

OCTOBER
2026

VOL 67 No 8

The Wenlock Herald

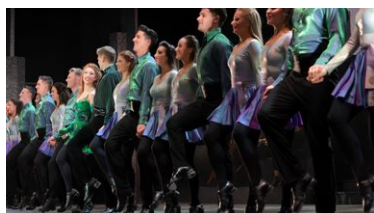
News of events in the Churches, Parishes and Communities
on and around Wenlock Edge.



Season of Mists, Mellow Fruitfulness and Harvest Festivals! See inside for details of all the Harvest Festival Services and Celebrations taking place in October.

The Edge Arts Centre

at William Brookes School, Much Wenlock TF13 6NB



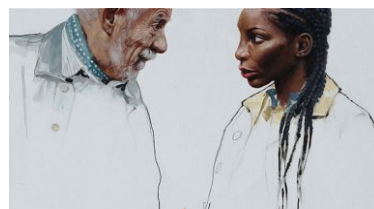
Riverdance (U)

Thu 1 Oct 7.30pm £12 (£10)



Glenrothan (12A)

Mon 5 Oct 7.30pm £6 (£5)



The Christophers (15)

Mon 12 Oct 7.30pm £6 (£5)



911 - 30th Anniversary Tour

Sat 17 Oct 7.30pm £30



Jimmy Nail

Mon 26 & Tue 27 Oct SOLD OUT



Krapp's Last Tape

Fri 2 Oct 7.30pm £18



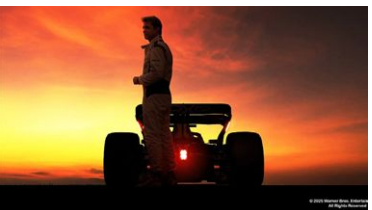
How Reggae Changed the World

Thu 8 Oct 7.30pm £15



Julius Caesar (12A)

Thu 15 Oct 7.30pm £6 (£5)



F1: The Movie (12A)

Mon 19 Oct 7.30pm £6 (£5)



Ultimate 70s Show

Fri 30 Oct 7.30pm £20



T'Pau

Sat 3 Oct 7.30pm £28



The Rosie Hood Band

Fri 9 Oct 7.30pm £15



Much Ado About Jazz

Fri 16 Oct 7.30pm £15



TADLOP - Disney's Frozen

Thu 22, Fri 23 & Sat 24 Oct £17 (£15)



Roy Walker

Sat 31 Oct 7.30pm £16

Box Office at **Penny-Farthing** 5 The Square, Much Wenlock TF13 6LX

Buy online at ticketsource.co.uk/edgeartscentre

Ticket line 0333 666 3366

Subscribe to our newsletter at edgeartscentre.com

manager@edgeartscentre.com | 01952 728911



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

Revd David Janes (01952 727393) Fr Charles Lawrence

Readers: Mr Paul Trenberth, The Old Rectory, Harley, SY5 6LP (510547)

Wenlock Herald Editor: Ms Diane Finlayson (07889 173254) editor@wenlockherald.co.uk

Wenlock Herald Treasurer: Mr Andrew Ramsay (07775 567654)

andrewr@muchwenlockchurch.co.uk

1 Manor House Close, Much Wenlock. TF13 6LZ

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 7 for QR code.



Web

Team: www.wenlockchurches.co.uk

Sites:

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.

4th October - Harvest Thanksgiving

1st November - All Saints 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.

SUNDAY LECTIONARY—YEAR A	4 th October Trinity 18	11 th October Trinity 19	18 th October Trinity 20	25 th October Bible Sunday Trinity 21	1 st November All Saints Day Last Sunday After Trinity
	First Reading: Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20	First Reading: Exodus 32.1-14	First Reading: Exodus 33.12-23	First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-4a[5-6], 8-12	First Reading: Revelation 7:9-end
	Psalms: 19*	Psalms: 106.1-6, 19-23*	Psalms: Psalm 99.1-9	Psalms: Psalm 90.1-6, 13-17*	Psalms: Psalm 90.1-6, 13-17*
	New Testament: Philippians 3.4b-14	New Testament: Philippians 4.1-9	New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10	New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8	New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8
	Gospel: Matthew 21.33-46	Gospel: Matthew 22.1-14	Gospel: Matthew 22.15-22	Gospel: Matthew 24.30-35	Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12
					

CLOSING DATE for November 2026 Edition is 12th October 2026



CLERGY LETTER

Dear Friends

May I begin my letter by thanking you all for all the support and interest you have shown concerning my recent Sabbatical. I wish to also publicly acknowledge my colleagues in the Wenlock Team for covering my ministerial duties during my absence, supported by an outstanding group of Church Officers and congregational members.



For those who followed my Camino on my Facebook page will have seen that I successfully completed my Camino and was duly awarded my Compostela at the Pilgrims Office in Santiago Compostela (Oficina de Acogida al Peregrino).

I had many preconceived ideas about what to expect along the way and this was very much realised when my friend Paul and I arrived in Northern Spain. Let's put it this way; when we got off the bus in A Coruna, it was teeming with rain which made me think of those words from My Fair Lady, "The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain".

Northern Galicia is known for its' mountains, rugged coastline and luscious green fields and we were not disappointed. Paul, being a landscape gardener, was taken by how every piece of open space is utilised to grow fruit and vegetables. Paul and I marvelled at the oranges and lemons growing on the trees along with



I was especially taken by the millstones and grain stores which feature highly in Galicia. Throughout the Camino Inglaish, the resilience of the farming community is evident, along with the immaculately-kept gardens and vegetable patches on the smallest pieces of ground in some places.

In our country, we tend to take our food for granted. In Galicia, it is the complete opposite. Grain stores called "Herreos" were traditionally built to store the grain and although not used in the same way today, the residents in communities throughout Galicia still erect them to honour the grain and their daily bread. Food is not taken for granted and nature, as well as creation, is duly respected.



I witnessed this first-hand when I encountered a woman who was attending to her vegetable patch. In that moment, I thought to myself I could learn a lot from her about the simple things in life, like not taking my daily bread, or indeed my everyday existence for granted.



As I reflect on my time in Galicia, especially in this Harvest Season, we do ask God to bless all men and women in their daily work, especially those in the farming community within The Wenlock Team Ministry. May we all employ the resources of nature to God's glory, just as the Galician people do, for own wellbeing and for the relief of those in need.

With my prayerful good wishes, Matthew Stafford (Team Rector)

FROM THE TEAM REGISTERS

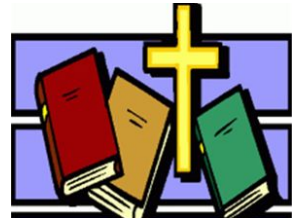
BAPTISM:

Grace Olive Williams (Shipton)
Frederick Charles Malpass (Shipton)

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

MARRIAGE:

Karl John Baker & Eloise May Tarpey (MW)
Keith Anthony Baggaley & Elizabeth Jane Nicholls (MW)
Seth Ellis & Georgia Hope Jean Goymer (Sheinton)
Bless, we, and walk beside them, through all their life together



FUNERAL:

Leonard "Len" George Thomas James (MW)
Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them



The Prayer Board Holy Trinity Church

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

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

All are welcome.

Beryl Bull 01952 727427

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



Wednesday 7th October 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 any more information please contact
Gill Davis, 01952 727524, gillvdavis@gmail.com.

LECTIONARY HOUR

Did you hear something in one of the readings in church that surprised you, challenged you, or you weren'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.



**Saturday
10th October
6.00pm**

MWHT Lady Chapel

Milburga the Unassuming Saint

**A Story
by Danielle Free**



The Methodist Church

**MUCH
WENLOCK**



Minister: Rev Nik Rogers 07732 263838

Ecumenical Praise

*A service uniting Christians of all traditions in our
town*

Every 2nd Sunday of the month at 6:30pm

OCTOBER 2026

REGULAR EVENTS:



MONDAYS

Prayer Requests at MWHT	5
Lectionary Hour	5
Beaver Scouts	11
Upright & Active	16
Melodic Ukulele	16
Badminton Club	17

TUESDAYS

Explorer Scouts	11
Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir	13
Age UK Friendship Group	16
U3A Art Group	16
Coffee Group*	16

WEDNESDAYS

Church Choir Rehearsals	10
Rainbows	11
Soft Tennis	17

THURSDAYS

Bible Study	7
Youth After School Drop-In **	7
Clickers IT Support	14
Housing Support Drop-In	16
U3A Art Group	16
Much Wenlock Bowling Club	17

FRIDAYS

Food Bank Collection	7
Brownies, Guides and Rangers*	11
Belly Dancing	16
U3A Craft & Chat	16

SATURDAYS

Much Wenlock Dog Walking	12
Cound & District Tennis Coaching	17
Wenlock Olympians Athletics Club	17

SUNDAYS

Church Services - Back Cover	
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***= Every other week **= Term Time**

Events at The Edge Arts Centre - See Inside Front Cover

Thu 1st	Probus Club	11
	Town Council Meeting	22
	Carer Connect	26
Fri 2nd	Race Evening - Priory Hall	14
Sat 3rd	MWHT Soup Lunch Team Coffee Morning	7
Tue 6th	Brockton & District WI	18
Wed 7th	Pray & Share for the Climate	5
	Harley Coffee, Chat & Carpet Bowls	19
	Old Cemetery Working Party	22
Thu 8th	Singing for Fun	12
Fri 9th	Soup Lunch in aid of Torch Trust	7
	Richie Ros - Irish Folk & Stories	18
10th-11th	Get a Word in Edgways Festival	13
Sat 10th	Milburga Story - in MWHT	5
	Alive with Wings folk Duo - Harley	19
	Farmers Butty Van	19
Sun 11th	Archbishop of Canterbury visits Hereford	8
	Ecumenical Praise - Methodist Church	5
	St Mary's Church Harley Harvest Festival	19
Mon 12th	Telford Stamp & Card Club	12
	Open Mic at the Pottery	13
Wed 14th	U3A - A Grim Almanac of Birmingham	12
Thu 15th	Mothers Union Meeting	11
	Cressage Gardening Club	18
	Iolo Williams Talk for Cuan Wildlife	20
Sat 17th	Jonathan Eyre Lunchtime Recital/Silent Film	9
Wed 21st	MW WI AGM	12
	Rushbury & Cardington WI	18
	Harley Coffee, Chat & Carpet Bowls	19
Fri 23rd	Flicks in the Sticks - Cound	18
Sat 24th	Severn Hospice Support Xmas Card Sale	11
	Made in shropshire Market	22
Tue 27th	Age UK - MW Friendship Group	12
Thu 29th	Closing date for Short Story Competition	17
Fri 30th	Tea at Wheatlands	12
	Michael Masser & Chaz Jankel at Harley	19
Sat 31st	Telford & Shrewsbury Park Run for Cancer	12

FUTURE EVENTS!

1st Nov	Bereavement Walk	8	22nd Nov	Christmas Lights Switch-On	22
6th Nov	Strange Meetings - Harley	18	29th Nov	Severn Hospice Support Line Dancing	17
7th Nov	MWHT Env't Team Coffee Morning	7	5th Dec	Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre	
9th Nov	Stoma Support Group	22	5th-13th Dec	Christmas Tree Festival	10
11th Nov	Remembrance Day Ceremony at WBS	25	17th-20th June 2027	Much Wenlock Festival	13
20th Nov	Wenlock Jazz Ensemble	14			

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!



Term Time Only!

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 9th October 2026

FROM: Midday till 1.30pm

ON OFFER: 3 soups, bread and cheese

COST: Donations to this month's chosen charity,

WHICH IS: Torch Trust

September's Soup Lunch raised £315.00 for Live Arts.



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:

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

We are registered with the Parish Giving Scheme which allows you to give to this Parish securely and safely online. The QR code can direct you to our parish page for setting up a Regular direct debit or a One Off Gift. Please click 'Regular Giving' to set up a monthly, quarterly, or annual Direct Debit or 'One-Off Gift' to make a single gift using your Debit, Credit Card or Apple/Google Pay wallet.



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

Much Wenlock Methodist Church Food Bank collection

Thank you to all who contributed to our Food bank collection every Friday morning. People of Much Wenlock are very generous and we hope to continue seeing you on **Friday morning between 9:30am and 11:30am** outside the Town Library.



WENLOCK HERALD DELIVERY

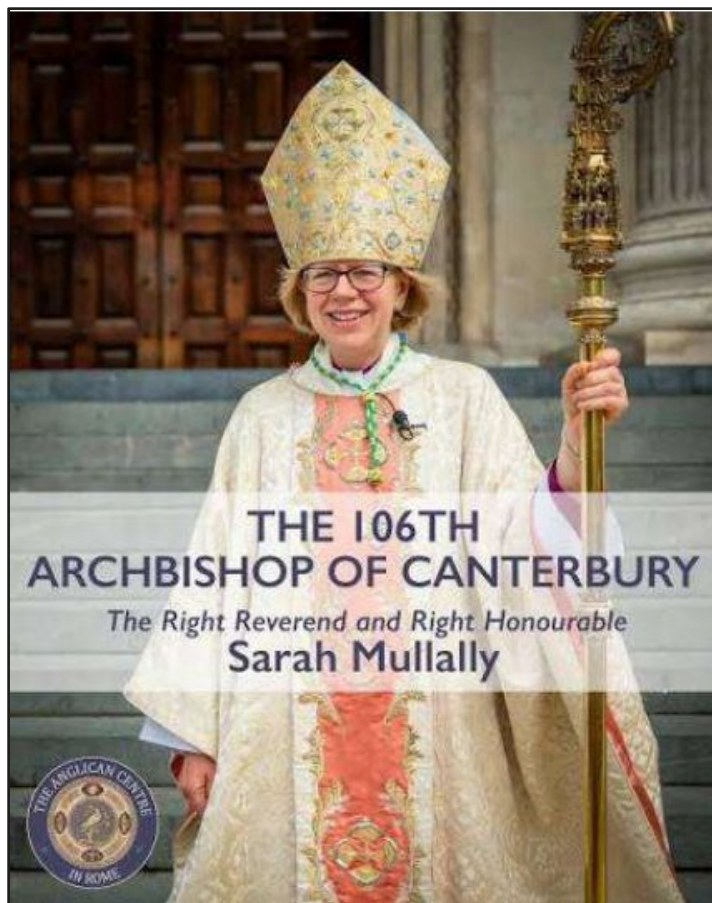
We have a wonderful group of volunteers who deliver the Herald in Wenlock and surrounding areas each month.



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 future, please contact Sally Cooper 07854 975829 or
sally-cooper@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you!



**THE 106TH
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY**
*The Right Reverend and Right Honourable
Sarah Mullally*

The Diocese of Hereford welcomes The Archbishop in October, where a special Evensong will take place in the Cathedral on **Sunday 11th October at 3.30pm.**

Greetings from Cysoing



Mayor Benjamin Dumortier of Cysoing sends greetings to Much Wenlock, following a visit by the Rector of Much Wenlock



Camino Accomplished

I am delighted to be able to confirm that Paul and I successfully completed the Camino and were awarded our Pilgrim Certificate on Friday 15th May.



Our sincere thanks to all those who prayed for us on route and financially supported us in raising £5000 for the work of AMMF The Cholangiocarcinoma Charity.

THE LONG ROAD OF GRIEF BEREAVEMENT WALK

THE
Wenlock
TEAM OF
PARISHES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Cruse
Bereavement
Support

AND



Invite you to spend time in the grounds of Wenlock Priory remembering your loved one on **Sunday 1st November 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm** Followed by a Bereavement Service in the Church at 4.00pm.

All are welcome to our Bereavement Walk in the Sacred Grounds of Wenlock Priory on the afternoon of Sunday 1st November. Our Annual Breavement Service will take place in Holy Trinity at 4.00pm, following the walk.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF HEREFORD

LETTER FROM HEREFORD DIOCESE

Anniversary - I wonder how many of you look up dates to see what happened on them? If you love history you already know that 87 years ago the Britain declared war on Nazi Germany for invading Poland. The Second World War ended in 1945 and peace was maintained in Europe despite the Cold War until Russia invaded Ukraine.

In many ways anniversary dates often remind us of significant events in history or things closer to home like weddings or birthdays and I think we find these easier to mark because we are involved and invested in them. In churches we have festivals which help remind ourselves of the Christian story. From a spiritual perspective, if you were to look for them there is almost a Saints day for every day of the year! We are about to enter a season of Harvest Festivals, All Souls tide and Remembrance Sunday, as human being we love to find reasons to celebrate anniversaries and significant dates.

"One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honour of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honour of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honour of the Lord and gives thanks to God." Romans 14:5-6

Paul writing to the church in Rome says to them that how we mark anniversaries or which anniversaries doesn't actually matter in God's kingdom but it is the attitude of the heart that matters. Paul didn't condemn the people for marking days or celebrating special anniversaries instead he reminds them that we need to honour God in all that we do.

"I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" Amos 5:21-24

In the book of Amos God tells the people through the prophet that he has no time for their religious feasts, festivals and anniversaries because of their attitude towards others. The religious people have forgotten that their faith in God starts and finishes with justice, righteousness and mercy. If we do not allow God to change our hearts and minds then our religious festivals and ceremonies are meaningless. It is the very thing that Jesus condemns the religious people of his time for doing and what Paul warns Timothy against.

"People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people." 2 Timothy 3:2-5

Our faith is primarily lived out everyday and whilst festivals and anniversaries help us remember the faith story when they become more important than our faith we are in danger of swapping human rules and regulations for spiritual realities.

The Venerable Derek Chedzey

Archdeacon of Hereford

MUCH WENLOCK PARISH CHURCH

Saturday Live

Concerts and Recitals



Andrew Storer ARCO
Saturday 19th September

Gift Day Organ Recital.
12 noon start - lasting
around 45 minutes.
(retiring collection)



Jonathan Eyre FRCO
Saturday 17th October

Lunchtime Recital
12 noon start - lasting around 45
minutes.
(retiring collection)

Silent Movie Night

A classic silent movie with
accompaniment on the organ by
Jonathan Eyre. 7pm Tickets
from Croft Design / Linden Tree

Jonathan will also be playing for the 9.30am Sung Eucharist
on Sunday 18th October.

Living with or affected by cancer?

You're not alone.

Free support for anyone
affected by cancer across
Southeast Shropshire.



Alex Jones
Cancer Care Coordinator
Here to support you.

As your Cancer Care Coordinator, I'm here to support **anyone affected by cancer**— whether you've recently been diagnosed, are undergoing treatment, are living beyond cancer, or you're supporting a loved one.

I can help you access:

- Information and guidance
- Local services and support
- Emotional support
- Practical advice and signposting

No referral needed - I'm here to help. ♥

Get in touch today ♥

Telephone
01746 551135

Email
alexjones@nhs.net

Working days
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

I'm here to listen, support
and help you find the right
support for you.



**SOUTH EAST
SHROPSHIRE
PCN**

Together, we can make sure
you don't have to face cancer alone. ♥

Much Wenlock Annual Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 5th – Sun 13th December 2026



We invite you to join a mix of schools, church groups, community groups, charities and local businesses to decorate and exhibit a tree to reflect either the amazing work you do in the Much Wenlock community, or our theme for this year - "PEACE".

The trees can be real, artificial or homemade and the more trees we have and the more imaginative they all are, the better.

There is no charge for exhibitors but we do ask that you provide your own tree (max. 6ft).

For the last few years, we have asked people to use only battery lights. This year, we may be able to provide cabling that will allow most of you with trees down each side of the church to use mains powered lights. That will make it easier for us to switch the lights on and off and it will mean the lights will be much brighter too. This will be confirmed nearer the time.

The church will be open for setting up the trees all day on Friday 4th December and we ask that you take them down on Monday 14th December.

The trees will mainly be exhibited on boards which we will provide and which rest on the top of pews. Trees should be free-standing and will therefore need a sturdy base. There is space to add a small amount of decoration around the base.

Please bring along a short description of the tree and the name or the organisation displaying it for our visitors. If you want to have some advertising leaflets at the base of your tree, that's fine. This year, all money we raise through the Festival will go to Anthony Nolan.

If you are planning to exhibit a tree or need any help to do so, please contact

Richard Hawthorn on:
ra.hawthorn@btinternet.com



Much Wenlock Parish Church Choir

Welcomes new members to all sections of the choir.

Junior choristers are welcome from the age of 7 and receive a good free musical education, learning to read music and the art of singing in a choir. They follow a national training scheme and are given the opportunity to take part in the Royal School of Church Music Summer School.

Some of our former junior choristers have gone on to study music at the Guildhall School of Music in London and The Royal Welsh College of Music and the Universities of Birmingham, Hull and Oxford

We also have vacancies for adults to join the senior choir, no previous experience necessary, but the ability to sing in tune is a distinct advantage!!

We rehearse on Wednesdays
Junior choir 7pm ~ 8pm
Senior choir 7.30pm ~ 9pm



For further details contact
Brendon Quinn
On 07973 428806
music@muchwenlockchurch.co.uk



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 Fox Hotel 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/



The Open Garden at Wenlock Abbey was our most-recent very well-supported and successful fundraiser. Everyone seemed to enjoy the events in the garden - the music, the honey, the demonstrations of Cluniac health and well-being practices and the lovely Tree of Hope. The herbs provided by Abbey Nursery also sold well and, as always, the refreshments in Priory Hall and the raffle were very popular. **We made a wonderful £2400!** With thanks to all who supported this event, to Gabrielle Drake and those at Wenlock Abbey and to the Cluniac Network for making this such an unusual, atmospheric and enjoyable event.

Our next event is the Annual Christmas Cards sale and Refreshments in Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock, on Saturday 24th October 10:00 - 12:00

For those who are unable to attend, there will be a chance to place an order for cards from 33 Barrow Street, TF13 6EP. Watch the window for details and sample packs.

A Future date for your Diary: Sun 29th November - 2.00-5.30pm - Line Dancing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock TF13 6NB Tickets on the door £7. Refreshments available.



COME AND JOIN US AT EXPLORERS SCOUTS



Are you aged–18 ready for something bigger, bolder, and more adventurous? Join Explorer Scouts and be part of a **EXPLORERS** 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

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

To find out more or to register interest, please contact: Loren at lor.reeve@gmail.com

MOTHERS' UNION

Christian Care for Families
Usually 2pm every 3rd Thursday of the month. We usually have a speaker. Visitors are always welcome. Venue will be announced in The Herald



In August, four of us went to Ludlow and joined a coach to take us to Colwall, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Mothers' Union. We took our banner and paraded it, together with 15 other banners from around the diocese. After the service, led by the vicar of Colwell, we enjoyed refreshments and fellowship before making the journey home.

On September 17th, our MU chaplain, Rev Penny Littlewood, gave us her talk on "Upstairs and Downstairs". A full report on this will be in the November Herald.

Thursday 15th October will see us meeting at 25 Swan Meadow, where we will be hearing more of our member's memories.

An important sentence which was missing from our last report is that **ANYONE** can become a member. The only criteria is that you must have been baptised.

For further information please contact one of the following.

LEADER:	Gill Reynolds	727620
SECRETARY:	Jean Gladstone	728520

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

Wednesday 14th October - 2pm
Karen Evans presents:

'A Grim Almanac of Birmingham'

Travel back to 19th century Birmingham and hear
about the daily hardships, bizarre accidents and
shocking crimes that shaped the lives of ordinary
Brummies!

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

U3a motto: Learn, Laugh & Live

Just search **'Much Wenlock u3a'** or contact

Alison Richards64@icloud.com
07474040646



WHEATLANDS
BARCHESTER HEALTHCARE

On the **last Friday of the month** we hold our tea,
do come and join us for any of these events. To find
out more, call the home on 01952 728497 and talk
with our Manager Lea-Ann Littler.



**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: @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

**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



Much Wenlock WI

Usually meet on **third
Wednesday of the month**
at The Priory Hall

Our next meeting is the **AGM at 7.00pm, on
Wednesday October 21st**, at the F
followed by a craft activity.
Visitors especially welcome.
Non-members £5.

Contact muchwenlockwi@gmail.com
01952 726748



Singing for Fun

Usually held on 2nd Thursday of the month

Thursday 8th October

2pm at the Methodist Church
and mid session refreshments are planned.

n.warrington993@btinternet.com

This is a dementia friendly activity

TELFORD STAMP and CARD CLUB

Telford Stamp and Card Club meets on the **second
Monday monthly** at the Belmont Hall, off the Tan
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.

WENLOCK CLICKERS

WHO we are ...

A voluntary group providing IT support for the elderly in Much Wenlock and its' surrounding areas



Patient, helpful and friendly volunteers!

Age is no barrier.

WHAT we do ...

Help with basic computer skills using tablets & mobile phones.

Teach things like emailing, messaging, using WhatsApp, sending Photos etc.

Cover topics you want to find out about e.g. Scam alerts, the Friendly Bus, shopping online, parking permits, using phone maps etc.

WHEN we meet ...

Thursday mornings in the Priory Hall 10.30 – 11.30 for Coffee and Cake (for a small donation of £1 towards hall hire)

HOW we work ...

One to one whenever possible.



If you would like to join us or find out more about us, either as a Clicker or as a Volunteer, please ring:

Julian Walker on 07887 502282 or

Di Theobalds on 07595 923506

or email: wenlockclickers@gmail.com

Wenlock Jazz Ensemble



A wonderful evening of sophisticated popular music
- from Gershwin to Laufey and more -
in an intimate setting

The Edge Arts Centre

William Brookes School, Much Wenlock TF13 6NB

Friday 20 November 7.30pm

Tickets £15 from Penny-Farthing, Much Wenlock

www.ticketsource.co.uk/edgeartscentre

Ticketline 0333 666 3366

RACE NIGHT

*Get ready for a great night
of thrills, fun and
friendly competition!*



Friday 2nd October 2026

At Priory Hall

Doors open 6.30pm. First race at 7pm



Cash
prizes



Tickets £10
includes Hot Supper
and Dessert



Licensed bar
available

*Whether you're in it to win it or just for fun,
it's a night not to be missed!*



Get your tickets now at Penny Farthing

By the Revd Gary Bowness.

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

I am afraid we will never agree about the appropriate length of sermons. Your 50-minute exposition on the theology of St Paul concerning women wearing hats in church is, I am sure, of real interest to you. But as your sermon slowly unfolds, I suspect it will prompt quite a different concern among your congregation. Have they set the oven timer to come on too early?

Whenever I even hint that a matter of theological importance may be about to appear in one of my sermons, an expression of benign incomprehension comes over my congregation. You know the look – you see it on golden Labradors whenever they try and work out what their owners are telling them.

There are certain sure signs that should warn you when you have preached for long enough. One is when members of the congregation reach for their prayer books to try to work out for the umpteenth time how the date for Easter is calculated. The organist turning on the blower when you say “and finally” is another.

Most members of the congregation will count the number of dead flies on the windowsills during your sermon. But when you can see members of the congregation counting the numbers in the congregation counting the numbers of dead flies, that is absolute proof that it is time to stop.

There has only been one occasion when I preached for longer than my standard eight minutes. Our former organist was in the habit of taking his dog for a walk during the sermon. I knew I had to carry on preaching until I heard the latch on the vestry door for the second time. That meant he was back, and ready to play the last hymn.

Unfortunately, one Sunday, his dog ran away. While he searched for it over every field in the parish, I spent the intervening two hours reading the greater part of Leviticus, discussing the food laws set forth in Deuteronomy, and arguing for a Deutero-Isaiah. I was headed for the Babylonian exile when we all heard the vestry door re-open.

After the Service, the congregation left looking as though they had just been rescued from a major shipwreck. And at the next church council meeting, we unanimously voted to buy our organist a stronger lead.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

CUAN WILDLIFE RESCUE



Autumn is now well and truly upon us, in our wildlife rescue hospital things have quietened down a little compared to the incredibly busy summer season. 2026 has proved to be our busiest summer yet; at the time of writing this article, the charity has taken in over 1,000 more admissions compared to the same time last year - so it is looking like it could possibly be our busiest year ever! This could be for many reasons, including the very hot summer and climate change, greater awareness and people contacting us more, call outs to larger creatures such as swans/geese/deer, as well as the hundreds of babies that have come through our doors - whether they are injured, sick or orphaned. Hoglet season for all the baby hedgehogs has continued throughout the summer, and often litter number two of the year will be in the autumn so no doubt baby hedgehogs will be keeping us busy for some time yet.

Our two charity shops, in High Street, Much Wenlock, and Shoplatch, Shrewsbury, have been very busy, proving to be a vital line of support for our work with wildlife. Thank you to all who donate goods to our shops - we are always very grateful to receive clean and usable items and clothing that we can resell to raise valuable funds. If you have called in recently, you will have noticed that our new Christmas card ranges are in stock - 10 fabulous new wildlife designs for you to choose from, priced at just £4.50 for a pack of 10. Our Cuan Calendar for 2027 is also in stock, featuring 12 gorgeous photographs that were the winners of our annual wildlife photography competition. These are priced at just £10 each.

We are very excited to be holding an event at **Ford Hall, Lilleshall National Sports Centre, on Thursday 15th October**, where the Welsh naturalist and famous TV and broadcast presenter, **Iolo Williams**, will be presenting a talk - **Iolo Williams, A Career in Conservation**. Tickets have sold very well indeed, with just 45 tickets remaining at the time of writing. This fundraiser event will be a great evening - if you would like tickets, please head to our website to book - cuanwildliferescue.org.uk and click on **Events** for full details.

Finally, we look forward to seeing you all at the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre. Please do come and say hello at our stall, where we will have mulled wine and mince pies as well as lots of lovely wildlife gifts for sale!

Any wildlife queries please telephone our wildlife rescue centre on 01952 728070

Any fundraising queries please email Tina at fundraisingcwr@gmail.com

Events at the Community Room Pinefields Close & High Causeway

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

Mondays:

Upright and Active with Wendy 10.15—11.15 (not Bank Holidays)
U3A Ukelele Group 2.00 – 3.30pm

Tuesdays:

Coffee Group—every other week 10.00—12.00
Age UK Friendship Group 10.30—12.30 last Tues of month
U3A Art Group weekly 2.00—4.00pm

Thursdays:

Housing Support Drop In 10.00 – 12.00
U3A Art Group (beginners) 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Fridays:

U3A Chat & Craft 10.00 – 12.00 1st & 3rd Fridays
Belly Dancing Class. 2:00 – 3:30pm



PINEFIELDS COMMUNITY ROOM

Over the last year or so, the Centre has been showing its' age a little, leading to concern that it might be closing. Enquiries to Star Housing and Age suggest that this is not the case, which is excellent news.

Age UK Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin have provided the following statement:

"Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin are independent of the national charity, Age UK. We are a local charity, but part of a federated structure, and therefore need to generate our own funding to be financial sustainable. We are pleased to confirm that we continue to use Pinefields Community Centre for our monthly Friendship Group.

The group welcomes people aged 60 and over to join us for a sociable morning of chat, companionship and a hot beverage. Sessions take place on the last Tuesday of every month, from 10.30am until noon, providing a relaxed and supportive opportunity to meet others, make new connections and enjoy some friendly company. Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to continuing to bring people together in the Much Wenlock community."

Some of the users of the Centre, supported by Counsellor Dan Thomas, have been in touch with Star Housing, who have also provided a statement:

"I [Star Representative] can reassure you that there are currently no plans to close the

community room at Pinefields. The recent activity that residents may have noticed relates to a general tidy up and review of the room by our team, rather than any proposal to withdraw the facility.

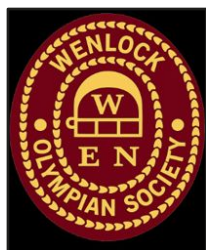
As part of this work, we have been clearing cupboards, removing unnecessary items and asking residents to collect any furniture or belongings that have been donated over time. This is to ensure the room remains safe, accessible and compliant with fire safety requirements, with only furniture that we have provided and assessed for suitability remaining in use.

We recognise the importance of the Community Room to Pinefields residents and the wider Much Wenlock community. It remains a valued asset and we know it has been well used by a number of local groups over the years. To support its' ongoing use, I [Star representative] have also asked the Independent Housing Management "I can reassure you that there are currently no plans to close the community room at Pinefields. The recent activity that residents may have noticed relates to a general tidy up and review of the room by our team, rather than any proposal to withdraw the facility.

As part of this work, we have been clearing cupboards, removing unnecessary items and asking residents to collect any furniture or belongings that have been donated over time. This is to ensure the room remains safe, accessible and compliant with fire safety requirements, with only furniture that we have provided and assessed for suitability remaining in use.

We recognise the importance of the Community Room to Pinefields residents and the wider Much Wenlock community. It remains a valued asset and we know it has been well used by a number of local groups over the years. To support its' ongoing use, I (Star Housing Representative) have also asked the Independent Housing Management Team to strengthen our room booking arrangements by ensuring booking forms are completed consistently and that charges are applied where appropriate and in line with our policy.

I hope this helps to dispel any concerns."



Wenlock Olympian Society

The 2026 Wenlock Olympian Summer Games

were a great success, with twelve events taking place in and around Much Wenlock in early July. These included archery, badminton, bowls (doubles and singles), Riding for the Disabled, fencing, hockey, netball, pickleball, the 10K road race, rowing and senior and junior tennis. At the heart of the Games was the athletics competition, which returned after a one-year hiatus following the refurbishment of the track and the installation of a new discus cage. We were pleased to welcome Broseley Tennis Club to our group of partners to stage the senior tennis tournament. Bowbrook Archers, Ironbridge Rowing Club, Wenlock Fencing Club, the Cavalier Centre, Wenlock Olympian Athletics Club and Much Wenlock Bowls Club also helped to organise events. None of this would have been possible without the many volunteers who gave their time to keep this historic tradition going for another year.

Short Story Competition. This biennial competition returns and is now open for stories of no more than 2,500 words. The three winning authors will receive gold, silver and bronze Wenlock Olympian Society medals, together with prizes of £150, £50 and £25 respectively. The competition will be judged by Kate Innes, a novelist, poet and children's writer whose published work includes The Arrowsmith Trilogy and Greencoats. Entries close at midnight on Thursday 29 October 2026. Full terms and conditions and online entry are available here:

<https://wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/wenlock-olympian-society-arts/creative-short-story/>

Join the Society. We are currently seeking active help across several specific areas of the Society's work, and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in contributing their time and experience. To become an active member of the Wenlock Olympian Society, please email our membership secretary, Melinda Laws, at membership@wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk.



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

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



Wenlock Olympians Athletics Club

Do you enjoy running, jumping and throwing?

At The Leisure Centre. **Saturdays:**

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



**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

First Night
FREE

Visitors fee just £5* Over 18's only

*3 visits maximum

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



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



FLICKS IN THE STICKS



At Cound Guildhall

Friday 23rd OCTOBER—7.30 pm

F1 - The Movie

Brad Pitt stars as Sonny Hayes, the "greatest F1 driver that never was", who after a major accident 30 years ago, attempts to help an ex-team mate to revive his struggling F1 company.

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.

Coming soon:

Friday 20th November – The Choral

Harley Village Hall



Friday 6th November 2026 at 7pm



A two-course meal (with vegetarian option)

followed by

Strange Meetings

a performance by Shaun Higgins

A powerful one-man show brings to life the final 15 months of Oswestry soldier and poet, Wilfred Owen, written in his own words. The first-person perspective is alive with language and wry humour, bringing to life his thoughts and inspiration.

Tickets £16 per person (including the meal)

to be booked by 30th October 2026.

To book please contact jojackson589@gmail.com

Or Tel. Jo 07917 670653

Pre-payment by BACS, if possible, please

(Harley Village Hall 08-92-99 67283860)

Bar available

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 interested in joining or even road testing us please call or text our President:

Carole Martin 07967 715350



CRESSAGE & DISTRICT WI

Cressage Village Hall

Details of all meetings from Ruth 01952 510546

3rd Thursday every month at Cressage Village Hall at 7.30pm

Cressage
GARDENING CLUB

Brockton and District WI

Brocktonanddistrictwi@wi-shropshire.co.uk

We meet on the **first Tuesday of every month** at 7.30 in *Shipton Village Hall*.



We met on September 1st and enjoyed a musical evening with Bev and Ray Langton, who brought along some of their diverse and interesting squeezeboxes.

In August, we had a delightful outing to the Petal Passion Flower Farm in Monkhopton. Katie introduced us to the farm with a highly informative talk and then we enjoyed a tour round the beautiful flowers.

Our next meeting is in Shipton Village Hall at **7.30pm on October 6th**, when we will be hearing about Windmill Hill and the Old Cemetery.

New members are always very welcome and the first two meetings are free.

At Shipton Village Hall - in aid of Hall Funds



Richie Ros

One voice. One guitar.
One unforgettable evening.

Irish Folk & Stories

Friday 9th October 7:30pm

Ticket price: £12.50

Contacts for tickets:

Denise: 07870 899778

Kate: 07824 444573

HARLEY VILLAGE HALL (with Arts Alive)
are delighted and proud to present
MICHAEL MESSER & CHAZ JANKEL
Friday 30th October 2026 at 7.30pm

Supremo slide guitarist & songwriter Michael Messer (favourite of Johnny Cash) and multi-instrumentalist songwriter Chaz Jankel (Ian Dury & the Blockheads) wear decades of combined musical experience lightly, as their music displays a fresh approach to their foundational influences in blues, world funk, new wave and rock.

Not to be missed!

Tickets £12 (Card or bank transfer only please)
 (Harley Village Hall 08-92-99 67283860)
Phone Tom Dickins 07890 331985 to book
Or online artsalive.co.uk
 Refreshments available



Harley Village Hall invites you to an evening of folk music performed by

"ALIVE WITH WINGS"

Jo Jukes & Rick Wilson are a creative musical & artistic duo blending poetic storytelling, natural-world themes & eclectic acoustic instrumentation.

Saturday 10th October at 7.30pm

£13 per person

Bar & Hot Dogs available

TICKETS TO BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE FROM:

Annabel: arjf70@gmail.com
 07956 855243

harleyvillagehall.com - SY5 6LP



HARLEY NEWS!

Coffee, Chat and Carpet bowls!
Wednesdays 7th and 21st October 2026



**10.30am at...
 HARLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**All are most welcome... so do come along for coffee (or tea), biscuits, carpet bowls and a chat.
 See you there!**

Farmer's Butty Van

Our normal third Thursday of the month Butty Van has been changed for October 2026:



Saturday 10th October

9:00 - 11:00 - not our normal time!

At Felhampton Farm, Affcott SY6 6RL

By kind invitation of Keith Goodwins and Family

We are celebrating the start of our 10th year as a Farmers Butty Van and our Principal Sponsors will be present. The Rt Revd. Bishop Richard Jackson, Bishop of Hereford and the Revd. Dr Rachel Deigh, Chair of the West Midlands Methodist District, supported by our loyal friends from the farming community.

Thank you for your usual support of our Original Farmers Butty Van..



**St Mary's Church Harley
 Harvest Festival on
 Sunday 11th
 October 2026 at 11am**

**Followed by lunch in the Village Hall
 Tickets £16**

Please bring donations of non-perishable food items to the church. These will be given to Bridgnorth Foodbank.

As usual, the Offertory will also be given to a local charity.

Please contact Anne Sharpe on 01952 510556 by Monday 5th October for your lunch bookings and to advise her of any dietary requirements.

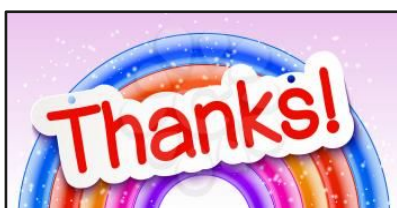


LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT VENUE FOR YOUR EVENT?

Family Gatherings, Reunions
Anniversaries, Special Birthdays
Weddings, Retreats, Meetings

- Large venue hire
- Accessible
- Family & dog friendly
- 8 luxury holiday cottages
- Pool, games barn & soft play
- Wellness treatments

All at Eaton Manor Country Estate
20 minutes from Much Wenlock



A SHOW NOT TO BE MISSED!

CUAN WILDLIFE RESCUE PRESENTS




Iolo Williams
A Career In Conservation



Iolo has been a familiar face on our television screens for over 20 years.

In this stage show Iolo will recount tales from his childhood as well as his working career.

From Red Kites to Mountain Gorillas & Hen Harriers to Grizzly Bears, this is a show not to be missed!

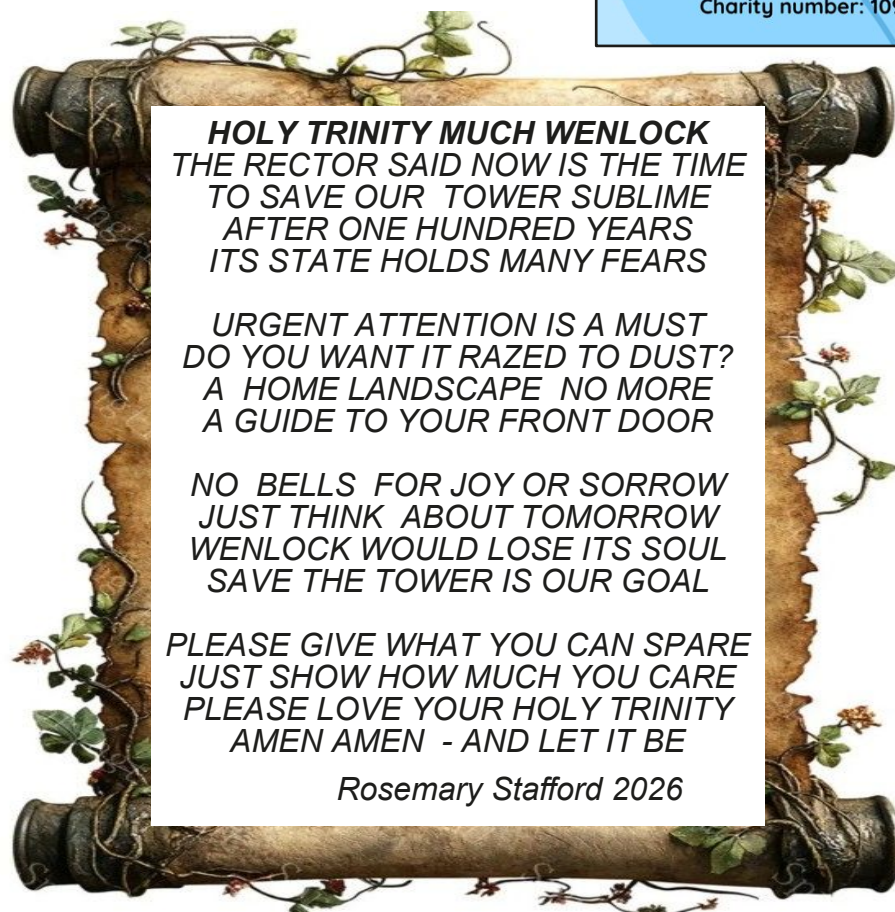
THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2026 - 7:30PM

FORD HALL, LILLESALL NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE, NEWPORT, SHROPSHIRE, TF10 9AT

TICKETS ONLY £20

All proceeds going to Cuan Wildlife Rescue

Charity number: 1096812 www.cuanwildliferescue.org.uk



HOLY TRINITY MUCH WENLOCK
THE RECTOR SAID NOW IS THE TIME
TO SAVE OUR TOWER SUBLIME
AFTER ONE HUNDRED YEARS
ITS STATE HOLDS MANY FEARS

URGENT ATTENTION IS A MUST
DO YOU WANT IT RAZED TO DUST?
A HOME LANDSCAPE NO MORE
A GUIDE TO YOUR FRONT DOOR

NO BELLS FOR JOY OR SORROW
JUST THINK ABOUT TOMORROW
WENLOCK WOULD LOSE ITS SOUL
SAVE THE TOWER IS OUR GOAL

PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN SPARE
JUST SHOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE
PLEASE LOVE YOUR HOLY TRINITY
AMEN AMEN - AND LET IT BE

Rosemary Stafford 2026



HOLY TRINITY, MUCH WENLOCK

OUR TOWER NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!!!



In 1930 the Spire of Holy Trinity was taken down as it was causing major structural damage to the 14th Century Tower.

After almost 100 years the tower is in need of urgent structural attention once more.

The cost of which has been estimated at £225,000.

Please scan the bar code if you wish to make a donation, large or small to our **'Save the Tower Appeal'**. If you are a UK Tax Payer please remember to click the Gift Aid Option.

Registered Charity Number: 1142708

www.muchwenlockchurch.co.uk



Find out more:

www.heritageopendays.org.uk



 /heritageopendays
 @heritageopendays
 @heritageopendays

In partnership with
 **National Trust**



TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

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

Homer Defibrillator

We are delighted to announce that Homer now has its own defibrillator, located in the garage of Stonemead, Vineyard Road, Homer. The owners of Stonemead kindly offered to host the defibrillator, as Homer has no public buildings. The Council would like to publicly thank Helen and Paul Shipton for allowing the defibrillator to be installed at their property. The installation was funded by the Town Council, with a contribution of £300 from the AED Donate Community Fund. The defibrillator is visible from the road and is accessible to the public at all times in the event of an emergency.

Guildhall Project

The Town Council has been given approval by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to submit a full application for funding for the Guildhall. The Expression of Interest has been positively received and Councillors will now work with the consultancy Greenwood Projects to prepare another, full grant application for funding to restore the building and make it fit for the future.

Guildhall Exhibition

The October exhibition is recycled and repurposed mixed media pieces and jewellery by Nikki Guy. The Guildhall is open to the public Friday to Monday, 11am to 4pm, with free entry. Please note that the Guildhall closes to the public at the end of October. The building will be open for one day on Saturday, 5th December, for the Christmas Fayre.

Queen Street Toilets Redecorated

The public toilets at Queen Street have been given a facelift! Both the Ladies and the Gents facilities have been decorated inside and out to make the premises brighter and more pleasant to visit. Councillors are aware that these toilets, which are free to use, are valued by locals and visitors to the town. We are grateful for the help of residents in reporting any problems with the facilities in terms of cleaning, maintenance or vandalism.

Change to Cashpoint ATM in the High Street

The operator of the cashpoint facility located at 10, High Street, Much Wenlock has changed from Barclays Bank to Cashzone, a trading name of the new owners, Cardtronics UK Ltd. The appearance of the machine has changed but the ATM continues to be free to use. Please note that the Town Council has no involvement in the operation of the machine and cannot resolve problems with its use. Any issues can be reported directly to Cashzone on the number shown on the machine: **0800 028 6923**.

Old Cemetery Working Party

There will be a volunteer working party on the old part of the cemetery on Bridgnorth Road on Wednesday, 7th October at 10:00am until lunchtime. Do come along if you have a couple of hours to spare and would like to lend a hand. Bring gardening gloves and stout footwear.

Storytelling Festival and Book Fair (See Page 13)

The annual Get A Word in Edgeways storytelling Festival will be held between Friday 9th and Sunday 11th October, in Much Wenlock. New for this year is a Book Fair, to be held in the High Street on Saturday 10th October, with book signings and launches, as well as entertainment. Please support the event and come along to stock up on good reads for those long winter evenings. More information on the festival can be found on the website: <https://gawiefest.co.uk>.

Made in Shropshire Market

The last Made in Shropshire Market of this year will be held in the High Street on Saturday 24th October, providing a good opportunity for some early Christmas shopping. A road closure will be in place between 6:30am and 4:30pm.

Christmas Lights Switch-On

The town's Christmas lights will be switched on this year on

MUCH WENLOCK & CRESSAGE Practice News

We will be holding our Flu & Covid clinics at William Brookes School on:

Saturday 10th October 2026

Saturday 17th October 2026

Saturday 24th October 2026



If you are eligible, please book your appointment as soon as possible as clinics are filling up fast

Congratulations to Dr Willdig who competed in the Wenlock Olympian Games and was the first female runner from Much Wenlock, receiving the Jimmy Moore Memorial Plate. Dr Willdig is seen here also wearing the medals she won in two of the race categories.



National GP Survey Results:

To view the latest National GP Survey results for Much Wenlock & Cressage Medical Practice, please visit: <https://gp-patient.co.uk>

Contact Details:

Please ensure your contact details held by the Practice are up to date, including any changes in telephone number.

Stoma Support Group:

The second meeting of the Stoma Support Group will be held on **Monday 9th November 2026**. If you are interested in attending, please let the Practice know and we will forward your details on to the group organiser.

the evening of Thursday, 26th November, with entertainment and stalls in the town centre. More details to follow.

Town Council Meetings

Forthcoming full Council meetings will be held at 7:00pm on Thursday, 1st October and Thursday, 5th November 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, 10th October 2026 between 10:30am 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.

Contact the Town Council

The Town Council is upstairs in the Corn Exchange at 62, High Street, Much Wenlock. The office is open for visits from members of the public between 9:00am and 12:00 Noon, Monday to Thursday. Staff are also available by telephone and email between 9:00am and 4:30pm, Monday to Thursday.

Details at top of page.

The office is closed on Fridays.

FRIENDS OF THE OLD CEMETERY



Ah, autumn is here at last! Thank goodness. I am ready for it and so are the trees, the plants, the birds, insects, animals and the very ground itself. The intensely dry, hot summer without rain felt unnatural. I admit I am always ready for autumn, usually shortly after the first harvest at Lammas, but this year I was wishing for it much sooner. Now after some modest refreshing rain, there is green returning and the cooler evenings and beginning of misty, dew dropped mornings is very welcome.

Up in the Old Cemetery today, at the beginning of September, the first thing I can see are bright red berries on the climbing honeysuckle by the entrance from the new cemetery behind. To my left the two malus trees are in fruit with tiny, jewelled crab apples, one with distinctive dark purplish-bronze leaves with small pinkish-purple fruits, the other with green leaves and dark purple-red fruits resembling miniature apples as if scaled down in size for the fairies. These trees are great for wildlife, the blossom providing nectar for insects in spring and fruits perfect for birds now as we head into autumn. Next to them is an ornamental cherry plum (*Prunus cerasifera*) bearing spherical fruits that look more like large cherries than small plums. Another great food for birds and insects. It reminds me of another fruiting tree at the bottom of the Windmill Hill that was always my favourite, a Mirabelle plum with small, sweet yellow summer plums great for jam making. This tree up in the Old Cemetery is part of the same family and also known as a myrobalan plum but I've never tried to eat these and thought of them as ornamental. The stones, like most fruit stones contain amygdalin which your body can turn into cyanide if crushed or chewed and the fruits are small, sour to taste and fiddly to prepare so I'm happy to let the birds feast instead. Interestingly though, cherry stones have lots of other surprising uses. Because of their dense composition they can absorb and release warmth or cold, a quality that makes them perfect to microwave or freeze in therapeutic pillows to ease stiffness and cramps. This ability to retain heat and the fact that they burn slowly, producing a lot of heat without too much smoke also made them a useful and efficient fuel for fires and for cooking on in the Middle Ages. How very environmental and ecological! Later in the 18th and 19th centuries, the stones became a fashionable material for making jewellery with the stones carved and polished up to shine. The next time I eat a bag of cherries I may clean the stones and have a go at crafting with them.

Back to the Old Cemetery, the grass has just been cut, blackberries and rosehips are having a bumper crop this year, produced in excess as a survival strategy and the now well-established rowans lining the central path for the Queens Green Canopy planting are laden with berries. I love rowans. They are such beautiful trees and the red, orange and yellow berries we have up here are stunning. I'm also a fan of hawthorns despite their spikiness. Again, these are such a giving trees, blossom for nectar, berries for winter food and a safe place for nesting birds because of those thorns. So, thank you autumn for arriving and for all the berries.

One more beauty to mention today is the young ginkgo tree with its bright green fan shaped leaves that are just beginning

WENLOCK HERALD

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

This month:

- **F MICKLETHWAITE**
- **PAMELA HUNTER**



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

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to show a yellowy autumn tinge of colour change. These are an incredibly old species with fossils similar to these living species dating back to the Middle Jurassic period and evidence of 'Ginkgoales' first appearing over 290 million years ago. No wonder they are also known as a 'living fossil'. Their resilience, longevity and ability to survive harsh environments, disease, fires and even the Hiroshima atomic bomb means that they are often planted in polluted cities where they can improve the air quality as well as being ornamental. But they have many other uses too, the leaves, seeds and bark have been used in Traditional Chinese Medicine, the wood for furniture making, the seeds for natural yellow dyes and the nuts as a Japanese snack. This tree is just a youngster and should hopefully outlive many generations of future Wenlockians!

Jo Jukes



Letter from Westminster

I am truly excited to launch my latest local campaign.

Having already taken views on our high streets, health and social care services, and pubs, now I want to celebrate the individuals who quietly make a positive difference in our community. My 'South Shropshire Hero' competition will be running until the end of the year and I want as many constituents as possible to get involved. Categories for nominations include assisting with food banks or community kitchens, charity fundraising, helping neighbours, litter picking, running sports or youth clubs and many more. It has been fantastic to see thousands of residents taking part in my previous surveys, so I look forward to reading all the nominations in the months ahead. You can nominate your local hero right now on my website.

One issue which comes up time and time again in conversations with constituents is our local public transport. So, I have written directly to the Prime Minister urging him not to leave rural communities behind in any future public transport reforms. As an area with many elderly residents, buses in particular are essential in South Shropshire. I regularly speak with constituents who are unable to drive and therefore depend on buses to connect with friends and family, do their shopping, and attend appointments. Many younger residents also rely on buses to get to schools, colleges, apprenticeships, and jobs.

However, the fact of the matter is that existing services are scarce, unreliable, and expensive. Shropshire Council's core funding to support and improve the local bus network has fallen from £3.07 million to £2.86 million – a direct cut of £210,000. Meanwhile, the national conversation (not least from the Prime Minister himself) has been utterly dominated by urban areas. I firmly believe that buses are more important in rural areas than anywhere else, as there are often no alternative means of getting around. So, going forward, I will be ensuring the new Prime Minister does not leave rural public transport behind.

Finally, it is an absolute honour to have been appointed by Kemi Badenoch as the Shadow Minister of State for Defence. The world is in its most precarious situation since the end of the Second World War, so the UK must be ready today to face the wars of tomorrow. Ministers must prepare us for conflict, which requires a whole-of-society approach in partnership with industry and backed by firm spending commitments. I look forward to working closely with Shadow Defence Secretary James Cartlidge and the team in holding the Government to account on such an important issue.

As a Shadow Minister, I will be responsible for holding Labour to account on a whole host of defence matters, raising questions and leading debates in Parliament. I will also be actively reviewing the readiness of our nation's armed forces and helping to shape Conservative Party policy in the area of defence. In this role, I will be applying over three decades of experience working in defence and security around the world, from serving as a rifleman in the Royal Green Jackets to recently completing the Royal College of Defence Studies' Global Strategy Programme.

Upcoming dates and locations are advertised on my website or you can phone my constituency office at 01746 555025.

Stuart Anderson MP
Member of Parliament for South Shropshire
Tel: 01746 555025
Email: anderson.mp@parliament.uk
75a High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX



Holy Trinity Environmental Group

muchwenlockplasticfree@gmail.com

It was interesting to see what William Brookes School is doing for the environment when I visited the Much Wenlock Open Gardens this summer. I met Mark Jones, a member of staff at the school. He has supported the students in making the garden. It is a new garden space, created by six of the school's City and Guilds students, designing and creating an outdoor area.

Do you have any spare garden tools and plant pots that you could donate to the students at the school?

Peter Neale, who has also retired from his job as Business Manager but still does some work at the school, tells me that the school has ordered reusable cups for the children to use, so that they will no longer be using disposable cups. The school is a "Community Ally" for Plastic Free Much Wenlock. As a Community Ally, groups cut down on single use plastic and spread environmental awareness. Thank you to the school for what they are doing.

Do you belong to a group in Much Wenlock that would like to become a Community Ally?

If so, please get in touch, using the email address at the top of this article.

We have now received our new "Wenlock Cup", which we hope to tell you about and we hope that you will use when you buy your takeaway drinks. We will be letting you know how this will work in Much Wenlock very soon.

Have you heard of "The Great Global Nurdle Hunt"? It is happening as I write this. It runs from September 4th until October 4th. Maybe you are wondering what a "nurdle" is! They are small plastic pellets, about the size of a lentil, that can be found in rivers and on the beach. Billions are used each year to make nearly all our plastic products. They can float, blow away easily, can fall into drains and into rivers and out to sea, washing up on our shores.



Once in our environment, nurdles are very difficult to clean up. We need to stop nurdle pollution at its source.

Taking place at the URC Church Hall, High Street, Church Stretton, SY6 6BY are a series of talks called "Engaging Issues" on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. Have a look at their programme at:
www.engagingissues.org.uk.

On Tuesday 2nd March 2027, there will be a talk from Ali Kerminizadeh, senior lecturer in Toxicology and Chemical Biochemistry. He will explain what micro plastics are, how they get into our food, potential effects on human health and ways in which we may be able to limit our exposure.

News from Shropshire Cllr Dan Thomas

Planning application 26/00294/OUT

Cllr Colin Stanford, representing Much Wenlock in my enforced absence, has again objected to the 300 **Boningale Homes Application**. The objection, submitted on behalf of the Much Wenlock community, argues that the proposed development is excessive in scale and would strain inadequate drainage, sewerage, transport and local service infrastructure. It also raises concerns about the lack of robust traffic modelling, increased congestion at the Gaskell Arms junction, and potential harm to the town's distinctive historic and cultural character. Wenlock Town Council has also submitted a new objection in response to new documentation from the applicant, which can be found on Shropshire Council's planning portal.

Car Parking Review

A review of parking charges in Shropshire Council car parks and on-street parking areas across the county is currently underway, with a report due to be considered by Cabinet in October 2026 ahead of a public consultation. The review will include how parking capacity is used and will aim to balance income generation with the objectives of Shropshire's emerging Local Transport Plan, including encouraging sustainable travel choices and reducing congestion in town centres. In November 2025, parking charges were increased following a three-year pause. These measures were introduced to bring Shropshire more closely in line with neighbouring areas and to help address the transport pressures on the council. The transport funding Shropshire Council receives from Government is not keeping pace with rising costs, so we must look to other income sources to support stretched budgets and protect important transport services.

I have fed into the review that treating Shropshire Council car parks the same in Shropshire is daft; Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth have on-street parking permits (which residents have to pay for) and still fill their public car parks, whereas ours aren't always full. A town-by-town review would be more appropriate.

CIPFA Review

Shropshire Council has received a Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) assurance review report, required following its receipt of Exceptional Financial Support. The report highlights positive progress, praising the Improvement Plan for fostering cultural change and addressing capacity gaps. However, it underscores severe ongoing financial pressures alongside historic challenges in management, governance, and savings delivery. Containing 22 recommendations across financial sustainability, service delivery, and leadership, the review provides a roadmap for continued change. Council leadership acknowledged the scale of the challenge and affirmed its commitment to implementing these recommendations through its existing Financial Sustainability and Recovery Strategy to secure long-term stability.

Cornovii

Shropshire Council plans to wind down its housing company, Cornovii Developments Limited, following an expected minimum £4 million loss and £35.19 million in total loans. Initially launched in 2019 with ambitious targets to deliver 3,000 homes and generate commercial returns, the firm built only 196 homes before operations stalled. Facing severe financial constraints and reliance on Exceptional Financial Support, council officers deemed a structured closure over 18 months the "least disadvantageous" option. At Shropshire Council's cabinet meeting, I asked: What specific lessons has the administration identified from the Cornovii experience, and how will those lessons be applied to ensure that future Council commercial ventures deliver stronger financial returns and better protect taxpayers from risk; I was told better safeguards would be in place and that Shropshire Council was not the only Council in the same situation.

Whitchurch Civic Centre

Shropshire Council's Cabinet voted to dispose of the Whitchurch Civic Centre, which closed in September 2023 after reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, or Raac, was found, and the authority said it could not afford the £4m needed to repair it. I am saddened for the residents of Whitchurch and remain grateful that a solution worked for Much Wenlock Leisure Centre.

Advice Surgery

My next Advice Surgery is on Saturday, 11th of July, between 10:30 a.m. and 12 Noon.

at Much Wenlock Museum. No appointment is necessary. I'll be joined by Town Cllr Cherie Whiteman and a representative from the Police.

*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*



REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY AT WILLIAM BROOKES SCHOOL

The staff, governors and students at school would like to invite all Much Wenlock residents to our Remembrance Day Event on Wednesday 11th November from 10.30am. The event will include music and readings as well as a one minute silence at 11am. Guests will then be invited to join us in school for a drink and slice of cake.
All enquiries to Mark Jones (email mark.jones@wbs.318education.co.uk)

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For information on accessing appointments, prescription ordering or other services provided at the Practice, please see our website or speak to a member of our team.

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 Way6FG); former Post Office building in Bourton; Atterley (what3words location ///idealist.ghosts.being).

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.

WENLOCK FORESTER TRUST GRANT APPLICATIONS

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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

BOOKS!

Shropshire Libraries run a free mobile service covering 71 stops in the South East of the county. Use your Shropshire library card or join this service on board - it's free! There is a wheelchair lift, just ask the driver. You can return loans from any Shropshire library. Visit our website

www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries click on "mobile libraries" to show your nearest stop and dates next there. tel 01743 255024.

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Carer Connect

A community group dedicated to our unpaid carers; providing an opportunity to connect with other carers and local support services. Meet **1st of the month** at Priory Hall - from 2pm until 4pm. Carers can attend alone or with the person they care for. Refreshments are provided. For more info, please contact the surgery on 01952 726011.

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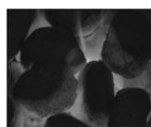
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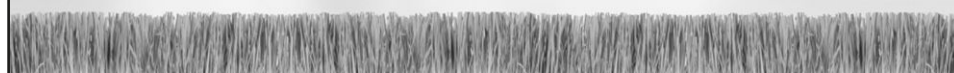
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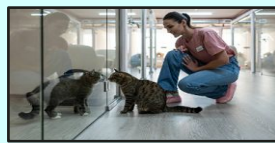
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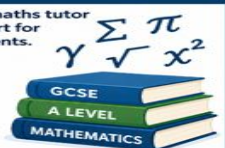
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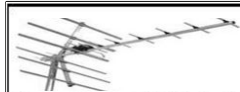
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PLEASE NOTE: On some occasions, times and details of services may change after printing

Churches listed by Neighbourhood	4th October Trinity 18	11th October Trinity 19	18th October Trinity 20	25th October Last Sunday After Trinity & Bible Sunday	1st November All Saints Day
Berrington and Betton Strange	To Cound	To Harley	To Cound	To Sheinton	To Cound
Cound	11.00 AAW (LL)		11.00 E (tbc)		11.00 AAW (MCS)
Cressage	To Cound	To Harley	To Kenley	To Sheinton	To Wenlock
Sheinton				11.00 E (MCS)	
Harley		11.00 Harvest Festival (PT)		4.30 EP (MCS)	
Kenley	Harvest Festival Friday 9th 6.30pm (TBC)		6.00 EP (DJ)		9.30 E (MCS)
Church Preen			11.00 E (CL)		
Hughley				9.30 E (DJ)	
Much Wenlock 	8.00 BCP HC (MCS) 6.30pm BCP EvS For Harvest (MCS)	9.30 E (RB) 3.30 EvS Hereford Cathedral Visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury (See Page 8)	9.30 E (MCS) 6.30 BCP EP (LL)	11:00 Civic Eucharist (MCS) 	8.00 BCP HC (DJ) 9.30 E (RB) 2.30 Bereavement Walk in Wenlock Priory & 4pm Bereavement Service (See Page 8)
Bourton	9.30 AAC for Harvest (MCS)				
Easthope				6.00 EP (tbc)	
Shipton	9.30 MP (LL)		11.00 Harvest Eucharist (MCS)		9.30 AAW (LL)
Stanton Long				11.00 E (CL)	

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 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