

Pontesbury Parish Newsletter

December 2022

Issue No: 292

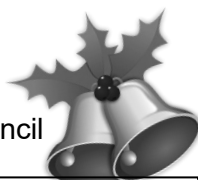


The past few years have brought and next year, without doubt, will bring, challenges to us all. We are, however, fortunate to live in a wonderfully resilient community, where we can find so much good cheer and support. I have been astounded, yet again, this past year, by the many activities offered by local community groups and hours put in by volunteers. A big, big thank you for all the time you give freely to support and spend time with your neighbours. I am very proud to be part of this community as, I know, are my fellow parish councillors.

A wonderful example of our thriving, caring community are all the wonderful events promoted in this newsletter and the many more to come in 2023. Something for everyone to enjoy.

As 2022 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Parish Council team, to wish everyone in our Parish a Merry Christmas & Healthy New Year and look forward to working alongside you all in 2023.

With warmest wishes,
Cllr Duncan Fletcher
Chairman, Pontesbury Parish Council



**Closing Date for the January 2023 edition is
10th December 2022**

Please email contributions to
deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk or hand into the
Pavilion.

Advertisers, please contact
deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk for details on how to
place your advertisement

Dates of Christmas Events for your Diary

1st December

Getting 'Christmas' Creative @ 11am see
Pavilion page 3

3rd December

Friends of Pontesford & Earls Hill 'Build Your
Own Reindeer Workshop' @ 10am
page 11

3rd December

FOPL Christmas Coffee Morning @
10.30am page 4

3rd December

Christmas Wreath Making Evening @
6.30pm - page 16

9th December

Community Good Neighbours Coffee
Morning @ 10.30am - page 5

9-11th December

St George's Tree Festival see page 9 for
opening times, refreshments available

10th December

Mini German Christmas Market @ The
Plough Inn from 11am to 4pm page 10

16th December

Pop-Up Christmas Party @ 7pm page 10

17th December

Carols by Candlelight, Baptist Church @
5pm - page 8

17th December

Mood Indigo Concert, Public Hall @ 7.15pm
- page 4 & 11

21st December

u3a Christmas Party in the Pavilion page 10

24th December

Crib Service, St George's Church @ 4pm -
page 8

Pontesbury Parish Council News

At the November meeting councillors received updates from the various local groups who are supporting people through the cost-of-living crisis. Parish Councillors wished to thank Pontesbury and Rea Valley Good Neighbours Scheme for their various projects, including the successful launching of the luncheon clubs at the Public Hall, and to the Churches for the opening the Foodbank. More information about these activities can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Council also received the annual management report for Poles Coppice and were delighted to see how well the team are engaging with young people to attract them to this local reserve, which really is a rich source of biodiversity in the parish. Councillors agreed to continue giving an annual grant towards the upkeep of the reserve.

Various councillors have raised the issue of littering in the parish and councillors met with a Shropshire Council Officer to look at how this can be tackled. The parish council are hoping to work with Hanwood and Minsterley parish councils next year to organise a Rea Valley wide litter pick.

Another topic for discussion was the long-term plan for the very well-used play area off Station Road. A working group was set up to meet and look at possible sources of funding for managing and developing this vital community asset. The council would like interested residents to get involved, so please contact the clerk if you would like to be part of any play area refurbishment.

There is still a vacancy for the Pontesbury ward of the parish council following the resignation of Cllr Lynette Charles. If you would be interested in becoming a councillor please contact your local councillor or the Parish Clerk. Further useful information about what is involved in being a councillor can be found on the parish council website www.pontesburypc.org.uk

The next parish council meeting will be held on Monday 12th December, 6.30pm at The Pavilion. Please note the change of time. From October to April the parish council meetings start at the earlier time of 6.30pm.

The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Monday 5th December 2022 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk, deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

If you wish to comment on a planning application please use the Shropshire Council planning portal at <https://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/> or pass your comments through Cllr A Hodges at ahodges@pontesburypc.org.uk. All new planning applications for the area are listed on the parish council website.



CAN YOU SPOT FRAUD?

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE BEING SCAMMED OR DO NOT RECOGNISE THE CONTACT

Take Five To Stop Fraud

- ☐ **STOP:** Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- ☐ **CHALLENGE:** Could it be fake? It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- ☐ **PROTECT:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action on 0300 123 2040 or via actionfraud.police.uk.

Scam Text messages can be forwarded to 7726 to help phone providers take early action and block numbers that generate spam on their networks

Forward Fake Emails received to report@phishing.gov.uk

For further information visit: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> or <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk>



Pavilion News

December 2022

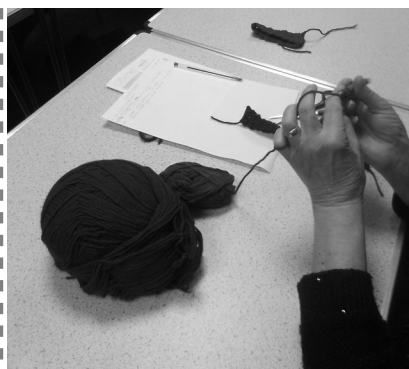
Building Closed from
23 December to 3 January 2023

What's On in December?

Date	Time	Event
Thursday 1st December Thursday 15th December	1000-1200	u3a Creative Writing Group in the Meeting Room
Thursday 1st December Thursday 8th December Thursday 15th December Thursday 22nd December	1000-1100	Dan Lewis Chair Based Fitness for over 55s
Thursday 1st December	11am-1pm	Getting Christmassy Creative - bring along the projects you are working on, enjoy a cuppa with friends, share tips and swap patterns
Thursday 1st December	2.30pm	A big thank you to volunteers
Saturday 3rd December	11am-1pm	FOPL Christmas Coffee Morning
Monday 5th December Monday 12th December Monday 19th December	2pm - 3pm	Energize STW Chair Based Fitness for over 55s
Monday 5th December	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Planning Committee meeting
Wednesday 7th December Wednesday 14th December	1000-1200	Sea Change Trust - group for pre-schoolers with parents / carers
Wednesday 7th December	1130-1330	Age UK STW Dementia Support Café
Monday 12th December	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Meeting
Monday 19th December	6.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Pavilion Committee meeting

The **Getting Creative** sessions are on the first Thursday every month, from **11am to 1pm** at The Pavilion. We serve tea, coffee and biscuits and **it's free**, just turn up, bring along your project, get creative and chat.

If you have any wool/needles, patterns or other craft materials that you would like to donate for this group, please bring them to The Pavilion any morning of the week. Thank you

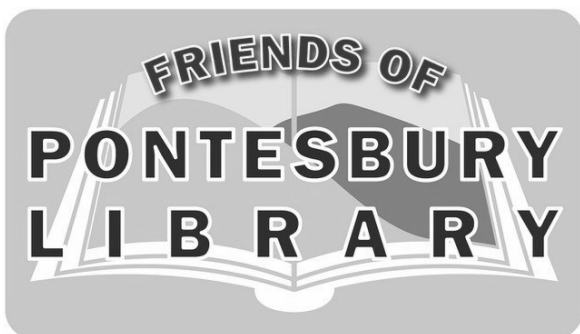


Crochet Workshop

An inspirational and fun crochet workshop took place on Friday 18th December. Sandra from Buttonbury taught a group from Pontesbury the art of crochet. At the end of the session,

people said they had a fabulous time, they felt really satisfied and their confidence boosted.

Looking to hire a room, the Pavilion has rooms, large and small to hire. Please contact Anna Lawson, admin@pontesburypavilionc.co.uk or call in for a chat.



News from the Friends of Pontesbury Library

December sees us wrapping up the year, along with the presents. It has been a good year for FoPL, with post-pandemic events to enjoy, friendly coffee mornings, and the future of our library secure for the next 12 months at least. We are hugely grateful that Colin Sharp has agreed to undertake the role of interim Chair of Trustees, and we will continue to look out for someone to take on the Chair in the future.

The November Lottery draw winners were: 1st Prize Doreen Thomas: 2nd Prize Maggie Challinor
3rd Prize Julian Povey

On 3rd December we will have our coffee morning and lottery draw – do come along from 10.30 to enjoy a mince pie or cake, sociable time and to browse the books.

On 17th December the postponed Mood Indigo concert will take place in the Public Hall, 7.15 for 7.45, a musical treat from Val Sinclair and friends. A few tickets should still be available from Hignett's, Connections, the Library, or online at [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk).

Hignetts have very generously offered to donate £5 to the Friends of Pontesbury Library for every Christmas Tree sold, whilst keeping the prices the same as last year! Their local, freshly cut trees from sustainable plantations will be available from the 30th November so please call into Hignetts and buy your tree. We are very grateful for this generous offer.

After Christmas, Ben Jones of Wood Matters will be in the old Station Yard with his chipper, to 'chip it for charity', on Saturday 7th January. Your tree can be chipped and recycled for a donation of £5 – so the Library could potentially benefit to the tune of £10 for every tree bought from Hignetts and recycled locally.

A date for your diary – acclaimed singer songwriter Steve Knightley is coming to perform at Minsterley Parish Hall on 18th February 2023 and any proceeds raised after artists' costs will also be donated to FoPL. His previous visits have been a sell-out. Tickets are available from [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

Thank you to the Co-op Community Fund & for your support this year, the money received during our year as nominated charity was gratefully received. Wishing everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

December in the Library Preparations are well under way for Christmas, our seasonal books are out on display, unpacked from their summer hibernation. We have 'GET READY'! Lots of cooking and crafting books, ideas for recycled decorations, crafted presents and what to do with left over sprouts. The fiction collection is full of heart-warming family stories and romance.

We have loads of Christmas books for children, for all ages. Jenny and Yvonne are already choosing their favourites to read at Rhyme Time, which will be on Thursday December 8th at 2pm. Shakers and bells will be out for a special sing-along.

The library will close for Christmas and New Year at 1pm on Christmas eve, Saturday 24th. We will open again on Tuesday 3rd January. Extra books may be taken out, they won't be due for return during the holiday so please hold on to them, they will get very cold and damp if left in the book drop box for a week. Remember we have books available on the cloud library too, ask at the library for your PIN!

Merry Christmas from the Library Owl and the rest of the parliament.





**'Mood Indigo'
with Val Sinclair
*in concert***

and a few special guests to add some extra festive spirit!

**Saturday 17 December
Pontesbury Public Hall
7.15pm for 7.45pm start**

Wear your Christmas glad-rags and enjoy a great evening of blues, ballads, pop, a drizzle of jazz and more, from this 8-piece band - with the added bonus of raising funds for Pontesbury Library

This replaces the concert which was postponed on 10 September and most people retained their tickets. Remaining tickets £10.00 can be purchased from

Hignetts
Pontesbury Library
and there are a few on
[Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)







Community
Good
Neighbours
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

Upcoming Events

9th December 2022

**Coffee Morning - 10:30am –
12:00pm - Plough Inn**

All are welcome to come along.

For all upcoming events please view our
Facebook page for all updates.

Round Up of Pontesbury and Rea Valley Good Neighbours events and activities 2022

Pontesbury and Rea Valley Good Neighbours Committee have organised a large number of events and activities during 2022, bringing the community together and helping those who are alone, most vulnerable or just in need of a cup of coffee and a chat!

Coffee mornings have been held at The Plough every month during 2022, giving an opportunity for those who do not get out and about very often to meet new people in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We would like to thank Amy, Derek & Ali for all their support throughout the year and for allowing us to hold the coffee mornings at The Plough.

Several coffee mornings have also been held in Minsterley, to help those who wish to attend in that area, thank you for the support of Minsterley Parish Hall who have waived the cost for these events.

Smaller “coffee and chat” groups and a Gentlemen’s Club have also been arranged during 2022, with great success and wonderful support from the community. If you have attended, our thanks go to you all.

In addition, the Good Neighbours committee have an “On Call” phone, which has enabled the team to respond to requests for prescriptions and medication, access to help lines for energy issues, mental health agencies and assistance, help with shopping, access to local food banks – even finding a mobile hairdresser for a lady who was unable to leave her home.

The Befriending service has been operating all year, some by telephone and some involving home visits from Good Neighbours volunteers – whatever the individual requests. Matching the individual with a regular volunteer visit or call has helped to break the loneliness and vulnerability that some of our residents are feeling, particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Good Neighbours have been able to organise several “Pop Up Larder” events in both Pontesbury and Minsterley. These events have been extremely well received by those who are struggling with the rising costs of everything. The committee would like to say a massive thank you to a local couple who asked for donations to the ‘pop up Larders’ in lieu of gifts for their wedding, we were overwhelmed with the donations of food, cleaning items, baby food, nappies and much much more and a generous donation of £150.00. We would also like to thank anyone who has donated food via Hignett’s or Pontesbury Co-op to the Pop Up Larders held during 2022 and to both Minsterley Parish Hall & Pontesbury Parish Council.

Following the success of the “100 Club” this year, the committee will be running the club again in 2023. For a cost of £12 per year, each member of the club is allocated a number, and monthly draws give cash prizes to those whose numbers are drawn from the hat. Should you wish to become a member and purchase your own lucky number, please get in touch with the Good Neighbours.

None of this would take place without the generosity of Pontesbury Parish Council, the community, local businesses, Severn Rotary Club, Howard Thorne and our devoted volunteers on the committee.

To contact the Good Neighbours, to get involved in any of the above events or clubs, to volunteer your services to help us, please call 07944 891953.

**Finally, we would like to wish you all a Happy and Healthy Christmas,
and every success in 2023.**

Next Luncheon Club on Friday 27th January 2023 in The Public Hall

A hearty meal will be served, for which a small charge will be made towards the running costs, and a chance to socialise and meet your neighbours and others from the local community.

Pontesbury WI

This month Pontesbury WI held an open meeting inviting all the local community to join us for our craft fair. We had a really successful Fair with lots of visitors who joined us to see all the crafts that had been created. It was lovely to see the Public Hall so full of people enjoying themselves and supporting the WI. Thanks to all the WI members who made items to sell and the community who purchased our goods.

We are looking forward to having a stall at The Plough Christmas Fair taking place on the 10th December from 11am until 4pm.

We will also be decorating a Christmas tree for St George's Church tree event. Our theme is Pontesbury WI members gifts of friendship.

Our next meeting will be on the 12th December.

Our craft Club will be held on 15th of November and the 6th of December.

If you would like to join the WI, new members are most welcome. We meet at Pontesbury Public Hall on the second Monday afternoon of the month.

Please contact Irene Windows President on 01743 791903 for further information.

Maxine Pittaway Events Organiser



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



JUST ONE THINGto help save the planet

Tip No. 9 Make your own Christmas Decorations

In the UK, on average, 12,500 tonnes of Christmas Decorations end up in landfill each year. Hard to believe that so much imported glitter is wasted, plus you cannot recycle tinsel and baubles! Why not have fun making your own decorations? Dried oranges, pine cones, greenery and twigs from the garden can help. Yogurt pots, foil trays and cereal packets are useful too and can be recycled afterwards. Be inventive-look on the web-there are lots of ideas.



Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group

Coop Community Fund Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours has been chosen as the local Coop Cause for 2022/23. **Please choose us as your nominated local good cause.** Money raised through the Coop will be used towards funding our volunteer work within the local community. You can choose Good Neighbours by logging onto your app-communities and choosing a cause. Alternatively Co-op - Local causes - Co-op (coop.co.uk) log on and choose a cause. Please choose a cause there is potentially a lot of money that the Coop will give to Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours. *Thanking you in advance.*



Getting Support in Pontesbury

The Rea Valley Foodbank – sharing and caring within the community (in partnership with Shrewsbury 'foodbank PLUS')

WHY ARE WE NEEDED? The huge increase in the cost of living and energy bills are adding more pressure to those of us already working on a tight budget. People from many walks of life can experience a financial crisis which could be due to illness, bereavement, redundancy, low paid work, debt, a delay in benefit payments, an unexpected bill, or a combination of issues, and can bring sudden and real hardship to individuals and families. If you are going through a difficult time and need our support then we will provide a weekly parcel of nutritionally balanced food, toiletries, cleaning products, and other essentials to help you in the short term, based on your circumstances.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

These are not walk-in centres so you **MUST** have a referral, but this is easy and can be done by contacting any of the people or agencies listed below:

Reverend Greg Smith 07902 794653
Reverend Richard Lonsdale 07922 830488

Agencies: (eg Citizens Advice Bureau) / Church Ministers / Council or Government Agencies (ie DWP)
GPs / Housing Associations / Mental Health Team / Schools / Support Agencies / Job Centres

(07951 126958 - This number is also available but only on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am - 12.00)

Your referral will come as a text on your mobile phone. Don't forget to take your phone when you go to either Minsterley or Pontesbury to collect your parcel. When you arrive, a member of the team will take your details (including any dietary requirements, size of your family etc), and make sure that the food parcel meets your needs. The team is warm and welcoming and your details are totally confidential. Coffee and tea are part of the welcome! The collection centres are:

Holy Trinity Church, Minsterley Tuesday mornings 10am-12.00
St George's Church, Pontesbury Thursday mornings 10am-12.00

We looking forward to giving you our help and support.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS – you need a referral by 9th December at the latest.

If you are worried about managing at Christmas and would like a Christmas hamper then please get a referral as above. We need your name, address, mobile number and an email address, so that we can contact you with details of your collection number. We use numbers rather than names so that your hamper won't get muddled with someone having the same surname. We will also need to know how your household is made up, so that we can prepare appropriate gifts for children.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTION POINT: AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, PONTESBURY, ON FRIDAY MORNING 23RD DECEMBER, BETWEEN 10.00am-12.00

FINANCIAL DONATIONS enable us to buy items we run short of and are particularly welcome at the moment to help us provide Christmas hampers. Donations can be sent to:

The Rea Valley Foodbank / Sort Code: 51-61-06 / Account No: 76841804 /
The reference is: 'Donor'

For further help or advise please email support@reavalleyfoodbank.co.uk

Shropshire Carers: We are pleased to share with you our new Winter Wellness Guide 2022. Full of information, all in one place. We hope you find this useful - please take a look via the link below:

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/shropshire-choices/caring-for-someone-else/>

Getting Support in Rea Valley



On a low budget? Want to save money

Visit shropshirelarder.org.uk to find out about low cost or free food and help with debt, benefits, housing and more in Shropshire.



Keep Shropshire
Warm

0800 112 3743
advice@mea.org.uk

Anyone worried about their bills or staying warm at home can call Marches Energy Agency on 0800 112 3743 or email advice@mea.org.uk

A Warm Welcome

Local churches and other volunteers are offering a warm welcome during the cold winter months. Each morning of the week through December & January, there is a warm building open where tea and coffee (and perhaps a little more) will be served. There is no charge for this and people are welcome to pop in for a short time or the whole session. Venues are open for this as follows:

Mondays 10-12 The Pavilion
Tuesdays 11-2 Pontesbury Baptist Church
Wednesdays 10-12 Pontesbury Congr Church
Thursdays 10-12 St George's
Fridays 10-12 St George's

Any queries to Greg at rectorpontstip@gmail.com or 07902 794653 or to the venue in question



Carols by Candlelight

@ Pontesbury Baptist Church

Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

Saturday 17th December 5 PM

Well-known Carols, Scripture readings, and a Christmas message, followed by mince pies and hot drinks!

No need to book in advance – just come as you are! Everyone is welcome!

www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk

REA VALLEY FOODBANKS OPEN 07951 126 958

**Holy Trinity Minsterley from 10-12
every Tuesday morning;
and
every Thursday morning from 10-12 at
St George's Pontesbury**

Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours

For Food Parcels, Pop-Up Larders, Luncheon Club and help with prescription deliveries:

Call: 07944 891953 for a confidential chat

Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours

Friday 9th of December
Coffee Mornings 10am to 11.30am
Pop-up Larder 10am to 11.30am
in Minsterley Parish Hall, from
All are welcome

RIP Trevor Bishop: Joyce Bishop and family would like to thank everyone for the kindness shown to them on the sad loss of Trevor. For the many cards and messages received, attendance at the funeral and donations received of £1,250 to be shared between Rea Valley Methodist Churches and Severn Hospice.

**free
entry**

The Great Pontesbury Bake Off

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CRIB SERVICE



Christmas Eve
4pm at St George's Pontesbury

Make sure you have the right ingredients for Christmas

St George's Church
www.st-george.org.uk

Services for December:

4th 10:30 am Morning Worship
6th 2.30pm Tea Service
11th 10:30 am Holy Communion
– Festival of Trees
18th 10:30 am Holy Communion
6:30 pm Carols by Candlelight
24th Christmas Eve
4 pm Crib Service
6pm Carols on the School Green
11pm Midnight Mass
25th Christmas Day
10:30am Joint Service at Holy
Trinity Minsterley

Pontesbury Baptist Church We have services twice
Chapel Street, SY5 0RJ every Sunday – at
www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk 10:30 am and 6:30 pm

Our services are open to everyone, so you don't have to book ahead or inform anyone you're coming. There's no dress-code, please just come as you are. We have no set or reserved seats, you're welcome to sit wherever, and with whomever, you like. In addition, every service is streamed live via our website, and recordings of previous sermons are available on our church website and our YouTube channel.

For more information about the wider work of our church, or if you want to get in touch with our Pastor Mike Wells, please use the following email address: info@pontesburybaptist.co.uk



St. George's Church, Pontesbury

**Celebrating 25 years of our
Christmas Tree Festival**

9th & 10th December from 10am to 6pm
Sunday 11th December from 12 to 4pm



Refreshments available
Easy wheelchair access

Pontesbury Congregational Church

Services for December

Sunday 4th December 10:00 Service - Congregation
Sunday 11th December
10am Service and Communion Rev. Debbie Martin
6:30pm Candlelit Carol Service - Led by Glenda Carter
All Welcome

Wednesday 14th December
4:00 Christingle Service Minsterley Congs - All welcome
Sunday 18th December
10:00 Service led by Jan Hocking
Sunday 25th December
Christmas Day Short Service tba

Methodist Church

Services for December

4th December at 10.45 am. TBA
11th December at 10.45 am with Mrs Helen Pearson
18th December at 10.30 am with Rev. Richard Hall -
Carol Service
25th December at 10.00 am at Minsterley Methodist
Church.

A WARM WELCOME

Every Tuesday 11 – 2 pm
Pontesbury Baptist Church
Chapel Street, Pontesbury, SY5 0RJ

A warm welcome and a safe place this
winter!

Hot drinks and refreshments free of
charge / Free Wi-Fi / Games & Magazines /
Children's toys / Easy Access / Toilets
available

All welcome!
More details at:
www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk

Pontesbury Women's Club

Tuesday 13th December

Shrewsbury Hand-Bell Ringers will entertain
us; a sale by Sandra Harris & Emma
Lawrence, alongside a Christmas Buffet!

Tuesday 10th January

Marion Micklewright from Shrewsbury Cat
Rescue will tell us about her work

PWC meets at 7.30pm on
the second Tuesday of the month
At Pontesbury Public Hall

Visitors and New Members are always welcome



JOIN US FOR OUR U3A

CHRISTMAS PARTY

WEDNESDAY
21
DECEMBER

2 - 4 PM
THE PAVILION
PONTESBURY

u3a learn, laugh, live
Pontesbury & Rea Valley

The Plough Inn's Christmas Events List

Date	Event	Time
6th December	Country and Western Afternoon with Alan Williams	3-5pm
10th December	Mini german market Gift stalls and food venders	11am - 4pm
10th December	The 3 Founders Live music	8pm
11th December	Christmas Knockout Darts, Dominoes and Pool Sign up sheet now up!	3pm
15th December	Christmas music bingo Booking recommend	6pm
20th December	Country and Western Afternoon with Dan Thornhill	3-5pm
22nd December	Lucky 13 bingo & Play your cards right xmas edition!	6pm
29th December	Monthly Quiz Night Booking needed	8pm
31st December	New years eve party with Mark Darc! Book your table now	9pm

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A POP UP

Christmas PARTY

FRIDAY 16TH OF DECEMBER 7PM - 11PM
PONTESBURY VILLAGE HALL

ENJOY A DELICIOUS 3 COURSE MEAL
BAR, LIVE MUSIC & DISCO WITH ANDY O'BRIEN

Eat. Drink. Be Merry

£30 PER ADULT
TO MAKE AN ENQUIRY
OR BOOK YOUR TABLE
CALL SUZIE ON 07964 210419

APPETISING EATS
Catering for your occasions

£10 deposit per adult required on booking

Menu

Starters

Roasted squash & sweet potato soup
Finished with a drizzle of chimichurri, cheesy croutons, petit pan & butter

Chicken liver pate with a touch of whisky & apricot
served with caramelised onion chutney, toasted sourdough & dressed salad

Prawn & smoked salmon salad
served with Marie Rose sauce, granary bread & butter

Main Course

Slow cooked Beef Bourguignon
served with dauphinoise potatoes, vegetable bundle & a parmesan puff pastry star

(V) Mushroom, chestnut & spinach Wellington
served with creamed potatoes, vegetable bundle & a white wine sauce

Breast of chicken in a white wine & mushroom sauce
served with creamed potatoes, vegetable bundle & a parmesan puff pastry star

Dessert

Baileys cheesecake
with grated chocolate and a small shot of Baileys Irish Cream

Lemon tartlet
served with a fruity sauce, fresh berries & Chantilly cream

Cheese & biscuit selection
served with festive chutney, grapes & celery

Food pre-orders & full payment required by Friday 9th December

Please advise of any allergies or special dietary requirements when booking



**'Mood Indigo'
with Val Sinclair
*in concert***

and a few special guests to add some extra festive spirit!

**Saturday 17 December
Pontesbury Public Hall
7.15pm for 7.45pm start**

Wear your Christmas glad-rags and enjoy a great evening of blues, ballads, pop, a drizzle of jazz and more, from this 8-piece band - with the added bonus of raising funds for Pontesbury Library

This replaces the concert which was postponed on 10 September and most people retained their tickets. Remaining tickets £10.00 can be purchased from

Hignett's
Pontesbury Library
and there are a few on
Eventbrite.com

FRIENDS OF PONTESBURY LIBRARY

December in the Garden

At this time of year there is not too much happening in the garden; there are still some brave flowers showing their faces, and a few crops in the veg garden ready to be harvested, but most of us prefer to be indoors.

There are still some jobs that can be done on a fine day. Most shrubs are best pruned straight after flowering during the growing season, but over winter the leaves have fallen and the structure of the shrub, or tree, can be seen more clearly: any branches that cross and are likely to rub on adjacent ones and can be removed. Do be aware that winter pruning promotes growth and cutting a branch along its length may result in growth of a number of vertical, whippy twigs, known as water shoots. Remove any branch close to its source on the main branch to prevent this.

The ground is wet at this time of year and walking on it can result in compaction, and thus poor growth next summer. This applies to lawns, but going over the lawn with a garden fork, sticking it in a few inches and wiggling it about, can relieve any of the compaction that built up over the summer. This also gives the roots access to air and helps their growth, giving stronger plants for next year.

Pontesbury Gardeners' Association's Trading Post is closed until 4 February so you need to look elsewhere for your Xmas shopping! Gardeners among you will always welcome some warm socks for inside their wellies at this time of year, and to go with them a warm pair of gardening gloves.

During winter months the gardener spends much of



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**Saturday 7th January 2023
10.00am to 12.00noon
Recycling Centre, Station Road,
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the time clearing up spent annuals and taking the tops off perennials, as well as trimming shrubs, hedges and trees. Rather than putting all this material in the green bin it will benefit the garden if it is composted and then added to the soil once broken down. A shredder to chop up the woody stuff is always useful, but as shredders are in a different price bracket to a pair of socks a bit of research is needed before buying. Similarly a compost bin is always useful, and two are better than one: one to hold the material that's rotting down and you are taking from, and one to be adding to. However, like shredders these bins are worth researching first: ones at least a metre across and a metre deep are more efficient than smaller ones.

If your gardener grows most of your plants (flowers or veg) from seed, then seed trays with propagator

tops, and maybe a heated base, will help enormously. Windowsills in south-facing spare bedrooms often act as a useful place to germinate seeds and bring on seedlings early in the year, but may not be popular with guests!

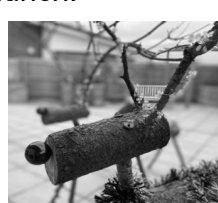
But, whatever presents you buy, be sure to enjoy yourself, particularly if you are eating your home-grown veg for Xmas lunch.

**Friends of Pontesford
and Earls Hill**

invite all children, parents &
grandparents to the 2nd

**Build Your Own
Reindeer Workshop**

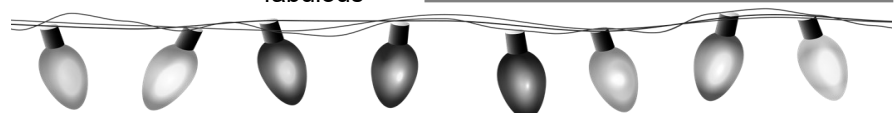
Lower Camp
Pontesford Hill
from 10 a.m. on
**Saturday
3rd December 2022**



Wooden
reindeers at
The Pavilion
last year -
don't they
look
fabulous

Saturday 18th February. Steve Knightley in concert at Minsterley Parish Hall, proceeds in aid of Friends of Pontesbury Library.

Tickets available from eventbrite.co.uk



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11th January 2023
8th February 2023
8th March 2023

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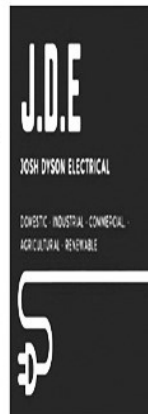
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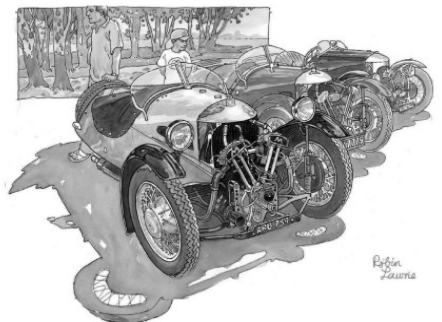
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CLASSIC hangups

An exhibition of classic car artwork by
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DECEMBER DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Every Tue	10-12am	Rea Valley Foodbank	Holy Trinity Minsterley
Every Tue	2-4pm	Tai Chi	Public Hall
Every Thu	10-12am	Rea Valley Foodbank	St George's Church
Every Thu evening	7-9pm	Pontesbury Thursday Night Badminton Club	Mary Webb School
Until 5th December	Exhibition	Classic Hang-Ups by Robin Lawrie	Pavilion
Thu 1 Dec	11am - 1pm	FREE Getting Creative Morning	Pavilion
Sat 3 Dec	10am	Build Your Own Reindeer Workshop	Lower Camp, Pontesford Hill
Sat 3 Dec	10.30am	Friends of Pontesbury Library Mince Pie Coffee Morning	Pavilion
Sat 3 Dec	6.30pm	Christmas wreath-making evening	St George's Church
Mon 5 Dec	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting	Pavilion
Tue 6 Dec	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club	Public Hall
Wed 7 Dec	7.30pm	Pontesbury Gardener Christmas Meal	The Horseshoes
Thu 8 Dec	2pm	Rhymetime for 0-5 years - bring along parents or grandparents	Library in Pavilion
Thu 8 Dec	2pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Thu 8 Dec + every Thu	7-9pm	Shropshire Woodcarvers Group	Mary Webb School
Fri 9 Dec	10.30-12am	Community Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn
Sat 10 Dec	11am - 4pm	Mini German Christmas Market	The Plough Inn
Sat 10 Dec + every Sat	10am-2pm	Repair Café	St George's Church
Sat 10 Dec + every Sat	10am-4pm	Shropshire Woodcarvers Group	Mary Webb School
Sat 10 Dec	Afternoon	FREE Children's Christmas Party by Friends of Pontesbury Library	Pavilion
Mon 12 Dec	7.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
Tue 13 Dec	7.30pm	Pontesbury Women's Club Sale & Christmas Buffet	Public Hall
Fri 16 Dec	7-11pm	Pop-Up Christmas Party	Public Hall
Sat 17 Dec	7.15pm	Mood Indigo Concert with Val Sinclair	Public Hall
Mon 19 Dec	7.30pm	Pontesbury Parish Council Pavilion Committee Meeting	Pavilion
JANUARY 2023 DATES			
Thu 5 Jan	11am - 1pm	FREE Getting Creative Morning	Pavilion
Thu 12 Jan	2pm	Pontesbury WI	Public Hall
Fri 13 Jan	10.30-12.00	Community Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	The Plough Inn
Wed 25 Jan	7.30pm	Flower Club	Public Hall
Fri 27 Jan	10.30am	Carer's Group	Pavilion
Fri 27 Jan	11.30am	Good Neighbours Luncheon Club	Public Hall

REMINDER: January Newsletter deadline is 10th December, all info to deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk please.