

## What's on in April!

Tues 1st	WI Victoria Graham 'The Biscuit Club'	St Martins Miners' Institute Lounge	7.30
Sun 6th	Sunday Social Club	St Martins Centre	3.00 pm
Tues 8th	Ifton Meadows Management Committee	St Martins Centre	7:30 pm
Wed 9th	Weston Rhyn Gardening Club From a Field to a Garden - Heather Williams	Weston Rhyn Institute	7:30 pm
Thurs 10th	St Martins Parish Council	St Martins Centre	7:00 pm
Sat 12th	Weston Rhyn Gardening Club Plan Sale	Weston Rhyn Institute	10.30am - 2.00 pm
Sun 13th	Work day at the Meadows	Colliery Entrance	1:30 pm

Please let us know the time and date of events in June-July for the next edition of Village Life by no later than **Wednesday 15th May 2018**

If you send us an article for the next edition, please bear in mind that it will be delivered at the end of **May**, so any events you report on will have happened before then. If you want to mention any upcoming events or activities please make sure they are in June and July (or later).

Well, what a week world book week was! We started the week with a sweet treat or two in St Martins Booky Bake-Off! Some fantastic book inspired cakes were donated and the worthy winners were Tyler Jones and Tessa Bamford from year 10, and Tilly Manford from year 3. We raised £110 to spend on new books for our school. A special mention must go to Emmie Ellis who produced a spectacular cake which became the prize for best dressed on World Book Day.

On the Tuesday, we read...with a difference. Students were challenged to find the most unusual position they could to read, and did they rise to that challenge!



By the Thursday we were ready for the World Book Day celebrations. Staff and students were dressed up as either a superhero or their favourite character from a book. We saw some amazing costumes, but we had to pick the winners..

First place...Demi Harris year 3 as 'Moana' and Chloe Bullock and Eryn Jones year 7 as 'Thing 1 & Thing 2'

Best pair - Tilleigh and Oliver Bowen as the 'Grinch and

Cindy-Lou'

We also chose winners from each year group too!

The week really was a literacy celebration; encouraging the love of reading which will have far reaching positive effects in lessons but also in life after school. **Ms Lovecy**

## Thank you to student from Year 4

Chalk CIC, based in Oswestry is a not for profit social enterprise, which co-ordinates a number of community projects enabling local people from all backgrounds to learn valuable skills to enrich their lives and build a better community, have said a big thank you to year 4 Tilleigh Bowen for all her hard work in selling £92 of raffle tickets and donating items to help the local homeless community!

Chalk said 'What a fantastic young lady! Everything you have done for us will help to keep people who are sleeping rough stay warm this winter'.



## **Community Curriculum 2017/18**

As you will no doubt be aware, we work with our feeder primary schools (Weston Rhyn, Gobowen and Selattyn) and this year Criftins, on a Community Curriculum project for year 5 and 6, with a different focus each term. Last term the schools visited Ruthin Gaol and then spent time with our Humanities look at historical crime and punishment, as part of British Values.

This term we are just planning our third project to take place week of the 25 June - the focus will be the Far East, with lots of exciting workshops for the students to be booked into, culminating in our Jolly Jamboree summer fair on the 29 June.

Please come along to the Fayre on the 29 June — it starts at 3pm!!!

### **Dates for the diary (remember to look at the website for more information!!!)**

**30 March - 13 April — Easter Holidays**

**16 April — RETURN TO SCHOOL**

**19 April — welcome evening for year 7 joining in sept 2018**

**1 and 2 May — Primary parents evening**

**7 May — Bank Holiday**

**28 May - 1 June — Half Term**

**26 June — New year 7 taster day**

**27 June — New year 7 parents day**

**28 June — year 11 PROM**

**29 June — Jolly Jamboree Summer Fayre**

**13 July — The St Martins School Oscars**

**20 July — last day of term**

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**  
**Next session : 3rd April 2018**

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



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## Shropshire Archery Society

**Croesoswallt Archers**, whose home is at the rear of Gobowen Hospital, but until April 8th will be at St. Martins School Sports hall.

Our members who shoot there are willing to give lessons (£45 per morning). The next sessions are on **Sunday April 1st and Sunday April 8th**, both at 10.30 and will last until 12.30. Club membership is £85 for the year.

For more information about our club please go our web site at [croesoswalltarchery.wixsite.com/club](http://croesoswalltarchery.wixsite.com/club).

Contact Tony Hall for further information Tel: 01691 777952

Croesoswallt Archers



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		6		1				7
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		4	9		5			8
	8			6			9	
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7				9		6		
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 +  = 40

 -  = 10

 x  = ?

BrainFans.com

Here's a great picture for you to colour



A Little Word Search Puzzle to Prepare for ☆

# Harry Potter World

M H M Z Y W S T J S I Z R O X Z O L E D  
 P M M E A E G E T Y O G L K R B Z E G R  
 V J C N R V N T K U L L D X Z W F A A A  
 V Z D W K M O R Y U I Y D N F L R K L G  
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 L E Z E R Z B S C C Z H J K Y B L D B Y  
 C K D N L O O U D X O G X Q L R S E Z N

- Ollivanders
- Forbidden Journey
- Hogwarts
- Knockturn Alley
- Leaky Cauldron
- Butter Beer
- Kings Cross Station
- Honeydukes
- Hogsmeade Village
- FlyingCar
- Gringotts
- Flight Of The Hippogriff
- Dragon
- Mermaid
- Wands
- Three Broomsticks



# Scout and about

**Spring hasn't quite sprung, but that hasn't stopped St Martins Scouts, who've had a busy start to the year.**

Highlights have been ten-pin bowling at the Venue for the whole group, Chinese New Year celebrations and preparations for a charity walk to raise money for WaterAid. Cubs and Beavers have also been working hard on learning their promises with the Leaders and recently made magnificent Mother's Day crafts for the special ladies in their lives. Our Scouts joined forces with Ellesmere scouts recently with sessions on whittling and fencing.



## Watch out it's a dragon!

Learning about different cultures is a big part of the scouting movement. For Chinese New Year, Scout Leader Keith Allum (pictured) organised a Dragon game for the cubs.

Afterwards, instead of the usual snacks, our cubs tucked into prawn crackers and other tasty Chinese treats to celebrate the new Year of the Dog.

## Segway skills

As much as our scouts love being outdoors, the dark nights and bad weather have meant the group has been indoors more than out.

It's amazing how much fun the children had when Leader Barry Evans brought a Segway or electric skateboard for the children to try. Taking it in turns, the children all had an opportunity to try out balancing and steering skills on the funny little electronic machine with two wheels.



## Bowled over

When the Leaders are feeling brave, all the group including Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, get together for joint events.

The last joint event was ten-pin bowling at The Venue with more than 30 children taking part in the action.

Beaver Maisy Williams is pictured getting ready to bowl.



Beavers meet on Mondays at 5pm to 6pm; Cubs meet Mondays at 6:15pm to 7:30pm; and Scouts meet Wednesdays 7pm to 8:30pm in winter, extending to 9pm in the summer. Contact Barry Evans on **07921 838120** if you would like to know more.

**2<sup>nd</sup> St Martins Scouts**

# Oswestry Makes 2018.

**Flowers of Peace & Remembrance** – help us decorate the town with flowers to accompany Oswestry's Remembrance activities.

Oswestry Makes is now in it's fifth year. It is a festival to celebrate the many opportunities there are in and around the town to learn new 'making skills', by locally made art and showcase the amazing talent that exists locally. You may remember the splendid life-size textile allotment 'grown' by over 200 local people, community groups and artists that was exhibited in Oswestry Library in October 2015. This year's theme is **Flowers of Peace and Remembrance** and we are encouraging anyone that wants to get involved, to get making flowers made from whatever medium you want and to help us decorate the town from mid-October leading into the Remembrance celebrations and the **Wilfred Owen festival in Oswestry** during the first two weeks of November.

There are many flowers in addition to the lovely poppy, such as daisies, cornflowers, forget-me-nots and lilies, all with a story attached and used by countries from all over the world. To help you get started we will be running a series of **workshops at Oswestry Library** and there will be **other workshops hosted by Willow Gallery, Qube etc** around the town. To be kept up to date about events and for ideas, patterns and places to learn please pop into Oswestry Library and look at the display or email [oswestrymakes@gmail.com](mailto:oswestrymakes@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list or visit the website at: <https://oswestrymakes.wordpress.com/> Please share photos of things you make and ideas that you have.

OSWESTRY MAKES  
sat 13 - Sun 14 October 2018



If you have a skill to share or want to promote a workshop you are running please get in touch through the website or email address.

With the allotment 200+ people got involved - this year we would like to see more than 500 people contribute. Come and visit our stall at local events such as the food & balloon festivals and knit, stitch and spin in public days during the summer.

**The Festival Weekend will be 13/14 October** with a textile taster in the library on 13/10 11am- 3pm and **Wonderful Wool day on the Sunday**. We are hoping to have an artist in residence, Ticky Lowe, working to produce a poppy and a cornflower for the weeks either side of the festival weekend.

St Martins Centre  
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St Martins Centre is run by volunteers for the village. Please feel free to pop in and meet us. More volunteers would be lovely, sorting books, helping in the office or just making coffee and chatting to visitors!

**ST MARTINS YOUTH CLUB.**

**MEETING EVERY FRIDAY (term times only)**

**7.30 – 9.00 year 6 and older welcome. Entry £1.**

**Activities this term to include crafts/cooking/games/fencing**

Staff at Youthie are very concerned by the online activity of some young people. Most are not old enough to access some social media sites but we know they are taking photos on a Friday evening and posting them online!

**Keep mobile phones in your pocket/bag during Youthie.**

**BE SMART ON THE INTERNET.**

**SAFE:** Stay safe by being careful not to give out personal information to people you are chatting with online

**MEETING:** Meeting someone who you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous.

**ACCEPTING:** Accepting emails, instant messages or opening files and pictures from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

**RELIABLE:** Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are.

**TELL:** tell your parent, carer or an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.



# Ifton Meadows

## Management Committee

### FRIENDS OF IFTON MEADOWS

We have managed to work during the last few months despite the weather and you might have seen some of 'the friends' working in the week. This work is ongoing so, if you are one of the many people who use and appreciate the Meadows, why not help us to keep the pathways, drains etc., clear by helping at our workdays on the second Sunday of each month starting at 1.30 pm.

We usually meet at the main/Colliery entrance unless the weather is bad. Further details from Ann 01978.710327, Facebook : Friends of Ifton Meadows or speak to Neil at the Meadows.



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The meeting in February to discuss the proposed event to mark the 40th anniversary of the site becoming a green space was successful and a number of groups within the village have agreed to be involved. The next meeting on this matter will be on 10th April 7.30 p.m. at the Centre. The date agreed on is **Sunday 19th August**, so mark that date in your diaries.

More details to follow later.

# Answers

To Quiz on page 17

1. Wayne Rooney
2. Henry Cooper
3. Andrew "Freddy" Flintoff
4. Winston Churchill
5. Ted Hughes
6. Bobby Charlton
7. Jessica Ennis
8. King George VI
9. Dennis Thatcher
10. Jonny Wilkinson

# *Condolences*



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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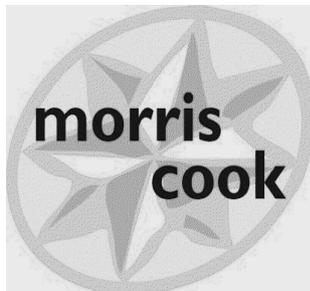
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## FEBRUARY Report

We were welcomed to our meeting on 6th February by President Shirley Willis. We also welcomed 3 new members.

We were visited by Terry Rosamond and a group of members of "Men In Sheds" based at The Oswestry Showgrounds. They told the story of how they got together to form their group. Men In Sheds was first started in Australia, but now the UK have started their own and there are many groups around the country. A piece of land was generously made available to them at The Showgrounds. Many people donated tools and wood and they were given a portacabin for their first shed. They have now built 2 more sheds. We found it fascinating to see all the projects they have been involved in, not least the DIY SOS, who invited them to take part in a project in Ludlow where they built a tree house.

The friendships and social interaction have helped a lot of men who join.

They very kindly fitted a kitchen at The Miners Institute which was donated by one of our own members when she got her new one. They were thanked by Ann Sadler.

We will be holding an open meeting on 6th March featuring "The Heritage Sewing Circle" and this will be about The Victorians, can't wait to see the beautiful gowns they will have made. I hope many St Martins people will attend. By the time you read this it will be over but hope those that came really enjoyed it.



## March Report

On the 6th March at The Miners Institute St Martins W.I. had a very successful open evening to which we invited not just other local W.I.'s but also anyone from the village too, and we were very happy to welcome a number of villagers. We had arranged for "The Heritage Sewing Circle" to come and they presented "The Victorians". They had put together a wonderful collection of ball gowns which they made themselves. The colours and materials were really beautiful. They put in a great effort to research and make them as authentic as they could. It was explained how the rich and aristocratic used the ball as a way of making sure their daughters met rich and eligible bachelors to secure a husband. The etiquette of the ball was very important, every lady was on show and she only had a couple of "seasons" to make her mark. A great deal of money was put into the ball gown, accessories and making themselves as beautiful as they could. We were let into the secret of what was worn underneath the ball gown. We had a fabulous evening, and our President Shirley Willis thanked the Heritage Sewing Circle for a very entertaining evening. The evening was rounded off with a raffle and everyone enjoying a buffet of cheeses, nibbles and wine. Next month on 3rd April we will have Caroline Wix whose topic will be Tropic Skincare.

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# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

'Sticks and stones will hurt my bones but names will never hurt me!' we used to reply to those who called us insulting names. On the other hand we do all feel something about our names and to a greater or smaller extent are defined by them.

I am known by family and friends as 'Don' (or Dad or Grandad and so on) and I'm comfortable with that. I was christened 'Donald Fergus', both of which names have implications for me. There's a formality about Donald and use of it to me could mean that someone doesn't know me, or is attempting to be over-familiar when they don't know me. It could also mean, with rising intonation on the second syllable that I was in trouble with mother and that I'd better watch out. Also, currently it is associated with an eminent political figure whose values, outlook and policies are not at all in tune with mine. Far better to recall what it meant as a child to have the same name as the best batsman ever, Don Bradman (whom I saw at Old Trafford in 1948). Fergus, a family name derived from Scottish forebears, gave me trouble in earlier life, being called 'Fungus' at school and Fergoid among some 'friends' later in life. Now, I'm proud of it and don't care what anyone attempts to do with it. As for my surname, it is relatively unusual and means that, instinctively, I spell it out when I am asked for it.

As parents I wonder what notice we take of the lifelong consequences of the names we give to our children. There is a host of reasons, motives, for bestowing (saddling?) them with names that have meaningful associations for the parent but which fade with time. They could have literature as source (Ophelia Jones?), sport (eleven 'first' names to chime with the Liverpool team?), biblical origins (Eli Ramsbottom?), botany (there's a male character in a Victorian book called Lupin), zoology (Tiger Woods and Peregrine Worsthorne), though I haven't yet heard of anyone called Sloth. On the other hand there are Crocodile Dundee and Speedy Gonzales, but so far as I know no-one has been named after them.

My point is, as I have said, that our names have consequences for us in ways that parents maybe could have foreseen but, in the glow of delight with the newborn, did not think it through. We may find them embarrassing, irksome, associated with people or happenings that have become distant and lost meaning. Equally, they could have the most positive of associations, a genuine pleasure to carry on a name that is inherited from a treasured grandparent. Choosing a name seems to me to be a delicate business. I know of people who have dispensed with a first given name and come to be known by the second one and another who assumed a new identity by changing to a completely different name, the first name because he liked it and the second because it was the name of friend admired at school. The reasons for doing so were not simply dissatisfaction with the original name, but a rebellion against what it signified, an extreme example but a poignant illustration of lifelong ramifications of a given name.

So, if you have in mind, for the sake of, say, originality and a search for early distinction, maybe giving the bright new offspring a name like Hypericum Platypus could be a step too far. Just a thought. ( And my Dad would, quite regularly, call me 'Sam'. I never knew why but it felt affectionate and warm and I answered to it.)

Donald Fergus Borland.

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# Sunday Social Club



## **At a loose end on a Sunday afternoon?**

Our ladies and some gentleman (and we could really do with a few more gentlemen attendees) have a great time with lots of conversation, cups of tea or coffee sandwiches and cake, quizzes, music and the like.

**at St. Martins Centre Lounge.**

**The next meetings will be on**

**8th April and 6th May**

**Please do come along.**

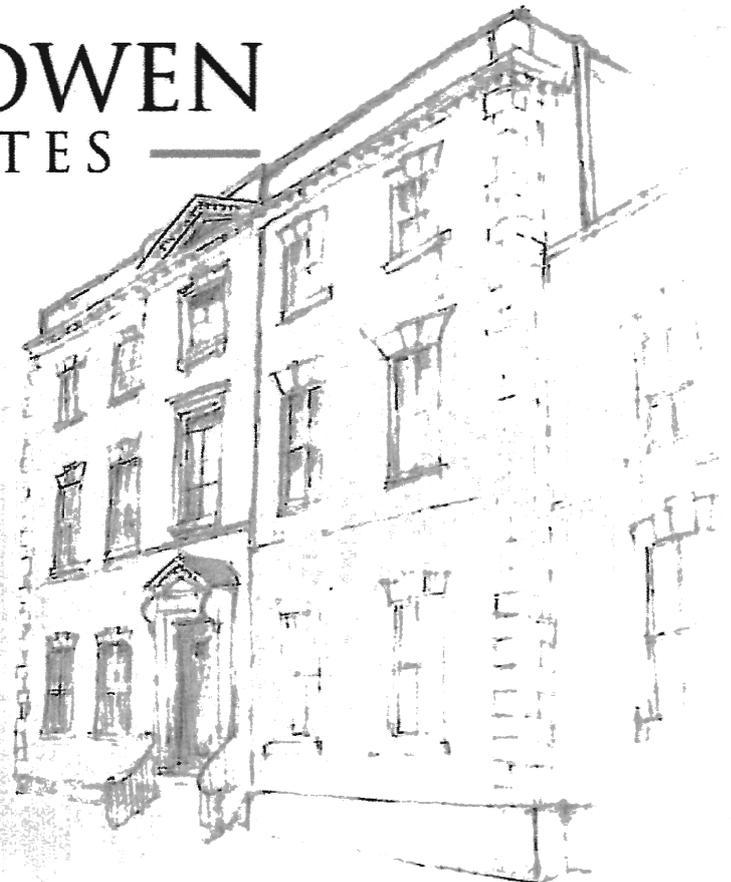
If you wish further details please contact Mrs Valerie Thompson on 01691 658756.

If you have difficulty in travelling to the centre it may be possible to arrange transport for you.



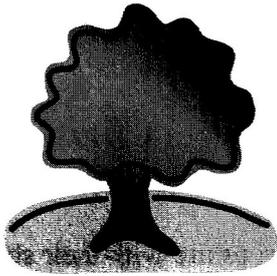
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# Three Parishes Big Local Update

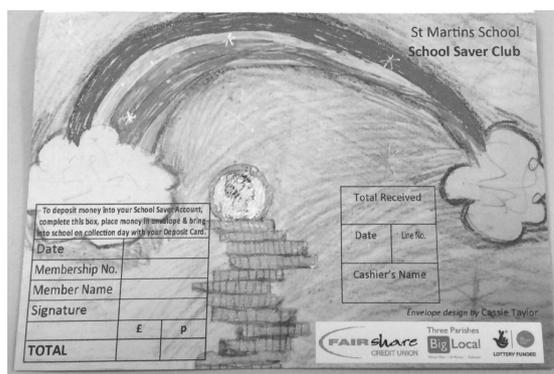
## St Martins School Saver Club



Three Parishes  
**Big Local**  
Weston Rhyn • St Martins • Gobowen

As part of a Three Parishes Big Local funded project, FAIRshare Credit Union have been working with St Martins School to develop a School Saver Club. School staff and pupils from year 5 and year 6 classes have been working with Andrea Broady from FAIRshare to get the service up and running.

Before the launch FAIRshare ran a competition to design the front of the deposit envelope. Congratulations to the winner Cassie Taylor with her fabulous design incorporating a rainbow and a stack of coins.



We are pleased to say that the saver club opened its doors for pupils to make their first deposits on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January, and is now open every Monday before school starts. The response from parents and pupils has been fantastic and there are already over 50 members signed up. New members are welcome and can get an application form from the School or from FAIRshare's website. To see photos and more information visit the website at:

<http://www.fairshare.uk.com/st-martins-school-saver-club/>

FAIRshare Credit Union is an independent, not-for-profit financial co-operative, or 'Community Bank', owned by and run for the benefit of its members. FAIRshare provides straightforward savings accounts and affordable loans. You can now join online at [www.fairshare.uk.com/about/how-to-join-fairshare](http://www.fairshare.uk.com/about/how-to-join-fairshare). If you interested in joining or would like more information but do not have online access, telephone FAIRshare on 01743 240403.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all staff, pupils and parents for their support in getting the School Savings club up and running.

We are holding a day of 1-2-1 business support sessions on Thursday 19th April with ZoeSlattery, Business Development officer, at a venue in the Three Parishes Big Local area. For more information or to book one of these **free** 45 minutes sessions, please contact Bridget or Paula on 01691 656882.

### Do you run a business in St Martins, Weston Rhyn or Gobowen?

**Three Parishes Means Business** is a FREE support package for businesses and community enterprises that includes training, resources and funding. If you are interested in finding out more about this FREE support or would like to tell us how we can help your business, come along to one of our open events at Derwen College on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 7pm – 8:30pm** or **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 11:30am**.

Please contact Bridget or Paula to reserve your place at one of these events.

*Continued on next page*

# Three Parishes Big Local Update

*Continued from previous page*

## Community Chest

Do you have an idea for a project or event? Our Community Chest grants scheme awards grants of up to £500 for community groups and projects within our area. Since its launch in 2014, Community Chest grants have been used to fund a wide range of activities including learning new skills, buying equipment, recruiting new members and holding events.



The Big Lunch, funded by the National Lottery, is the UK's annual celebration for neighbours. It started back in 2009, and takes place each year in June. It is a day where neighbours and members of communities can stop what they're doing and come together for the simple act of sharing a meal. Events can be big or small, inside or outside, casual or filled with all sorts of games, activities and excitement. The main thing is that people share good food, good company and good fun. If you are thinking of organising a Big Lunch in your area, our Community Chest could help to fund a Big Lunch in your neighbourhood

Visit <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/thebiglunchhomepage> to sign up to receive your free pack with everything you need to help plan your event.

## FREE Business Support Sessions

Do you run a business or enterprise in St Martins, Weston Rhyn or Gobowen? Would you like some expert support for a particular aspect of your business?

Do you have a business idea and would like to talk to someone about how to put your idea into practice?

We are holding a day of 1-2-1 business support sessions on Thursday 19th April with ZoeSlattery, Business Development officer at a venue in the Three Parishes Big Local area. For more information or to book one of these **free** 45 minutes sessions, please contact Bridget or Paula on 01691 656882.

**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)**

Three Parishes



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