

Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter

Issue 218 - September 2020

News items for the Newsletter should go to the Editor, Rita Waters, Dingley Dell, Westbury, Shrewsbury SY5 9QX
Tel: 01743 884434, email: newsletter.editor.wy@gmail.com

Business adverts and any new businesses wishing to place adverts should also contact the Editor preferably by email.
Items for inclusion in the Newsletter must reach me by : for the October 2020 edition : 9am Monday, 21 September 2020
and for the November 2020 edition : 9am Monday, 26 October 2020.

Westbury Village Hall

Westbury Parish Council : Due to the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 virus, Westbury Parish Council meetings are subject to change and - until further notice - will be held remotely using "Zoom" software to conduct meetings. The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, 10 September 2020. Should any member of the public wish to join the meeting, it is requested that they first contact Mrs Sarah-Jane Smith, Parish Clerk and RFO by email : <clerkwypc@aol.co.uk>.

Westbury WI : Due to the Covid-19 virus, all formal meetings have had to be postponed, but members are still enjoying the occasional "Get Together" in members' gardens. See Page 11 for more information or call Jill Jones (01743 884414) or Cilla Perry (01743 884950) or Beryl Johnson (01743 884950) or email : berylanderic@icloud.com.

Westbury Bowls Club : As usual, will be closed for the summer months but - depending upon restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus - will hopefully start again in September. For more information, call Dave Williams (01743 884553).

Westbury Photography Club: Due to restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus, the Club will not be meeting again until advised by the Government that it will be safe to do so. For more information please email Robert Williams : (robertwilliams6@mac.com).

Hall Hire : Due to the Covid-19 virus, the village hall will not be available for bookings until further notice. For more information, please contact Bella 07707639124 (Mobile) (Voice/Text) or email : childsbella@icloud.com

Westbury Youth Club : The "physical" Youth Club has closed; however - conscious that the Covid-19 virus situation is putting a huge strain on everyone, Lee and Hayley are keeping in touch with the young people and will run a "virtual" Youth Club, which is being advertised through their Facebook page. For further information, call Richard Parkes, Chief Executive Officer, Shropshire Youth Association. Tel: 01743 730005 or 07710095802 (Mobile).

Westbury Exercise Group : Due to the Covid-19 virus, all future meetings have been postponed until further notice. For more information please contact : rmorris73@gmail.com.

Long Mountain CoE Primary School : Due to the Covid-19 virus situation, the School and Pre-School are only open for the children of NHS staff and other key workers until further notice. For more information, please contact Long Mountain CoE Primary School on 01743 891320.

West Shropshire Flower Club : Due to the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 virus, all future meetings have been cancelled until further notice. For more information call Liz Dawson (01938 570235) or visit: info@brimford.co.uk.

Yockleton Victory Hall

Yockleton WI : Due to the Covid-19 virus situation, formal meetings have had to be cancelled until further notice but Garden Visits are taking place. For more information, please see Page 4 or contact Daphne Goodwin (01743 884524).

Rea Valley Young Farmers Club : Although I was asked to report in the April 2020 Newsletter that no meetings of this Club would take place in the future, I have since been advised that this information was incorrect. So, for details of future meetings, please contact : Rebecca Beckett on 07528 944632.

Hall Hire : Due to the Covid-19 virus, the Village Hall will not be available for bookings until further notice. For more information, please telephone Samantha on 01743 821360.

Refuse and Recycling Services in September 2020

Wednesdays 9th and 23rd - Refuse

Thursday 3rd and Wednesdays 16th and 30th - Green and Recycling

Compromised Facebook accounts used to lure victims into PayPal Scam

See Page 15 for more information.

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West Mercia Police

Now that Westbury Post Office has closed and Police Surgeries are no longer held there, much of the information contained in the Newsletters produced by the Shrewsbury Rural West and District's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) based at Pontesbury Police Station, will be of interest to residents of Westbury, Yockleton and surrounding hamlets and can be viewed on the Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter website: wylocalnews.co.uk or, to view issues of these SNT Newsletters and to view the Police Events Calendar, please follow the link below :

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/2993/Team-Calendar-and-Events?amonth=2&ayear=2018&submit=Go>

NB : If the Police are attending any events in Westbury, these will be added to their Calendar.

Anti-Social Behaviour

0345 678 9020 is the Dedicated Reporting Line for Anti-Social Behaviour operated by Shropshire Council in partnership with a number of agencies including the Police. Please use this number to report any anti-social behaviour. All calls are recorded and followed up by the agencies involved.

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team members are Inspector Saf Ali and Sgt Rebecca Thomas. Joe Bradley continues as my right hand man and Police Volunteer Arthur Jones is still opening Pontesbury Police Station on Wednesday evenings between 4.00pm and 7.00pm, should you need to attend for for any issue. We have a sign that we put outside the Station if there is an officer on the premises, so - if anyone is passing and wants advice - please call in.

If anyone requires a "home" visit or wants to discuss anything, please just ring me : PC Cookson on 101 Ext 66645 or use my

Work Mobile : 07814 042410 (Duty Hours)

or email us via: shrewsburyrw.sent@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

If you need **to report any crime**, please call West Mercia on the 101 number or report anything anonymously through :

Crimestoppers on 0800555111.

Please do not email to report a crime. Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress, or when life is in danger. For none emergencies please call 101.

(continued on Page 3)

Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contribution and does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by the contributors. Whilst care has been taken in compiling the Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter, no liability can be accepted whatsoever for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions, or for any matter in any other way connected with or arising out of the publication of the Newsletter.

Police Matters

“Overnight Thefts” - the main area of concern - remain, with a number of incidents reported recently from the Cruckton/ Yockleton area. On this occasion they were residential properties which were targeted for petrol type power tools, but farm buildings are always a favourite. Please ensure that “expensive” items are locked or chained when not in use. Colleagues in Shrewsbury have seen an increase in thefts from vehicles and garages on the housing estates within the town overnight and this includes expensive bicycles - which is another item that requires “bolting down” - even when in a garage.

As the evenings begin to draw in, check that your security lights are still working and make sure you “lock up” earlier in the evening to prevent unwanted visitors from helping themselves, aided by the cover of more darkness. If you would like me to visit and take a walk around your property, please give me a call on 07814 042410.

Following complaints from locals - there will be some Speed Enforcement Checks being conducted in both Westbury and Yockleton over the next two months.

Stay safe and please get in touch with any questions or concerns.

Please continue to lock up outbuildings and report any sightings via 101 and also via some of the excellent community Facebook pages to alert your neighbours that they are about.

I am still working as usual and if you would like me to have a walk around your property to give security advice, please get in touch. I can manage to shout over two metres but I am missing my usual cups of tea, which would be a pre-requisite for a visit!

As always, keep garages, sheds and outbuildings locked and - if possible - alarmed. Simple battery powered alarms have improved and noise is always a good deterrent if a thief has managed to get into your “Lock Up”. Quad bikes and push bikes continue to be popular amongst thieves, so both need chaining up/bolting down.

Security marking can help recover stolen items and there are a number of options available. Please remain vigilant and ensure everything gets locked all the time - not just last thing at night. Keep in touch with your neighbours by telephone and - for those who use social media - post strange vehicles and unusual events. Neighbourhood Watch is nothing complicated or formal. It's just keeping an eye out, but also letting others know - including me - if you have the registration numbers of vehicles that don't look or feel right. It doesn't matter if it is via Facebook, WhatsApp or a text message. Email me and Joe Bradley via :

shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

If you have outside lights and security lights, make sure they are working. Any garden ornaments of value or interest need to be well secured, as do power tools and garden equipment, as they remain a desirable item for opportunist night-time thieves.

Please be aware of any unusual callers to your house or area, even those who may make themselves look legitimate by offering gardening services or asking for directions. Always try and make a note of vehicle registration numbers or anything distinctive about the vehicle and callers.

Continued overleaf...

J. T. HARVEY

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Mary Pryce

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Police Matters continued ...

The "What's on in Westbury" Facebook page is a great way to warn everyone quickly about anything suspicious and gives others the chance to be vigilant.

As stated above, please only contact the Police in an emergency - but we are available for all general advice via our mobile phones and email addresses.

P C Ross Cookson 1324
SNT Shrewsbury Rural West
Police Wildlife Crime Officer
Telephone : 101 Ext. **7704803**

Work Mobile : 07814 042410 (Duty Hours)

Group Mailbox: shrewsburyre.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
Rural SNT based at: Pontesbury Police Station, Minsterley Road,
Pontesbury. SY5 0QH

Web: www.westmercia.police.uk

Please do not rely on email to report crime, in an emergency dial 999 or telephone via 101.

Household Re-Cycling Centres

Although I advised in the June, July and August 2020 Newsletters, that Shropshire Council had re-opened all five of their Household Recycling Centres, at the moment it is still not clear from their website whether or not the Guidance Notes and Specific Site Rules are still in operation. So, before deciding to visit, best to check their website :

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/household-recycling-centres>

Editor

Yockleton W I

In August, members enjoyed a delicious Afternoon Tea whilst social distancing in the lovely garden of Gwyneth Thomas at Stretton Hayes.

On Wednesday, 2 September 2020 we plan to meet in Jessica and David Pannett's interesting garden, when Jessica will give a talk on "Domestic Bygones", commencing at 2.00pm.

We thank both Gwyneth and Jessica for the opportunity to meet during these difficult times. For further information please contact me by telephone or email.

Daphne Goodwin,
Secretary : 01734 884524

Email : [<briangoodwin488@btinternet.com>](mailto:briangoodwin488@btinternet.com)



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**July 2020
Draw**

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Kath Edwards
(No 31)

2nd Prize : £14
Geoff Leigh
(No 15)

3rd Prize : £8
Stuart Gore
(No 78)

4th Prize : £5
Evelyn Arthur
(No 49)

**August 2020
Draw**

1st Prize : £20
Russell Jones
(No 56)

2nd Prize : £14
Gwyneth Thomas
(No 21)

3rd Prize : £8
Joan Lee
(No 103)

4th Prize : £5
Sue Smith
(No 137)

Drawn in the presence of
Jill Jones
Dianne Tomlins-Davies
and
Mary Pryce on
Monday,
3 August 2020

Mary Pryce

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## Yockleton 100 Club

### Prize Winners

#### May 2020 Draw

1st Prize : £25

Linda Olley

(No 2)

2nd Prize : £15

Yvonne Holyoak

(No 100)

3rd Prize : £10

Mark Jones

(No 21)

4th Prize : £5

Andrew Dale

(No 22)

5th Prize : £5

Mrs Margaret Tudor

(No 70)

6th Prize : £5

Mark Hackney

(No 3)

#### June 2020 Draw

1st Prize : £25

Emily Evans

(No 79)

2nd Prize : £15

Mrs R Payne

(No 10)

3rd Prize : £10

Mr R Haydon

(No 81)

4th Prize : £5

Mr and Mrs R Evans

(No 95)

5th Prize : £5

Janet Trow

(No 91)

6th Prize : £5

Mr Brian Knott

(No 13)

*Liz Bromley*



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## West Shropshire Flower Club

All future meetings have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus situation.

*Julia Brion : 01743 791924*

*or Liz Dawson (01938 570235)*

*or visit : [info@brimford.co.uk](mailto:info@brimford.co.uk)*



## Drop-In for Coffee @ St Mary's On Wednesday mornings

Sessions cancelled until further notice

## Holy Trinity Church Yockleton

We will be holding our  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
at 2.00pm

on

Tuesday, 27 October 2020  
in the Church.

All those on the Church Electoral Roll are welcome to attend. Please note that Social Distancing Guidelines will be adhered to.

This will be preceded by our Parishioners' Meeting when we appoint our PCC Secretary and elect Church Wardens for the following year. This is open to all those in the Parish.

*J Howard  
PCC Secretary*

## **Westbury Medical Centre 'Flu Season will start in Mid-September.**

### **This year, the Clinics will have to be run differently due to the Covid-19 Virus Restrictions**

Initially we will be targeting patients in Care Homes, shielding patients and our "at risk" patients who have a chronic disease such as : COPD, Chronic Kidney Disease, Chronic Heart Disease, Chronic Liver Disease, Diabetes, Splenic Dysfunction, a weakened immune system due to Cancer Treatment or a disease such as HIV/Aids. Our over 65's, pregnant women, carers and children under School Year 7 will also be targeted early. For those aged 50-64 we have to wait for further supplies from NHS England.

We will be running an appointment system, some of which will be conducted in cars in the car park, but we are hoping to be able to do some in the building. Each will be operated on a one way system.

Please call the Surgery on 01743 884727 to make an appointment.

PLEASE be PATIENT - this is all very new to us and we are trying to keep you and ourselves safe from the risk of infection.

Pneumonia Injections for the over 65's are available all year round; this is not an annual injection and you usually only need one.

Shingles Injections are also available for 70-79 year olds all year round and you only need it the once - not annually.

*Helen Bowkett*

*Practice Manager : Westbury Medical Centre - M82013*

*Westbury Medical Centre, Westbury. SY5 9QX : 01743 884727*

*Email: <helen.bowkett@nhs.net>*

### **POSTAGE STAMPS FOR CHARITY**

Please keep saving Used Postage Stamps to help raise funds for

#### **Bransby Horses**

The horses, ponies, mules and donkeys in their care still have to be fed, receive veterinary treatment etc and Bransby does wonderful rehabilitation care for the animals it rescues from some appalling conditions.

Stamps can be left for me at :

The Oaklands, Station Road, Westbury  
Shrewsbury. SY5 9QX

(by the former Post Office)

There is a free-standing mail box by the double gates on our driveway.

Many thanks to everyone who has donated stamps so far.

*Alex Tucker*

### **Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter Covid-19 Virus**

As stated in my April, May, June, July and August 2020 Newsletters, each month - and for many years - 530 copies of the Newsletter have been delivered house-to-house in Westbury, Yockleton and surrounding communities by our team of 20 volunteer distributors, many of whom - like me - are OAPs and have been advised to stay at home..

Understandably, in these extraordinary times, our volunteers are unable to continue. All monthly editions are now only available for viewing or downloading via our new website :

**[www.wylocalnews.co.uk](http://www.wylocalnews.co.uk)**

Alternatively, if you visit the website and **REGISTER** by giving your email address, future copies of the Newsletter will be automatically downloaded to your email inbox every month, at no charge to you. Furthermore, this will allow you to print off copies of the Newsletter for any neighbours or friends who may not have a computer.

*Editor*

# Sabrina Mobile Library

We are following a phased return of service for the Mobile Libraries. They started back on the road in the week beginning 27th July 2020. The first four weeks (two visits for each route) will be offering the Ready Reads Collect Service only, no borrowers will be allowed on board.

To order books online, obtain a pin number via the Library Service and the books will be on the next delivery

The drivers have been phoning or emailing their regular borrowers to set this up for them. The service will not be offered to new borrowers (or non-regular) borrowers because the service is proving so popular that they don't have the capacity for any additional borrowers. This is why the Mobile Libraries don't appear with the rest of the library branches in the re-opening information on our website, and why this service hasn't been promoted; the people who need to know will have been told.

Following on from this four week period, we will re-assess and we hope they will begin to allow borrowers on board (with limited numbers, social distancing etc). This will depend on all necessary PPE measures being in place, and also the delayed MOT tests for mobile library vehicles may change some dates.

## **Mobile Library Stops : Days, Times and Routes**

### **Route 8 : Alternative weeks on a Monday** **Limited Opening (TBC) : 14th and 28th September**

|                                         |                   |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ford Village Hall :                     | 9.30am - 9.50am   |
| Halfway House Inn, Halfway House :      | 10.00am - 9.50am  |
| Old School Lane, Wattlesborough Heath : | 10.30am - 10.45am |
| Alberbury Village Hall :                | 10.55am - 11.15am |

### **Route 2 : Alternate Weeks on a Tuesday** **Limited Opening (TBC) : 8th September**

|                                         |                 |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aston Rogers, opposite Brook House :    | 1.00pm - 1.10pm |
| Lower Wallop, Wallop Cottages :         | 1.45pm - 1.55pm |
| Vennington, Lower House Farm :          | 2.10pm - 2.20pm |
| Westbury (outside former Post Office) : | 2.25pm - 3.05pm |

### **Route 4 : Alternate Weeks on a Thursday** **Limited Opening (TBC) : 10th September**

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Yockleton Lay By :    | 10.00am - 10.15am |
| Ford Heath Post Box : | 10.20am - 10.30am |

*Ellen Powell*

*Team Librarian : Libraries Team*

*Shropshire Council, The Annexe, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY2 6ND*

*Direct Line : 01743 255309 Library Support: 01743 255024 :*

*Libraries : <libraries@shropshire.gov.uk> : Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk*



# SEPTEMBER 2020 : UPDATE FROM ED POTTER

## YOUR SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL UNITARY COUNCILLOR The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY2 6ND

Dear All

August is usually relatively quiet at Shropshire Council when most officers take annual leave etc. This August, however, things have seemed to be quite busy as the fall-out from Covid 19 continues to have an impact on all our lives.

### Local Lockdowns and Outbreaks

Thankfully, Shropshire Covid 19 cases remain very low and some normality is returning to everyday life, although I think we are going to have to live with the virus for some time to come. The main aim is to keep cases low and prevent local Lockdowns that have been seen across the country. In the press, localised Outbreaks in Shropshire have been widely reported, but I have been impressed with how the Public Health Team from the Shirehall and also Public Health England and the Police have handled the situation. No cases were transmitted to the wider community and a great deal of reassurance was provided to residents during what was a very worrying time.

### Highways

We have started to see some Surface Dressing works in the Parish, although not the long-term solution I was looking for but, hopefully, the Surface Dressing will help protect the roads from the worst of the winter weather and we will continue to push Shropshire Council for more permanent improvements - but of course subject to budgets.

Last week I attended a meeting with Alberbury Parish Council, the local Police and the local MP to see what pressure could be placed on Shropshire Council and Network Rail to improve the surface of the road either side of the crossing and address the flooding issues in this area. I shall keep you updated.

### Return to School

I appreciate it will be very strange for families - and particularly for children returning to school - having been off for so long. Some parents might be breathing a sigh of relief and - understandably - others will be apprehensive, but there are a number of useful links and frequently asked questions on the Council's website [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk) and also an Advice Line to the Education Support Team at the Council (Tel: 0345 6789008) and this includes School Transport which is important in our area.

As ever, if you have any issue on which you think I might be able to help - or point you in the right direction - please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Ed Potter Shropshire Councillor for the Loton Division  
(Including the Parishes of Alberbury with Cardeston, Montford, Great and Little Ness and Westbury)  
Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education  
07779117802 / 01694731305*

## Local Plan Review Update : 6 August 2020

### WESTBURY HAS NOT BEEN INCLUDED AS A HUB

The purpose of the Shropshire Local Plan is to determine the course of housing development across the County until 2038, to determine the actual and potential needs of the population, requirements for infrastructure improvements, to support economic and sustainable growth throughout Shropshire. Four stages of Public Consultation have already been undertaken over the last few years, as part of the "Regulation 18" stage of preparation, and Shropshire Council's Cabinet has now approved a Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan for a period of Public Consultation, in order to seek representations on the soundness of the Plan. This will take place over a period of eight weeks, commencing 3 August 2020, and all are encouraged to make their feelings known. Many of you have already participated in Public Consultation on the Local Plan over the last couple of years, but this is the first time that the Local Plan has been published in its entirety, and it is available for your scrutiny below.

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/documents/g4175/Public%20reports%20pack%2020th-Jul-20%2013.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

*Continued overleaf*

For your information, Worthen and Brockton have been designated as a "Hub" where 55 houses could be built during the Local Plan period. Chirbury with Brompton - also designated as a "Hub" - could see 45 houses built in the Plan period. This will impact on services and road use.

Once this final stage of consultation has been undertaken, it is anticipated that the Local Plan will be submitted to the Government for examination in January 2021, and it is thought that this phase of the process will require at least twelve months. It is therefore realistic to expect that the Local Plan - subject to a successful examination process - will come into force at some time in the first half of 2022.

**This is the final opportunity for communities to submit their comments on the soundness of the Local Plan, and we urge you to take full advantage of this opportunity, through the link below.**

**Link to the Public Consultation :**

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/reg-18-pre-submission-draft-local-plan-consultation/>

Source : Westbury Parish Council  
Website : [www.westburyparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.westburyparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Road Closures

**Please see below details of Temporary Road Closures**

**Date : Friday, 9 October 2020 01:00am**

**Road Closure:** B4387 from Westbury Junction with B4386 to Halfway House A458, Westbury

**Start Date :** 9 October 2020

**End Date :** 9 October 2020

**Purpose :** Road Closure - Network Rail, Level Crossing Annual Test.

**Works Promoter :** Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

**Works Promoter Ref :** KL452SBA10M20C091020

**Enforcement pattern for B4387 : from Westbury Junction with B4386 : All the time**

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=118212862>

**Date : Monday, 12 October 2020 11:30pm**

**Road Closure:** B4387 from Westbury Junction with B4386 to Halfway House A458, Westbury

**Start Date :** 12 October 2020

**End Date :** 13 October 2020

**Purpose:** Road Closure - Network Rail, access to flail, working times 23:00 - 05:50

**Works Promoter:** Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

**Works Promoter Ref:** KL452SBA10M20C121020

**Enforcement pattern for B4387 From Westbury Junction with B4386:** 23:00 - 05:50

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=11797>

Should you have any queries regarding these closures, please call :

Customer Services on 0345 6789006

or email the Street Works Team on : [streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk).

Source : Westbury Parish Council  
Website : [www.westburyparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.westburyparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Westbury W I

Hello everyone. Hope you are well and safe !

Our last meeting was in March when Mr A T Crowe came to talk to us about Thomas Telford. He, Thomas, was a remarkable man - a Civil Engineer, an Architect and a Stonemason. He designed many projects in Scotland and many local to us i.e. the Menai Bridge in Wales.

Over the last six months, members have been in touch with each other in numerous ways. We met in July in a member's garden and then inside a building to escape the showers ! In August we met at another member's garden. We served tea, coffee and cakes and enjoyed chatting. Frances Peake put together some Quizzes. We all spoke about the happenings over the lock down. Some have taken to gardening, walking, cake baking, reading and photography. Everyone agreed how quickly the time has gone by.

We have been kept up to date from the WI County Office and at present we are collecting plastic bottles and filling them with small pieces of plastic paper to make an "eco brick".

We are looking forward to Christmas and the Federation has organised each W.I Branch to make a decoration made from a wooden slice to be put on a Christmas Tree in St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury at the Carol Service on Sunday, 20 December 2020 when the theme will be "Unity and Strength".

Our next Get-Together will be at 3.00pm on Wednesday, 2 September 2020 in the garden of one of our members, when Tea, Coffee and Cakes will be served. We will discuss ideas from County Office. The Competition on 2 September 2020 will be for members to make a hand-tied bunch of flowers from our gardens.

Keep Well !

*Beryl Johnson : Secretary : 01743 884950  
Email: berylanderic@icloud.com*

## Help to Get Online for the Over 65's Digital Skills for Shropshire Citizens

**Do you feel a little lost using technology ? Need help using the Internet ? Do you feel nervous about using a computer or frustrated about being left behind, as everything seems to be online these days ?**

Getting to grips with the Internet can really help you in later life. Being online means you can keep in touch and see your friends and family. You can save money and grab a bargain or two, get shopping delivered and better manage your health and finances. Research shows that there are more people age 65+ in Shropshire who are not online than in other parts of the UK – which means older people are missing out.

Shropshire Council is supporting people aged 65+ to get online and learn how to use technology safely through a project called Digital Skills for Shropshire Citizens. The project links local support to people who want help to learn how to use their laptops, mobile phones or tablets and get the most out of the Internet. Learning slowly, taking small steps and having the time to practise are keys to success.

If you'd like more information about this service, please contact Andrea Miller, Shropshire Council's Digital Champion Lead on 01743 254834. She is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Email: [andrea.miller@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.miller@shropshire.gov.uk).

Please note: Due to the COVID 19 virus, learning and support opportunities are temporarily on hold. Please get in touch to register your interest in this project as soon as possible, so that when services re-open you can get the help you need.

*Ben Walker  
Marketing and Engagement Manager  
Connecting Shropshire  
Economic Growth*

*Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY2 6ND*

*Phone: 01743 252203 Email: [ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk) Web: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/>*

## Thoughts from the Rector of St Mary's Westbury

*Come, ye thankful people, come,  
Raise the song of harvest home !  
All is safely gathered in,  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied;  
Come to God's own temple, come;  
Raise the song of harvest home !*

September is normally the month when we celebrate our Harvest Festival, giving thanks - not just for the traditional agricultural harvest of crops - but symbolically, for all of our blessings, our food, homes, salaries and comforts, in fact everything that we have, which others might not have. It is a time to remind ourselves how "close to the wind" we often sail.

In September 2019, Reuters (based on an article by Shelter) reported that three million people in England were just one pay cheque away from being homeless because they could not pay their rent. The Guardian ran a similar article, claiming that we were all just two pay packets away from homelessness, citing dozens of individual cases of people who had been living well but were now "on the streets". Under the 2002 Homelessness Act - if we find ourselves in a similar position - the best we can hope for is advice from the local authority, because the provision of homes is only for those found to be a priority. Yet recently - as I wandered around the streets of Shrewsbury - along Town Walls were several examples of cars which must have cost more than my home !

I watched the news last night and my heart was aching for the plight of an African man - I think named Emmanuel - who had settled in the UK, but was in just this situation. He had been working in the service industry but Covid 19 has put a stop to it all. Now he is in a homeless shelter and considers himself to be among the "lucky" ones.

Jesus, when the disciples tried to get him to eat replied :

*"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest' ? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. (John 4)".*

In other words Jesus was reminding us to keep busy, not to eat and relax and be confident in our own security, but to be mindful of the work that God expects from us. In other words, not just looking out for one another, not even just sharing our bread with one another, but being there for one another. Today - as then - there are a lot of people who are scared, hungry, worried about the future, facing loss alone and they need to know that they are not - and never will be - alone; because nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. The letter to the Hebrews confirms this and says :

*"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me ?"*

Maybe you know someone who needs to hear this ?

*Revd David Moss  
Rector for the Parishes of Westbury, Worthen and Yockleton  
Tel: 01743 884165*

### Church Services for September 2020

Please join us as we worship - on Zoom at 9:30 am every Sunday and we also have an "Outdoor Service" at 11:00 am on the following dates and Churches :

Sunday, 30 August 2020      St Mary's Westbury  
Sunday, 6 September 2020   All Saints, Worthen  
Sunday, 13 September 2020   Holy Trinity, Yockleton  
Sunday, 27 September 2020   All Saints Worthen

For more details, please contact the Rector Reverend David Moss on : 01743 884165

# Connecting Shropshire Programme update, August 2020

## **Market Intelligence Review Update**

Earlier this year, Connecting Shropshire carried out a Market Intelligence Review to better understand current and planned (next three years) coverage of broadband infrastructure.

We've now analysed the information from the Review, which indicates that 96% of premises in the Shropshire Council area currently have access to a superfast broadband connection from one of six broadband infrastructure providers. These are :

- Airband - <https://home.airband.co.uk/coverage/>
- Openreach - <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband>
- Full Fibre Limited - <https://www.fullfibre.co/>
- Secure Web Services (SWS) - <http://www.securewebservices.co.uk/coverage/>
- Userve Internet - <https://www.usrve.net/wireless/>
- Virgin Media - <http://www.virginmedia.com/shop/broadband/>

In September, we're planning to launch our updated Coverage Map showing the availability of current and planned broadband infrastructure. In the meantime, if you have any broadband coverage queries, please email the team at :  
[connecting.shropshire@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:connecting.shropshire@shropshire.gov.uk).

## **Airband Case Study: FoxTrax in Marchamley**

The Connecting Shropshire contract with Airband has been running for three years, resulting in over 10,000 premises gaining access to Airband's Fixed Wireless broadband network.

The contract is due to complete in 2021, by which time a further 2,200 premises are expected to be served by Airband's Fibre To The Premises network.

Airband have recently published a Case Study featuring FoxTrax Training ([www.foxtrax.co.uk](http://www.foxtrax.co.uk)), a company based in Marchamley. FoxTrax currently get superfast broadband from the Airband transmitter and are looking forward to having Fibre To The Premises when Airband upgrade the network in the vicinity.

To read more and to check availability, please go to the Airband website:  
<https://www.airband.co.uk/about-us/case-studies/revving-up-broadband-in-ruralshropshire/>

## **Full Fibre Case Study: Designers Collective in Shrewsbury:**

Since 2019, Full Fibre Limited (<https://www.fullfibre.co/>) has been installing its fibre optic broadband network in Shrewsbury. They started in the Cherry Orchard area (SY2) and have extended that network into Coleham (SY3) and are now putting their fibre optic cables into Shrewsbury town centre.

Full Fibre Limited have built this network at their own cost, and the installation has not been commissioned/funded by Shropshire Council.

Full Fibre Limited are a wholesale-only company and don't sell their broadband service

*Continued overleaf ...*

direct to customers, they have a range of Internet Service Providers who do, including :

- Air Broadband Limited - <https://airbroadband.co.uk/partners/fullfibre/>
- ANLX - <https://www.anlx.net/>
- SWS - <https://www.securewebservices.co.uk/ultrafast-broadband/>

One early-adopter is Pete Wilder of Designers Collective (<https://d-collective.com/>). Pete's new broadband service was installed by ANLX and he can now work from home on a faster broadband connection than he gets in the office. To hear from Pete, please click on the link below to see a promotional YouTube video from Full Fibre Limited: <https://youtu.be/GeL8U0v9Hjc>

### **Any questions ?**

If you have any broadband-related queries, please contact Connecting Shropshire with your question as well as providing your address and landline number (if you have one).

*Ben Walker  
Marketing and Engagement Manager  
Connecting Shropshire  
Economic Growth*

*Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY2 6ND*

*Phone: 01743 252203 Email: [ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk) Web: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/>*

### **FOR SALE**

#### **Two Long Mountain School jumpers**

One for Ages 9 - 10 : One for Ages 11 - 12

#### **Two Long Mountain School T-Shirts**

for Ages 9 - 10

Almost New - Only Worn for Nine Weeks before Lock Down !!

**£10.00 for the lot**

Contact : Chris and June or Sarah and Connor : 01743 884964

### **Advertise your Business in our Newsletter**

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**See our new website : [wylocalnews.co.uk](http://wylocalnews.co.uk)**

## **Bereavement Support for Shropshire Residents**

A new service has been launched to support people who are experiencing and suffering from bereavement and loss. The offer is open to any Shropshire resident who has been bereaved, either by a recent death or a previous loss. The Bereavement Support Service is operated by Shropshire Council and community voluntary partners Samaritans, CRUSE, Severn Hospice and Crane Quality Counselling. The service can be accessed through self-referral by calling **0345 678 9028**.

The Bereavement Support Service is accompanied by the launch of a "Grief and Bereavement During COVID19" booklet which provides a compassionate overview of coping with loss, feelings that may be experienced, supporting others who are grieving and links to help and information. A secondary booklet provides a practical guide for the process following a death and what has changed due to the pandemic.

Digital versions of these resources are available from the Shropshire Council website bereavement page at: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/bereavement-services/support-and-resources-for-those-recently-bereaved/>

*Sarah-Jane Smith  
Clerk and RFO : Westbury Parish Council*

PC Ross Cookson, Constable 1324, SNT Shrewsbury Rural West based at Pontesbury Police Station has asked me to include in the Newsletter the following Police Information Sheet regarding a current scam. He has also sent copies to several Parish Councillors in this area of Shropshire and also to several Shropshire Councillors.

*Editor*

## Compromised Facebook accounts used to lure victims into PayPal scam



### Summary

Published on 18/08/20  
Reference 2007002

There has been a surge of reports where the recipient has received messages through Facebook Messenger from friends/family requesting to use their Pay Pal account to receive funds from the sale of items on EBay. Overall, between 1st June 2020 and 31st July 2020 a total of 95 reports have been made which specifically mention that the item sold was a camera.

Messages are sent by fraudsters purporting to be friends/family stating that they have sold a camera on eBay but that they are unable to process the payment as they either do not have a PayPal account or because their Pay Pal account is not working. The request is that the message recipient receives the funds into their own Pay Pal account, then, after transferring it into their own bank account, they forward it onto an account controlled by the fraudster.

If the victim agrees, the payment is transferred into their Pay Pal account but, after the money is transferred out, the initial transaction is reversed leaving the account in negative balance.

Multiple reports have also been received from victims stating that their Facebook Messenger accounts have been hacked and that these fraudulent messages have been sent to all their contacts on their behalf.

The total reported loss for these reports is £44,035.

### What you need to do

**Verify financial requests:** Be wary of unusual messages asking for assistance with financial transactions. Even if the message appears to be from someone you know and trust, you should check it's really them that sent the message by calling them or speaking with them in person.

**Unusual financial requests:** Never respond to any requests to send money, or have money transferred through your account, by someone you don't know and trust.

**Secure your accounts:** You can protect your important online accounts by using a strong separate password and, where available, turn on two-factor authentication (2FA).

**If you have made a payment:** Inform your bank, or payment service provider, such as PayPal, as soon as possible. They can help you prevent any further losses. You should also monitor your bank statements regularly for any unusual activity.

For more information about how to protect yourself online, visit  
[www.cyberaware.gov.uk](http://www.cyberaware.gov.uk) and [takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](http://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk)

**Every Report Matters**

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to us at [Actionfraud.police.uk](http://Actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

# BBC NEWS ITEM : 7 August 2020

## I won a Holiday but it turned out to be a Big Scam

By Simon Read : Personal Finance Reporter

When Sammie Richardson saw an Instagram post about winning a week's holiday to Tenerife she tagged a friend to enter and thought little more about it.

Then she got an email saying she'd won. "I was shaking," she said.

But after the competition organisers started asking for personal details, Ms Richardson discovered it was a scam.

She isn't the only person who has nearly been caught out - experts warn there has been a surge in fraudulent prize promotions since Lockdown.

Crooks are exploiting the fact that more of us are online for longer periods and are trying to trick consumers into revealing sensitive personal information.

"Criminals know people are spending far more time online, and they're capitalising on that," said Jeremy Stern, chief executive of PromoVeritas, a company that helps firms run legitimate prize promotions.

"We've seen a significant increase in the number of online scams."

### "A little weird"

After Ms Richardson was told she'd won the holiday, the organisers asked for her and her partner's passport details.

"I asked them if I could take my kids could on the holiday," says Ms Richardson of Brighouse, West Yorkshire, who has three children, aged three, five and thirteen..

They said "No problem at all, but said it would cost £300 for each child, £900 in total." I thought it was worth it.

They asked for my children's passport details but, when I told them my children didn't have passports, they said "No problem at all".

"I had a feeling something was a little weird," she said.

She checked out the resort where the holiday prize was and discovered it was for Adults Only, so there was no way her kids could go.

So she contacted the travel company supposedly behind the prize, only to be told they'd never heard of the competition.

"It was all a big scam to get our details and some cash out of us" Ms Richardson said. "A cost of thousands".

"Consumers need to be very careful about the kind of promotions they enter, and the information they give out." warned Mr Stern.

"There are lots of great prizes to be won through major brands in your supermarket and online which should cause you no concern at all."

"But the same is not always true for prizes offered through social media such as Instagram, Facebook and Twitter".

*Continued overleaf...*



## Image Copyright Getty Images

He said "If you have any doubts about the legitimacy of a promotion - such as a prize draw or the opportunity to 'test' a new product - walk away."

"Entering the wrong one could cost you thousands," he said.

The crooks behind the scams are hoping to trick people into handing over personal information which can be sold on to lots of market companies. This can end up landing people with a lifetime of spam emails or letters.

However, in the worst cases, criminals could use the information to try to steal a person's identity, resulting in their bank account being emptied out or using the details for fraudulent purposes.

## How to spot a dodgy promotion

How can you spot a dodgy offer ? Mr Stern said promotions on social media or unbranded websites are likely to be suspect if they ask you lots of irrelevant questions.

The prize draw is often just a way to pull you in and gather lots of your personal details to sell on.

Be wary of offers to "Be a tester" or "You could be a mystery shopper" - they're often prize draws under another name. They rarely care for your views, they just want your data.

If there are not even basic Terms and Conditions, such as deadlines to enter, rules and details of how winners will be selected, that's a sign of a suspicious offer.

Also, steer clear of promotions that ask you to enter by liking a Facebook page, or a post or one that encourages people to tag a page on Facebook, or retweet on Twitter.

"They are breaking the rules of the platforms, so the promotion is likely to be dodgy", said Mr Stern.

Prize draws that want to charge you money to enter or call themselves a "raffle" could be breaking the law.

In the UK, it's illegal to run a Pay-to-Enter Prize Draw without a Gaming Licence, unless the promoter is a charity.

If you are charged for entry, then it must be a competition, a game of skill, and have a reasonably hard question, or a parallel free entry route.

If you spot a scam competition or promotion, report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud.

It will increase the chance of the scammers being caught and stopped.

You can report a scam online by **registering with Action Fraud**

## Shropshire Star

If you would like to access and read the Shropshire Star on line (as I have done for several years) on your computer or mobile device so you can read it anywhere, you can call their Customer Service Team on 0800 174 064 or email them at : [operations@mnamedia.co.uk](mailto:operations@mnamedia.co.uk) or [marketing@shropshirestar.co.uk](mailto:marketing@shropshirestar.co.uk) for more information . Enjoy the latest edition of the paper - wherever you are - with the Shropshire Star Newspaper App which has recently been rebuilt to improve performance, given a design refresh and fixed many bugs in the process !

*Editor*

## Shropshire Council Planning Applications

All Planning Applications can be viewed on line on the Shropshire Council Planning Website  
(<https://shropshire.gov.uk/planning/>).

Open the website, type in the planning application reference and you can view the application and proposal in detail. The list below only includes those planning applications whose status has changed since the entries shown in the August 2020 Newsletter.

(N.B No new applications registered on SC's Planning website at the time of producing the September Newsletter)

*Editor*

| <b>Application Reference</b> | <b>Applicant/Agent</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Proposal</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Status</b>                      |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 20/02772/COU                 | Mr Andrew Lawrence<br>The Old Chapel, Ford Heath,<br>Shrewsbury. SY5 9GG                                                                                                                                      | 22 July 2020 | Change of use from live/work unit to open market residential dwelling                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <u>Pending Consideration</u>       |
| 20/02696/FUL                 | Mr N Davies<br>Seven Springs, Monday Town,<br>Westbury. SY5 9HG<br>Agent: Gareth Hickman<br>Architectural Ltd,<br>Lightmoor Road, Lightmoor,<br>Telford. TF4 3QN                                              | 14 July 2020 | Erection of agricultural storage building                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <u>Pending Consideration</u>       |
| 20/02477/FUL                 | Mr and Mrs S and K Parkhurst<br>and Mulholland<br>2 Hermitage Close, Westbury<br>Shrewsbury SY5 9QL                                                                                                           | 25 June 2020 | Alterations to front elevation in association with garage conversion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <u>Granted</u>                     |
| 20/02074/AGR                 | Mr Paul Williams<br>Bank House Farm, Yockleton<br>Shrewsbury. SY5 9PH<br>Agent : Halls Holdings Ltd<br>Bowmen Way, Battlefield<br>Shrewsbury. SY4 3DR                                                         | 29 May 2020  | Proposed erection of building to be used as a grain store and sprayer washdown area. Land at Yockleton Growers Ltd, Yockleton, Shropshire. SY5 9PQ. Land on same site as six existing broiler poultry sheds, biomass building and grain drying                                                                                                                                                                                          | <u>Prior Approval Not Required</u> |
| 20/01996/FUL                 | Mr Malcolm Ellis<br>Rose Cottage, Winnington<br>Green,<br>Middletown, Welshpool.<br>SY21 8DN                                                                                                                  | 26 May 2020  | Erection of one replacement dwelling including first floor balcony, detached double garage and repositioning of vehicular access following demolition of existing buildings. Change of use of land to domestic garden land (revised description).                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>Withdrawn</u>                   |
| 20/0175FUL                   | Mr Kenneth Davis<br>The Pebbles, Marche Lane,<br>Halfway House, Shrewsbury<br>SY5 9DE<br><br>Agent:: Mrs Charlene Sussums-Lewis, Carter Jonas LLP,<br>Canon Court North,<br>Abbey Lawn,Shrewsbury.<br>SY2 5DE | 11 May 2020  | To develop a Single Plot Exception Site for a three-bed dwelling with detached garage within the existing grounds of "The Pebbles", Marche Lane, Halfway House, Shrewsbury SY5 9DE with associated hard-standing curtilage, access and connection to required services. The access, parking and turning areas can all be accommodated within the curtilage of the Site. The proposed dwelling will be a separate entity to The Pebbles. | <u>Awaiting Decision</u>           |

*Continued overleaf...*

| <b>Applicatiion Reference</b> | <b>Applicant/Agent</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Date</b>         | <b>Proposal</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b><u>Status</u></b>                |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 20/01785/PMBPA                | Mr Wes Morris<br>Top House Farm, Vron Gate<br>Westbury. SY5 9RQ<br><br>Agent:: Mr Gerallt Davies,<br>Roger Parry & Partners<br>1 Berriew Street<br>Welshpool. SY21 7SQ                  | 6 May 2020          | Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England)<br>Order 2015 for the change of use of barn conversion to two residential units and associated works from agriculture to residential use at Top House Farm Vron Gate, Westbury. SY5 9RQ     | <u>Pending Consideration</u>        |
| 20/1150/AGR                   | Mr W Onions<br>W Onions & Sons,<br>Lower House Farm<br>c/o Hogstow Hall, Minsterley,<br>Shrewsbury. SY5 0HZ<br><br>Agent : Mr P Middleton<br>Roger Parry & Partners LLP<br>Hogstow Hall | 16 March 2020       | Erection of an agricultural building at Lower House Farm, Stoney Stretton, Yockleton. SY5 9PZ                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <u>Planning Permission Required</u> |
| 20/00692/FUL                  | Mr Andrew Griffiths<br>c/o Agent :Sophie Moore<br>Berrys, Beech House,<br>Anchorage Avenue,<br>Shrewsbury Business<br>Park, Shrewsbury.<br>SY2 6FG                                      | 24 February<br>2020 | Increase in number of touring caravan pitches by 17 (total of 42 pitches). Erection of Manager's dwelling; application under Section 73aA of the Town & Country Planning Act for the retrospective installation of otterproof boundary fencing on land north west of Westley House Farm, Hem Lane, Horsebridge, Minsterley. | <u>Pending Consideration</u>        |