

## What's on in August!

Sun 2nd	Sunday Social Club	St Martins Centre	3:00pm
Tues 4th	WI Viv Marsh—On Bees +The Autumn Show	St Martins Institute Lounge	7:30pm
Tues 4th	View House Cost £	Brynkinalt	2:30pm
Sat 8th	Heartstart Defibrillator Awareness Course	St Martins Centre	10am – 12noon
Wed 12th	Weston Rhyn Gardening Club Houses & Gardens of E.L. Lutyens	Weston Rhyn Institute.	7:30 pm
Thurs 13th	St Martins Parish Council	Moors Chapel	7:00pm
Sat 15th	Grow It, Make It, Show It, Show	St Martins Institute	2:00pm
Sat 15th	Rummage Sale	Chirk Parish Hall	10:00 - 12:00 noon
Fri 28th	Ifton Colliery Project Race Night	Chirk 3A's	7:30pm
Sat 29th	Hefin Evans Neil Diamond Tribute Tickets £10	St Martins Miners' Institute	7:30pm

Please let us know the time and date of events in October, November for the next edition of Village Life by no later than **Wednesday 19 Sept 2018**

If you send us an article for the next edition, please bear in mind that it will be delivered at the end of **September**, 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 October, November (or later).

# Try It For Free

## Look Great & Feel Amazing

### Do You Want To Try Pilates?

Do you struggle to move well and feel stiff as a board?

Is your back suffering as a result of your job or lifestyle?

Do you struggle to bend down and put on your socks?

Do you find it difficult to get up off the floor when playing with the kids?

**Imagine Moving Better and Feeling Better!**



Join our brand new **pilates** classes starting September 2018. Venues in St. Martins, Gobowen, Weston Rhyn

### Have Fun, Get Fit Legs, Bums & Tums

Fed up with feeling lethargic, clothes don't fit properly and you want to be more toned?

It's difficult to make changes to be fitter, healthier, happier when you don't know where to start!

**Imagine getting fit while having fun** and not being judged or feeling embarrassed. How would you feel?

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email [wendy@timeandfitnessforyou.com](mailto:wendy@timeandfitnessforyou.com)  
Free spaces are limited reserve yours NOW**

## September 2018 Time Table

Start Date:	Monday 10th September	Tuesday 11th September	Wednesday 12th September	Thursday 13th September
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Gobowen Scouts Hut</b>	<b>St. Martins Centre</b>	<b>Parish Church Chapter House St. Martins</b>	<b>Weston Rhyn Institute</b>
9:30 - 10:25am	Pilates	Pilates		Pilates
<b>10:30 - 11:15am</b>	<b>Legs,Bums,Tums</b>			<b>Legs,Bums,Tums</b>
6:15 - 7:00pm			Legs, Bums, Tums	
<b>7:00pm - 8:00pm</b>			<b>Pilates (Move, More Freely)</b>	

Ever Wanted To Try Indoor Cycling (Spinning)?  
Ask about our spin classes held in St. Martins



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## St Martins FC report on the conclusion of season 2017-18

Photographs in the press at the conclusion of 2017-18 football season captured the exuberance of the Saint Martins F.C. players, committee and fans as they defied early season apprehension to finish in a creditable 4<sup>th</sup> place in the West Midland League Division

One and grasp the Division One League Cup beating 'Wren's Nest' 5-3 in a final that was described by the 'League Officials' as the best final witnessed for many a long year.

Following a troublesome start in the League influenced by the absence of the Saint's Manager Dan Stevens because of injury, and having to play a progression of away games, the Saints turned their fortunes around by playing some of the most attractive football the fans have ever seen. The team beat each of the teams that finished above them in the league, begging the question of what might have happened if the Saints had experienced a more balanced start to their season.

The wonderful football, the Saints have played this season and the manner in which they have despatched teams that actually finished above them in the league provides the perfect platform for the club to enter the 'North West Counties' Football League in season 2018-19. This heralds an exciting step up to level 6 of the Football League hierarchy, the highest level that the club has ever played



The club was fascinated by the excitement of how the 'threat of failure' at the start of the season was transformed into the utopia of winning the 'West Midland Division One League Cup' and promotion into the 'North West Counties League' Division One South.

The club has explored new challenges this season playing in the coveted 'FA Vase' competition for the first time in their history and considering the possibility of playing in the FA Cup, if they manage to finish in the top four of the North West Counties League.

Season 2018-19 will bring many more challenges but St. Martins Football Club can reflect on this exciting future whilst looking forward to the amazing developments that are due to take place in their village as the Parish Council start the process of creating a fantastic sporting venue that will accommodate new football pitches, a stadium, stand and floodlights on land generously donated by Lord Trevor.

What a journey!

See the next page for pictures of our club trophies from the season.

On the right, Terry Ellis, Chairman of St. Martins FC, and on the left, Vice Chairman, Les Williams representing St. Martins Football Club as they were welcomed into the North West Counties Football League at the N.W.C. Football League Meeting at Blackpool Imperial Hotel on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> June.

# St Martins FC with their trophies from the 2017/18 season



St Martins FC Chairman, Terry Ellis and Treasurer, Andrew Joseph place the West Midland League Division One Cup onto the head of St. Martins FC Centre Half Jamie Durman as they celebrate winning the cup at the 'League Presentation' evening that was held at 'Tipton Sports Academy' on Friday 15<sup>TH</sup> June 2018.



Terry Ellis, Les Williams, Joyce Fenell and Tricia Williams proudly display the West Midland League Division One Cup and the 'Team of the Month' award following the presentation of the trophies to St. Martins FC at the League Presentation Night that was held at 'Tipton Sports Academy' on Friday 15<sup>TH</sup> June 2018.

## Is St Martins a Great Place to Live?

We think so and this is why!

We have been home extremely late on the day before bin day - on one occasion it was the early hours when we got home, exhausted, What a treat it was on each occasion to find that our bin had been put out in readiness for Veolia the following day. We don't know which of our lovely neighbours it was - but we feel very thankful to live in an area like this where people watch out for each other.



# Mr John Roberts MBE

Many villagers know John Roberts or may have meet him under difficult circumstances in his capacity as a First Responder and found him to be a very supportive and a gentle man and an absolute gentleman. Whenever there was work to do with regards to training in First Aid or CPR John was always there. John would not regard himself as anything out of the ordinary, but that's why he was awarded the MBE on the Queen's honours list.

This special man is hanging up his stethoscope and scissors and is stepping into retirement.

I am sure the whole village will join with us here at Village Life in wishing him ALL the best in his retirement and THANK YOU for being there when we most needed you..



ARRON ELLIS THOMAS  
*presents*

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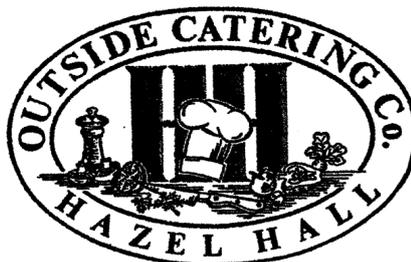
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# SUDOKU

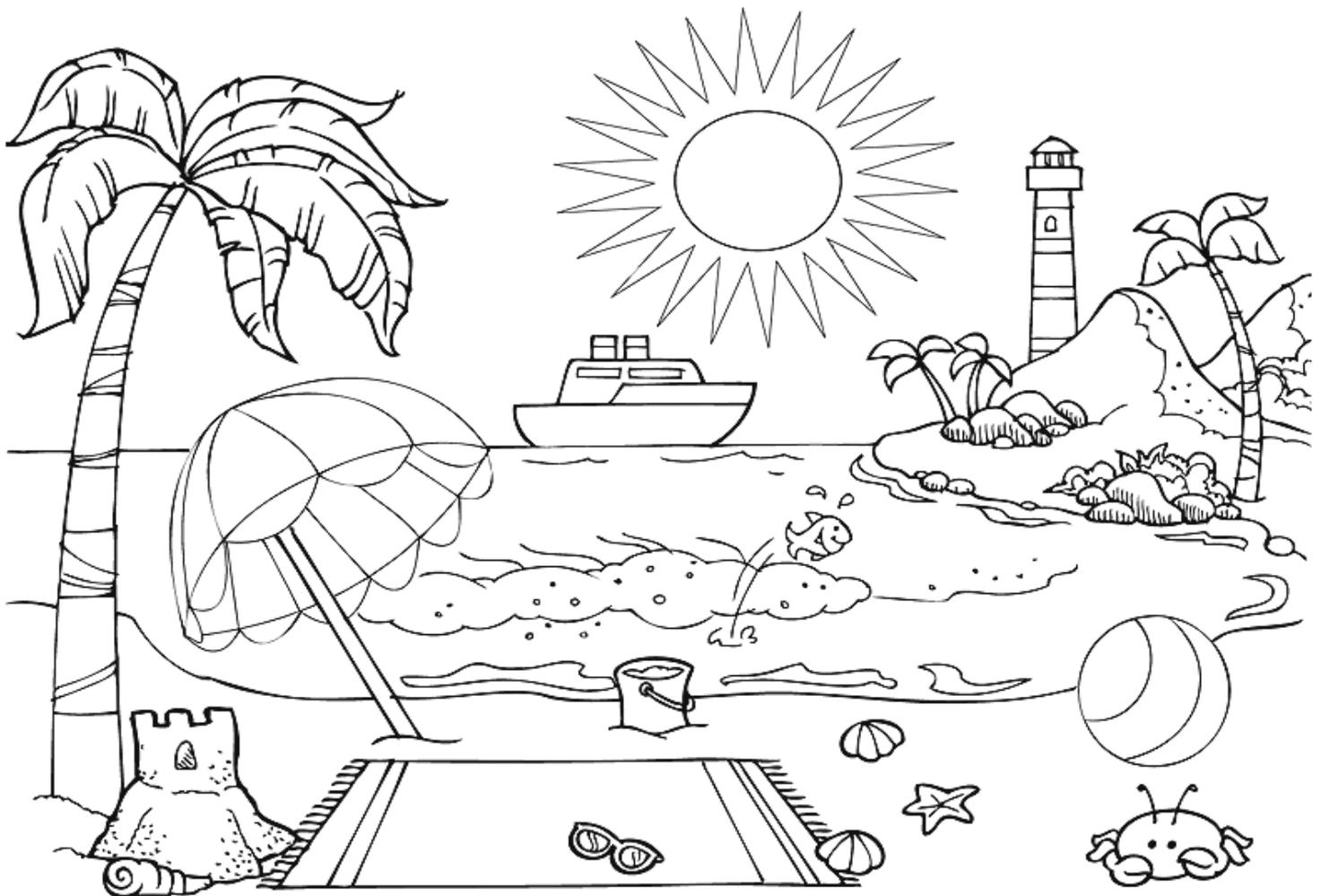
		1			7			
						4	6	7
		5			8	9		
	5			4			2	
8			2		3			1
	7			8			9	
		6	8			1		
5	9	8						
			9			8		

## Fruit Challenge

 7	 +  = ?
 5	 +  = ?
 3	 -  = ?
 6	 -  = ?
 9	 x  = ?

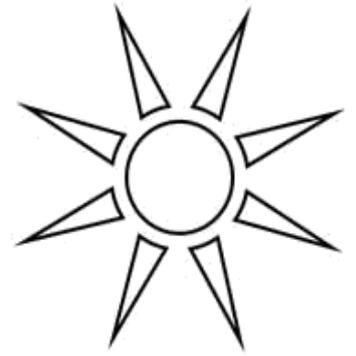
BrainFans.com

Here's a great picture for you to colour



© weBjunior.net

# Picnic Foods



## Word Search

Can you find the hidden words below?

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

Find the Following Words:

watermelon

ice tea

sandwich

cheese

snack

chicken

hot dog

hamburger

jelly

soda

potato salad

basket

picnic

potato chips

vegetables

apple pie

cupcakes

cookies

# English Teacher

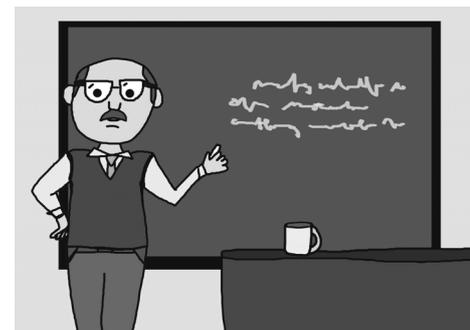
A (very) long time ago I was a teacher of English. My days were passed encouraging and exhorting young people to find some pleasure and facility in our rich language. From time to time I would set a writing task. Depending on what this was there was of course a range of response. Generally the most adverse reaction was to an offer of *carte blanche* - choose your own topic, though Keith could produce a twenty seven page story with the most complicated of plots and that took a lot of reading especially as his handwriting was not of the clearest. Others preferred a defined task. I suppose writing this piece is like being given an open choice, the nice thing being that it's *carte blanche* from me and I like writing. I contend, however, that modern means, texts, email and so on, for all the carnage committed on grammar and spelling, have tapped an expressive impulse that I was seeking in youngsters. On the other hand I realised *my* days were numbered and that my sense of vocation was wearing thin when one morning, in my other role as a form tutor, I found myself absent-mindedly marking spelling mistakes (in red) in a letter from a parent to explain the absence of her son from school. However, on the journey to this point I had many memorable, even enjoyable, moments and recall with affection a number of students of whom I now know little or nothing. That does not stop me from wondering 'Where are they now?'

Jonny, on seeing my comment on his essay, 'It would be helpful if I could read your handwriting.' said, 'What does this say, sir?' One 23rd April I walked into the classroom and said, 'It's Shakespeare's birthday today.' 'What did you give him, sir?' asked Paul. Elaine, the best in the best Advanced Level English Literature group we had ever had, wrote historical novels in her spare time, but could not spell. I just put my red pen away when reading her work. Peter, reminded that he had a detention with the head of the English department to attend on a Friday, asserted to me that he would not be doing it, to which I said that Mrs. Smith would not let up and would be after him the following week. 'She might snuff it by Monday,' he replied.

Anthony gave us a talk about beer-making, wonderfully constructed and informative, without notes, prompted only by a bin full of equipment to explain the process, produced piece by piece in the proper sequence. Glenys talked about hair styling, using four friends as examples of head shape that can dictate styling and managed to insult all of them ('This is a fat face, that one's a long one...'), and Jean wrote that her brother had been fined for careless driving. It was an interesting, stimulating, occasionally uproarious and generally energy-sapping life.

I know little of the job of English teaching these days. I certainly acknowledge that it must be much more demanding than when I did it, the many constraints, the impact of social media on students and teachers equally, and so on. But I guess the essential question is still relevant, 'Am I teaching English to young people, or am I teaching young people English?' Where do you begin? My instinct was, and remains, that the subject is the means by which we relate to those we teach. I wonder if the current system accepts that now?

And in all fields of human activity and endeavour don't we start with the person? At the time of writing Gareth Southgate seems to get that. *Don B*



## Red Arrows Attending Fun Day



The Marches School Family Fun Day sponsored by Aico took place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June and was attended by the iconic Red Arrows.

The RAF Red Arrows, one of the world's premier aerobatic teams, demonstrated their speed, agility and precision at the Annual Fun Day, which proved to be a mesmeric occasion for all of the family.

If seeing the stunning Red Arrows was not enough, there were countless stalls and events for the whole family to enjoy. The Marches School prides itself on being a local school, for the local people and with a variety of local stalls signed up, the day was able to show off what Oswestry has to offer.

There was zorbing, nerf wars, a climbing wall, go karts and a speed cage. There was also a bar, a pop up café, a pizza oven, a Prosecco bar and sweet stalls for all to enjoy.

Hayley Alldridge, Events Manager at the Marches School, commented: "We were very excited to be hosting this event and we are overjoyed that the Red Arrows were able to join us. We would like to thank the local trade stalls that have been very enthusiastic in helping to shape this event. All of us here at the Marches School were delighted to have been able to welcome the people of the local area and beyond on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June in what proved to be an unmissable day".

**For more information, please contact Dan Stanley, Marketing and PR on 01691 664404 / [stanley.d@marchesschool.net](mailto:stanley.d@marchesschool.net). For all of the latest school news, please visit [www.marchesschool.co.uk](http://www.marchesschool.co.uk)**





## IFTON MEADOWS

This year we have had more breeding pairs of skylarks on site and so far we know that a least two pairs have successfully fledged a number of young and as a bonus we also have reports of 2 curlews, the first recorded here.

So thank you all for keeping off the mound (the main breeding site for ground nesting birds) but remember that the breeding season continues till September. Both these birds are in decline so they need your help to survive.

We hope that many of you will come along to our **'Nature Fun Day' on Sunday 19th August starting at 12 noon** to mark the 40th Anniversary of the site becoming a green space.



We have lots planned for you to enjoy on the day but the only thing we cannot guarantee is the weather.

**Scarecrow Competition** - one entry per family and scarecrows must be on site by 1pm at the latest.

Cash prizes of - 1st Prize - £20, 2nd - £10, 3rd - £5.

**Entertainment** will be provided by The Silverman, Music by Fizz Gigs and The Gracechurch Georgian dancers, plus storyteller Haulwen Nicholas.

Orchardfield Ecological are coming along to give guided walks and to help you make your own bug box and help you ID mini bugs etc.,

Barbeque and refreshments and a number of stalls, and if you have any gardening questions bring them along and hopefully you will find the answer at the St. Martins Allotment stand.



If you or your group would like a stall or further details ring Ann on 01978.710327.

## Answers to the General Knowledge Quiz From page 9

1. Six
2. An Aircraft
3. Alcohol By Volume
4. Sri Lanka
5. Krypton
6. Uruguay
7. 29
8. 206
9. 10%
10. Whale Shark

## CHIRK HOSPITAL CIRCLE OF FRIENDS.

Please note that we have changed the date of our next Rummage Sale to Saturday September 15th, It will take place at Chirk Parish Hall from 10am - 12 noon and there will be the customary bargains up for grabs plus delicious refreshments to enjoy .

# URGENT

Business Support Programme

Management Accounts

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Auditing

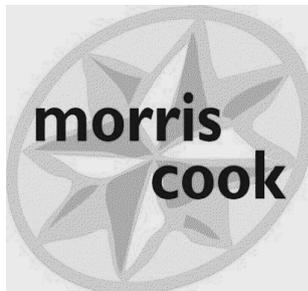
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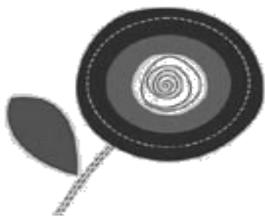
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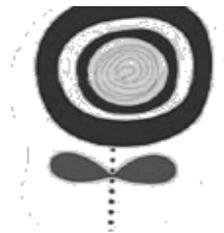
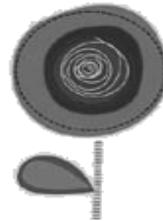
Our meeting was held on 5th June with President Shirley Willis Presiding.

We then welcomed our speaker for the evening Louise King demonstrating her skill making a beautiful rose to use in decorating a cake. She then showed us how to ice a cake she had

previously covered with chocolate ganache which for the layered sponge cake gave a perfect surface to get the smooth and perfect finish. Her skill was obvious as she deftly turned the cake upside down in one movement, I don't think many of our ladies would try this at home!! After we had all had time to see close up the way she had decorated the cake, she sliced it up and we all had a piece with our tea or coffee, really delicious!! She was thanked by Shirley Willis.



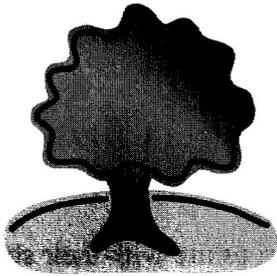
**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**



## JULY MEETING

We were very kindly invited on 3rd July to join Gobowen W.I. for their meeting and a very enjoyable evening it was. The speaker was Vickie McKenzie her talk was titled Lessons Learned from My Lifetime in the Law. She is a solicitor and gave a very interesting talk of many of the situations she has been involved in for the last 25 yrs as a solicitor. Not quite the glamorous life I thought it was, but fascinating just the same. We had lovely refreshments including cakes, tea, and coffee. It was also so nice to be able to chat to members of another W.I. and see how they do things. Next month we have our outing to Middleport Pottery, Burslem, to see The Ceramic Poppies Weeping Window and then on to Wedgewood Pottery where we can do a tour of the museum and factory. We will be having our monthly meeting at The Miners Institute on the 4th September and our speaker will be Viv Marsh on bees. It will also be our Autumn Show.

# A ROBERTS



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# Len's Plaice

## Opening Times

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Tues	Closed	Closed
Wed	11:45 - 1:30	5pm - 9:30
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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## 'Wilfred Owen: Poet of Oswestry' - a new book by Dave Andrews

Many of us know that Wilfred Owen was born in Oswestry and that he was killed during World War One but most of us probably know very little else about him - except perhaps that he became famous as a poet after his death. Dave Andrews' new book on the town's most famous son provides a clear and concise introduction to Wilfred Owen's short but eventful life.

'I wanted to write a book that would give people the main facts about Wilfred Owen without going into great depth', says Dave. 'He deserves to be better known and better understood. I also wanted to remind the world that he was born here in Oswestry. Other places may claim him as theirs and commemorate his name but we can all be proud of the fact that he was a native of our town, just as he himself was proud of his connection with the area and with his Welsh forefathers.'

As well as a biographical section on Wilfred, the book has separate sections on his poetic development and his Welsh identity. 'I realised that not everyone might be interested in his development as a poet,' says Dave 'so I decided to discuss this in a separate section. It will provide a solid basis for students of his work and for people who want to learn about the influences on his poetry.'

'*Wilfred Owen: Poet of Oswestry*' has been written to coincide with the town's centenary commemorations of Wilfred's death in battle in 1918. At the time of his death, his work was virtually unknown and it was to be several years before his poetry reached a wider audience. His reputation grew steadily during the twentieth century and in particular during the 1960s. Today his poems are read and studied throughout the English speaking world and beyond it in translation. Wilfred Owen - a son of Oswestry - is now regarded as one of the greatest poets of the twentieth century in the English language.

As Dave says in the introduction to his book - 'I wish to dedicate this book to the people of Oswestry. It was you I had in mind as my potential audience while I was writing it. Wilfred Owen was born in our town and we should be proud of his achievements.'

Dave is currently Reader and Writer in Residence at Oswestry Library and holds degrees in literature from the universities of Bangor and Oxford. He has published a number of books in Welsh and English including novels and guidebooks to the mountains of Wales. His two most recent books, *The Oswestry Round* and *Gobowen to Everest*, were both written to raise money for Cancer Research UK and Lingen Davies Cancer Fund, for whom Dave is a Community Coordinator. '*Wilfred Owen: Poet of Oswestry*' is Dave's tenth book.

'*Wilfred Owen: Poet of Oswestry*' is available in Booka and also online from [www.oswestryround.co.uk](http://www.oswestryround.co.uk) Price £5. You can also contact Dave direct for a signed copy at [dand103750@aol.com](mailto:dand103750@aol.com) Dave is also available to give talks on his books.



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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  
5th August and 2nd September**

**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.

## Three Parishes Big Local Update



Three Parishes  
**Big Local**

### School Saver Clubs

As the summer term comes to an end, we would like to say a huge thank you and good luck to the year 6 pupils who have helped to run the school saver clubs in St Martins, Gobowen and Weston Rhyn primary schools as they leave their roles and move up into secondary school.

Andrea Broady from FAIRshare Credit Union has been busy training the next set of pupils so that they are ready to take on the challenge in September when the club reopens.

As well as the pupils, the School Saver Clubs cannot work without the support from the School staff who come in early to get it ready and all the children and parents who have been saving for the past year. Thank you and well done to you all.

We look forward seeing you all again in September – remember you can join at any time – for more information contact FAIRshare Credit Union on 01743 240403 or visit [www.fairshare.uk.com/about/how-to-join-fairshare](http://www.fairshare.uk.com/about/how-to-join-fairshare)

### 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 11<sup>th</sup> October with Zoe Slattery, 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.

### Community Chest

Did you know that you can apply for a grant from Three Parishes Big Local? Community Chest grants are up to £500. Grants have been used to fund a wide range of activities including learning new skills, buying equipment, recruiting new members and holding events.

St Martins School received a grant to install a scooter rack. It's great to see it being used by the young people at the school. Thanks to school governor Mrs Manford, Flo, Tilly and Cooper



**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)**

Find us on Facebook and Twitter on 3PBigLocal

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



## Three Parishes Community Wildlife Group

Covering the parishes of Weston Rhyn, St Martin's and Gobowen & Selattyn and the surrounding area.

Sue Loose was our guest speaker, sharing her expertise on Dragonflies. Sue studied Dragonflies as her speciality and soon after beginning her study found herself en route to Brazil for a placement at Regua Wetlands helping the team on surveying and studying Dragonflies in the new and quickly expanding reinstating wetlands project.



Sue shared some of her Brazillian experiences accompanied by slides of Dragonflies she had help to record in her two visits there.

She then deftly moved onto British species of Dragonflies – concentrating on those endemic to our 3 Parishes area and its borders. For some of the photographs included in her comprehensive slide show, Sue had to wade into water, including the Montgomery Canal! The canal and it's nature reserve at Aston Locks - stretching to past Queens Head - is a very productive area to see Dragonflies, along with Whixhall Moss, with other sightings, Sue shared at Ifton Meadows and on the Dee at Holt.

Sue then took questions and the raffle was drawn.

Notices; extra event. Carl Green – Head Ranger will lead an evening walk around Chirk Castle Grounds – 16<sup>th</sup> August, time TBC. Carl ably led the group on the bat walk last year.

All are welcome.

For further information and for booking on the Chirk Castle walk – contact Polly on 01691 239087 – mb 07938693561

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