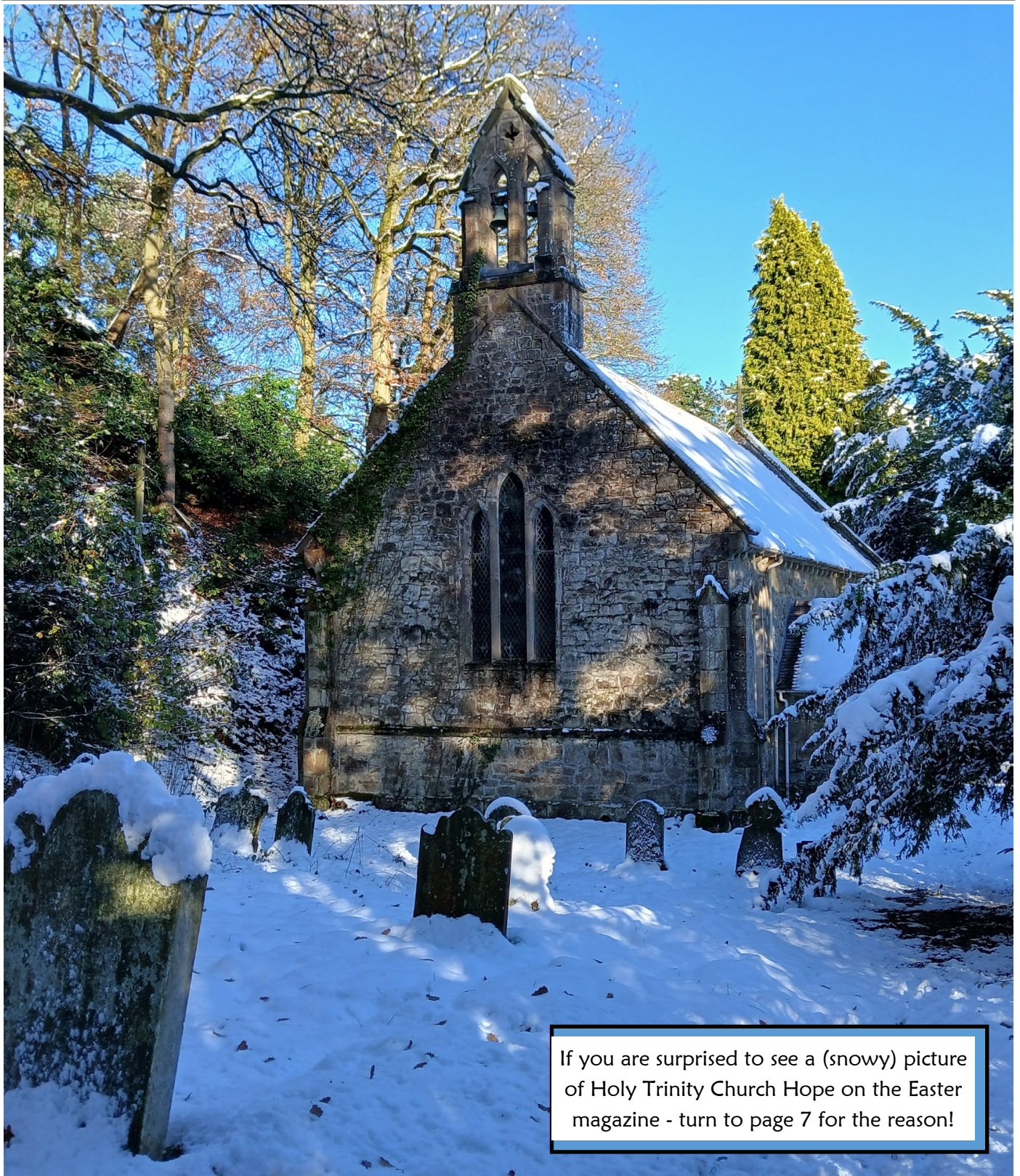


The Minsterley Parish Magazine

with the Stiperstones church group:

Snailbeach, Habberley, Hope & Shelve



If you are surprised to see a (snowy) picture of Holy Trinity Church Hope on the Easter magazine - turn to page 7 for the reason!



Holy Trinity Church, Minsterley



Rector: Rev. Greg Smith
(day off - Friday)
The Deanery, Pontesbury
07902 794653
rectorpontstip@gmail.com

Associate Minister: Rev. Fran Brealey
(days off - Mon, Fri, Sat)
07982 324760
revfran@btinternet.com

Curate: Rev. Richard Lonsdale
(day off - Tuesday)
The New Vicarage, Minsterley
07922 830488
richardlonsdale1@gmail.com

Church Wardens
Susan Lockwood 07854 110271
Sarah Edwards 07971 984925

Treasurer
Mike Bowen 07826 061054
mintreasure@btinternet.com

Church services this month

Sunday 6th 4.00pm Tea-time service

PALM SUNDAY 13th
10.30am Minsterley Praise joint with
Minsterley Methodist church
and Stiperstones Brass Band

MAUNDY THURSDAY 17th
7.00pm Footwashing and
Holy Communion

EASTER SUNDAY 20th
5.30am Sunrise service @ Earl's Hill
10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 27th 10.30am Holy Communion

Weekly events in the church

Mondays	3.30pm	Youth Café (p11)
Tuesdays	10.00am	Foodbank (p11)
Wednesdays	10.00am	Coffee Hub (p13)
Thursdays	10.00am	Trinity Tots (p15)

Other events this month

Thu 3rd Knitter Natter (EVERY Thursday) (p15)
Lent Lunch at Hope (p3)

Fri 4th Shropshire Tales (p30)

Tues 8th Oasis meeting (p13)
Ichthus Bible Study (p21)
Parish Council meeting (p21)

Wed 9th Electoral Roll closes (p3)

Thur 10th Lent Lunch at Hope (p3)
Snailbeach W.I. (p24)

Sat 12th HTM Spring Clean (p3)

Mon 14th Crafty Monday (p15)

Tues 15th The Gathering (p7)

Wed 16th u3a open meeting (p19)

Fri 18th Good Friday pilgrimage (p25)

Sat 19th Easter Trail (p32)

Tues 22nd Oasis meeting (p13)

Fri 25th Gardening Club meet (p7)
Minsterley Meadows celebration (p13)

The Minsterley Parish Magazine is published by Holy Trinity Church.

e-mail: MinsterleyParishMagazine@gmail.com.

Editor: David Young **Tel:** 01743 537081

Copy date is the 20th of the preceding month



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE !

Easter is such a special time for people everywhere.
It is a time when Christians gather
to celebrate love and life.

LOVE

Love so richly poured out that it took Jesus to the Cross for our sakes. Whatever it cost to bring us the chance of a future and a new life with God, he was willing to pay. It cost him his life!

But that's how much we're worth to God.

The Bible describes it like this: *"God shows his love for us in this way; while we were still sinners*

Christ died for us."

Jesus is God reaching out to us and saying "This is how far I am ready to go to bring you peace, forgiveness and a new beginning."

LIFE

Easter is not just about the Cross. It's about the resurrection. When Christians celebrate the resurrection they are celebrating hope. Jesus, who rose from the dead, promises eternal life, freedom from shame and past failures, and his strength and wisdom to live a new life. Christians believe Jesus can be with us throughout our lives, in both the hard times and the good, until the day we are caught up to live with him forever.

Easter reminds us that we can trust him for that - that's what faith is all about - and Jesus is trustworthy.

Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate love and life this Easter. Just turn up at any of our local Churches and share in the joy and the hope Easter brings . . . and may you and those you love discover God's grace and peace at this special time.

Happy Easter to you.

Stuart Carter

HTM Church Spring Clean

Our annual Spring church tidy up is taking place on Saturday 12th April. If you can help - outside and/or inside - please let me know on 07971 984925, or just turn up at 9.30am on the day. If you can bring tools for cutting back, sweeping up, raking leaves, cleaning, etc. that would also be appreciated.

Coffee and cake will be provided of course!

Sarah Edwards

New Electoral Roll

In early March I issued 73 letters enclosing an application form for admission to the new Electoral roll. Everyone has to complete and return the form even if they are on the old roll. To date (17th March) 31 people have renewed and 4 declined.

Please return the form as soon as possible. If you wish to be included and were not on the old roll please ring me on 01743 791508 immediately so that you will have time to complete and return the form not later than 9th April. Thank you.

Colin Edwards
Electoral Roll Officer

Lent Lunches

Thursdays

12-1pm

Hope Village Hall

April 3rd, 10th.

**Soup and bread lunch
organised by local churches
Short reflection for Lent
All welcome.**

**Collection in aid of
local charities.**



Deanery of Pontesbury

Rural Dean: Rev Greg Smith

telephone: 07902 794653 • email: rectorpontstip@gmail.com

EASTER

In Longden and Annscroft Parish we were blessed by the presence of Rev John Waddington-Feather. He was quite a character and was a prison chaplain for many years, a post he was highly suited for. He also wrote poetry and hymns to classical music, and I recently picked up his book of hymns; two of them are on Easter and I have his wife's permission to print them here.

The first is set to the 2nd Movement of Symphony No 5 by Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904).

*That Passiontide, our Lord lay buried,
inside the stone cold tomb;
and weeping, his disciples hurried
to hide frightened, anxious, in that barred-fast
upper room.*

*When Mary found that he had vanished,
as she returned at dawn;
She stood and wept and sadly languished,
so weary, she turned and saw the gardener
all forlorn.*

*She asked him where his men had laid him,
since stark the tomb was bare;
"Mary." She turned round and saw him,
"Rabboni!" she saw him, our Lord Jesus,
standing there.*

*Then Mary sped back to the others,
still hid in upper room;
exclaiming, "Sisters and brothers,
He's risen! for ever from that dread
and silent tomb."*

As I read this I am struck that many people are still locked away in their upper rooms, huddled together, afraid of what is outside. Yet John in his gospel clearly states that on that first day of resurrection, Jesus came and stood among and said, "Peace be with you." And this was into a locked room. Jesus can come into every locked parts of our hearts, bringing his peace and joy, and release from fear. All we need to do is ask.

The last line of the hymn also speaks to me - Christ is risen - forever. It was not just a momentary event, he has risen and is alive today, in heaven, praying for each of us. His resurrection and what he achieved on the cross is for all of us today.

The second hymn points us to the dawn on Easter Sunday. It is set to the Capriol Suite by Peter Warlock (1894-1930).

*Hail, Christ this glorious morn,
once slain and crucified,
Redeem your people here,
now you have cut Death's cord;
Never was there such dawn,
the third day that you died;
Dispel all doubt and fear,
Great Christ the Risen Lord!*

*All hail to you O Lord,
New risen from the dead;
All-conqu'ring, Lord supreme,
Our glorious King and Head.
Dread death, by God's Son slain,
All Evil overthrown,
You freed us from our sin,
Come, Jesus, claim your own!*

I love the emphasis that death, evil and sin are all defeated and the call for Jesus to come and claim his own. Jesus died for everyone, not just a select carefully chosen few. Everyone is welcome to come and sit at his table and receive his forgiveness and salvation.

Will you respond? I pray you do - it will be the most important action you can ever do, and when you come to Easter Sunday the opening cry will mean the world to you;

***Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

Blessings

Rev Graham Phillips

Deanery News editor: Ann Jones (annmorganjones456@gmail.com)

Copy to be submitted by 10th of previous month please.

World News

. . . .or “some more of the items you are not likely to see on the TV news”

Pakistani Christian girl rescued from abductor

A Christian girl who was abducted from Lahore, Pakistan, on 5th January has been rescued and reunited with her family. Saba Shafique left her home in Walton Model Colony, Lahore, to buy milk at 7am that morning and was kidnapped, forcibly converted to Islam and married to her abductor. The abductor was identified as Muhammad Ali, also from Walton Model Colony and known to Saba’s family.



Saba was reunited with her family after being rescued [Image credit: Humanitarian Action for Rights and Development Society]

The family subsequently received an “Islam acceptance certificate” to confirm her allegedly voluntary conversion, as well as a marriage certificate that falsely claimed Saba to be more than 18 years old and therefore of an age to be legally married. Ali, who is already married, kidnapped Saba and took her to Nawabshah in Sindh, more than 580 miles to the south-west.

Legal representatives of the family accompanied police officers on the 36-hour journey to rescue Saba from the abductor’s custody. They were able to locate her, locked in a small room in a remote area away from the city of Nawabshah. Police arrested her abductor.

In a statement Saba disclosed that she had been subject to daily physical assaults by her “husband” and denied the right to contact her parents. She described her two-month ordeal as “living like a slave, completely helpless”.

Legal proceedings are being pursued against her abductor.

Three Iranian Christians receive prison sentences totalling more than 40 years

Revolutionary Court judge Iman Afshari announced the sentences on 8th March to Abbas Soori, Mehran Shamloui and Narges Nasri, who is four months pregnant with her first child.

Narges, 37 years old, was sentenced to a total of 16 years. She received 10 years for “propaganda activities contrary to Islamic law”, five for membership of a house church (deemed to be an “opposition group”) and one year for “propaganda against the state” after she expressed support for the Women, Life, Freedom movement on social media.

Abbas, 48, received a sentence of 15 years’ imprisonment. The term comprises 10 years for “propaganda activities” and five for belonging to an “opposition group.” The sentences for Mehran, 37, for the same charges were eight years for “propaganda activities” and two years and eight months for membership of an “opposition group.” The sentences included deprivation of social rights – for example, restrictions on their employment. This restriction applies for 15 years.



Iranian Christian converts (left to right) Mehran Shamloui, Abbas Soori and Narges Nasri [Image credit: Article 18]

Narges and Abbas were each fined 330 million tomans (£2,915), and Mehran was fined 250 million tomans (£2,290). On conclusion of their prison terms, Narges and Abbas must serve two years of internal exile outside their home province of Tehran, during which time they are banned from leaving Iran.

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Crown and Sceptre carpark on Saturday 24th
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well. Any surplus annuals also. Many thanks.*

Margaret Wainwright

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HOPE CHURCH NEEDS YOU

We hope that you need us too

Hope Church has been part of the community since 1843 and for many in the area has been the setting for life events including baptisms, weddings and funerals. It has been supported by local people including churchwardens who have given many years of service.



It still has a very small and (sadly) mainly aging congregation who meet and worship regularly and are often joined at Easter, Christmas and Remembrance Sunday by other local families. Our current minister Fran Brealey is well known in the community and provides support for individuals and groups.

But the Church is currently facing a major challenge. A recent inspection identified that the building requires a considerable amount of work to carry out repairs to ensure that it remains in suitable condition to continue to serve its community. The need for repairs has been caused by a combination of age and a location where nature thrives! It is estimated that the works required will cost in the region of £70,000 to include items such as scaffolding to carry roof and stonework repairs, and removing years of greenery that is taking hold.

Members of the church are willing to embark on fundraising to ensure that the building can be preserved for the future to continue to serve the needs of local people. But we do have a question for local people: do you still want or see a need for the church building and would you be willing to support us in our efforts? This might involve attending events that we plan to hold (community events, quizzes, Open Days), passing on details of our campaign to those who may have moved from the area but have a connection, and pledging or donating to our efforts. Perhaps there are things too that the Church can do for you?

We know that we shall have to concentrate our efforts on raising funds through bids to grant-making bodies and other organisations, but it would be a great boost to our submissions if we could show that you, the local community, are behind us and we have your support.

We are organising a public event on Tuesday 29th April at the Village Hall where we shall explain in detail the work to be undertaken and give an outline of our plans for how we hope to raise the money. Everyone is welcome to attend (refreshments available) to ask questions, make suggestions or just show that you want the church still to remain as an integral part of Hope.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like more information or think you can help please contact Rev Fran revfran@btinternet.com or email: welcome@thhope.church.

Alistair Bates

The Gathering
An evening of Praising & Worshipping God
*Encourage one another and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing*
(1 Thessalonians 5: 11)
Everyone welcome

Refreshments | **Tues 15th April,**
from 7.00 p.m. | **7.30 p.m. start**

 **Marton Village Hall**

* **Minsterley Gardening Club** *
* The first meeting of the Minsterley *
* Gardening Club 2025 took place from *
* 10am - 11am on Friday 28th March at Holy *
* Trinity Church Minsterley. Meetings take *
* place on the last Friday of every month; *
* do pop along - everyone is welcome. *
* There will be cake! *
* Sarah Edwards *

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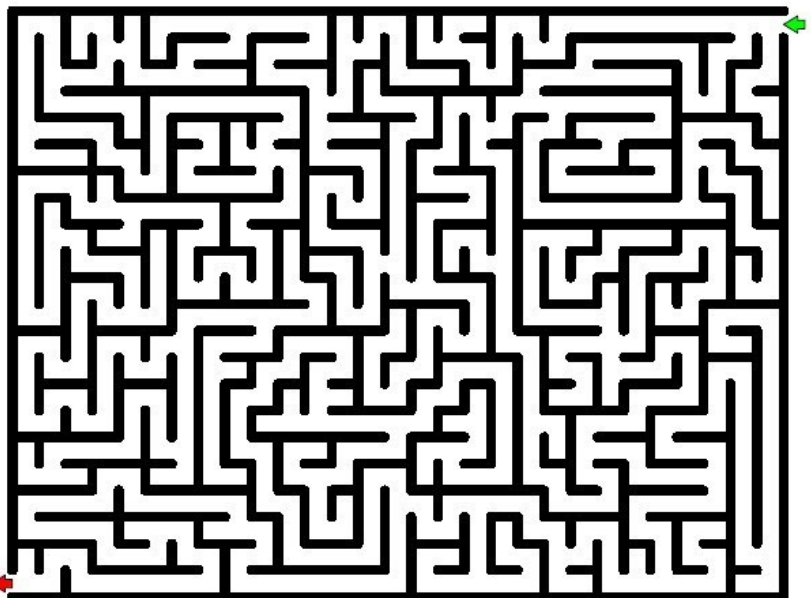
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All other religions are oblique: the founder stands aside and introduces another speaker... Christianity alone is direct speech.

- Soren Kierkegaard

Christians would never dream of intentionally running down other people with their cars; then why do we do it with our tongues?

- Doug Barnett

If you believe what you like in the Gospel, and reject what you like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself.

- St Augustine

Evangelism is one beggar telling another beggar where to get bread.

- D T Niles



"I'm really not sure about this trend for clergy dressing down, dear."

Easter Wordsearch

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life. But because He does live, we have a sure and certain hope for our future.

Passover	Judas	temple
bread	Gethsemane	curtain
wine	trial	tomb
body	crucifixion	angel
blood	soldiers	stone
betrayal	cross	risen
Jerusalem	nails	gardener
Pilate	vinegar	Mary

E	A	E	S	E	B	C	C	E	B	B	R	G
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B	T	E	A	L	S	N	N	T	I	T	I	F
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Rea Valley Marathon Man fundraises for our Foodbank

Andrew lives in Pontesbury and is a retained firefighter based at Minsterley. He was so impressed with our local service that he offered to fundraise for us with a full marathon 26 miles (42 km), the Mammoth at the Discovery Centre Craven Arms. It is described as “a classic route for hard-core trail runners or experienced long-distance walkers” with over 1000m of elevation and a 12-hour limit. To sponsor Andrew, a “GoFundMe” page will be open until after our AGM in May: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/4veg5-rea-valley-food-bank>.

Money raised will go to buy food and items that are in the greatest demand and to offer a bit more choice of goods.

We have had six months of running the Foodbank service ourselves.

As you may know Foodbank Plus at Barnabas previously provided food parcels but since October we have been an independent organisation. Since then, we have achieved:

- Being able to respond to local people in need, including for the housebound. We also try to offer a range of goods, rather than solely pre-prepared parcels.
- Our bank balance is doing well, thanks to all those who give regular, monthly financial contributions. We are very grateful for this support which is giving us a robust income.
- Set up our own website and Facebook page promoting our services to the community.
- Increased our points for donation of goods, to include the Village Stores Longden, and Long-

den and Annscroft churches.

- With generous donations from our Parish Councils, the Pontesbury Charity, as well as fundraising events, we were able to provide some Christmas cheer with an extra bag of seasonal items and vouchers for Smith's butchers and Hignetts.

To use the Foodbank, or find out more:

Call for a chat with Rev Greg Smith (07902 794653) or Rev Richard Lonsdale (07922 830488), email reavalleyfoodbank@gmail.com or your local clergy. You can also be referred by a GP, school, nursery, social/health worker, housing provider or other support agency. See Facebook or our website:



<https://reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk/>.

Jean Garner



Bible Readings in Holy Trinity Church Minsterley this month

Here are the Bible passages we plan to read in our church services this month:

Date	OT Reading	Epistle	Gospel
6 th April	Isaiah 43:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
17 th April		1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
20 th April	Isaiah 65:17-end	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12
27 th April	Acts 5:27-32	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-end

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MINSTERLEY MEADOWS

Celebration Day - Friday 25th April
in
MINSTERLEY PARISH HALL.

With everybody's help we now own
the meadows for the benefit of
wildlife and the community

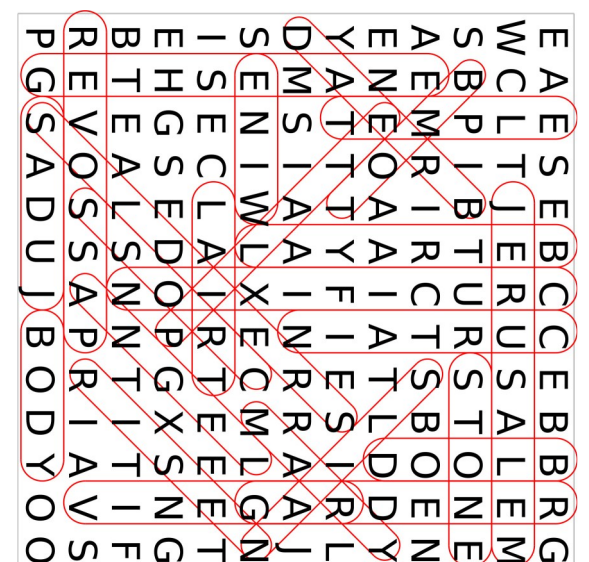
All welcome to come and
share in the celebrations!

More details to follow

Middle Marches Community Land Trust

Answers

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




Oasis

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2nd & 4th Tuesdays • 12pm - 1.30pm

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For more information, contact Heather Ryder
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Booking is essential.

Contact Dan Lewis on 07904 338 791
or
danlewisfitness@btinternet.com

Lent - a time of preparation and reflection in the lead up to Easter.

Join Rev Christopher Cooke using the Old Testament story of Ruth to lead us through this time, and see if we can apply any lessons learnt for Good Friday and Easter.

A Lent Course for everyone between 2 - 4pm
in The Urwick Room, Ford Village Hall,
Final two meetings are on
Mondays 31st March and 7th April.

Conversation and study
with refreshments –
be prepared for Holy Week and Easter.

For further information contact
Jane Weston 07832 165285
Jane.e.weston@btinternet.com

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More information from:-
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World War II Memories

I was born in 1942. My overwhelming memory is the air raid sirens announcing yet another V1 or V2 coming over. We lived in South Croydon, not too far from Croydon Airport which was then London Airport. I remember the barrage balloons and the cables that kept them from floating away. We had an air raid shelter under our dining room table. I guess it had room for two adults and two children. My father was, by 1944, an RAF pilot in Bomber Command transporting new aircraft from Montreal, Canada, to the North African Campaign. He only came under fire when he was home on leave!



On 3rd September 1939 my father was in Singapore. He was a pursuer on Imperial Airways' flying boats. The trip would take three weeks from Southampton Water to Singapore. When war was declared the aircrew couldn't fly the aircraft back to England so had to

return by ship. He arrived in England at the beginning of December, married my mother on 16th December 1939 and then went to Booker airfield (near High Wycombe) to learn to fly. He was so good that he ended up being a pilot officer training young people to fly a tiger moth.

I was born in 1942 at a nursing home near High Wycombe. My mother and I were billeted at a home owned by the Sanderson family (as in curtains). We had a room in the attic and were only allowed to come to the kitchen for meals. There were two London East End children there too with a room in the attic near us.



By 1944 my father was piloting bomber aircraft (made in Michigan USA) from Montreal, Canada, to the North African Campaign. They flew at a height of 100 feet above sea level with no lights, no guns and no radar.

When my father was demobbed in 1945, he was seconded back to Imperial Airways (which was then split into British Overseas Airways Corporation and British European Airways. Because he had learned to fly, he was invited to join either BOAC or BEA. He chose BEA and we moved to South Ruislip in Middlesex, as he was then training to fly Vikings at Northolt Airport which was, by then, London Airport.

He graduated to Viscounts and then Tridents, again moving to Ruislip as London Airport was then at Heathrow. Each time he was upgraded to an aircraft he had to go through classroom training. He loved flying but didn't like the classroom stuff at all. Pilots also had to have emergency training every six months as well as a full medical.



The legacy of WWII for my father was his dream of becoming a pilot. He absolutely loved his job, finally retiring in 1976 after running GibAir in Gibraltar for three years.

I grew up around airports and, until I started working in 1961, enjoyed holidays in Europe. We were in Berlin (when it was still split into three divisions) for Christmas when the Russians decided to separate West and East Berlin by a wall. We had to leave immediately!

Susan Lockwood

7 days
to make a difference



Aurelia with organic fertiliser after receiving training from our partner.

The climate crisis is ravaging the farms of Indigenous communities in Guatemala. As plants die, food becomes scarce. But with specialist training, Aurelia's leading her community to grow resilient crops, make fertiliser and conserve water.

You're invited!

What

BREAKFAST and COFFEE

Where

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,
Minsterley**

When

Saturday 17th MAY

Time

From 9am till 12 noon

This Christian Aid Week, will you support more people like Aurelia to protect their communities from hunger and poverty?

Find out more at caweek.org



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Pine Martens in Rea Valley

England's rarest mammal was presumed to be extinct in Shropshire but in 2015, for the first time in over 100 years, two pine martens were sighted in the Clun Valley. Following the excitement of this find the Shropshire Pine Marten Group has been monitoring these enigmatic and elusive animals, with more areas checked and more martens seen on camera traps across the Shropshire Hills.

In 2018 the first pine marten was sighted on Pontesford Hill and more recently one was seen on a camera trap in woods above Snailbeach. Although surveys can be challenging, the best success for monitoring is to install camera traps in high density. This increases the chance of seeing one as pine martens mostly venture out after dark and live mainly high up in trees. They stick to narrow trails in woodland, of which there are potentially hundreds to choose from.

I am now hoping to learn more about the pine martens living around Pontesbury, Habberley and Minsterley and also to raise funds for more camera traps for this purpose. In order to succeed,

volunteers are needed to help install and monitor the camera traps. The Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) has indicated that they may have volunteers who can work with me on this. To have their support with this local project would be amazing. If anyone else is also keen to help, feel free to email: stuartwildlife@gmail.com.

Shropshire Pine Marten Project and RVCWG will be at the Pontesbury Festival (27th-29th June) so come along and see us on Saturday 28th June.

Sue King



Celebrating wildlife in Pontesbury, Minsterley, Pulverbatch, Stiperstones and the Hope Valley Areas.

Our friendly Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group (RVCWG) are pleased to announce a series of special events and monthly local walks providing an opportunity to discover local flora and fauna together. Walks are on the third Saturday of every month in the winter and in the summer alternate between Saturdays and Wednesday evenings.

Each walk is free to attend, and no booking required.

Participating in the group will provide an opportunity to find out more about the distinctive wildlife of the Rea Valley and the surrounding area, and to share your local wildlife knowledge and

discoveries with like-minded people who are passionate about our local area.

We have botanists and birders, moth and butterfly fanatics, reptile and mammal lovers and general natural history enthusiasts.

We produce a quarterly report based on submissions to our RVCWG iRecord group which shows members the best nature highlights in our local area, including fantastic fungi, moths, flowering plants and beetles.

Joining is free and open to anyone who lives or works in the area and has an active interest in nature.

Please email the secretary to be added to our mailing list. If you provide your phone number, you can also be added to our active WhatsApp Community group which has subgroups for general wildlife chat, birds, or plants.

We also have a Facebook page (search Rea Valley Community Wildlife Group).

Contact e-mail: reavalleycwg@gmail.com.

learn,
laugh,
live

OPEN MEETING

Members & non-members welcome

u3a Pontesbury
& Rea Valley
pontesbury.u3asite.uk



Learn all about the work of the Guide Dogs association, including the puppy walker programme and get the chance to meet some of the dogs.



Wednesday 2pm
Minsterley Parish Hall
A488, Minsterley, SY5 0EH

Refreshments available
Free entrance



Pontesbury & District
Gardeners Association

Spring is now underway and seed sowing can get going in earnest. Most people have their own preferred seed sowing medium, whether it be specialised seed sowing compost or their own recipes using various combinations of potting composts and inert material such as vermiculite or sand, or sowing directly into the soil. Whatever your choice we have material at the Trading Post that can help.

As mentioned several times previously, this and next month is the time for potatoes to be planted. Traditionally it was Good Friday when this happened, that day being the first one in the Spring when the workers had a day off. Easter falls a little late this year so you may not want to wait until late April! There is still a danger of frost until the middle/end of May so look after tender plants and seedlings until then. If you don't have a greenhouse in which to shelter the smaller plants you can

wrap them in horticultural fleece when frost is forecast.

Whether you are growing fruit and veg to eat or to show, or cut flowers for a vase in the house or to enhance the garden, then come along to the Trading Post to share your stories. Although we sell most materials to help you in the garden we also like to hear what works for you and to share it with those who are just starting with their first plot. So if you are experienced or a novice, please come along for a chat.

The Trading Post is situated in the Old Station Buildings on Station Road and we are there every Saturday from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Rob Dixon
robedixon@btopenworld.com

Pontius Pilate: "Joseph, I really don't understand you. You're one of the richest men in the region, and you've just spent a fortune on that new tomb for you and your family - and now you want to suddenly give it to this man Jesus?"

Joseph: "Well it's just for the weekend."



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Minsterley Parish Council

After the loss of the Outreach Postal Service in Minsterley, the Parish fully supports Hope Valley's position with their request for their Outreach Postal Service to be resumed after it was also withdrawn. Post Office Services would be contacted together with comments to the local paper, regarding the loss of the service in the area.

Problems with parking outside the School at the beginning and end of the School day has been raised again. The Parish encourages those who transport children to and from School to use the official School Car Park, which is at the Parish Hall.

A review is required regarding the future of the Callow Lane Toddlers Play Area. In the meantime, the site requires extra cleaning and painting of the equipment.

Road Closures:

A488 Pontesbury: 21st April to 24th May

Surface dressing works. Various days:
Mon – Fri 8pm – 6am, Weekends 6am – 6 pm.

A488 Hope Valley: 31st March to 4th April

Tree and vegetation clearance.
Various days: 9.30am – 4.00pm.

Leigh Road, Minsterley: 14th April to 17th April

New water connection. Road to be reopened at the end of each working day.

Parish Council Elections will take place on Thursday 1st May. Residents interested in standing as candidates need to contact the Electoral Services at Shropshire Council for further information. Tel: 0345 678015 or email elections@shropshire.gov.uk
Close of nominations is 4.00pm 2nd April.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th April, after the Annual Meeting of Parishioners which begins at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.

Geoff Rogers

Chairman, Minsterley Parish Council
www.minsterley.org.uk

To contact the parish council e-mail:
clerk@minsterley.org.uk

MINSTERLEY 59 CLUB WINNERS

DRAW 8	19 TH February	No. 8	Caroline Bowen
DRAW 9	26 th February	No. 24	Patricia Edwards
DRAW 10	5 th March	No. 58	Miriam Nichol
DRAW 11	12 TH March	No. 44	Roy Blakemore



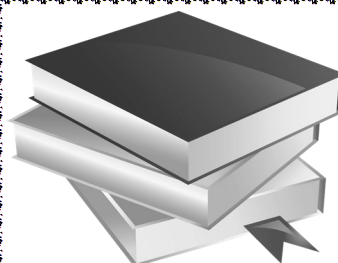
Christian Aid Week 2025

Christian Aid Week this year will focus on the poverty in the communities of Burundi where over 70% of people face hunger and poverty every single day.

There will be a breakfast/coffee morning at Holy Trinity Church from 9.30am - 12noon on Saturday 17th May in support of Christian Aid.

Please save this date and join us in reaching out to help, and if you are able to assist in any way please contact me on 07806 432311. Many thanks.

Susan Bates
Minsterley Churches CAW group



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Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119 : 105

ICHTHUS



Come and join our informal Bible study group. Enjoy the opportunity to ask, contribute or just listen - whatever helps us to grow in our understanding of our Christian faith. Meetings start at 2.30pm.

Liz Jackson 01743 791352

Date	Venue	Study
8th April	The Blessing Snailbeach	Luke 19:28-48 Psalm 110:1-2,19-29

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Wednesday 9am-6pm

Thursday 9am-9pm (late night!)

Friday 9am-4pm

Appointments advisable: call 01743 792548 or drop in.

Local organisations offering help and support

Here are some contact details you might find useful. This page was updated in January 2022, but if you find anything to be out of date, incorrect or not relevant please let the editor know. Likewise please share details of any other group which can offer support to local residents. Thank you.

Rea Valley Foodbank 07902 794653
Food parcels available locally in Minsterley and Pontesbury. Referral needed.

Community Good Neighbours, Rea Valley 07944 891953

Get in touch with a local Good Neighbour for a friendly chat, small errands and support to stay active and connected within the community.

Pontesbury Community and Care Co-ordinator 01743 790325
Helen Tazewell can give assistance to patients of all ages in need of help, support and advice by signposting to other useful services. She works Monday and Wednesday locally.

Healthy Shropshire 0345 678 9025
Shropshire Council telephone line for information and advice on a healthy lifestyle, including smoking, alcohol, weight, exercise and other matters.

Shrewsbury Food Hub Shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk
Surplus food share tables across Shrewsbury. See Facebook page for venue details.

Shrewsbury "foodbank PLUS" 07421 745857
Food parcels, debt advice, returning to work, digital Inclusion, life skills. Referral needed.

Citizens Advice Shropshire 0344 499 1100
Confidential advice and help to solve problems with debt, benefits, housing, legal matters & employment. Need help claiming Universal Credit? Call their dedicated Help to Claim helpline, 0800 144 8444

Keep Shropshire Warm 0800 112 3743
Advice and grants for people struggling with heating and energy bills.

Shropshire Council Housing Support 0345 678 9005
Support on all housing matters particularly rentals and homelessness.

Shropshire Mental Health Support 01743 368647
Mental health support.

Shropshire Recovery Partnership 01743 294700
Drugs and alcohol support.

Shropshire Rural Support 0300 123 2825
Confidential support during periods of anxiety and stress, and with problems relating to family and business. See website shropshireruralsupport.org.uk.

Samaritans 116 123
Free 24/7 confidential support whatever you are going through.

Shropshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 0300 303 1191
Support for anyone suffering from domestic violence.

West Mercia Women's Aid 0800 783 1359
24hr helpline for women and children suffering from domestic violence.

Shropshire Carers' Support Service 01743 341995
Wide range of support for unpaid carers.

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin 01743 233123
Confidential advice for older people, their families and carers.



dDiY

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*Handyman - as recommended by the editor
of the Minsterley Parish Magazine.*

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David Young: 01743 537081
ddiymobile@gmail.com

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**We meet in Snailbeach Village Hall, SY5 0NX,
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(2pm Dec, & Jan)**

**For more information contact Sue:
tel: 07375 463536
e-mail: suexjohnson@gmail.com**



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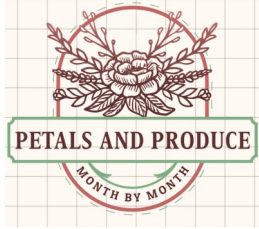
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Hello friends! Another month has passed and growing season is definitely upon us! I have spent the better part of March starting off tomatoes, beetroot, aubergines and cucumbers and some companion plants such as marigolds, basil, nasturtiums and calendula - all flowers and herbs to help keep pests away and encourage pollinators.

I am currently at war with the local pigeon population. They enjoy pulling the tops off my onions; at first I was willing to share until I noticed one pigeon (the size of a basketball) happily wandering along my onion sets like he was at a buffet! The street cats are no help and I'm not allowed firearms anymore, so I've resorted to shouting and screaming like a mad woman rushing from the back door, but maybe it's time for some simple netting instead.

April is renowned for unpredictable weather and we must be vigilant with the ever-changing

temperatures; keeping new shoots protected, either kept inside or covered with horticultural fleece. April is the traditional month for planting out salad and early potatoes. Late April is good for second early potatoes and for planting main crop, which means potatoes can be chitted throughout the month ready for planting out.

In sheltered areas in April you can plant out the hardier vegetables such as broad beans, beetroot, carrots, lettuce, leeks, radish, turnip, spring peas and perpetual spinach.

Tender vegetables will need to be protected, which means germinated and grown on under glass, in a greenhouse or conservatory. This includes courgettes, squash, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, aubergines, celery and French beans. Remember - only plant out when the risk of frost has passed.

I hope April finds you well and excited to get out in the garden, I also hope the weather is kind and the signs of new growth instils within you a sense that all is well and as it should be.

Written by amateur gardener, hula hoop
champion and paperclip enthusiast.

Laura Davies

Good Friday Pilgrimage

This annual pilgrimage started in 1982 and visits some beautiful churches. Refreshment and toilet breaks are arranged throughout the walk, and transport between stops may be available if you don't want to walk the whole way.

Meet at 9.45am - park at Middleton Hall Farm, SY15 6BY. The draft schedule is:

- 10.00 am. Service at Middleton church
- 11.20 am. Refreshments at Veronica and David's cottage
- 1.00 pm Service and refreshments at Hope church
- 2.30 pm. Refreshments and service at Shelve church
- 4.00 pm. Service and refreshments at Marsh Tin Chapel
- Walk back over Mitchells Fold to collect cars

The walk is on quiet roads, and across open common and farm land, covering around 10 miles. Please wear appropriate footwear and bring a packed lunch and coat (there has been snow before!). You are welcome to attend the short services without doing the walk, or just complete part of the walk. Well-behaved dogs on leads are very welcome!

Dark Sky Gazing

Do you enjoy the beautiful starlit skies we regularly see here in the Shropshire Hills? Would you like to see them more clearly? If so you may be interested in acquiring a little-used Celestron Astromaster 130 telescope in return for a donation of £75.00 to Cancer Research UK. Telephone or text 07806 432311 for details.



Susan Bates

What can I eat for Easter?

Can't eat beef.....mad cow.
Can't eat chicken..... bird flu.
Can't eat eggs..... Salmonella.
Can't eat pork.....fears that bird flu will infect pigs.
Can't eat fish.....heavy metals in the waters.
Can't eat fruits and veggies.....
 insecticides and herbicides.
Can't eat potatoes, pasta, bread, rice.....
 nasty carbs.
Hmmm! I believe that leaves...chocolate.

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Website: www.westmercia.police.uk

Report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/

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(covers all our magazine area except Minsterley)

SHREWSBURY RURAL WEST

Safer Neighbourhood team

(covers Minsterley)

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Email: bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Facebook: [Bishops Castle Policing Team Rural Watch](https://www.facebook.com/BishopsCastlePolicingTeamRuralWatch)

Twitter: [@ShrewsburyCops](https://twitter.com/ShrewsburyCops)

Email: shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

CRIME/INCIDENTS OF NOTE REPORTED

CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE

17th February 2025 - 16th March 2025

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault		Marton	
Theft of motor vehicle	White Ford Transit Custom reg - BV67FKB stolen without keys	Chirbury	Occurred early hours 4 th March. Vehicle spotted heading towards Stourbridge at 02:20hrs
Harassment and criminal damage		Montgomery	
Assault		Pennerley	
Harassment		Worthen	

ROGUE TRADERS

There have been recent reports of some pushy doorstep traders operating in the Bishop's Castle area, they have been cold calling offering services such as gardening work, tree cutting and gutter cleaning.

- Rogue traders often appear at your door unannounced, claiming to have noticed issues whilst driving by.
- They may try to pressure you into making a decision immediately or sign up for services on the spot.
- They may offer to carry out work cheaply, but charge an extortionate price after it has been completed.
- Do not be forced into making a quick decision on the doorstep and do not allow uninvited callers into your home.
- Beware of 'companies' that only use mobile phone numbers and 'accommodation' addresses.
- Anyone who signs a contract on the doorstep following a visit that was not arranged

(unsolicited) has 7 days to cancel it by law.

- All cancellation rights must be provided in writing to the customer at the time the contract is agreed, usually on the doorstep - it is an offence not to do so.
- Refuse to be taken to the bank to withdraw money - if you ever feel intimidated by them, close the door and call the police.

For further information and to report dubious traders, please contact either

Shropshire Council Trading Standards –

www.shropshire.gov.uk/trading-standards/

or Citizens Advice -

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/report-to-trading-standards/>.

364 days of the year we tell our kids: "Do NOT eat anything you find on the ground, or anything from strangers!"

On Easter morning we tell them: "Why don't you go outside and search in the dirt for chocolates that a strange giant bunny has left for you?"

www.minsterleymotors.co.uk

Saturday

[illegible]

www.minsterleymotors.co.uk

Saturday

From September 2024

Many people will walk in and out of your life. But only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Parents who are afraid to put their foot down usually have children who tread on their toes.

- Chinese Proverb

The important thing about your lot in life is whether you use it for building or parking.

- Anon

If God is your co-pilot, switch seats.

- James W Moore

A Sunday School teacher had been explaining why Easter should matter to us, and wanted to make sure her group understood.

So she asked, "Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can obtain forgiveness of sin?"

There was a short pause and then, from the back of the room, a small boy spoke up. "Sin?"

Minsterley Methodist Church

April services



Sunday 6th. Family Service led by church members.

10.30am Palm Sunday 13th.

Minsterley Praise @ Holy Trinity church.

7pm Maundy Thursday 17th. Holy Communion.

7pm Good Friday 18th.

Service at Worthen Methodist Chapel.

Easter Sunday 20th. Holy Communion and celebration; preacher - Rev Brian Spencer

Sunday 27th. Preacher – Mr Wes Morris.

A warm welcome is extended to everyone who would like to come and join us at any of our services and for refreshments afterwards.

Sandra Lewis

Stiperstones group of churches - recent 'life event' services

Burial of Ashes, 29th March
Kathleen Doris May Lewis
in Hope Cemetery

A Light-hearted evening of Shropshire Tales

With

Val Littlehales

Minsterley Methodist Church

Friday April 4th 7pm

We're just down Horsebridge Road on the right. Turn at the vets.

Come and join us,
all are welcome.

Off road parking on site,
light refreshments served.

Donations invited for church funds

Snailbeach Methodist Chapel

2.45pm Sunday services

Sunday 6th April

Rev Richard Hall

Easter Sunday 20th April

Rev. Brian Spencer

A Good Friday service will be held at Worthen Methodist Chapel at 7.00pm

We meet in the schoolroom adjacent to the chapel. All are welcome to come.

Sue Priddey (01743 790913)

Our partner churches in the Stiperstones Group —

St Luke's Festival Church Snailbeach



Treasurer

Cheryl Bromhead

St Luke's is a "Festival Church." Services are usually held on five festival days: Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas day. A few other services are planned too. See "A Church Near You" website for upcoming dates.

20th April 9.00am Easter Sunday Communion

St Mary's Parish Church Habberley

Church Wardens

Pauline Stopford, The Kennels, Habberley (01743 790784)

Pearl Hannigan, 9 Yarlington Orchard, Pontesbury (01743 790495)

Treasurer

Robert Currie

Sunday 13th April 5.00pm Evensong
EASTER Sunday 20th 5.00pm Holy Communion



Hope & Shelve Parish

Church Warden

Barbara Venables

Secretary

Sara Young

Treasurer

Kevin Bowers

Refreshments are served at all our services !

Holy Trinity Church Hope

Sunday 13th April 9.00am Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Friday 18th 1.00pm * GOOD FRIDAY service
Sunday 27th 9.00am Morning Prayer



All Saints' Church Shelve

Sunday 6th April 9.00am Holy Communion
Friday 18th 2.30pm * GOOD FRIDAY service
Easter Sunday 20th 9.00am Holy Communion

* The timings for the Good Friday services are subject to the weather and the speed of the 'pilgrims' on the annual walk from Middleton. See Fran for more details or to join us.



<i>What's On!</i>	
19 APR	EASTER TRAIL free activity around the village
17 MAY	BREAKFAST & COFFEE at Holy Trinity in aid of Christian Aid
24 MAY	PLANT & BAKE SALE on the Crown & Sceptre bank
7 JUNE	CAR BOOT TRAIL follow the village trail and bag yourself a bargain or two
5 JULY	AFTERNOON TEA at Kensington Gardens
16 AUG	MINSTERLEY SHOW visit us in the refreshments tent
4 OCT	HARVEST SUPPER & AUCTION tasty food and lots of laughs

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