining talk by Jacqui White on her experiences
as an air traffic controller. Jacqui told us how she was
responsible for the safe, orderly and rapid flow of air
craft in the sky and on the ground. It is certainly a
high stakes and safety critical job.

Our next meeting is Tuesday **March 3rd** at 7.30pm.
Visitors are always welcome.

COME AND JOIN US AT EXPLORERS SCOUTS

Are you aged 14–18 and ready for something
bigger, bolder, and more adventurous?
Join Explorer Scouts and be part of a team that
pushes boundaries, builds confidence, and has
loads of fun along the way.

Where: Scout Hut, Station Road, Much Wenlock

When: Tuesdays, 7:45 – 9:15 pm

What can Explorer Scouts do?

Outdoor adventures & camping
Climbing, hiking & expeditions
Navigation, survival & leadership skills
Kayaking, archery & other adventurous activities
Trips, international opportunities & big challenges
Make new friends and gain skills for life
Work towards Duke of Edinburgh & top Scout
awards

No experience needed — just enthusiasm and a
willingness to give it a go!

**Just turn up or, if you'd like more information
email Loren at lor.reeve@gmail.com**

BEAVER SCOUTS – PLACES AVAILABLE!

We're excited to announce that Much Wenlock Beaver
Scouts currently have vacancies and are welcoming new
members!

Beaver Scouts is for children aged 6–8 and is all about
fun, friendship, and learning through adventure in a safe,
supportive environment.

Where: Scout Hut, Station Road, Much Wenlock

When: Mondays, 4:45 – 6:00 pm

What do Beaver Scouts do?

Play games and make new friends
Crafts, creative activities & badge work
Outdoor activities and nature adventures
Campfires, visits, camping & residentials
Learn teamwork, confidence and independence
Build skills through fun and exploration

**To find out more or to register interest, please
contact:**

Loren at lor.reeve@gmail.com



Cressage
GARDENING CLUB

3rd Thursday every
month except August at
Cressage Village Hall.
7.30pm



MUCH WENLOCK BOWLING CLUB



Gaskell Recreation Ground

COME AND JOIN US, YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

We run 5 teams in local leagues. Friendly competitions held throughout the year. Social bowling with friends every Thursday.

New to bowling? Free tuition and equipment available

ENQUIRIES TO OUR SECRETARY AT:

muchwenlockbc@gmail.com



COUND AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB

Come and join in our fun and social tennis community

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/coundanddistricttennisclub>

or use our Cound and District Tennis Club Homepage QR Code



For membership enquiries please contact us at membershipatcound@btinternet.com

Adult beginners courses, adults drills & cardio, Juniors Saturday coaching and private lessons

Please contact Club Coach Graham Hart on 07960 970 017 or email hartg734@aol.com



Soft Tennis—A gentler form of the full game of Lawn Tennis. Played indoors on a badminton size court. The balls are softer and slower. Good fun and a proper piece of exercise.

All Ages Welcome.

We meet in the Leisure Centre, Much Wenlock –

Wednesdays – 5.00p.m. to 6.00p.m.

n.warrington993@btinternet.com



FLICKS IN THE STICKS

at Cound Guildhall!!



Friday 20th MARCH 7.30 pm

DOWNTON ABBEY – THE GRAND FINALE

Always sartorially impeccable, *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale* delivers a satisfying and heartfelt closure to the beloved saga -- a farewell truly befitting the Crawleys.

Film £5. Pre-Film Meal 6.30 pm £7.00
Tea, Coffee & Homemade Cakes in interval £3.50

Prior Booking Only Please for Film and for Meal.
To book please ring Tim on 01743 761257

Please let us know of any allergies or intolerances when booking a meal.



Usually every second Wednesday in the month except August At The Priory Hall, Much Wenlock

Wednesday 11th March—2pm—AGM

followed by 2:20pm
Roger Browne presents
'The King's Tiger Rag'

The strange story of the role that King George V played in bringing jazz to Britain in 1919 with the

Original Dixieland Jazz Band

How society in Britain has never been the same again!

The talk will be followed by refreshments
We look forward to seeing you

Non-members welcome – for a £2 entrance fee

New members always welcome

Want to know more about the u3a?

Alison Richards email amrichards64@icloud.com
07474040646



Wenlock Olympians Athletics Club

Do you enjoy running, jumping and throwing?
at The Leisure Centre.

9.00-10.30am for ages 8, 9 and 10
10.00-11.30am for ages 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17

If you would like to find out more please see our website
www.wenlockolympians.org

MUCH WENLOCK Sunday 5th July 12-5 pm

Much Wenlock Gardens Open Trail will be taking place. If you would like to open your garden for the event, we're looking for gardeners who would be willing to open their gardens from 12 midday to 5.00pm. Please share this information with anyone you know who might wish to take part.

This event is in aid of Shropshire Historic Churches Trust. Tickets with eh map will be on sale at the Penny Farthing £7.00 each. The proceeds will be divided equally between the Trust and Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock. Wenlock Abbey House has agreed to be open too.

Please contact either:
Liz Sharman—lizsharman29@gmail.com
Sue Stevens—ssstevens1960@gmail.com
We'd love to hear from you

Please check our website and facebook for up to date information
www.shropshirect.org.uk

GARDENERS REGISTER NOW





Contact:
mwcivicsociety@gmail.com
Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/>
mwcivicsociety/

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

Issued by: Trudi Barrett, Town Clerk Tel: 01952 727509
Email: townclerk@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk
Website: www.muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk

January and February saw record days of rain both in the UK and in Spain. The Jet Stream had moved South and will have by now hopefully reverted to its more usual position for the time of year. Last year we had an exceptionally dry spring and summer. A weather pattern more at home in the Mediterranean region. These extremes of weather are but one of the many challenges facing our farming community. What will this year bring?

Most importantly for the future development of the town is the Neighbourhood Plan. The latest version of the Neighbourhood Plan was widely consulted on within the community. The Neighbourhood Plan has been assessed by a government approved Inspector as compliant with planning law and policy. When adopted a Neighbourhood Plan has a legal status when developments are considered in the town. There remains the final step of a referendum of the town giving its approval for the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan. You will be asked:

‘Do you want Shropshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Much Wenlock to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE Make a difference to the future of your town.

Thursday 19th March at the Priory Hall

A person is entitled to vote in the Referendum if on Tuesday 3 March 2026:

- he or she is entitled to vote in a local government election in the Referendum area; and
- his or her qualifying address for the election is in the Referendum area.

The documents are on Shropshire Council’s website and a paper copy is available in Much Wenlock Library, The Corn Exchange, 62 High Street, Much Wenlock, TF13 6A The specified documents are:

- The Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- The report of the independent examiner into the Neighbourhood Plan;
- A summary of the representations submitted to the independent examiner;
- A statement by the local planning authority that the draft Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions specified by statute and complies with the provision made by or under Section 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
- A statement that sets out general information about town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum.

It is anticipated that the Much Wenlock Civic Society in its present form will close at the end of March. Its assets will be distributed between local groups and societies that promote the heritage and well-being of the town.
mwcivicsociety@gmail.com

Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan Referendum – 19th March—The question which will be asked in the Referendum is: “Do you want Shropshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Much Wenlock to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?” Procedures will be similar to those used at local government elections. Specified documents can be viewed on the Town Council website, Shropshire Council website and as hard copies in Much Wenlock library during usual opening hours.

Planning Application for Bridgnorth Road—An outline planning application has been submitted by Boningale Homes for land east of Bridgnorth Road in Much Wenlock (26/00294/OUT). The application is for up to 300 residential dwellings, landscaping, public open space, associated access, drainage and other related infrastructure. The Town Council will be submitting comments on the application, which is expected to be determined by Shropshire Council by 4th May 2026. In due course a full application will be submitted, when there will be another opportunity to submit comments.

New Finance Officer—The Council’s Responsible Financial Officer, Janet Evans, will be retiring at the end of March. Town Councillors would like to publicly thank Janet for her excellent service and contribution to the work of the Council and wish her a long and happy retirement. Janet’s successor, Gemma Foster, will be joining the staff at the beginning of March. Gemma has considerable finance experience in the public sector and knows Much Wenlock well. We look forward to welcoming her to the Council.

Civic Service—Councillors were pleased to participate in the Civic Service at Holy Trinity Church, which also celebrated the Feast of St Milburga and Shropshire Day. The service was attended by the Bishop of Hereford and other dignitaries as well as members of the community. This was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate community and remember the role of St Milburga in the history of Much Wenlock.

New Businesses—The Council would like to welcome two new businesses to the High Street: Much Wenlock Flooring, offering specialist stair runners, carpets and flooring, and Wenlock Cellars, an independent wine and spirits shop with over 150 different wines and more than 50 whiskies. We wish them both well.

May Fair—The Town Council is planning a May Fair on the Church green on bank holiday Monday, **4th May**. Please put the date in your diary and look out for more details in due course.

The Guildhall—re-opens to visitors on **3rd April 2026** with an exhibition of fine art by Olly James. The Town Council continues to seek funding to restore and upgrade the building and will soon be submitting another Expression of Interest to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Town Council Meetings—Forthcoming full Council meetings will be held at 7.00pm on Thursday, **5th March** and Thursday, **2nd April 2026** at the Guildhall, Much Wenlock. Meeting dates and agendas are available on the Town Council’s website and notice board. Meetings are open to the public and a period is set aside for public participation at full Council and Planning & Environment Committee meetings.

Council Surgeries—The next Council surgery will be held on Saturday, **14th March 2026** between 10.30 am and 12 noon at Much Wenlock Museum. Members of the community will have the opportunity to raise matters of concern with a Town Councillor, Shropshire Councillor and a member of our local policing team. No appointment is necessary.

FRIENDS OF THE OLD CEMETERY



The rain seems relentless lately, especially after the pure, bright snow that heralded in the new year. The ground is sodden and the fields around the town are saturated. This is deep winter weather, despite the fact that Imbolc has passed. Today is just unyielding rain. Mulish and obstinate. The kind that gets under your skin and seeps into your bones. But the snowdrops, crocus and daffodils poking out in the Old Cemetery signal to me that spring is indeed on its way but the weather just hasn't caught up yet!

Climbing up the steps into the Old Cemetery I notice that buds are starting to open on the lilac and buddleia tree. What feels like no apparent change is actually taking place underground where tree roots are transferring water and nutrients back up along the stems again, replenishing brittle branches with a new flow of life. Inside their trunks the trees are waking up to the changes of the growing light. It's a time of quickening and unravelment. Everything preparing to burst forth into a show of fresh life, regeneration, new beginnings.

But the big change for me is the bird song. The calls and sounds are louder and more varied, more insistent as the males sing for territories and mates. Blackbirds, robins and blue tits are already prospecting for nests. And so, another poem for the poetry trail. This time from local poet, children's writer and novelist,

Kate Innes.

Redbreast

He pricked my conscience
in winter weather, with his cocked
black ice eye aimed at me –
ticking like a lookout
waiting for the drop –
chest swollen with downy air
–hunger-thin legs of sinew
taloned-strong.
I once heard his voice in a
small room.
He perched on a teacup
by a window open to the Spring,
and his notes were melting ice,
coloured glass, beaten gold.
Go-between,
hopping on the cold dead days,
almost tamed,
landing on graves for worms,
here is seed for your breast,



Statement from Cllr Dan Thomas—14/2/26

I am aware that an EIA Screening Opinion has today been submitted by Lovells Strategic Land in relation to a proposed residential development on land owned by my parents in Much Wenlock.

I understand that a proposal for any new housing can raise strong feelings locally, and I know residents will want reassurance about how this is being handled. I serve as a Shropshire Councillor for Much Wenlock and have had no involvement in this proposal or the timing of its submission.

From the outset, I have declared a personal interest and formally recused myself from all discussions relating to land and site matters in Much Wenlock at both Shropshire Council and Town Council.

I will continue to step out of any meetings or decisions concerning this site to ensure complete transparency and uphold the integrity of the planning process.

Residents can be assured they remain fully represented in this matter by neighbouring Shropshire Councillor Colin Stanford (Corvedale Division) and the Town Council.

PLASTIC FREE Holy Trinity
MUCH WENLOCK Environmental Group
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE muchwenlockplasticfree@gmail.com

I am pleased to tell you that Plastic Free Much Wenlock has been accredited for 2025. We need to thank all the Businesses, Community Allies and Schools not to mention the individuals that have taken up the challenge and have supported the work of getting rid of as much single use plastic as possible in our town. I love to hear in some of the shops when people are asked if they would like a plastic bag the answer is 'No thank you I have a bag with me!' It would be wonderful to get even more of you involved. We also need to thank Much Wenlock Council for supporting us. Finally we need to thank our Committee who plan and support the work and activities that 'Surfers Against Sewage' require us to do along with other organisations who are trying to make us more aware of what we are doing to this world.

Mark Jones, a member of staff at William Brookes School, tells me that 'gardening students have been recycling and building some garden planters to create a series of interior garden spaces in school corridors and classrooms. Their plants have all been grown from cuttings and, with a new look colour scheme now in place throughout the school, have contributed to make the student's environments even more attractive and healthy spaces.' Thank you to Mark, the staff and the students. I am sure everyone at the school will appreciate what you are doing. This may be the start of thinking about a career in horticulture for some of those students!

If you have ever been on Much Wenlock Primary Schools website you may have seen their sustainability vision. It is well worth looking at what they are doing. For example there are photos of the children following the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch as part of their wildlife and nature care. They have a sustainability team made up of staff, children and governors.

Could you join 'The Big Plastic Count' on the **9-15 March**? It is an investigation into plastic waste. You will need to register and then count all the plastic packaging you throw away for one week and then you submit your count on the website. You will be sent your plastic profile showing what happens to your waste after you bin it. It is quite an incentive to make sure that we play our part to stop using single use plastic that we do not need.

2				3	4	1	
	1		8				5
		6	9				
5						6	
	2	4		7	8	3	
	6						2
				8	6		
6				4		2	
	4	1	9				8

The Edge Arts Centre

William Brookes School, Much Wenlock



MW YOUNG FARMERS CLUB



Mon 2 Mar	Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy (15) 7.30pm £6 (concessions £5)	Cinema
Thu 5 Mar	Welcome to the Orchard of England (15) & The Nettle Dress (12) Double Bill 7.30pm £12 (concessions £10)	Cinema
Fri 6 Mar	Luke Jackson (folk, roots, blues, Americana) 7.30pm £15	Live Music
Sat 7 Mar	The Alex Voysey Blues Band 7.30pm £16	Live Music
Mon 9 Mar	Wild Mountain Thyme (12) 7.30pm £6 (concessions £5)	Cinema
Thu 12 Mar	Exhibition on Screen: Turner & Constable (12A) 7.30pm £12 (concessions £10)	Cinema
Mon 16 Mar	Lee (15) 7.30pm £6 (concessions £5)	Cinema
Mon 23 Mar	Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale (PG) 7.30pm £6 (concessions £5)	Cinema
Fri 27 Mar	Wenlock Extravaganza Band on the Edge & The Orchestra of Folk 7pm £15	Live Music
Tue 31 Mar	Mishra (global folk collective) 7.30pm £15	Live Music

Box Office for live shows at Penny-Farthing, 5 The Square
Buy online at ticketsource.co.uk/edgeartscentre
Ticketline 0333 666 3366 during office hours
Join our mailing list at edgeartscentre.com | 01952 728911

The members of the club are still diving into all things YFC with entries in the bowling competition and the sports day.

In the month of February is the annual performing arts competition held at The Edge Arts Centre, where we look forward to acting out our own written script. Dates were 18-20th February. Thank you to all those who attended and support the clubs entertainment and questionable costumes.

The club have been able to have informative talks on farms and testing their brains with quizzes! Other Monday night evenings coming up consist of an Area 51 social with other shropshire clubs and a spoken poetry evening.

As we hope the weather will soon allow for growing seasons we have a date set for the annual muck lug. **29th March** we will deliver muck, perfect for gardens and allotments. £4.00 per bag with funds being split between 'Riding for the Disabled' 'Dementia' and Club Funds. We hope all our existing customers and new get in touch to Carys 07518 016339 by the deadline of **21st March**.

Please provide details of NAME, ADDRESS, QTY OF BAGS, PAYMENT METHOD BACS: Reference your name

20-53-22
70215120
Much Wenlock YFC

The club also look forward to hosting a Bingo night alongside 'Shropshire Rural Support' in April. We hope you are able to attend this event with prizes up for grabs. Date and location TBC

On Friday **3rd July 2026**, Much Wenlock YFC celebrates its 85th anniversary. Tickets are £50 per person and sold in tables of 10. Tickets are on pre-sale to past Much Wenlock YFC members until 30th April, thereafter they will be on general sale, if you would like to book a ticket please email muchwenlockyfc@gmail.com

Richard Ratcliffe

HTMW YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN

FREE PIZZA AND HOT CHOCOLATE AND MORE!

Every Thursday in term time
3.30pm to 5pm
Holy Trinity Much Wenlock

A warm and safe space to hang out with your friends

Everyone aged 11-16 is welcome!

News from Shropshire Cllr Dan Thomas

Much Wenlock Leisure Centre Saved! - I'm delighted to confirm that the future of Much Wenlock Leisure Centre has been secured, following the appointment of Halo Leisure as the centre's new operator from 1 April 2026. This announcement marks the successful conclusion of months of collaborative work involving Shropshire Council, William Brookes School, The 3-18 Education Trust, Much Wenlock Town Council and members of the community. Together, partners have worked to ensure that leisure provision at the site can be protected for both students and the wider public for years to come. When it was announced last year that Shropshire Council were pulling the funding from the leisure centre, I was deeply concerned about the damage it could have to our community. As Much Wenlock's Shropshire Councillor, it was a pleasure to work with the 3-18 Trust, the new administration and officers from Shropshire Council to secure confirmation of funds required to refurbish the facility for public use. I have seen first-hand the dedication required to reach this point by the management of the Trust, who have the wider community's interest at heart. I want to pay particular tribute to Ruth Shaw's leadership as Head of the School; the impact of the school's improvements has been felt by the wider community. In summary, the Leisure Centre will receive £311,000 in refurbishment and be better run.

Active Travel Funding for Primary Schools—Two of the fifteen Shropshire primary schools receiving over £13,000 to help children cycle, walk, or scoot to and from school are in the Much Wenlock area. Brockton Primary are receiving nearly a 1,000 towards balance bikes and helmets, whilst Much Wenlock Primary are receiving a similar amount for storage, balance bikes and scooters. Well done to both Primary Schools in their successful bids.

The Neighbourhood Plan is committed to a public referendum on the 19th March. It was a pleasure to go to the cabinet to sign it off, representing the community as Chair of the Steering Group. This plan has been shaped by the community through the consultations and surveys. Which helps shape sustainable development through 2038, ensuring that new housing specifically meets local needs for affordable homes and accessible living for older residents. Additionally, the plan implements protections against flood risk and safeguards the town's unique historic character and green spaces, while supporting local infrastructure improvements.

Financial Pressure—The Council's own consultation response admits that the recent Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement is fundamentally unfair. The figures speak for themselves: urban councils now receive 41% more funding per head than rural authorities like ours. Any increase in our 'Core Spending Power' is driven entirely by asking our residents to pay more in Council Tax, while our actual government funding is reducing in real terms. This is not a failure of local management; it is a 'rural penalty' imposed from Westminster. At the time of writing, the Government has informed the Council that it can raise the Council tax in Shropshire by up to 9%, which will be put to a Council vote at the end of February.

Advice Surgery—Saturday, **14th March**, between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon at Much Wenlock Museum. No appointment is necessary. I'll be joined by Town Councillor Paula Siverston and a representative from the Police.
Best Regards, Dan Thomas

*Working hard for communities in the Much Wenlock Division of Shropshire Council.
M: 077907 81408 (day time)
facebook: com/dan4wenlock E: dan.thomas@shropshire.gov.uk*

GERSHWIN
by CANDLELIGHT

LIVE JAZZ

The timeless music of George & Ira Gershwin by candlelight

JIM WYNN
QUINTET

Scan with phone camera for online tickets

Saturday 7th March 2026 - 8pm
Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock

Tickets: £16
www.jimwynn.co.uk/candlelight

Tickets also available from Croft Design & The Linden Tree, Much Wenlock



News from Christ Church C.E. Primary School

Our whole school visits Cound Church

Following the closure of our local church in Cressage, we have been unable to continue our regular church visits with the children. Our whole school was therefore delighted to have the opportunity to visit nearby Cound Church as part of our ongoing learning in both R.E. and History. We were warmly welcomed by Reverend Sam Rigby, who had prepared a wonderful 'Church Treasure Hunt' for the older children, challenging them to count the number of crosses in the building, find the bell tower, and interpret the beautiful stained glass windows. Families were then invited to come together for a special time of worship inside the church. The visit enabled the children to deepen their understanding of our local Christian heritage while exploring a place of worship that has been central to the community for centuries. Christ Church CE Primary School now plans to visit Cound Church each term to take part in services with Reverend Sam Rigby. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who helped make our whole school visit to Cound Church such a memorable experience for us all.

Emma Clarke, Acting Head of School

How many church members does it take to change a light bulb?

What do you mean CHANGE??? That light bulb was given in memory of my grandmother! My father installed it with his bare hands! He donated his time AND the use of his ladder to do it, too! My family's been members of this church for four generations! And if you think you're going to come in here and make a bunch of changes all of a sudden, vicar, you've got another think coming!

Letter from Westminster



On Wednesday 4th February, I chaired a Westminster Hall Debate in Parliament on the state of postal services in rural areas. I was delighted to secure this debate, because I have seen over the last few months just how severely my constituents have been impacted by utterly unacceptable delays. I made clear in Parliament that residents in rural areas like South Shropshire deserve access to reliable postal services which keep family and friends connected, businesses alive, and people informed. I told the Minister that physical letters do still matter and stated loud and clear that my constituents are rightly angry, in fact they are livid, about Royal Mail's prioritisation of parcels over letters. Concluding the debate, I addressed Royal Mail directly, making it known without any doubt that 'I am an exceptionally tenacious person that will not accept no as an answer... I will not stop until every letter is delivered on time.'

My team and I help constituents every day who are struggling to access the local health and social care services they need. The rurality of Shropshire makes the delivery of health and social care complex, bringing with it a number of unique challenges. In spite of this, I am committed to ensuring that we have access to the highest quality of care, not only matching the standard of other parts of the country but exceeding it wherever possible. I have launched a major review into local healthcare provision to find out more about what can be done to improve it. Residents can share their views on my website or on the paper survey which will be making its way around South Shropshire in the coming months. I look forward to learning what residents think is going well and what I can do to improve services.

Churches play a central role in my life and in the lives of many of my constituents. Back in December, I spoke of my disappointment at the Government's decision to halve the budget for church conservation projects and impose a cap on how much could be claimed. Combined with an earlier decision to extend the scheme for only twelve months, this stalled progress on a number of important projects. So, I am glad to see that the Government have now confirmed a new £92 million Places of Worship Renewal Fund. This comes as part of a £230 million investment to preserve heritage buildings across the country. Full details, including specific requirements and application guidance, are not yet clear, but I will be paying close attention to this to ensure that our churches have access to the ongoing financial support they need to underpin their long-term sustainability.

Finally, I have been campaigning against the scourge of potholes across the constituency since I was first elected as the Member of Parliament for South Shropshire in 2024, and I have no intention of stopping until some meaningful progress is made. I was shocked to see recent data on this issue which revealed that a quarter more drivers fell victim to potholes last summer compared to the summer before; this is hardly surprising considering the Government have held back a quarter of the funding designated for highways maintenance. So, in a renewed bid for resources, I have challenged Ministers to unlock the frozen funding which should have been going towards fixing potholes this whole time. I have also told Ministers to get with the times and start pushing forward with a preventative approach that stops potholes forming in the first place. Since Christmas, the number of potholes on South Shropshire's roads seems to have increased astronomically. I share the anger that my constituents have told me they are feeling, and I assure you that I will not stop until this situation is turned around.

Stuart Anderson MP Member of Parliament for South Shropshire

**Much Wenlock
Severn Hospice**



Spring Raffle - £1 per ticket

1st Prize – Superb Spring Hamper
Plus generous vouchers from local businesses
and many other prizes.

Tickets available from early March at Mrs P's,
Penny Farthing, The Salon, Wenlock Wardrobe,
other shops and cafes and from members of the
committee.

Tickets also for sale at the **cake stall** under
The Corn Exchange
on **Saturday 14th March**, 9.00am-1.00pm

and

under the Guildhall on **Saturday 21st March**,
with the raffle being drawn at midday.

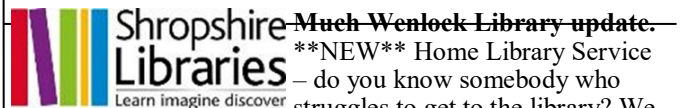
All welcome

Some future dates for your diary

Saturday May 30th - plant sale at
Church House, Barrow Street

Saturday July 4th – West End to Wenlock at
The Edge Arts Centre

More event dates to follow



~~Much Wenlock Library update.~~

****NEW** Home Library Service** – do you know somebody who struggles to get to the library? We now have a lovely team of volunteers who select and deliver books to people in their homes. We are really excited to be able to offer this fantastic service. Available for residents of both the town of Much Wenlock and the surrounding villages. Contact the library to find out more.

Rhyme Time will be running as usual at 2pm on the first Thursday each month. Come and join us for sing-along nursery rhymes, complete with all the actions! We have some lovely instruments and are happy to sing requests. Don't forget, we always have a wonderful range of books available, and if you don't see anything you like, we can order in books from the whole of the Shropshire Libraries catalogue. From fiction to non-fiction, large print to talking books, graphic novels to the latest health information – we really do have something for everyone.
Muchwenlock.library@shropshire.gov.uk
01952 728923

BOOKS!

Shropshire Libraries run a free mobile service? Mobile van covers 71 stops in the South East of the county. You can use your Shropshire library membership card or join the library service on board if you are not already a member - it's free! There is a wheelchair lift if you need help getting on board, just ask the driver. You can return loans from any Shropshire library. Visit our website www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries. If you click on "mobile libraries" it will show you your nearest stop and when the library will next be there. Or phone number 01743 255024.





LETTER FROM HEREFORD DIOCESE

As I write this we are fast approaching the fourth anniversary of the full scale Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 22nd. I have learnt through listening to the Ukrainian community who came here following that invasion that for many this war actually began in 2014 when Russia invaded the Crimea. Our communities have offered hospitality, love and care to those displaced by this act of war.

Wherever we look our news is constantly full of conflict and around the world there are armed conflicts and tensions which cause us all to stop and ask is there not a better way to resolve our differences. Whatever the politics and reasons for the Russian invasion what is clear is that despite peace negotiations this war is continuing to see people killed and injured on both sides. It is important we do not lose sight of the fact that in war there are no winners only losers.

There are many theological arguments on whether warfare can ever be just and how we appropriately remember those lost in war. For us as Christians the Bible has a lot to teach us about the root causes of warfare and bloodshed. We are also reminded in those same pages that we are called to serve one another and to care for those who suffer. The ultimate sacrifice will always be to give our lives away for others.

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13

As Christians we are called to build relationships that create peace and harmony and offer the reconciling power of Jesus’ love. We are to offer a better more appropriate way to live and it is through the empowering of the Holy Spirit that we are changed. It is the Holy Spirit that builds the fruit of the Kingdom within each of us, and this enables us to bear one another’s burdens and create communities of peace.

As Jesus prepared for his own death, he warns the disciples not to lose heart when they see strife in the world. As they stand outside the temple in Jerusalem, he warns them what is to happen in their lifetime. His words are fulfilled in 72AD when the Romans destroy the temple in Jerusalem, but they are also just as true today for us as for his disciples.

“Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.” Matthew 24:4-8

Jesus does not mean that we have to accept war with its horror and bloodshed but that we should respond to it appropriately. The New Testament teaches us that human selfishness, greed and intolerance lead to conflict. The church has a message of hope and the solution to these driving passions deep within humanity. If we are in any doubt, it is Jesus and his sacrifice for us that reconciles us to God and helps us offer peace in the world. We are called to fight evil and stand up for the Kingdom and its values; in doing so we help to build a better world. Our job is not to judge but to offer love and support. As a clergy person I have had the privilege of hearing the stories and experiences of grief and pain that war brings from those most impacted by it. I have always tried to bring God’s love, forgiveness and compassion to those who are tormented by memories of war. As the church we are called to care for those who suffer and to build a more peaceful world. In this period of Lent perhaps we should all pray for peace and reconciliation wherever there is conflict

*The Venerable Derek Chedzey
Archdeacon of Hereford*

PET HEALTH COLUMN

We all love our pet’s individual personalities but what if we notice a change in their behaviour and what does it mean? Changes in pets’ behaviour can come about due to emotional changes such as fear and anxiety, for example when a dog is attacked by another dog it may become fearful of meeting other dogs. But changes in behaviour can also happen due to medical problems. Unlike us animals cannot verbalise what they feel, but they can show us by how they interact with us and the environment.

For example, a human with a stomach-ache, can say where it hurts and that they feel nauseous. Whereas a dog may show us by refusing a food they previously liked, eat grass or even foreign objects such as stones or balls.

As vets, we are concerned that these changes in a pet’s behaviour may indicate pain. Signs that your dog that may be in discomfort include, pawing at their mouth or rubbing their face, withdrawing from social contact, not wanting to go out for walks, acting as if they are seeing things or not sleeping and waking at night. The signs can indicate a variety of conditions such as dental or arthritic pain.

Cats are more subtle with behaviour changes, but you may notice your cat is not sitting in places it used to, they may toilet away from the litter box and their coat may become matted as they groom less. These signs may suggest joint, stomach or bladder pain.

It is important if you notice any of these changes in your pet’s behaviour to seek assistance from your local veterinary surgeon. It is useful if you can video the new behaviour as this helps your vet to assess what the behaviour may relate to. Your vet will perform a thorough clinical examination, paying attention to areas that may be causing the behaviour change and diagnostic tests such as x-rays or ultrasound can be suggested to achieve a diagnosis.

Depending on the diagnosis, dental pain and arthritic pain being the most common pain diagnoses, there are many treatment options. For example, should the diagnosis be pain from arthritis, dietary changes can be recommended, along with pain relief for which there are now many options, including acupuncture which helps change the body’s response to chronic pain as well as relaxing the muscles.

If the behaviour has no underlying medical cause, a behaviour consult may be offered to see if the problem can be resolved by teaching a new behaviour or through behaviour modification medications.

At Severn Edge Vets, we are fully equipped to assess and diagnose your pet as well as offering acupuncture, dental and behavioural consultations.

News from Shropshire Cllr Chris Naylor
covering Church Preen, Kenley and Hughley

Please do get in touch if you need - or if you’d like me to set up a public meeting near you - I’m here to help Chris.Naylor@shropshire.gov.uk



A prayer as Lent continues

Let me hold fast to You, beautiful Lord, whom the angels themselves yearn to look upon. Wherever You go, I will follow You. If You pass through fire, I will not flinch, I fear no evil when You are with me. You carry my griefs, because You grieve for my sake. You passed through the narrow doorway from death to life, to make it wide enough for all to follow. Nothing can ever now separate me from Your love.

By Bernard of Clairvaux 1090 -1153

An Exciting Time at William Brookes School

By Ruth Shaw, Headteacher



It has been a truly exciting start to the year at William Brookes School, with a real sense of momentum and positivity across our community. I am delighted to share some of the highlights with readers of the Wenlock Herald and to offer a glimpse of the many opportunities our students are enjoying.

One of the most noticeable changes this year has been the introduction of our new PE-based Key Stage 3 curriculum. Designed around our vision of Healthy Body, Healthy Mind, this curriculum places physical activity, teamwork and wellbeing at its heart while developing confidence and resilience. The response from students has been overwhelmingly positive; engagement is high, attendance is strong, and students are clearly enjoying learning in a way that is active, purposeful and inclusive. It has been wonderful to see young people discovering new strengths and rediscovering their enjoyment of school.

At Key Stage 4, our Alternative Provision offer continues to grow and flourish. Courses in upholstery, construction and outdoor learning are enabling students to thrive through practical, hands-on learning pathways that build skills for both employment and further study. Students are showing pride in their work and increased motivation, and we are excited to be expanding this provision further next year. We are hopeful to introduce a City & Guilds Hair and Beauty course, opening up even more routes for young people to succeed.

The arts are also shining brightly at William Brookes. The Edge Theatre continues to go from strength to strength, with an increasing number of high-profile acts performing on our stage and helping to shine a spotlight on the school as a vibrant cultural hub for the town and beyond. This brings fantastic opportunities for our students to engage with live performance and see what is possible.

There is also a real buzz around school as we prepare for our first school musical in many years: Matilda Junior. The enthusiasm from students and staff has been infectious, with rehearsals full of energy and excitement. It promises to be a joyful celebration of talent and teamwork, and we hope to see many familiar faces there to be held in February.

Looking ahead, planning is already underway for our second whole-school Enrichment Week, taking place in March 2026. This ambitious programme will include residential trips, a visit to Munich, and a trip to Blists Hill to bring Year 10 students' Victorian texts vividly to life. Closer to home, students will enjoy celebrating World Pie Week, a picnic on Wenlock Edge, local hill walking, house and competitive sports, terrarium-making, study skills workshops, local history visits and much more. These experiences enrich learning far beyond the classroom and help students develop curiosity, confidence and a strong connection to their community.

Everything we do at William Brookes is underpinned by our values, inspired by the Olympic values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship. These values are lived daily by our students and staff, whether on the sports field, in lessons, on stage or in the wider community.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair. Thanks to the generosity of families, staff and local residents, we raised nearly £2,000, which will go directly towards student rewards and enriching experiences.

William Brookes School is a place full of ambition, creativity and care. It is a privilege to lead such a vibrant community, and I look forward to sharing more good news with you over the months ahead.

Carer Connect, Much Wenlock 'Memory Café' at Wenlock Pottery

It was the first Carer Connect session of 2026 this week and we enjoyed an afternoon with Shelagh and Mike at Wenlock Pottery. On what was a very wet and windy Tuesday afternoon, we were greeted by a warm open fire and afternoon tea was served in some of Mike's finest handthrown stoneware.

The theme was a simple 'Memory Café' – we explored memory bags from the Library and people brought their own photographs and books to share. Mike took us through the history of Wenlock Pottery, going back to a time when electrical appliances were sold without plugs...then coming back to the present day and how they have now diversified with accommodation, courses & entertainment.

Our session was supported by Julie Rose from the Alzheimers Society and as ever, our team of wonderful volunteers and The Friendly Bus who help some members get to us.

Carer Connect is a friendly, supportive group for unpaid carers and the people they care for. It's a chance to relax, meet others and connect with local support services and the community. Throughout the year we'll be enjoying live music and singing, gentle seated exercise, line dancing and movement sessions, performances from local community groups, a Summer away day and will finish the year with a festive finale in December.

We meet at Priory Hall in Much Wenlock on the first Tuesday of the month from 2pm until 4pm.

A full programme of dates and activities is available. If you would like more information about the Carer Connect sessions, please contact me on 01746 551137 or email me at joanne.weaver-jackson@nhs.net.

SHREWSBURY ABBEY THE CATHEDRAL THAT NEVER WAS

On 4th March 1926, a hundred years ago to the day, if not to the minute at the time of this talk, a vote to create an Anglican Diocese of Shrewsbury, with Shrewsbury Abbey becoming its cathedral, was defeated by a single vote in the House of Lords. It was alone amongst the six new dioceses proposed in the 1920's not to come to fruition.

Historian, The Rev Canon Dr William Price, Anglican priest, and sometime Lecturer in Church History at the University of Wales, Lampeter, will give an illustrated talk focussing on the various attempts to create an Anglican Diocese of Shrewsbury, dating back to Henry VIII himself at the Reformation, this attempt in 1926 and yet again as recently as 1988.

The talk promises to be fascinating for anyone interested in church or social history in Shropshire, across the Dioceses of Lichfield and Hereford, and for miles around.

Where: Shrewsbury Abbey

When: Wednesday 4th March at 6.30pm for drinks, talk at 7pm

Speaker: The Rev Canon Dr. William Price

Tickets: Free, but please book via Shrewsbury Abbey website, click on 'Events', then click on this event title.

A Child's Morning Prayer

Look down on me, a little one,
Whose life on earth is but begun:
Dear Saviour, smile on me.
Watch over me from day to day,
And when I work, or when I play,
Dear Saviour, smile on me.
Help me to do Thy holy will,
With lovely thoughts my mind to fill:
Dear Saviour, smile on me.

By J Kirby



MUCH WENLOCK PARISH CHURCH

Saturday Live

Concerts and Recitals



Saturday 7th March
Gershwin by Candlelight
Jim Wynn Quintet
8pm £16.00

Saturday 13th June
Mass in Blue by Will Todd
The Gallery Singers
7pm £tba

Saturday Lunchtime Organ Recitals

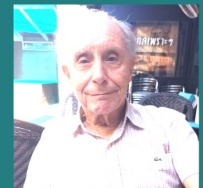
These are free concerts featuring the new Church Organ.
Each event starts at 12 noon and will last around 45 minutes. There will be a retiring collection.



Dr Andrew Padmore BEM
Saturday 25th April



Tony Pinell
Saturday 9th May



Revd David Price
Saturday 11th July



Wenlock Olympian Games Live Arts Festival



A chance for young people of all abilities
to perform in a supportive and friendly environment

Music competitions for Primary (Years 1 - 6) and Senior (Years 7-13)

- Singing Solo
- Singing Solo - Musical theatre
- Instrumental solos:
 - Novice All Instruments
 - Woodwind
 - Brass
 - Strings
 - Piano
 - Percussion
- Duets and Trios:
 - Singing
 - Singing - Musical Theatre
 - Instrumental
- Singing Group (Choir)
- Instrumental Group



Speech and Drama competitions for Primary and Secondary

- Choral speaking (primary)
- Verse Speaking
- Reading for Performance
- Creative Poetry Writing
for Performance
- Acting (solo)
- Acting (duologue)



Online entry forms, further details and contact details:
<https://wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/wenlock-olympian-society-arts/>

At the Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock,
Saturday 14th, Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd March 2026

CALLING ALL

BUDDING POETS!

Time to put on your creative caps and
enter the Live Arts Festival!

An opportunity to read your own poetry,
about your favourite things

Poetry writing for performance

Saturday 14th March 2026
The Edge Live Arts Centre



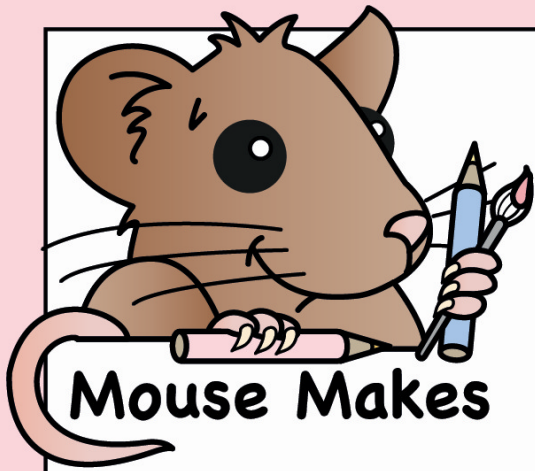
For more information, visit our website
<https://wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/wenlock-olympian-society-arts/>

What's on at Priory Hall? Our regular classes/events

Mon	Parkinson's Support Group 10.30 – 11.30 Move it or Lose it 13.45 - 14.45 Mat Pilates 18.30 – 19.30
Tues	Yoga 9.30 – 10.30 Much Wenlock Carer Group 14.00- 16.00 (first Tuesday in month) Slimming World 17.00 – 19.00
Wed	Pilates 9.00 -10.00 u3a Ukelele 14.30 -16.00 or u3a (2 nd Wednesday only) 14.00 – 16.00 Yoga 18.30 – 19.30 Or WI (3 rd Wednesday only) 19.00 – 21.00
Thurs	Wenlock Clickers 10.30 – 11.30

Priory Hall is available for hire for birthday parties,
christenings, weddings and wakes, meetings, table top
sales, coffee mornings and more....

For more information see our website:
www.muchwenlockprioryhall.co.uk OR for information about
the above classes/events message us via the Facebook
page for Priory Hall.

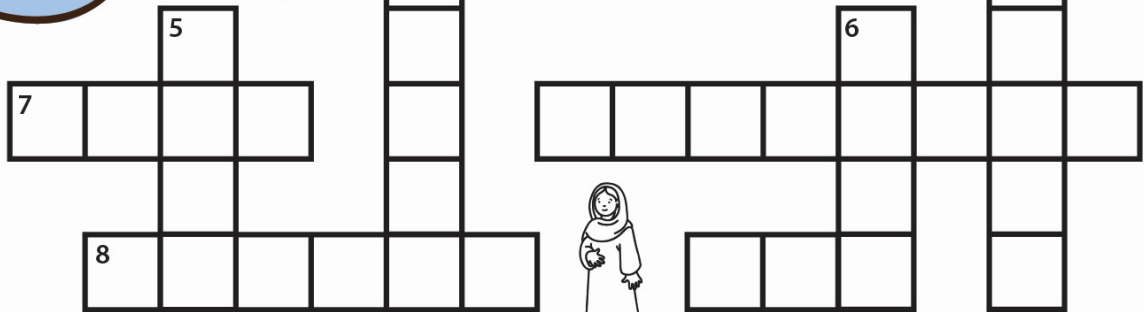
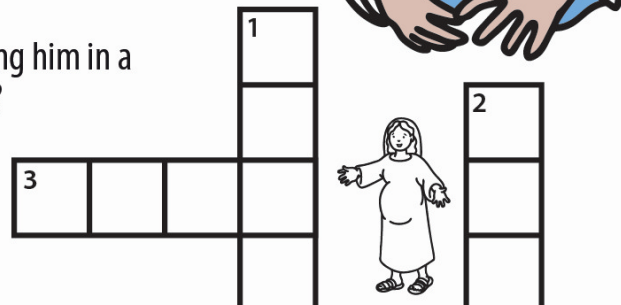


The Bible has many stories of mothers who had great faith in God. With their love, care, encouragement and prayers their children grew up to be great people of God.



Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 2:1-3 and 6:20



Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?
Genesis 17:19



Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?
1 Samuel 1:20

Across

3. **Obed's** mother

Matthew 1:5

4. **John's** mother

Luke 1:57-60

7. **Reuben's** mother

Genesis 29:32

8. **Joseph's** mother

Genesis 30:22-24

9. **Jesus'** mother

Acts 1:14

Down

1. **Boaz's** mother

Matthew 1:5

2. **Solomon's** mother

1 Kings 1:11

4. **Timothy's** mother

2 Timothy 1:5

5. **Ishmael's** mother

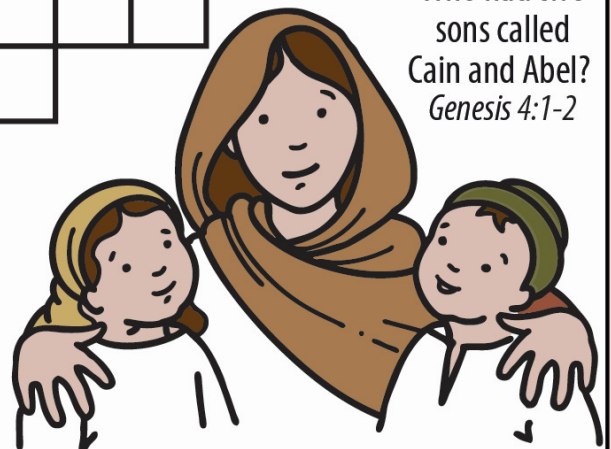
Genesis 16:15

6. **Jacob and Esau's** mother

Genesis 25:21-26



Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?
Genesis 4:1-2



WENLOCK HERALD

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to the running costs of the Herald:

MW Civic Society, Cound PCC, Pamela Wood, P & VA Kirby, Anne Ketchen

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Herald in appreciation of the magazine please send your donations direct to our bank

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1 Manor House Close, Much Wenlock. TF13 6LZ

Please send all editorial items to the Editor by email, no later than the date shown below.

The magazine is printed each month (except when there is a double issue:

August/September and December/January).

Advertisements: Requests, invoice queries or alterations to the editor@wenlockherald.co.uk

Distribution: Any queries concerning delivery or help with distribution, please contact Sally Cooper 01952 727341

Editor: Eirwen Kinna,
01522 884664

(Please leave a message if answer phone is on)
editor@wenlockherald.co.uk

The Editor reserves the right to monitor received items. The Editor and Management Committee wish to point out that they accept no

responsibility for the quality or reliability of Advertisers work or their products and editorial content is not necessarily the views of the Committee.



Calendar of Events

MARCH 2026

2nd Mon	The Edge Arts Centre (13)
3rd Tues	Brockton & District WI (9)
4th Wed	Coffee, Chat and Carpet Bowls (7) Pray and Share for the Climate (4) Talk - Shrewsbury Abbey - the Cathedral that Never Was (17)
5th Thurs	The Edge Arts Centre (13) Town Council Meeting (11)
6th Fri	Bingo Fun Night with Fish & Chips (7) The Edge Arts Centre (13) World Day of Prayer (8)
7th Sat	Holy Trinity's Coffee Morning (5) Gerswin by Candlelight (14) The Edge Arts Centre (13) Willow Obelisk & Plant Support Sale (9)
9th Mon	Priory Hall AGM (7) The Edge Arts Centre (13)
11th Wed	U3A AGM and Talk (10)
12th Thurs	Singing for Fun (8) The Edge Arts Centre (13) Cressage and District WI (6) Lady Forester Nursing Home Community Coffee Afternoon (6)
14th Sat	Cllr Dan Thomas's Surgery (14) Cressage and District WI (6) Live Arts Festival (18) Severn Hospice Support Cake Stall (15) Stanton Long Soup Lunch (7) Council Surgery (11/14)
15th Sun	Family Mothering Sunday Service (7)
16th Mon	The Edge Arts Centre (13)
18th Wed	Coffee, Chat and Carpet Bowls (7) MW Women's Institute (5)
19th Thurs	Butty Van (7) MW Neighbourhood Plan Referendum (5)
20th Fri	Flicks in the Sticks (10)
21st Sat	Harley Spring Fair (7) Severn Hospice Support (15)
21st/22nd	Live Arts Festival (18)
23rd Mon	The Edge Arts Centre (13)
26th Thurs	Mothers' Union (8)
27th Fri	The Edge Arts Centre (13)
28th Sat	First Responders Car Boot & Table Top Sale (6) Male Voice Choir (8)
29th Sun	Young Farmers Muck Lug (13)
31st Tues	The Edge Arts Centre (13)

FUTURE DATES

25th April	Saturday Lunchtime Organ Recitals Holy Trinity Church (18)
3rd May	Bluebell Woodland Walk (10)
3rd May	Bluebell Walk (10)
9th May	Saturday Lunchtime Organ Recitals Holy Trinity Church (18)
13th June	The Gallery Singers, Holy Trinity Church (18)
3rd July	MW Young Farmers 85th Year Celebration (13)
5th July	Garden Trail (10)
11th June	Saturday Lunchtime Organ Recitals Holy Trinity Church (18)

**WENLOCK FORESTER TRUST
GRANT APPLICATIONS**

*Improving life
for the elderly in the
Much Wenlock area*

Registered Charity No: 1140882

The Trust invites applications for grants with its Objectives requiring that these must be for the relief of financial hardship, sickness and poor health amongst elderly people in and around Much Wenlock but also within Shropshire, but not from elsewhere.

Applications for projects that might benefit a number of individuals will be welcomed by the Trustees.

Applications forms can be obtained from the Trust's website at

www.mwfctrust.com or email to mwfctrust@gmail.com or telephone the Trust's Chairman, Mark Laws 07703 114823

MUCH WENLOCK & CRESSAGE MEDICAL PRACTICE
www.muchwenlockandcressage.mp.co.uk
01952 726011 for both surgeries

Contacting the Practice:

For same day/urgent appointments or home visit requests, please ring the Practice from 8.30 am
For routine appointments, please ring after 9.00 am (to avoid congestion on the phone system for those patients needing a same day appointment)
General enquiries, please ring after 10.00 am
For test results please ring after 2.00 pm

Appointments Available:

Much Wenlock: Monday to Friday am/pm
Cressage: Monday to Thursday am/pm, Friday am
Same Day appointments are available at both sites Monday to Friday please ring from 8.30am.
Telephone consultations available each day at both sites.

Emergency Appointments: At the discretion of the duty doctor, a number of emergency appointments are available each afternoon at Much Wenlock.

Prescription Ordering:

Please order your repeat medication when you have 7 days of medication left and allow 5 working days for your request to be processed. You are able to order repeat medications online through the NHS App or via Patient Access. Paper requests can be dropped off in the box provided outside the Practice or at Much Wenlock Pharmacy; please use the right-hand side of your prescription form to indicate which medications you need.
Please note that our reception staff do not take medication requests over the telephone or via email.

Visits:

To request a visit for housebound and seriously ill patients, please contact the surgery before 10.00 am where possible.

Nurse Led Clinics:

Nurse led appointments for monitoring asthma, diabetes and COPD together with child immunisation and travel immunisation clinics are available.

Nurse Led Triage Service:

Telephone service run daily for advice, where possible, for advice on test results, immunisation queries and general health queries.

Much Wenlock and Cressage Compassionate Communities (CoCo)

We always need more Coco volunteers

Coco volunteers provide companionship and a willingness to help people in practical ways. This could be helping with paperwork, collecting prescriptions, shopping together, befriending, walking a dog or feeding a cat; anything that the person and their volunteer agree might be helpful. If you are able to support someone in the community, please contact the surgery for more information on 01952 726011.

Carer Connect

A community group dedicated to our unpaid carers; providing an opportunity to connect with other carers and local support services.

Meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month at Priory Hall - from 2pm until 4pm.

Carers can attend alone or with the person they care for.
Refreshments are provided.
Please contact Jo at the surgery for more information on 01952 726011.

Much Wenlock Ecclesiastical Charity

A Grant Making Charity Supporting the Community of Much Wenlock with faith, hope and love.

If you or your organisation would like to discuss to see if you meet the criteria or apply please write to:
The Rectory, New Road, Much Wenlock TF13 6EQ
Or Email:

mwec@muchwenlockchurch.co.uk

Application Forms can be downloaded from:

www.muchwenlockchurch.co.uk

West Mercia Women's Aid

24 hour Domestic Violence Helpline

0800 783 1359

Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

The Buzzard
Corvedale Community Mini-bus

Community Transport For The Corvedale Area

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ludlowtraveller@shrewsburydialaride.org.uk

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Group hire for non profit organisations based in the Corvedale area



DEFIBRILLATORS

are 'housed' at The Priory Hall; The Fire Station, Smithfield Road; The Leisure Centre, William Brookes School; Pinefields Community Room; High Street (under the Corn Exchange); Cricket Pavillion; Brockton CofE Primary School; Church Preen Village Hall. Easthope (phone box); Kenley School Room; Shipton Village Hall; Stanton Long (phone box); Presthope Grange Residential Park Home Site (Before No1 Red Admiral Way TF13 6FG); former Post Office building in Bourton.

CLOSING DATE for April edition is 12th March

ADVERTISING INDEX

(Numbers in brackets represent Advert page - not editorial page)

Accommodation, Food and Drink

Eaton Manor (4) Hungerford Farm (Pembrokeshire)
Touring Caravan & Motorhome Park (5) Tea on The
Square (6) The Gaskell Arms (11) Takeaway (2)

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Brian McAvoy(12) Olive Interiors Painting & Decorating
(4) Much Wenlock Roofing (3) DP Plastering (9) DWS
Property Services (9) James Corfield Contracting Ltd (13)
Rex Titley (13) SMB - Steve Mitton (2) TBC Building
Contractors (7) WMB Building (8)

Care and Education

Brockton Preschool (8) Church Preen Pre-School &
Primary School (3) Inspiring Maths Tutor - Bob Stirling (8)
Home Instead (7) Little Willows Nursery Much Wenlock
(6) Maths Tutor (5) New Chapters Fostercare (12)
Oran Stafford Tutoring Service (4)

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Ann's Household Cleaning Service (10) Oven Valeting
Service (4)

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Personal Computer Clinic (2)

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Copeland Electricals (3) E W Humphries (3)

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GL Landscaping (4) Groundhogs (9) Harley Nursery (11)
Joffrey Watson Tree Surgeon (2) Peter Marlow (12)
Shropshire Lawn Company (7) Stephen Gregory (13)
The Tree Man (10) Tracy Blackband Garden Designs (3)

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Dads & Lads (1) The Salon (5) Vivian's Mobile
Hairdressing (9)

Health and Therapy

Clare Darbyshire (Optician) (11) Karen Hearle Abbey
Chiropodist (1) Move it or Lose it (12) Pure Wellness (7)
Shropshire Foot Practice (4) The Body Clinic (3) Wenlock
Pharmacy (2) Wenlock Nero Physio (9)

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(8) JCJ Pest Control (6) Logs2Your Door (11) Logs for
Sale - The Tree Man (10) Richard Brassington -
Chimney Sweep (5) Rob's Maintenance Services (11)
S L Coldicott Roofing Contractor (3) Smallshaws Ridge
Fuels - Coal Merchant (1) Stanton Sweeps (7) Tele-Satt
Aerial (12)

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BRP Architecure Ltd (8) Clemmie Daborn Estate Agent (13)
Fodens Solicitors (2) Linguist (3) Independent Speech &
Language Therapist (12) Maws Gallery (Picture Framer) (4)
Northwood & Sons (Funeral Directors) (4) Starla Services
(13) Stephanie James Accountant (7) Stretton Masons (7)

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Trust) (5)

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Southwater Veterinary Group (2) Much Wenlock Dog
Walker (5)

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Alan Hall (5) Craig Mackender (3) Gosling Energy
Solutions (2) James Elwell-Perfect Plumbing (6) J Morris
Plumbing & Heating (4)

Public Halls and Meeting Places

Harley Village Hall (9) Methodist Church Hall (4) Much
Wenlock Priory Hall (3)

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Car Repairs & Servicing (8) Remap & Service Experts Ltd
(6) The Friendly Bus (10) Wenlock Motors (8)

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Dudley's Glass (9) The Real Bridgnorth Windows (1)
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CLOSING DATE for April edition is 12th March

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YOGA 6pm-7pm

Every Thursday - Booking essential

PILATES 9:30am-10:30am 10:40am-11:40am

Every Wednesday - Booking essential

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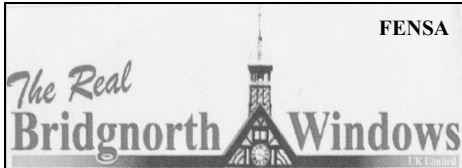
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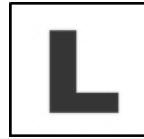
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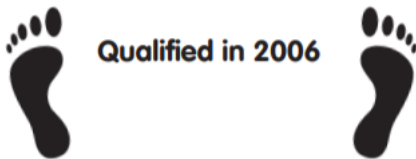


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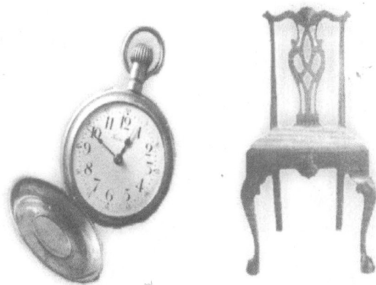
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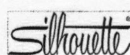
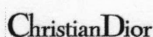
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Sunday Services in MARCH 2026

PLEASE NOTE: On some occasions, times and details of services may change after printing

Churches listed by neighbourhood	1st March Saint David's Day The Second Sunday in Lent	8 th March Third Sunday in Lent	15 th March Fourth Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday	22nd March Fifth Sunday in Lent (Passiontide begins)	29 th March Palm Sunday	
Berrington and Betton Strange	PLOUGH SERVICE AT ST PETERS COUND 10.30AM 	To Harley	To Cound	To Sheinton	To Much Wenlock	
Cound			11.00 E (TBC)			
Cressage		To Harley	To Cound	To Sheinton	To Much Wenlock	
Sheinton				11.00 E (CL)		
Harley		9.30 E (LH)	To Church Preen	4.30 EP (MCS)		
Kenley				6.00 EP (LH)		
Church Preen			9.30 MP (PT) For Mothering Sunday	11.00 MP (PT) For Mothering Sunday		
Hughley					9.30 E (MCS)	
Much Wenlock	8.00 BCP HC (DJ) 6.30 BCP EvS (MCS)	9.30 E (MCS)	9.30am All Age Communion 12 Noon Holy Baptism (MCS) 6.30 BCP EvS (LL)	To Bourton	10.30am (MCS) Palm Sunday Procession (Starting from Back Lane) Reading of the Passion & Holy Eucharist	
Bourton	PLOUGH SERVICE AT ST PETERS COUND 10.30AM 			11.00 E (MCS)		
Easthope				6.00 EP (LH)		
Shipton			11.00 E (CS)			
Stanton Long		9.30 E (CL)				10.00 Palm Sunday Walk to Shipton (LL)

MIDWEEK COMMUNION AT MUCH WENLOCK - 10.30AM WEDNESDAY

KEY TO OFFICIANTS:

MCS = Revd Preb M Stafford SR = Revd Sam Rigby LH = Revd Lisa Harper
 RB = Revd Canon Robert Bull DJ = Revd David Janes CL = Fr Charles Lawrence PT = Mr Paul Trenberth
 SC = Sheila Cox CS = Claire Sanders MS = Mark Sanders LL = Locally Led

KEY TO SERVICES:

AAW = All Age Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer E = Eucharist EvS = Choral Evensong
 EP = Evening Prayer HC = Holy Communion MP = Morning Prayer