

What's on in September 2021!

From 19th July	Chirk Castle Is OPEN	Timed entry Search Chirk Castle	Book Now
From 19th July	Timed entry Search Erddig	Erddig Wrexham Is OPEN	Book Now
Sun 12th	Car Boot Sale Book a pitch £6	Whittington Castle	Pitches from 8-15
Sun 26th	Car Boot Sale Book a pitch £6	Whittington Castle	Pitches from 8-15



St Martins

Community Speedwatch

Due to COVID restriction Speedwatch was suspended until now.

Although through the first lock down there was a noticeable reduction in traffic using the village, over the last 3 months we are now back to where we were, if not slightly worse. The VAS

(Vehicle Activated System) has had an impact on vehicles coming into the village but the same cannot be said for those leaving the village. You may have noticed that the monitoring team have been out and about and will continue but we need more bodies. Can you give us an hour a month to suit your availability, if so please contact Sue Schofield Coordinator via emailing suesco1951@gmail.com

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Can any history teacher explain this ...!!!

Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress 1846.
John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.
Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.
John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.
Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.
Both their wives lost a child while living in the White House.
Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.
Both Presidents were shot in the head.

Now it gets really weird.

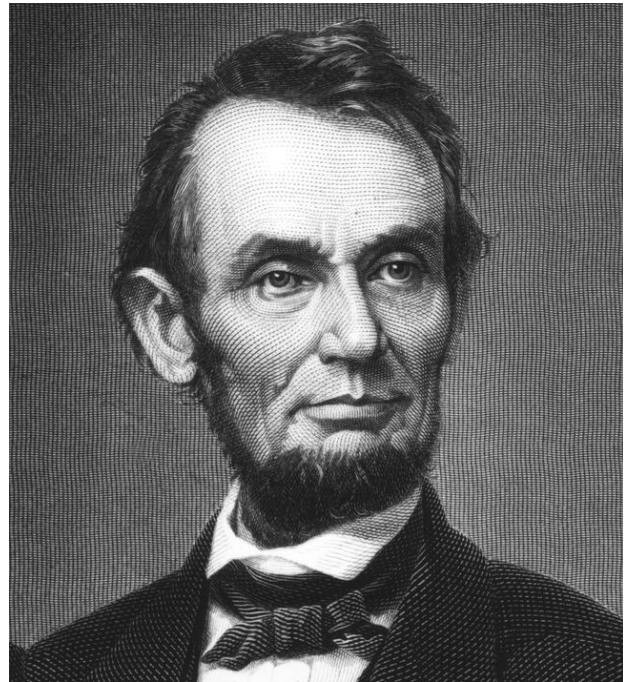
Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.
Kennedy's Secretary was named Lincoln.
Both were assassinated by Southerners.
Both were succeeded by Southerners
The successors of both Presidents are named Johnson Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln was born in 1808.
Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.
John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839.
Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939.
Both assassins were known by their three names.
Both names are composed of fifteen letters.

Now hang on to your seat.

Lincoln was shot at the theatre named "Ford."
Kennedy was shot in a car called "Lincoln" made by "Ford."
Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.
And here's the "kicker":
A week before Lincoln was shot, he was in Monroe, Maryland.
A week before Kennedy was shot, he was with Marilyn Monroe.

AND.....:

Lincoln was shot in a theatre and the assassin ran to a warehouse...
Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and the assassin ran to a



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This advert for work opportunities in the village is something new. Would you like to see more of these kind of advert in the magazine? Please email us if you would stmartinsvil-lagelife@gmail.com

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Quiz Answers from page 17

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10. Giles
12. Ling or Bell

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Building a School of the Future for North Shrewsbury

The Marches Academy Trust has worked in partnership with the community, Shrewsbury Town Council, Shropshire Council and the Department for Education (DfE) to secure a bright future for Shrewsbury Academy.

The partnership will see the development of the Shrewsbury Academy and the Sundorne Infants school sites into a School of the Future, providing a quality learning environment for the young people of Shrewsbury. Funding from Shropshire Council and the Department for Education to transform Shrewsbury Academy, will build on the improvements that have already been secured over the last 12 months.

So far there has been the development of a new reception area, student entrance, improvement to the school kitchen, essential electrical works, significant drainage works to ensure the main fields are fit for purpose as well as improvement to the front car park.

The Department for Education will work with the school to identify the exact facilities required to meet the needs of the students. In principle, the following areas will be developed:

The refurbishment of the Sundorne Infant School after the pupils move to their new accommodation on Featherbed Lane next Spring and incorporation of this site into the grounds of Shrewsbury Academy.

The construction of a new build teaching accommodation to the existing school buildings.

Targeted areas of remodelling within the existing school site to support the expansion.

This is an exciting time for the school, which joined the Marches Academy Trust in 2019.

Julie Johnson, Head of School at Shrewsbury Academy comments: ‘One of my main aims is that every student and member of staff feels a sense of pride about our school. The school continues to evolve, and this funding will ensure our facilities are improved and expanded to create fantastic learning spaces. The investment shows commitment to the students and community to ensure every child has access to a high-quality education in the local school of choice.’

Sarah Finch, CEO of the Marches Academy Trust adds, “The Trust has worked with Shrewsbury Town Council, Shropshire Council and the Department for Education to secure this significant funding. This partnership is confident that the refurbishments and updates will allow The Marches Academy Trust to continue to work with our community in North Shrewsbury to give our young people the opportunities to explore their talents and follow their dreams.”

Councillor Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Shropshire Council’s Cabinet member for children’s services said: “I am delighted to see that plans are now taking shape to develop a ‘School for the Future’ for Shrewsbury Academy.

Creating the best start in life for our children and young people has long been a top priority for Shropshire Council. This investment, coming on top of the Council’s funding for provision at Harlescott Junior and Sundorne Infant in north Shrewsbury, will provide local children greater opportunity to access high quality education within their community.”

Ifton Meadows

By Wilfred J. Evison

If we take a walk on Ifton Meadows, then all around we'll see
Views of the Berwyn Mountains and Shropshire hills and trees
The Wrekin shows up a hazy blue, the Longmynd a greyish white,
The Breiddens looking strong and black, against the failing light.

For fifty years this was a pit, with dirt and filth and grime,
The chimney belching smoke all day, the spoil heap thick in slime
Over a thousand miners hued the coal from down below
And by the gate you'll see a coal tub set in concrete, on show



The mine's been shut since sixty eight, the chimney taken down.
The winding gear has long since gone, but the weighbridge is still sound.

As we wonder aimlessly around, let your thoughts turn to the past
And in your mind you'll see the men, and hear the hooter's noisy blast.

No doubt you'll wonder what's the reason for the council's loving care

Could it be the fact that a local man was mayor?

No, I think the real reason was the Aberfan disaster

And the children buried there.

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Deliverers needed

We are always needing deliverers for about an hour every other month. We try to keep the rounds small and the weight of the magazines light. Ideally delivering the weekend of publishing which is usually the last weekend of the month of issue. You can pick up your bundles midweek by arrangement. Can you deliver around:

Oak Drive

Berwyn Drive, Puddle Lane, Overton Road

New Ifton

Cedar Close and Church Close

Please contact Jenny on 772063



IFTON COLLIERY Commemorative Project



Saturday 12th June 2021 was a day of note.

The statue of the Miner is completed.

3 bronze plaques were installed by Terry from the Castle Fine Arts Foundry, Llanrhaeadr, their work and support has always been the best anyone could wish for, thank you to all the team.

One plaque contains the names of all the miners who lost their lives at work, there were others who due to an accident down the mine, lost their lives sometime later who have not been included but never the less was still remembered and all will be remembered as long as the Statue remains. The committee were very sad not to be able to invite all the families of these men due to the COVID restriction but we hope we did them all proud. The Hilton Jones Trust were very generous in donating 50% of the cost of the Plaques and Heather Jones hosted a GoFundMe page and raised nearly the other half and we should not forget the myriad of individuals who donated though the website and in person.

The other two plaques recanted the the reasons for the Miner being there, to tell in future years, when all has passed from living memory, that the village grew up from the mine and it was the villagers, the wider community and local businesses that worked together to raise the money to make it possible. Terry Ellis and Ken Hinton read what was on the plaques and now it's there for all to read.



It was also noted that the Miner is now lit at night, Thanks to Ash Allum, the CCTV is installed and working and covers the whole of the Memorial Gardens. Many thanks to Stan's Superstore for not only hosting the CCTV but the many ways they helped in raising the money. The cobbles around the Miner was generously donated by Westminster Stone, Thanks guys and not forgetting Tesco's Bags Of Help Scheme which allowed their shoppers to vote for local projects that they thought worthy of a donation which nearly paid for the laying of the setts.

Ifton Colliery Band attended the ceremony and added a dimension that only they could have achieved. They continue to carry the name all around the country when they go to competitions etc, Thanks for making the day that bit extra special. They played the hymn Gresford to start the ceremony, Abide with me at the end and after the names were read out by Colin Williams a minute silence was observed and the band played the Last Post.

The storyboard was revealed by Stuart Jones, MD of Ridgway Rentals Ltd and the draft Storyboard which we had on Commemoration Day back in November 2018 has been given back to the school (see page 9).

The project committee wish to thank everyone who supported them in this endeavour. It was a mountain to climb at the beging but it felt like a hill with all the help we had from you.



Dear Parents and Girl Guiding members

We are pleased to announce an opening date for our first meeting of Girl Guiding.

Tuesday September the 14th at the Methodist Chapel, starting at 6pm till 7pm. Guides will follow on at 7pm till 8.30.

We understand you may be a little confused and apprehensive as we have all got older and may need to change from Rainbows to Brownies or even Guides but please come along and talk to us or you can register your details on the girlguiding.org.uk

Thank you to the people that came along to our open registration day and met with us we look forward to having new faces join us and meeting with you all again soon.

Brown Owl. Contact number 01691 778598

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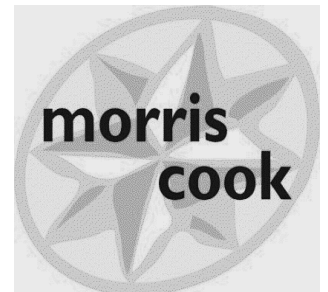
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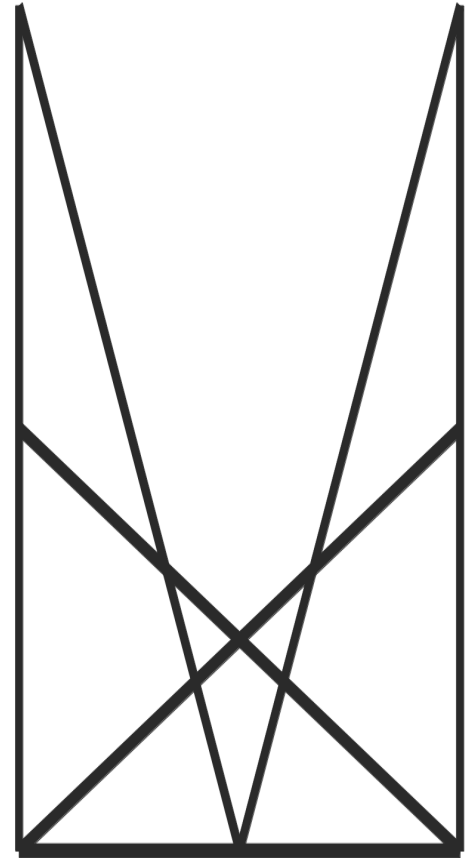
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2	4					1		
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		1	4			3		9
7			3	1	9			2
3		6			7	5		
5			7			8		
		2					1	3
	7			2				

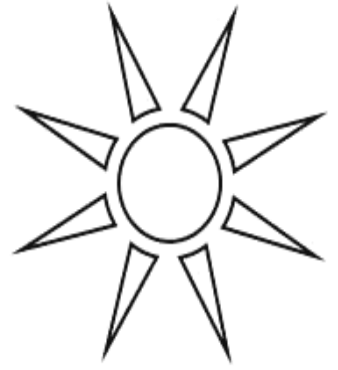


How Many Triangles?

Here's a picture for you to colour.



Picnic Foods



Word Search

Can you find the hidden words below?

a e p t e w v e g e t a b l e s a k a l a d u j
r i i c e t e a e m a r c h i c k e n e r s c e
u p a e q u y t e a p p l e p i e j a v e n e l
n a c k s a n d w i c h y c u p c a k e s a s l
a a c t p o t a t o c h i p s e r s o d a c e y
e r h u q h o t d o g a p a r s o s a j o k a p
s d e e p l a w n w a t e r m e l o n n e t l i
a a e a h a m b u r g e r t a c b o k w r i a c
n a s e o g a m i l y a t y a n d w o c h a e n
a q e r t p o t a t o s a l a d a s e l l y t i
u k c o o k i e s c o o g b a s k e t i c n a c

Find the Following Words:

watermelon

ice tea

sandwich

cheese

snack

chicken

hot dog

hamburger

jelly

soda

potato salad

basket

picnic

potato chips

vegetables

apple pie

cupcakes

cookies

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Sat	11:30 - 2pm	Closed

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Defibrillator For Community at Ridgway!

Ridgway now has a defibrillator in our service office that is available to our staff and the local community in the event of an emergency.

At Ridgway, we take the health of our staff & community very seriously and now have a fully operational defibrillator available for emergency use for our own staff as well as the general public in the event of a cardiac emergency.

You can call Ridgway on 01691 770171

We have members of staff that have received training in the operation who will be available to assist in a nearby emergency situation.

If anyone has the need for the defibrillator, they can call us and one of our trained staff can bring the device to assist in a cardiac emergency.

Defibrillator For Community Registered on 'The Circuit'

We have registered our defibrillator on the National Defibrillator Network, The Circuit, and it is also connected to the West Midlands Ambulance Service. This will allow it to be found quickly when medical emergencies arise in the surrounding area and more likely to be used in an emergency.

According to the British Heart Foundation, the high energy shock that is produced by defibrillators can play an essential role in saving the life of someone who is in cardiac arrest.

Their chance of survival reduces by up to 10% for every minute that it takes for the equipment to reach them.

Ridgway MD, Stuart Jones says

“While we really hope we never have reason to use this defibrillator, it’s reassuring to know we have one here just in case and that it could help to save someone’s life. “There are many local businesses in St Martins and the local area as well as the general public that will now have the benefit of this device so we really want the whole community to know about it and spread the word that it is here and we can assist in the event of an emergency”.



FRIENDS OF IFTON MEADOWS



Hello everyone - After such a long time it is nice to sit down and write something for the Village Life. During lockdown Ifton Meadows has seen a much larger footfall and we hope that you have all enjoyed relaxing and walking in our Local Nature Reserve perhaps you might even consider joining the Friends and help us to look after this lovely site.

Due to a cold and wet May we saw a drop in the number of butterflies that can usually be seen at that time of the year but thankfully numbers are now starting to improve.



I would like to thank everyone for keeping off the skylark mound our new posters seem to be working. We have more sightings near the mosaic and one of the photo posts is being used as a skylark perching post which means that you might catch a proper glimpse of this lovely bird (for those who do not know Skylarks are on the Red Endangered list).

The highways department/Shropshire Council have dredged the pond mainly to help with drainage on the road but this will also help once it is settled to encourage wildlife.

The old events field wild flower seeds sown by Neil are beginning to produce a more diverse wild flower meadow and we ask people not to enter this area with or without dogs and this year the Horse field is looking good with exceptionally diverse wild flowers, especially an increase in common orchids.

Looking forward we are going to embark on a programme of bio-diversity monitoring, creating a monthly/ seasonal and yearly record of flora and fauna of the reserve. If anyone would like to help with this or general work please get in touch with Ann 01978.710327.



Lastly we are sorry to say that we lost one of our volunteers Bill Jones who died suddenly during the Autumn, Bill did a lot of work on site sowing wildflower seeds onto mole hills around the Meadows these continue to flourish. His enthusiasm and generous spirit will be missed.

Friends of Ifton Meadows.

St Martin's WI had their first meeting this year on 1st June 2021. We all met up outside The Miners Institute for a picnic in the afternoon. The weather was lovely and when we had finished eating and chatting we walked down to the Memorial Garden and planted a Cherry tree to commemorate the 100th anniversary of The Shropshire Federation of W.I.'s. We should have planted it last year but of course with the lockdown this was delayed. It was so good to finally get out and meet everyone face to face. We had kept in touch with newsletters every month and phone calls and emails, but there is nothing better than meeting up.

We have also started our walking group again and if anyone is interested, we meet each Friday at 10.00 am outside Stan's shop by the cenotaph. We have had a few ladies join us who live in the village but are not in the W.I. This is perfectly ok, you are very welcome, the walks are usually about 3 to 7 miles in the local area. We hope our program for the remainder of the year will be available in the next Village Life magazine.

Anyone interested in joining the W.I. can contact us on either 01691 777807 or 01691 777034.





News from Big Local



**NATIONAL
LOTTERY FUNDED**

We continued to work in our area during lockdown, supporting the development of a community food bank in St Martins and giving emergency grants to schools to help provide children working at home with essentials. As we continue to make steps out of Lockdown it's a good time to remind Three Parishes residents who we are and what we do. Look out for new events to come shortly around food and healthy living.

The Big Local has invested £750,000 in the Parishes of Weston Rhyn, St Martins and Gobwen over the past 7 years. There has been a lot of support and provision set up in these villages for residents, as well as money invested in local businesses, community groups and organisations.



We are now on our 4th Community Plan, but the overall shared vision for the 3P remains the same.

“In 10 years time, the Three Parishes Big Local Programme will have improved the lives of the people who live in and around the area. The Three Parishes will be even more safe and comfortable and will be good places to live, learn and grow. Our ambition is to achieve Resilience, Confidence and

Sustainability.”

There have been some changes during lock down too. The previous staff team have all moved on, and Tiz Deakin recently started as the Big Local Community Development Officer. A Huge thank you to Bridget, Paula and Cath, and the partners Nick Heard, Sue Heard, David Boyce and Pat McGuinness who have taken a step back from active involvement. We are forever grateful for their time and dedication to the 3Parishes over the years.

Village Holiday Activities and Food Programme

TNS will be running free holiday activities again for children and young people age 5-12 this summer, with lunch included. In St Martins this will be on Fridays; 30th July, 6th, 13th, and 20th August from 9.30 – 1pm on St Martins playing field.

Please email info@tnsfcfoundation.org.uk for more information or to register.

My Money Matters

Has helped residents claim £620,131 in benefits and extra income that residents didn't know they could claim. The Citizens Advice My Money Matters programme is available to people who live or work in Weston Rhyn, Gobowen or St Martins. Karen is giving telephone support – offering free advice. For more information or to arrange a telephone appointment, contact Karen Williams mon-weds from 9-5 on 07526 169 305 or 01743 644 941.

Three Parishes Means Business

Paul Newman of Be a Better Fish and JC's Careers Services is still available to help residents affected by job loss or job insecurity, as well as being on hand to assist residents with their new small business or changes to business after Covid.

Please do get in touch if you

have a small business or new business idea

have recently left full-time education and are struggling to get on the career ladder, are currently furloughed, but worried about your long-term job security

Or have, unfortunately, already faced redundancy and need to find new ways to earn an income.

If finding work is currently a problem for you, then please do get in touch; we are here to help!

If anyone would like to know more about the service available, then please contact the Be a better

fish Club via www.beabetterfish.com or call Paul directly on 07534 975 440.

Please get in touch if you would like any more information about any of the projects or anything Big Local, we would love to hear from you.

Contact Tiz on 07709 674 619 or 01691 656882 email: t.deakin@big-local.org or Find us on Facebook

Village Life Advertising Costs

Do you need to let people know you're in business, where you are and what you do? Why not advertise your business in this magazine. This publication is delivered to every home in the parish not just the village and to most of the businesses by a band of brilliant volunteers (at present 1Please do get in touch if you

have a small business or new business idea

have recently left full-time education and are struggling to get on the career ladder, are currently furloughed, but worried about your long-term job security

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