

**Students from across the school have enjoyed the finale to their FUN PARTY POPPING WEEK.**



To promote British Values and encourage young people to learn about and engage in the democratic process, the students of St Martins School held an election alongside the National General Election.

Students proposed policies which had to benefit everyone in the school and 'Taxes' were raised to put the winning policy into action. All members of the school including all teaching and support staff, students ranging from 6 to 15 year olds had to register to vote, ballot cards were issued and voting

took place on general election day.

The Fun Party Popping Week Party won and Ruby, Chloe, Cassie from year 6, have been meeting with me about their policy 'to have a week of fun', so we organised for students to have party popping pencils, pop corn, popping balloons to win prizes, fancy dress and ice cream and sweets.

This was a fantastic event where we witnessed students taking part in a democratic process. The party leaders have had some fantastic ideas that the whole school has enjoyed.

Ms Lovecy

It was fantastic to see so many year 11 parents at our recent review day. From these meetings students and school will agree action plans to help ensure GCSE targets are met in the summer exams. The hard work, with support from home and school, will pay off!

Year 7 review day is on the 21st of November, giving parents an opportunity to meet with tutors to see how they have settled into secondary school life. Please ensure your child has made you an appointment.

Year 3 and 4 have their Stepping Out practice walk on Friday; this is an important skill for all our children to keep themselves safe. If there are any parents who would like to help with this please speak to the class teacher. I hope the weather is good!

Ms Lovecy, as always, is available for parents or members of the wider community to come for a meeting through her 'Open Door' session on Tuesdays from 2.20pm—3.20pm—please pop in if you have any queries.



## HIGHER ASPIRATIONS DAY

Students from year 9 and 10 spent a day off timetable and taking part in a series of workshops and activities with 2Engage performance, Bang for your Buck workshop, motivational session with Tom Davis.

Tom started Judo aged at six but only really started taking it seriously when he was 17 after being inspired by his friends getting a national medal. This lead him to set his sights much higher and he has been competing for GB for over 10 years now.

Tom uses his experiences as an athlete to inspire and engage with young people with various backgrounds, providing advice and support to them, as well as helping them set and achieve their goals.

Students also learnt about a variety of different animals during a workshop with Exotic Zoo. Ms Smith, Head of Science, who organised the day said 'it was fantastic to see students overcome their nerves or fears and we hope that they can now see that when they leave school, fears or nerves about further and higher education can also be overcome'.

The day was to encourage students to raise their aspirations, consider all the options open to them post 16 and to overcome their fears!



**Our Christmas Fayre will take place on Friday 15 December at 3pm—please could we ask for donations for a tombola, cake stall, plant stall, second hand books/toys and any helpers for the day. If you wish to run a stall your self please contact school.**

**Run your own stall for just a donation of £5!**

**Do you want to pay a visit to Santa?**

# St.Martins Village Football Club



We as a committee of St.Martins Village Football Club feel we need to make a statement to the local people of the community that we have no connection with ST.MARTINS FC who we wish every success in the foreseeable future.

St.Martins Village FC was founded in 2014 by two local Lads from the Village, Daryl Davies and John Smout as they both felt very strongly about bringing Football Back To The Village.

Since The Village Football Club was formed it has gone from strength to strength with the help of a strong commitment committee and the support of Local Businesses. The Club's new Management, John Smout and his Assistant Steve McGowan, have started the new season on the best possible start the Club has ever had since formed. At the moment the Village is top of Division One in the Shropshire Premier League and will continue to push for promotion into the Premier League.

Here we are again pleading for all dog owners that walk their dog in public places, whether it be around the village or on the playing field, to clean up after them. Have you ever seen footballers slip on dog mess whilst playing in a league fixture, not a pretty sight, smells bad too.

**May be this is an idea!** →



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As the days get shorter and colder, it's easy to go into 'hibernation mode' and curl up in front of the TV or fire but why not try something new and become a volunteer?!

There are lots of people in the local area who depend on the valuable support that volunteers offer them. For example, elderly people who rely on volunteers to deliver them a hot meal, or to give them a lift to a social group, which for some might be the only contact they have with the outside world in a week. These roles, along with many others, exist right here in the local community and we are looking for volunteers to help this winter.

Whether you are retired and looking for something to keep you busy or a younger person hoping to gain some experience and develop skills, contact Qube to find out how you could make a real difference in your local community or come to one of our monthly drop-in sessions for an informal chat.

We are also looking to hear from groups in the area who need volunteers. We can advertise opportunities for you and support you with all aspects of managing volunteers. Come along to the drop-in or give us a call.



**Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 10am-12pm – St Martins Centre**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018** (no January date)

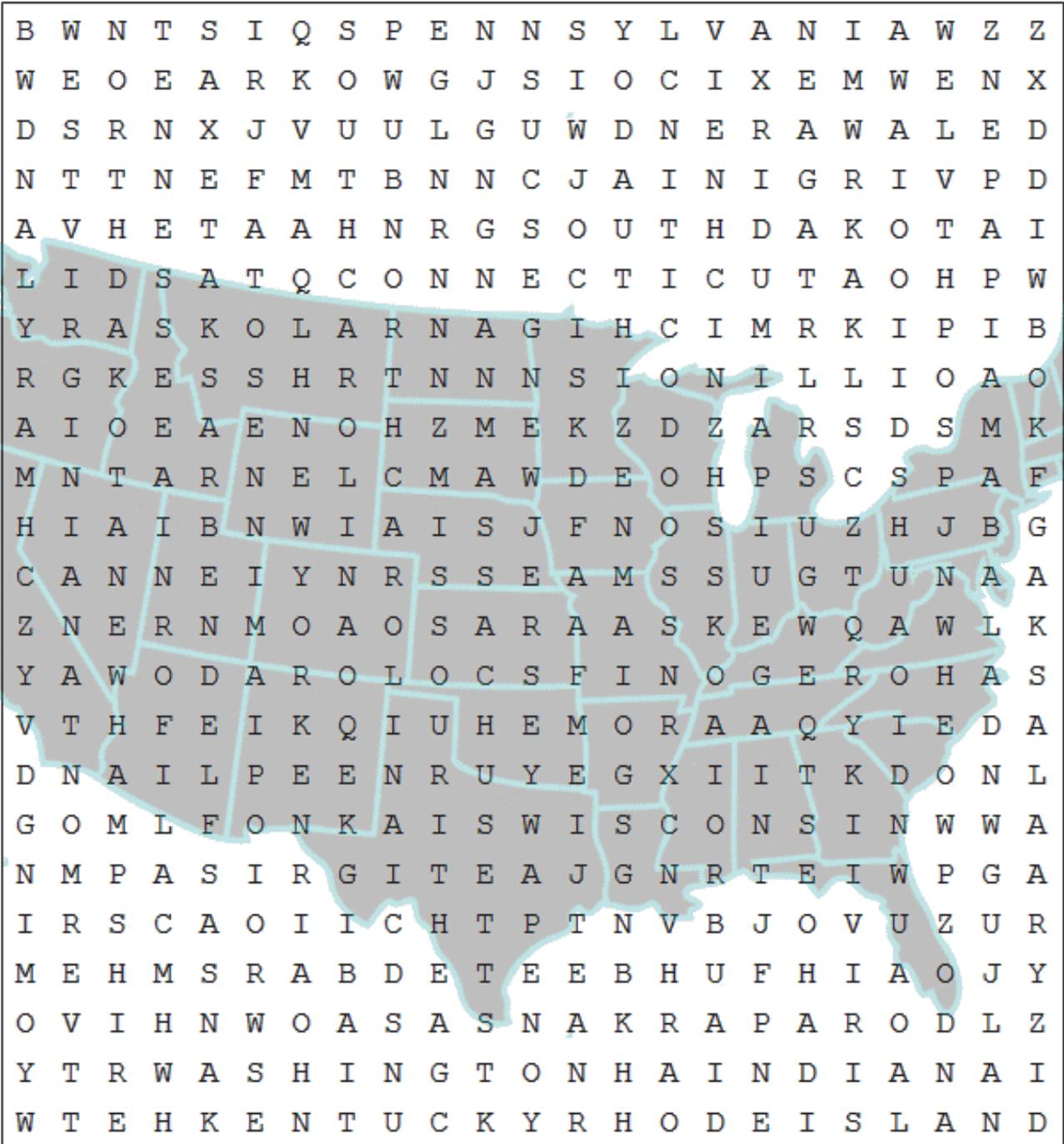
Or contact **Caroline Wix** at Qube 01691 656882 / [volunteering@big-local.org](mailto:volunteering@big-local.org)

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# 50 State Word Search



- |             |               |                |                |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Alabama     | Indiana       | Nebraska       | South Carolina |
| Alaska      | Iowa          | Nevada         | South Dakota   |
| Arizona     | Kansas        | New Hampshire  | Tennessee      |
| Arkansas    | Kentucky      | New Jersey     | Texas          |
| California  | Louisiana     | New Mexico     | Utah           |
| Colorado    | Maine         | New York       | Vermont        |
| Connecticut | Maryland      | North Carolina | Virginia       |
| Delaware    | Massachusetts | North Dakota   | Washington     |
| Florida     | Michigan      | Ohio           | West Virginia  |
| Georgia     | Minnesota     | Oklahoma       | Wisconsin      |
| Hawaii      | Mississippi   | Oregon         | Wyoming        |
| Idaho       | Missouri      | Pennsylvania   |                |
| Illinois    | Montana       | Rhode Island   |                |

# SUDOKU

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

Help the ghost find his way back to the haunted house



Here's a great picture for you to



# Scout and about



It's been another busy year for 2<sup>nd</sup> St Martins Scouts.

From Children in Need rambles, fire safety talks and Scout camps to scavenger hunts, spooky parties and spectacular firework displays, the fun, laughter and learning continues at the Scout hut and out in our community.

## Letting sparks fly

As the nights have grown darker, there's been plenty to ignite excitement and light up young faces at the Scout hut. Our spooky party saw traditional apple bobbing and a new variation – dangling doughnuts!

Thanks to Stan's Superstore there were no empty bellies at our 5 Nov bonfire party – they supplied hot dogs! Grateful to all the parents who donated fireworks and money for the display.



## Lest we forget

On a slightly more sombre note, the community event we were proud to be part of recently was the St Martins Remembrance Sunday parade, working with other local groups to remember all those who died in conflict. Helping to teach our children about those lost during war, taking time to remember those who fought for our freedom.



## Jam-packed adventure calls

Congratulations to local scout Rhys Evans who has been selected to join 26 other children from Shropshire at the 24th World Scout Jamboree in Virginia, USA. Over 75 children from Shropshire applied to attend the special event that aims to bring scouts together from all over the world for a unique cultural learning experience.



Rhys has plenty of time to 'be prepared' as the jamboree, which means large gathering, isn't until July 2019. We all wish him well with the preparations.

As 2017 draws to a close, we'd like to thank everyone who's supported us this year and the parents and volunteers who give up their time to make a difference.

Keep an eye out for us if you visit Stan's before Christmas when we'll be doing our annual bag pack to raise vital funds to keep the group running in your community. Don't miss Stan's Christmas hamper competition being run to support our work. Find the big glass in the wine section, it's full of corks, and have a guess at the correct number of corks. It's £1 per go and you'll be in with a chance of winning the hamper if you get it right - and we get to keep the money raised.



With all good wishes for Christmas and New Year  
from all at 2<sup>nd</sup> St Martins Scouts

Beavers meet on Mondays at 5pm to 6pm; Cubs meet Mondays at 6:15pm to 7:30pm; Scouts meet Wednesdays 7pm to 8:30pm. Contact 07921838120 if you would like to know more.

# Stans Superstore Celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

After returning from a Japanese Prisoner of War Camp in 1947 Stan Faulks, with the help of wife Vera and sister Gert, took his first step in retailing in St Martins. Firstly operating a Fish and Chip shop and latterly a convenience store.

Working many a long hour they built their business whilst developing a tremendous rapport with the mining community of St Martins. A long term mutual respect was created with the villagers supporting Stan and Vera and they in turn did whatever they could to help the local community.

Stan and Vera had two Children, firstly Peter in 1951 and Rob in 1952. The lads showed interest in the business from a very early age. They both grew up learning from their Dad but Stan knew that if the shop was to develop in the future he needed his sons to experience retailing away from the family shop. Peter learned the trade as a Manager with Tesco and Robert as Assistant Manager with Woolworths. They both then returned to the business with ideas for developing it.



Many alterations and extensions progressed over the years until 1991 when the largest development of the site was made transforming the store to a 23,500sqft Superstore.

Stans Shop had joined Nisa in 1981 which was a mutual grocery supply operation which benefitted all the members with a better combined buying power. This enabled Stans to be as competitive as other Supermarkets. This has remained in force until today. Now with Peter's children, Andrew and Sarah, and Rob's, Lisa and Kate, also involved in the business the future is bright. The business has expanded to other areas with the next generation keen to develop other opportunities.

The recent announcement that The Cooperative, who have a wholesaling division, will be taking over Nisa has further secured a great future in Independent retailing for the family. This will enable Stans to operate exactly as it always has but with the added benefit of a Larger Chill and Fresh range. We now, after 70 years, look forward to continuing to provide St Martins and the surrounding areas with great products, prices and service for many years to come

It must be mentioned that nothing has been taken for granted over the years and it is only thanks to our wonderful staff and terrific customers that we have remained strong. We all look forward to a great future together and would like to say a big **THANKYOU** for the first **70**

# Ifton Meadows



## IMMC- Chairman's report 2017.

We have managed to attend workdays most months - work ranged from keeping open waterways at the pond, along with clearing the pathways and the Brownies Meadow.

Recently we concentrated our work around the Colliery entrance, cutting back the hedge on the right hand side - right back to the hidden kerb and clearing the tarmac on the main pathway. This job is ongoing.

We planted 12 large saplings in the Spring, 6 from the Parish Council which replaced three trees cut down in the village plus six we purchased, including Bird Cherry and Crab Apple - to which we had to carry water over the following weeks. They are looking good and hopefully next year we will see some blossom.

Several pairs of skylarks have been reported but we also had at least one nest destroyed by dogs - whose owners ignored the signs stating 'Keep Out - ground nesting birds. Hopefully Shaun will have fenced off the mound by next year.

On Sunday we also found one of the picnic tables destroyed either by vandals or possibly a theft that had gone wrong - the other table had also been damaged this time they tried prising the nails out.



On the plus side 20 Tesco workers came on the 19th September to help clear saplings from the left hand side of the main pathway to the mosaic.

On Monday Bryan, Neil and I met Mike from MA Creative to give him a guided walk around the site - before he starts on the three interpretation boards we have ordered.

Thanks to Neil, Camilla, Elizabeth, Roy, Bryan and Bill, a new helper who is happy to get his hands dirty. Thanks also to Harry and his family for they also work on site.

Our 'Friends of Ifton Meadows' page is going from strength to strength and many are putting photographs on, it is just a pity they are not interested in being hands on.

We also, this year, managed a trip to Hunkington Nurseries, Walford where we enjoyed a talk by Viv Marsh on the 'Mason Bee' and how Shropshire is at the forefront in surveying their numbers.

We again must thank Pentre Nurseries and their customers for a £55 donation from the sale of second-hand books and Pant WI for their £20 donation for a guided walk around the site in August.



Ann Williams

Chairman of IMMC/Friends of Ifton Meadows.

THE NEW SAINTS FC FOUNDATION PRESENTS

# CHRISTMAS PARTY & ACTIVITIES

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Three Parishes Big Local and TNS Foundation are having a Christmas party.

There will be lots of activities including indoor games, giant snake and ladders, connect 4 and space hoppers. There are also competitions with prizes to be won. Food will be served at all locations.



## FREE ENTRY

Email [Naomi@gotothevenue.com](mailto:Naomi@gotothevenue.com) for more information or to receive a copy of booking form

Parents may leave sessions once signed in and registered.



The activities will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday 2nd January 2018  
Gobowen Scout Hut  
12-2pm

Wednesday 3rd January 2018  
St.Martins Centre  
12-2pm

Thursday 4th January 2018  
Weston Rhyn Institute  
12-2pm

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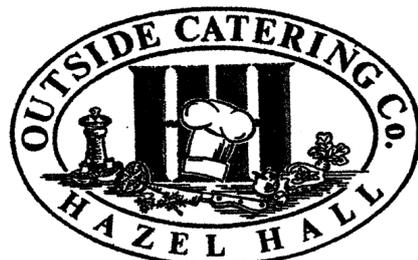
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8.	Going out
7.	Women
6.	Plants
5.	Being Alone
4.	Strangers / Foreigners
3.	Blood
2.	Dead Things
1.	Water

**Answers from page 14**

# Condolences

Joan Milton/Hayes who died on 27.10.17 at Nightingale House.

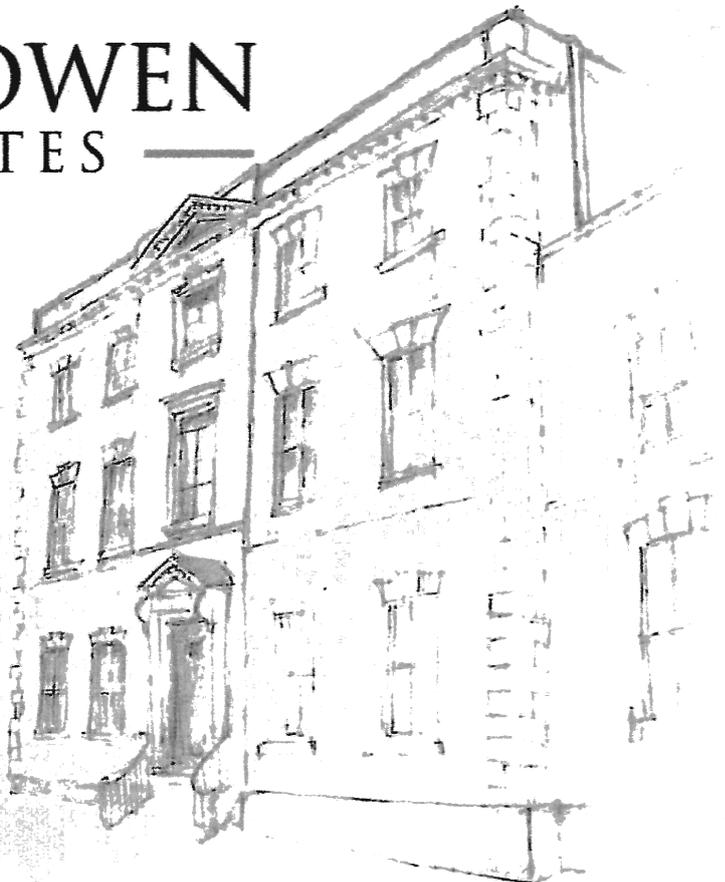


Our deep commiserations to their family and friends and to all those who have lost loved ones, please email us with information for a mention here.



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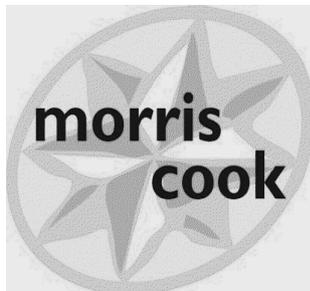
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## October's Report

Just a word first about our North Oswestry Group Social that we hosted this year at The Chapter House, St Martins on 27th September. St Martins, Gobowen, Whittington and West Felton W.I.'s all got together for a wonderful night of entertainment with Gabriela - The Ukulele Queen. She played at least 5 types of ukulele and also a banjulele (the instrument made famous by George Formby). She sang and encouraged us to join in. Her repartee caused a great deal of amusement, she has a talent for comedy as well as music. We also had a comedy sketch put on by West Felton called "The Felton Flappers", very accomplished ladies! This was all followed by a delicious buffet.

On 3rd October we had our usual meeting back at The Miners Institute. Shirley Willis thanked everyone who had catered and helped with our Group Social. We had Libby Morris demonstrating how to arrange a bunch of supermarket flowers. She made 4 lovely arrangements, supplementing the flowers with greenery from hers and friends' gardens. She is very artistic and created from quite ordinary flowers, something you would be proud to have on your table. She was thanked by Helen Williams. The arrangements were donated as raffle prizes and 4 of our ladies went home very happy. Our AGM meeting will be part of the November meeting, but there will be no meeting in December as we will be having an outing on the 5th December to The Queens Hotel in Chester for a "Mama Mia" themed event.



## Novembers Report

On 7th November President Shirley Willis welcomed everyone to our meeting including two visitors. Our A.G.M. took place and all present committee members stood again, there were no new volunteers. Shirley Willis was asked to be President again and Pam Doyle remains as Secretary and Ann Sadler as Treasurer. Our speaker for the evening was Megan Phillips speaking about Girl Guiding. She started very young as a Brownie and progressed to Girl Guides and doing her Duke of Edinburgh awards. The Gold Project that she has recently been a part of was her main topic. She was part of a team sent out to Oman to advise the Guide movement over there. There was a gruelling time in the heat of the desert but she coped very well. Many of the meetings were chaotic with people coming and going throughout. They must have thought highly of all they accomplished there as she was awarded with a trophy and gifts. We much enjoyed hearing her story. Afterwards, during our tea break, we were served with a lovely selection of "Posh Puds". These were very kindly made by a number of our accomplished members and were very delicious. We will be having a Carol Service for our Oswestry Group at St Martins Church on 11th December. There will be no December meeting because we are all going to The Queens Hotel, Chester for a Mama Mia themed day of entertainment, dancing and 3 course meal. Who says we are only Jam & Jerusalem!!! Our next meeting we will be having Dave Andrews talking on "Gobowen to Everest" on the 2nd January 2018 - visitors are always welcome.

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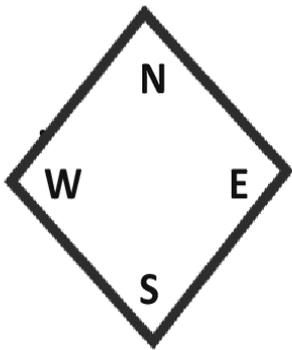
Can you win NINE tricks for the N/S partnership?

♠ 9 3

♥ K 7 6 5

♦ A 8 2

♣ A 10 6 4



♠ K J 4 2

♥ A 2

♦ K Q 7

♣ K J 5 3 2

1. N/S play as a team against the E/W pair. You are player S. W starts by choosing a card from his own hand (*He decides on ♠5*)
2. N puts his cards face up on the table so everyone can see them. Each trick is won by the pair playing the highest card in the suit led, so the first trick will be won by whoever plays highest ♠. That person then starts the next trick, choosing any card from their hand.
3. The order of play is clockwise and you play N's and S's hands throughout the game. Everyone must follow suit if they can\*, but they can choose which card in the suit to play. (*e.g. You decide to play ♠3 from N's hand rather than the ♠9*).
4. E now plays the ♠Q from their hand, so it's S's turn. You could win the trick with ♠K by overtaking E's ♠Q, or play a low ♠. You decide to win with the ♠K.

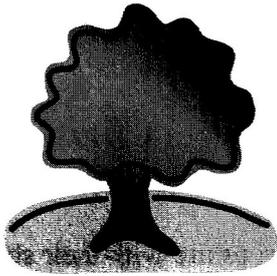
Now see if you can win another 8 tricks!

**Other rules:** (i) \*Anyone unable to follow suit can play any of their remaining cards. (ii) Everyone plays as well as they can: E/W won't throw away good cards to make it easy. (If you get stuck, turn the page upside down!)

*This is a bridge hand but you don't need any knowledge of bridge to solve it. Phone Nat (01691 830376) for details of bridge lessons or visit the Oswestry Bridge Club website.*

♠K wins your first trick. Other winners are ♦AKQ, ♠AK, and ♣AK, total 8 tricks. But with ♠A still out, your rather exposed ♠J makes the ninth look elusive. **Solution:** make sure the first time you lose a trick it is only won by W, not by E. So, win the second trick by playing ♣2 (S) to the ♣A (N). Then begin the third trick by playing a low club back from N, e.g. ♣4. If E puts the ♣Q on it, cover with ♣K, otherwise play the ♣J. If *instead* W has ♣Q and therefore beats your ♣J, don't worry. You have all the remaining winning clubs and W will not be able to capture your ♠J in the meantime. The technique of playing a lower card (e.g. ♠J rather than ♠K) hoping to catch out one in the middle (♣Q) is called a **finesse**. (Quiz by Mike Ingle)

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Thur	11:45 - 1:30	5pm - 9:30
Fri	11:45 - 1:30	5pm - 9:30
Sat	11:30 - 2pm	Closed

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## Three Parishes Big Local Update

Over the past few months we have been working on a **Three Parishes Big Local Update Leaflet** - this leaflet highlights some of the work that we have been doing over the past year. We are pleased to say that it is now being distributed in your area. If you would like further information about the projects that we have worked on, please contact Bridget or Paula on the details below.

### **FREE help for businesses and enterprise in Weston Rhyn, St Martins and Gobowen.**

**Three Parishes Means Business** is providing support for business in this area thanks to funding from the Big Lottery through the Three Parishes Big Local programme. Support is available to business of all sizes, for established businesses as well as start-ups.

Your organisation could benefit from:

- ⇒ Start up support and advice
- ⇒ Promoting your business
- ⇒ Training and specialist advice
- ⇒ Finding new networks
- ⇒ Small grants or loans

As part of Three Parishes Means Business we have organised a **FREE** business start-up training session at St Martins Centre on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018, from 9.30am – 12.30pm.

You could benefit from attending this course if:

- ⇒ You have a new business idea
- ⇒ You have recently started a new business
- ⇒ You want to move from being employed to being self-employed
- ⇒ You are running a business and are considering a step change or a change in direction

To book a place or to find out if this course is right for you, please contact Bridget.

Please also contact Bridget if you would like to discuss other ways that Three Parishes Means Business could support you and your business.

**Want to keep up with 3 Parishes Big Local news? Contact Bridget or Paula at Three Parishes Big Local on 01691 656882 or at [info@big-local.org](mailto:info@big-local.org)**

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