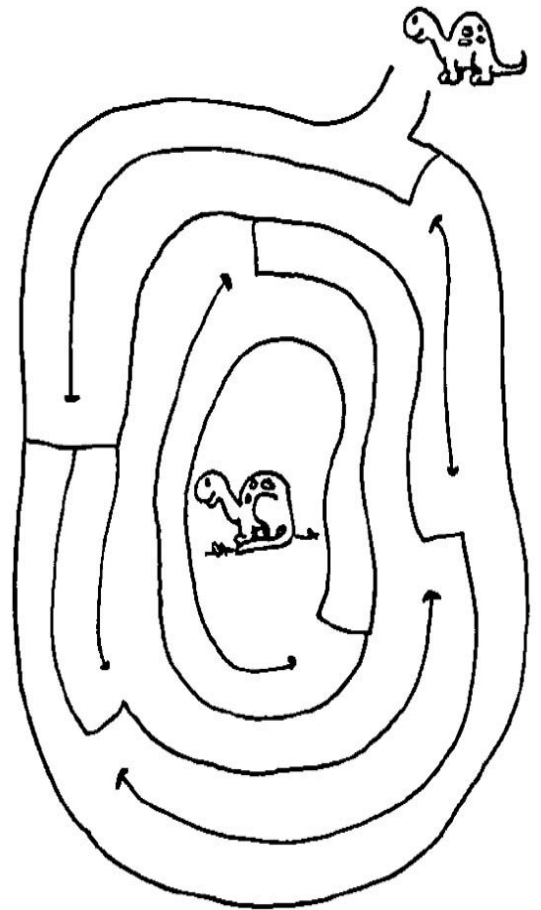
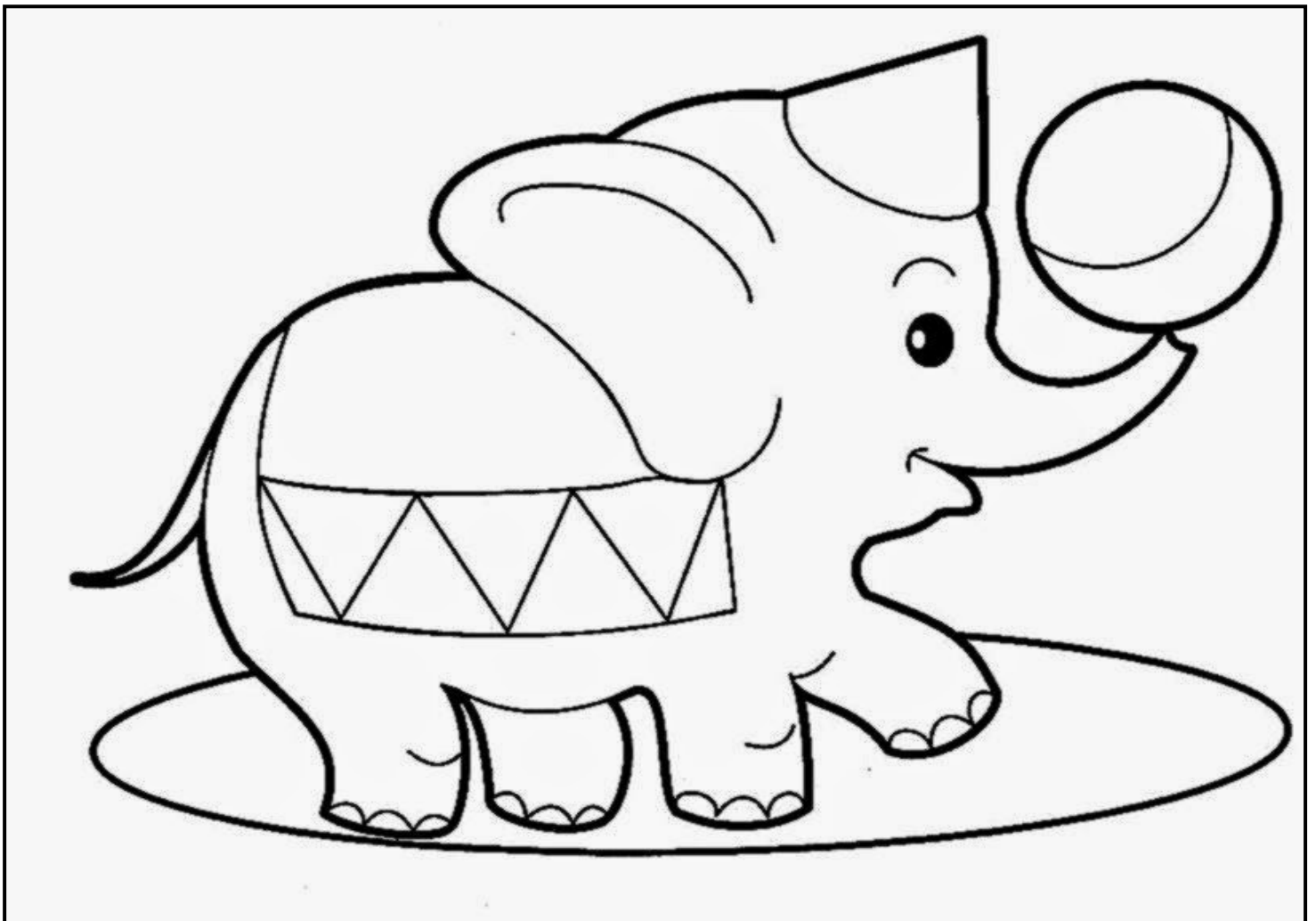


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Here's a great picture for you to colour





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Friends of Ifton Meadows

A Party at the Meadows

It has been some time since we held any events and those have been in an evening i.e. Lantern Parades. So this was something different for us, a Nature/History day to mark the return of the 'Horse Field' to the site in April. This area will now be the events and picnic area - 2 picnic tables are already in place. Since April the field has been left as a meadow. This enabled monitoring of any flowers that might be growing in it. Cutting took place in September allowing seeds to drop and self set for next year.

The 'Party at the Meadows' on the 10th September started cloudy with a few spots of rain but by the afternoon the sun came out in all its glory and we had a lovely warm afternoon.



At first we had difficulty with the jigsaws that were the gazebo's. If it is your own you know exactly how it fits together but otherwise it can cause a few problems. The Barbecue was busy as was the Brownies tea/cake stand. The Brownies also had a workshop making insect houses. St.Martins WI promoted themselves and the WI 'SOS for bees' campaign.



Scouts had a coconut shy.

The 3 Parish's Big Local gave away freebees and we supplied information on the History of the site and of the Ifton

Colliery, along with Nature activities. The Bug sweeps with nets proved a very popular activity. We showed how to use nets to sweep the grass or trees then put the collected insects into magnifying boxes to identify. Lots of people had a go and found 10 different species including 7 spotted ladybirds and crickets.



We even had Paul Silver (entertainer) on stilts with a net.

Our thanks to the 3 Parish Big Local for supporting this event with a grant towards the costs.

(Continued on next page)

Unfortunately, some groups did not come so we were down on stands but I hope everyone who did attend had a good day. How do you decide on how many people attended? We had a slow start but after 2pm there was a steady stream of people coming through so I would say 70 plus but that is only a guess.

Thanks must go to everyone who manned the stalls or came along to support this event. (If I have forgotten anyone please forgive me).

Just in time for our event Shropshire Council removed the dog leg and bridle gate at the Colliery entrance and erected a new fence which gives us a few extra car park places.

Diary Dates - Tuesday meetings at St.Martins Centre 7.30 p.m. on
11th October and 8th November

Green Gym - 1.30 to 4 p.m. at Colliery entrance on Sundays
9th October and 6th November

(Note change of November date because of Remembrance Day)

.....

Party at Ifton Meadows

Brownies and Guides were invited to serve refreshments at Ifton Meadows as part of the Heritage weekend on September the 10th.



They also set up a activity for children to take part in, this involved using a short length of drain pipe already cut down to size then start filling.

The children could cut the lengths of dried hogweed and bamboo needed if able, then pack the pipe with straw and any other hollow or natural materials using as much as possible packed inside. They must not stick out of the pipe or they will make the whole home

wet inside when it rains.

All that was left to do was to tie a length of string around the pipe and take away to be placed in a hedge somewhere in the dry and wait.

Good Bug hunting.

Towpath Action Group

One of the popular walks from the village is along the canal, especially for the less able because there are no banks to climb. We are very fortunate to have the Llangollen canal running through our area. Designed by Thomas Telford it starts in the Welsh Hills above Llangollen, carrying water diverted from the River Dee. The scenery is spectacular as it crosses over the river via the famous Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, a World Heritage site. The towpath is very popular with folks, walking and enjoying the peaceful, traffic free scenery and wildlife as the quiet water flows. We are often reminded of the benefits of exercise and this is certainly a safe place for walking, running or cycling. Unfortunately the towpath needs upgrading. It's not too bad from Gledrid to Moreton but after that, to the Moors, it's uneven and muddy and slippery in wet weather. It's no good for the less able or for pushchairs and wheelchairs.



The canal is managed on our behalf by the Canal and Rivers Trust (CART), but they say they have no money for the towpath upgrade, so a local group has been formed called the Towpath Action Group to show that there is local demand for this work to be carried out and to work with CART to obtain grant funding.

If you appreciate using the path we really need new members to push for this work to be carried out.

If you are interested in helping please get in touch with Ron Jones on 777611 or email rironmon@gmail.com.

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Sunday Social Club



Our first two Sunday Afternoon Socials were a great success. The people who attended had an enjoyable afternoon with lots of conversation, cups of tea or coffee and sandwiches and cake.

We have therefore decided to continue with this Club which will take place on the

1st Sunday of each month

the next date being the

2nd October at 3.30pm

and the following one on the

6th November at the same time.

Please therefore feel free to join us and if you wish to contact us for more details or have difficulty in travel please call:

Mrs. Valerie Thompson On 01691 658756

Letter to the Editorial Committee

We received the following letter following the **SCAM ALERT** in the July edition of Village Life which we thought might be helpful should you receive a call of that nature:-

Dear Ed,

A recent communication I had on the above resulted in the advice below, I am sure all will be interested. Report phone calls to the police and if you dial 1471 BT will tell you where the call came from which will be of interest to the police via your PCSO.

If you have an account with BT or another provider, advise them that you have received a call that you suspect is a fraud made by a confidence trickster (scammer). BT will be interested in any information you give them.

You can also contact HMRC and inform them as well because they never contact a customer by phone, text or e-mail.

Please remember the old sayings careless talk costs lives, mind your own business, you don't need to know that so take a running jump. Your bank account information is private between you and your bank and no one else, so tell them to push off.

For those on line you can send brief details to security.customer@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk or send any info to gov.uk/report-suspicious-emails-websites-phishing.

Hope this is of use. David G Hopper.

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Please call me to discuss your needs.

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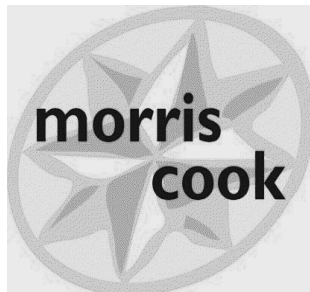
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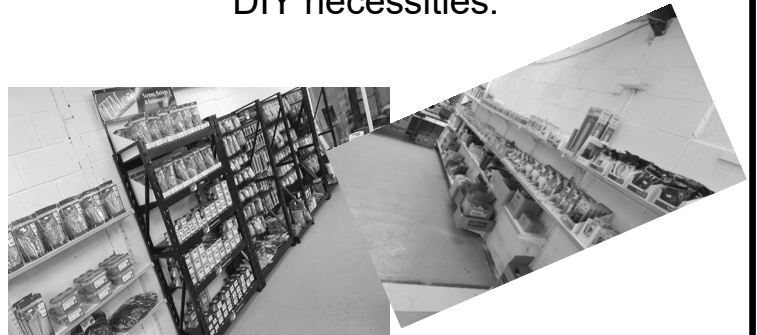
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AUGUST REPORT

We had no meeting in August but on 26th July St. Martins W.I. joined a coach trip to Llandudno with the fellowship group and everyone had a fine time.

SEPTEMBER REPORT

We had a W.I. meeting on the 6th September and welcomed Sue, Emma and Linda as visitors. After reading our newsletter and other business we had a member of our own W.I. Debbie Shaw as our speaker. She has had over 12 years experience in providing foot care and spoke about foot anatomy and physiology. Did you know your feet contain over a quarter of the bones in your entire body? She talked about foot health and answered many of our questions. We learnt how we punish our feet on a daily basis and that we should make some changes in footwear and footcare to improve their health. We made our final arrangements for The Party on The Meadows on 10th September which I hope many of you attended. Our speaker for October 4th will be Christian Hickson-Booth on container gardening. On November 1st we will have Carol Allan of Llanvalley Natural Products which are made from goats milk, honey and beeswax. We also have a Tie/Die workshop on October 15th. There is plenty to interest all you ladies out there, so why don't you come and join us at our next meeting?

You can find us on Facebook on facebook.com/StMartinsWI



TIE TO DYE SILK SCARVES WORKSHOPS

If you are interested in discovering what your local WI has to offer, this is a great opportunity to find out. Come along to our silk scarf workshop on Saturday the 15th October 2016 where you will be welcomed by current members of St Martins WI and can find out more about our activities.

The cost is £5.00 and you will have a unique silk scarf to keep and take home.

Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance by the 7th October.

This workshop is for over 18's only. There will be 2 sessions, the first will be from 10am - 12pm, the second from 1.30pm - 3.30pm, both will be in the lounge at the St Martins Ifton Miners Institute.

Please contact Debbie for tickets and further information on 01691 777130.



WESTON RHYN

ST MARTINS

GOBOWEN

Village Volunteering

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, make a difference to your local community as well as gain new experience and have fun. To find out about opportunities right here in your village :

Come and chat to Alex at:

St Martin's Centre - 1st Tuesday of the month 10-12

Gobowen Library - 2nd Tuesday of the month 10-12

Weston Rhyn Institute - 3rd Tuesday of the month 10-12



FAIRShare—School Saver Co-ordinator

Helping young people to develop money management skills and get into the savings habit by co-ordinating and promoting the school savers club

Skills required

Local knowledge and some marketing experience would be ideal but not essential.

2nd St Martins Scouts

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Skills required

We are looking for people with enthusiasm, a sense of fun, friendly & approachable.

**If you would like to know more please contact Alex on 01691 656882.
Or you can email volunteering@big-local.org.uk.**

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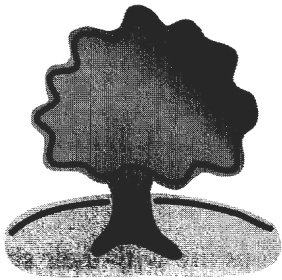
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Three Parishes Big Local September 2016



Three Parishes
Big Local
Weston Rhyn • St Martins • Gobowen

September 2016 marks the beginning of the third year of our 10 year programme. We have written a new Community plan which builds on the progress made in the last two years. The main activities in the plan for the next 3 years are:

Enterprise Support

Improving Communications

Grant Schemes

School Savings Clubs

Tackling debt and personal finance issues

Community Events

The full Community Plan document is available on our website, www.big-local.org or by contacting us, using the details below. Reference copies are available at St Martins Centre, Gobowen Library and Weston Rhyn Village Hall.

Sporting fun for all ages



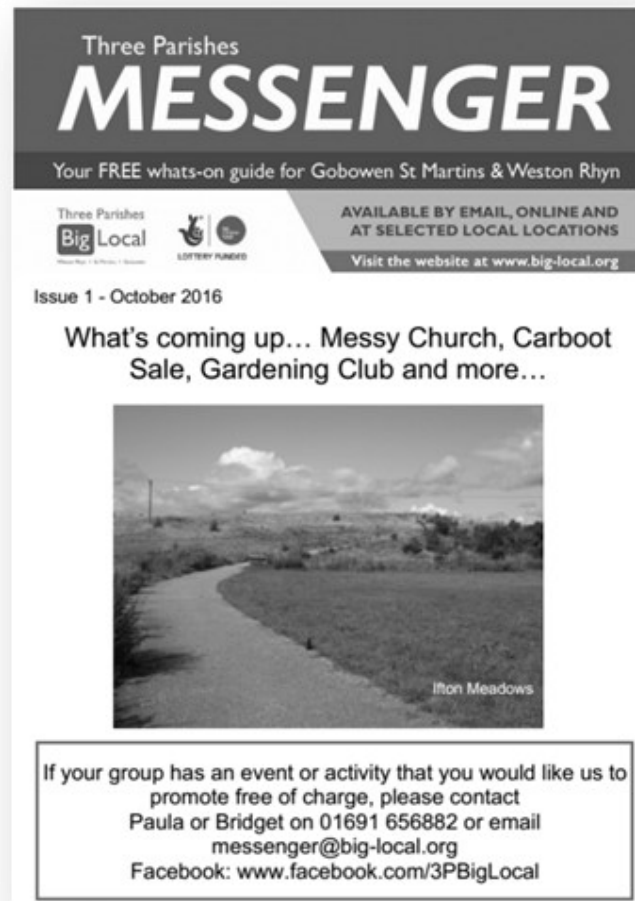
Where possible we would like to help support and encourage our residents to keep or get active and we are looking at ways that we can help.

Is there a sport or activity that you would like us to investigate bringing to a village near you?

Does your club need more members? Do you struggle to promote your activity? Does your club need new equipment? We may be able to help with any of these. Please contact us using the details on the next page.

The “Messenger” is on its way!

Finally, the Three Parishes Big Local Partnership is pleased to announce that our new fortnightly ‘whats on’ newsletter ‘**Messenger**’ will be launched in October. If you have signed up with your email address an electronic copy will appear in your in box very soon – you can still sign up by emailing: messenger@big-local.org. As well as being published on our facebook page, you will also be able to pick up a paper copy at various points in the 3 villages, including: Stans, Co-op, Weston Rhyn Stores, as well as at all hairdressers and more.



Got any ideas? Like to get involved?

Want to keep up with 3 Parishes Big Local news?

To contact Bridget, Paula, or the Three Parishes Big Local Partnership:

Write to: Qube, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11 1RB	Tel: 01691 656882
Email: b.laraway@qube-oca.org.uk p.pugh@qube-oca.org.uk	Check out our website : www.big-local.org
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