

# Update from the Village Life Magazine Committee

Well where do I start? This is the most unusual update piece I have ever had to write for the magazine and in the current Coronavirus pandemic situation whatever I put in this article may well have changed by the time you read it!

Perhaps that is the first point that needs to be made. In this issue we have provided details of all the events and activities that we know have been cancelled because of guidance and/or instructions issued by the government, but it is highly likely that even more of the "What's On" events in our centre spread will also fall victim to the effect of the COVID-19 emergency.

Please check with the organiser before going to any advertised event as it may have been cancelled since they told us it was taking place.

We have been able to produce this issue thanks to the efforts of our many contributors - despite the fact that they have had to plan and deal with a rapidly changing situation themselves. We shall continue to prepare for our next edition at the end of May in the hope that the position will have improved, but we cannot guarantee that we shall be able to publish or distribute. We may not even be able to hold our AGM in May, but if we do go "off air" it will only be temporary. We shall return - and if any issue does have to be missed, our advertisers can rest assured that we shall simply roll forward their advertising timetable so that they pay only for what gets published.

Various articles in this issue refer to contingency plans and processes that are being created and in some cases already put in place, so we hope you find the information helpful as well as informative. At the foot of the next page you will also see details about some new and worthwhile initiatives that are being created to provide services to people in our community. Again, please check with the providers as they may be subject to change and will have terms and conditions.

Finally, and most importantly, follow the guidelines and advice on social distancing and self isolation. Above all, please stay safe.

John Stevens

Chair of the Editorial Committee

.....  
**If you wish to submit an article or advertise in the next publication  
please email it to [stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com](mailto:stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com)  
by no later than Wednesday 20th May 2021**  
.....

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**There is a large print version at the St Martins Centre for  
people with sight impairment.**

# From the New Chair of Village Life

You may wonder why there is a second editorial page.

Some of you will know that we have lost our Editor and Chair, Mr John Stevens, who very sadly and suddenly passed away in March. I have left his last editorial in as a mark of respect; he always put his best into these articles, giving us so much information, and unfortunately it was about all the restrictions and cancelations in our present circumstances (how things have moved on). John has been very much missed but life goes on and so will Village Life (we hope). I know I cannot replace John but, like him, I will also do my best.

The Village Life committee has met once face to face and once via Zoom. Given the current situation with the Coronavirus it has been very difficult and different to forward plan. Four new people have joined the team which I am very grateful for, as I'm sure they are going to be instrumental in bringing the magazine back to the community when all the restrictions have been lifted. We will take a close look at the format and cover - do we need a new picture on the front? Does the layout need changing? Please send me your ideas and your comments on this as they would be very welcome, just email me.

We do need a Compiler/Copy Editor, someone who can do my job of putting the magazine together ready for the Editor (Frankie Turner) to do her magic, which will give me the chance to lead the team and offer support to the new members. Printing, which will be overseen by Heather Lloyd, will still be at the Centre and I must put in a big Thank You to the Centre for all their help in this area. Some deliverers tell me they are moving out of the village, so new deliverers will be needed. If you would like to help please email your details to the magazine and we will contact you as soon as we are sure of areas or streets where help is needed.

This edition is just to say we are wanting to carry on with the magazine next year, giving so many residents a link to what is happening in the village. Websites and Facebook pages are great for keeping information circulating but not everyone has or wants a computer, so paper still has its place. Avid readers may tell you there is nothing like holding a book and turning a page as you read, holding a computer/tablet does not have the quite same feel or smell.

The 'What's on' pages have been taken out for this edition as there are no events happening, but it will be back. Sorry there are more adverts than articles but that's just a sign of the times.

Sue



# Parish Council

## FROM THE CHAIR

Hello

What a year so far; only a few weeks left of 2020, and most of us will be glad to see 2021.

Thank you to everyone helping friends and neighbours, and keeping close to COVID-19 rules.

It is a joy to see Village Life published again, a big thank you to all who have put thinking caps on and contributed. Well done the production team, and thanks to the advertisers who mainly fund the publication.

I know we are all fed up with masks, washing and disinfecting, keeping distance from others, but keep on doing all the precautions until we have a vaccine, tried and tested, and I will certainly have the jab when it is offered.

Christmas is coming, so put up the lights, hang your decorations, and let us brighten our village with outside lights again. We can celebrate family-style, and enjoy the festive season.

Our village now has Vehicle Activated Signs, reminding all drivers that it is a 30mph zone. I have had to drive past each one to celebrate, and to make sure the car following me keeps to 30mph.

Coronavirus, Covid-19: rules and recommendations are changing by the hour, so please just watch out for your neighbours, ask if they want you to shop for them, and keep on washing hands, wipe door handles with anti bacterial wipes, think about taking wipes in the car with you, wipe your hands or steering wheel, shopping trolley handles, all surfaces that other people are touching, but most of all, if you get a cold or fever, stay at home.

I hope you all keep healthy, and please look out for your neighbour.

From Helen Williams, Chair of St Martins Parish Council.



# Report from St Martins Parish Council Clerk

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 4th April 2020, permitting local authority meetings to be held remotely, including by video and telephone conferencing, until May 2021. The Parish Council has followed Government advice and continues to hold monthly meetings using the Zoom video conference platform.

Meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the parish council website at [www.stmartinsparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.stmartinsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Since the last report in the Village Life we have had a number of changes to the membership of the Parish Council. Sadly, we lost Cllr John Stevens and Cllr Gordon Fryer. Cllr Jim Hoos also resigned from the Parish Council. We are now back to full strength with the co-option of Paula Rooney, Natalie Rowley and Sue Schofield. Cllr Helen Williams has been re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council with Cllr Glenn Pennington as Vice Chairman.

One of the main concerns of the parish council for some time has been the speed of traffic through the village, especially at the junction of Moors Bank and Overton Road by the school. Following months of investigation work we have now installed four Speed Indicator Devices in the village which records data that can then be passed on to the police. There is also the possibility that Shropshire Council will install 20mph restrictions around all schools.

Talks are still ongoing with Shropshire Council on the Shropshire Local Plan Review. Unfortunately, at this stage two of the parish council's preferred potential development options on land east of Moors Bank (opposite the Rhos-y-Llan Farm Site) and St Martins Playing Field to the rear of Stan's Superstore have not been included. We still await the final planning application plans for the former Ifton School development.

All street light units owned by the parish council have now been converted to LED units. The street lights along Overton Road and Ellesmere Road are still owned and maintained by Shropshire Council.

We continue to report any highway issues to Shropshire Council, who then pass these on to their contractor at KIER. These include pot holes, drainage issues and damaged signs. We are still awaiting design options from Shropshire Council to improve the junction layout of Overton Road and Ellesmere Road by Stans Superstore. During lockdown a number of our Cllrs have been carrying out surveys on all the Rights of Way (ROW) footpaths through the parish. Any defects on stiles etc or obstructions are being forwarded to Shropshire Council's ROW officer.

Edward Davies  
St Martins Parish Clerk

## Current Parish Councillors

Andrew Cast	01691 773389
Gordon Fryer	01691 774520
Mark Hayball	01691 770207
Brian Herbert	01691 772647
John Hodgson	07841 451212
Fatema Kapasi	07935 285483
Duncan Laing	07702 991845
Nina Mistry	01691 657324
Glenn Pennington	01691 778477
Lesley-Anne Roberts	01691 776438
Paula Rooney	01691 773288
Natalie Rowley	
Pierre Saunier	01691 778806
Sophie Hughes-Saunier	
	01691 778806
Sue Schofield	01691 777710
Helen Williams	01691 777561

# Shropshire Council

**Councillor Steve Davenport**

*County Councillor, St Martins School Governor, Chair of St Martins Centre Trustees*

Tel 07944097876 Email [steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk)

Hello All

It's really great news to have our Village Life back in print thanks to a dedicated committee re-formed since the death of John Stevens, who was a key figure in publishing it. He is sadly missed.

How the world has changed this year. No words can describe what's happening, and I almost hesitate to say with a proposed vaccine we can hopefully start to get back to normality next year, but if there are any issues you have about COVID-19 Shropshire Council's dedicated number is 03456789028

Shropshire Council hasn't stopped and I have tried to get work done on our roads during lockdown. You may have noticed the Vehicle Activated Signs signs go up, reminding everyone to keep to the speed limit through the village.

I have to say thank you to the Parish Council who have also kept going through this year, with chairman Helen Williams keeping everything together despite her own very sad time.

We can see houses going up in the village and selling as fast as they're built; people like the spirit of the village and we are always looking for Community Centre volunteers in normal times.

If there is any help I can be to anyone please don't hesitate to contact me. *Steve*

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**PCSO Dave Hughes – 07870 219190**

**PCSO Pete Roberts – 07870 219019**

For more crime prevention advice please feel free to get in contact with your local police team and please report anything suspicious to the police on 101.

**Kate Le'Clere, PC 3718**

**Oswestry Rural North,**

**Safer Neighbourhoods Team**

**Mobile – 07870 219518**

Please contact us on the above numbers if you have any issues you wish to discuss.

Email - [oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**To report a crime please dial 101 or in an emergency dial 999**





# St. Martins Parish Church

**Looking forward to Celebrating Christmas.**

**Services will held in Church and streamed online.**

If you would like to come to a service please contact Val Thompson on 01691 658756 as we still have to limit places due to restrictions.

**20th Dec 10:30am -**

**Carols and lessons**

**24th Dec 11:15pm -**

**Carols by Candlelit**

**25th Dec 9:30am - Family Christmas Day service**



You will see that many candles are lit during the celebration of the Advent and Christmas Season.

One of my favorite verses is from the John 1: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.** Jesus Christ is that Light.

**Fear of the Dark** I can remember as a child being so frightened of the dark. I hated putting my feet out of the duvet when the light was off, however hot my feet were. I remember the day the light bulb on the landing blew and I had to run up stairs, down the corridor in the dark and hit the light switch as quickly as possible in case there was something lurking in the dark that I couldn't see. Seems silly now but I was so scared of what I couldn't see. Then when I was about 10 my uncle (who had a strong faith) suggested that I invite Jesus into my heart. I prayed that simple prayer that night asking the Jesus to come into my heart. I will never forget the difference that childish prayer made the next night. From then on I was not scared of the dark at all! I could air my feet without fear! I enjoyed the freedom of being able to walk through a dark room or path without fear.

## **What Changed ?**

The Bible speaks about that when talking about Jesus coming into the world at that first Christmas it says:

### **John 8**

**Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**

My prayer for you is that you too would accept the greatest present ever- the offer of His PRESENCE through Jesus who came into this world as **a light for us** that we may never fear the unknown or be alone. Because He is with us. Immanuel.

*Wishing you comfort and Joy this Christmas.*

**For more information or to book a Christening or Wedding and for any other enquiry please contact.**

Revd Stuart Jermy - [saintmartinjohns@icloud.com](mailto:saintmartinjohns@icloud.com)

Phone: 01691 778 468 Mobile: 07766 255436

Or check out our website: [www.stmartinsparish.org.uk](http://www.stmartinsparish.org.uk)



# **St Martins Methodist Church**

(Ellesmere Road)

Minister for St Martins

Rev Julia Skitt - phone: 07810 360778

**Face to face services are not happening in our chapel, so join us online:**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:** 10.45am service

To access by **telephone** dial 0131 460 1196, or 0203 051 2874, or 0203 481 5237

When prompted to do so dial in the meeting number: 963 047 616 followed by #

Participant number is #

To access on **Zoom**, click on Join, meeting number 963 047 616

For the recorded Sunday service phone: 01691 887775, any time after 12 noon on the Sunday.

**TEA & CHAT:** 2pm and 4pm Wednesdays,

**telephone** 0203 481 5240 OR **Zoom** meeting number 708 200 8049

**FACEBOOK:** Shropshire and Marches-Northern End

**STAY SAFE. KEEP SMILING.**

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CHRISTMAS  
and Happy New Year !**

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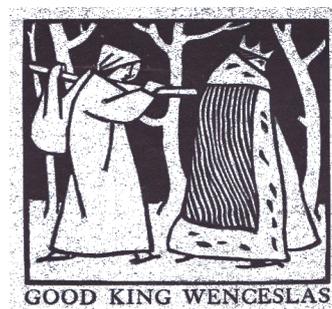
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# Christmas Quiz 2020

Answers on page 25

1. The carol Adeste Fideles is better known by what name?
2. What nationality was Joseph Mohr, the creator of the carol Silent Night?
3. What is the total number of birds mentioned in the Christmas song, *The 12 Days of Christmas*?
4. How many reindeer does Father Christmas have pulling his sleigh?
5. Name the three reindeer whose names begin with **D**
6. What did Good King Wenceslas see when "He looked out"?
7. What Saints Day is celebrated on Boxing Day?
8. What form of transport did the Three Wise Men use?
9. What gifts did the Three Wise Men give to Jesus?
10. Where did the angel tell the shepherds they would find baby Jesus?



*Merry Christmas Everyone*

Leslie Younger

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Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
at 6PM

Not sure of any other  
information at this  
time due to the current  
situation we are in.

Hopefully we will be  
out of lockdown  
therefore we could  
meet socially  
distancing in our  
family bubbles.

If you can just keep  
this date and time free  
and I'll come back to  
you as soon as I know  
more.

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*presents*

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## Greetings from Effie, Community First Responder

Residents will be aware that I have left West Midlands Ambulance Service and am now volunteering as a Community First Responder with the Welsh Ambulance Service. Although I still do get 999 jobs in St Martins and along the English side of the border, the majority are in Chirk, Overton and Penley.



The WAST CFRs have never had a dedicated car, so I have spent the last couple of months running an appeal to raise sufficient money to buy a vehicle for our group, Wrexham Rural First Responders.

I am happy to report that the appeal has been successful and with the help of a lottery grant, donations from The Keys, Stans' "Making A Difference Locally", Perrys, Ifton Garage and over a hundred donors via crowdfunding, it took a relatively short while to raise enough for the car itself, the livery, insurance, tax and essential accessories.

Frustratingly, as I write, the car is stuck between lockdowns. First in Wales, now in England, but we are hoping it will be based here in St Martins, attending patients along the border before Christmas.

With that in mind, I send you best wishes for enjoying what pleasures the Christmas season can bring in this strangest of years and hope for a return to some sort of normality in 2021.

Effie, CFR 5814 WAST



## Announcement by the North West Counties Football League

Following the announcement from The FA confirming football below Step 3 will be suspended from Thursday 5th November, the League Board of Directors made the following statement. The Health and well-being of all officials, players and spectators has always been the main priority of the League and our clubs have invested considerable time and money in ensuring grounds are COVID-19 secure. We are naturally disappointed that football at Steps 3-6 has had to stop when these measures have been in place. However, like many sectors impacted by COVID-19, the current situation is beyond

our control. We will work with the FA on plans for resuming the season when we are in a position to do so. This lockdown cancels 7 St Martins games, 3 of them at home; 17th Nov 19:45, 21st Nov 15:00, 27th Nov 19:45.

### Stockport Town 3 St. Martins 0

St Martins F.C. travelled to Stockport with a degree of apprehension because of their varying form of late and awareness that they were facing a significant hurdle playing away to Stockport Town. A task that they approached with courage and discipline, a strategy that saw them through a first half without conceding but alas without scoring. That was to change in the 64<sup>th</sup> minute when Max Dickov opened the scoring for Stockport in the 64<sup>th</sup> minute; however a stoic Saints stayed in the game with chances shared equally until the final minutes of the game. As Christopher Middleton fired home Stockport's second goal in the 90<sup>th</sup> minute and Max Dickov scored his second goal, and his club's third, in the 92<sup>nd</sup> minute, the Saints were left devastated at a score-line that their efforts on the day did not deserve.

### St. Martins FC 1 Stone Alleynians 1

The Saints were robbed of their second victory of the season by a scrambled goal poked home by Louis Downs in the 88<sup>th</sup> minute, leaving them pondering on their recent habit of conceding goals in the dying minutes of games. This was an end-to-end encounter however, that could have favoured either side but it was Mohamed Redaoui who calmly placed the ball in the back of the net in the 21<sup>st</sup> minute following a swift counter attack from the Saints. The Saints defence was impressive throughout the game, enforced by an exceptional goalkeeping performance by Maxwell Abuah. Built on this strong resistance, the Saints counter attacks were in contrast to Stone's longer periods of possession. Stone's possession did not faze the Saints whose change to a more secure 4-3-3 formation worked. Their counter attacks were more effective with Taylor James providing a constant outlet utilising his close control to sharp effect, linking to team mates in the subsequent space created on the wings. It was a travesty therefore to concede a goal so late in a game they could so easily have won.

### St. Martins FC 2 Sandbach 3

The Saint's improved form of late provided a reason to be optimistic in their home game against Sandbach but a poor first half performance left them 3 – 0 down trailing to goals scored by Scott Evans in the 29<sup>th</sup> minute, Kieran Garner in the 30<sup>th</sup> minute and Bobbie McDonald in the 49<sup>th</sup> minute. The team's response to this disastrous start was however inspiring, as they fought back in the second half with goals scored by Jordon Harper in the 62<sup>nd</sup> minute and Nelson Onwusiri in the 76<sup>th</sup> minute. Their shots had also rattled the opposition's woodwork twice, with Sandbach goalkeeper Danny Hamlet making several exceptional saves to maintain his side's 3 points.

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# St Martins School



2020



Students in school are adapting remarkably well to new ways of working; they really are a credit to our community!

Well done to Noah in year 7 who played 'The Last Post' beautifully in front of the whole school to mark the two minute silence for **Armistice Day**. It was a touching tribute.

The performance was recorded and is available on the school YouTube channel if you wish to view it.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vN\\_uXoUb5IM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vN_uXoUb5IM)



Year 6 class visited the war memorial in St Martins this week to place their handmade poppies. Primary school parents may have seen poppies on the roundabout in the staff car park.

Each week we ask staff to nominate their 'student of the week'. It can be for great homework, working hard in class, being a good role model, supporting others students etc. Here are the badges and messages ready to go for this week. Well done everyone!

We have a long history of supporting Children in Need and this year is no exception!! On **FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER** stu-



dents came to school in something red or yellow for a £1 donation. Year 1, who are currently isolating, got into the Pudsey theme during an online lesson with their teacher Miss Sayers - you all look amazing, well done children and parents!

**Parents you raised over £400!!**

During the second half of the Autumn term Years 1, 2, 3 and 4/5 will be participating in weekly Forest School sessions. The sessions will take place in an afternoon. Your child's class teacher will let you know which day your child has Forest School. For some classes it may mean that they do Forest School instead of one of their P.E slots.

Forest School is a time when children get to explore the outdoors and experience what nature has to offer. Autumn is a particularly lovely time to be out in the Forest and it gives children an opportunity to explore the change in seasons first hand.

Children will need to come dressed ready to go out to the Forest, much as they do when they have a P.E session. However, as most sessions will be outside in the afternoon we ask that if your child has waterproof clothing to wear, they bring it with them to put on.

They will need: outdoor shoes – walking boots or wellingtons, warm socks, a warm coat – preferably waterproof, a jumper or fleece, a t-shirt, trousers, waterproof over-trousers if possible, and an extra layer of clothing depending on the weather.

**Forest School sessions provide for play, exploration and trying new activities. It helps develop confidence and self-esteem, with hands-on experiences in an outdoor, natural setting.**

**Merry Christmas everyone**

[reception@stmartins3-16.org](mailto:reception@stmartins3-16.org)

01691 776500

[www.stmartins3-](http://www.stmartins3-16.org)

## **St Martins Foodbank**

St Martins Foodbank was initially set up in March due to COVID-19.

The foodbank is available to anyone... there is no paperwork required, as long as you live in St Martins or have a child who attends St Martins School we can support you.

The foodbank is based at St Martins Village Centre (next to Stans) and is currently open every Thursday from 6.30pm until 7.30pm. If you cannot get out for any reason, please get in touch and we can arrange to supply you with a food parcel.

We really cannot stress this enough: anyone could find themselves in need of some extra support. Please do not struggle, we can help you.

There are a number of ways that you can contact us:

Call or text: 07598972767

Leave a message at St Martins Village Centre on: 01691 770204

Send us a message via Facebook: @stmartinsfoodbank

We are extremely grateful to the generosity of our community; bags of food left at doorsteps, full baskets at Stans Superstore Collection Point and cash donations. Thank you so very much to everyone for their continued support.





Dear Brownies and Rainbows

It has been a strange year, we haven't seen your happy faces since March, we haven't done our usual trips, sleepovers, events which means we have lots to talk about and catch up with when we are able to come back safely.

At this present time we are unable to set dates. We would still love to see all your badge work to earn your interest badges, this will always make us smile as we are very proud of all of you.

*We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, Stay Safe.*

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Members are still working on the Meadows arranging times between themselves. If anyone is interested they can get in touch (01978 710327) with me as usual and I will forward their details onto Roy or Vicky.

We hope to resume meetings and workdays normally once everything gets back to normal.

I have been out of action this year, I had a stroke in February and then another in September so have not been able to do any work myself.

Hope you are keeping well.

Ann

**A Very Happy Christmas to All Members and Friends of  
the Meadows**

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## **Weston Rhyn & District Gardening Club**

We have a comprehensive programme completed and speakers booked for the whole of 2021, ranging from plant propagation, herbs, hostas, low maintenance, vegetable and fruit growing, and common garden plants and their medicinal uses.

Realistically, we are aiming to begin meetings in April 2021, depending on the circumstances at the time.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and  
New Year.





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# SUDOKU

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

$$36 = 3 \text{ watermelon slices} + 3 \text{ watermelon slices} + 3 \text{ watermelon slices}$$

$$28 = 3 \text{ oranges} + 3 \text{ oranges} + 3 \text{ oranges}$$

$$3 = 3 \text{ bananas} - 1 \text{ banana}$$


Here's a picture for you to colour.



# Christmas Search



Angels

Candy cane

Chestnuts

Children

Cookies

December

Decorate

Frosty

Fruitcake

Gifts

Glitter

Jesus

Jingle

Joseph

Manger

Mary

Nativity

Noel

Ornaments

Peppermint

Reindeer

Shepherds

Sleigh

Snow

Snowman

Star

Stocking

Tree

Wisemen

# Health Matters

Little did I know when I locked the clinic door on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, that I wouldn't work again until July! Fortunately, Osteopaths are now considered "essential healthcare",

so we have been open during the recent lockdowns. I want to reassure you that an osteopathic appointment, during this pandemic, is probably one of the safest things you can do, other than staying at home.

All the practitioners at the Verve in Llangollen want to protect the safety of all the clinic visitors, as well as ourselves, so we are taking this pandemic VERY seriously.

Your first consultation is £50, and now takes place in two parts, to reduce face-to-face time. We start with an hour long call. During this, I explain the COVID-19 protocols in place, e.g. the cleaning regime between patients, and the PPE. I do a virus 'screen' with you, and you can ask any questions to check everything sounds safe. Then I spend about 40 minutes asking all about you, your general health & about the issue you wish me to treat. The face-to-face appointment, usually within a few days, is 30-40 minutes for further diagnosis and treatment.

If you have muscle and/or joint aches/pains, please do ring and see if I can help you...I treat backs, necks, hips, knees, feet, shoulders, elbows, wrists, hands. You may have "lockdown homeworkers back", or even rib ache from coughing (once you are safely past being infectious)...whatever the musculoskeletal issue I'd be delighted to try and help.

In the next issue I'll be talking to you about shoulder issues. In the meantime, **stay well!**

## Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

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## Shropshire Libraries

Although library branches are closed due to the current lockdown restrictions we are pleased to offer Ready Reads, a 'click & collect' style service offering tailored book choices selected by library staff.

To use Ready Reads you can complete an online form that includes questions about what sort of books you prefer. Based on that information we will put together selections of books then contact you when ready to collect. Alternatively the service can be accessed by telephoning one of the participating libraries (e.g Gobowen 01691 653388).

As well as Ready Reads, you can also take advantage of an extensive range of e-books and e-audiobooks, online resources through #LibrariesFromHome plus online magazines and newspapers. These can be accessed through our website [www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries)



Due to the current restriction we have suspended the monitoring of speeds through the village until next year. It is hoped to restart in April but like all other things it will depend on the COVID -19 situation.

I have to say that I have noticed an increase in speed on the main roads. Yes, there are not so many people out and about in cars but there are a lot more taking their daily exercise and as winter approaches the roads are going to be that little more dangerous. My plea is

**DROP YOUR SPEED IN LINE WITH THE CONDITION AND RESTRICTION**

Please respect the speed restrictions 30mph or less within the village and look out for other road users.

It's good to see the VAS (Vehicular Activated Signs), we all get a bit heavy footed at times this reminder is very welcomed.

**WE WISH YOU ALL VERY MERRY AND SAFE  
CHRISTMAS  
& NEW YEAR**




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# IFTON COLLIERY

## Commemorative Project

Ellis and Colin Williams. Thanks Ash.

There is just a little bit more to do to the paving, the Penrose's will get to that in the better weather. But the best news is, we very nearly have enough money for the plaques. Our thanks go to The Hilton Jones Trust, Stan's again has donated and has had donation buckets by the tills, St Martins Chatter hosted a GoFundMe site. Thanks to everyone who donated via that initiative by Heather Jones, THANKS Heather And most of all,

Just a quick update on where we are with the Statue.

The CCTV is in and running, we are very grateful to Stan's for hosting this system.

There is a plan for the Floodlights to be installed by Ash Allum, the cable is in, one step nearer Thanks to Michael Smout, Terry



thanks to all the people who stopped Terry or Sue in the street to give a donation, far too many to list here but you know who you are.

## THANK YOU

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## Len's Plaice

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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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## Wendy's Move More Freely

When Covid-19 put us all into lockdown, Wendy took her Move More Freely classes online.

These classes continue to successfully bring people together and have proven to create positive benefits to their wellbeing through movement and mindfulness.

Wendy has recently received a letter from Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire thanking her for her contribution in helping people through these extraordinary and difficult times.

If you would like to join Wendy's online classes and improve your wellbeing through movement, you can contact Wendy for more details by messaging [wendy@timeandfitnessforyou.com](mailto:wendy@timeandfitnessforyou.com) or phoning 07970 964 622.



---

## CALLING ALL CYCLISTS



Please remember in these long dark nights to wear bright clothes with reflecting strips and have bike lights on. It's a potential tragedy and awful life changing event for all if an accident were to happen.

This week I was driving on two separate occasions and came across cyclists in the dark in dark clothing with no reflectors or lights and no street lights to illuminate the road. Both young people. I felt upset at the thought of how easily I

could have hit them before seeing them.

**Please** - it might feel uncool to use bike lights or wear a reflecting band on your arm/leg but it's **MUCH** more uncool to be dead.

---

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

The St.Martins W.I. had their last meeting back in March.

All meetings have been cancelled till next year. Hopefully we will be back together next year.

We do keep in touch, sending a newsletter by email to all members.

With not being able to hold an AGM this month, all committee remain the same.

For further information, contact President Shirley Willis, 777807

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
is not in the presents  
but in *His*  
presence

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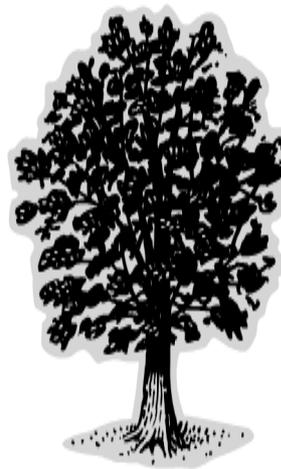
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Ellesmere Road  
St Martins

01691 777791

### Answers from page 9

1. O come all ye faithful
2. Austrian
3. 23
4. 9
5. Dasher, Dancer & Donner
6. An old man gathering winter fuel
7. St. Stephens
8. Camels
9. Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh
10. Wrapped in swaddling clothes and  
laying in a manger.

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## Big changes in the Three Parishes

Here at the Three Parishes Big Local, there have recently been some changes.

Nick Heard has taken a sabbatical and stepped down from his role as Chair of the Partnership. Nick has been Chair for the past ten years and has been a driving force in making The Three Parishes Big Local the success it is today.

Haulwen Nicholas is the new Chair. The Partnership elected her at the recent AGM, she was previously Vice-Chair and has been a member of the Partnership for 18 months. Haulwen has lived in St Martins for 14 years and has close connections with the village, having lived between Ellesmere and Overton for most of her life.

“The Partnership is extremely grateful to Nick for all the hard work that he has given to the Partnership and the Three Parishes over the past years, and we look forward to seeing Nick return after his sabbatical.”

We are also sad to announce that Bridget Laraway has moved on to pastures new after six years as Big Local Coordinator.

We know many of you will have been in contact with Nick or Bridget in some way over the years and will join us in thanking them both for all the work they have done for our communities.

Contact Paula or Cath

on **01691 656882** or email: [info@big-local.org](mailto:info@big-local.org)

Find us on Facebook and Twitter [@3PBigLocal](https://www.facebook.com/3PBigLocal)



# Connecting Shropshire programme update, November 2020



Superfast broadband coverage - Superfast broadband is defined as a download speed of at least 30mbps.

Independent data from Thinkbroadband™ puts superfast broadband coverage in the Shropshire Council area at 94%, see: <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/shropshire,E06000051>

In a press release, Shropshire Council has reaffirmed its commitment to bringing superfast broadband to the whole county. To date, over £34m of public funding has provided 68,000 premises with access to a superfast broadband connection.

To read the full statement, go to: [https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2020/10/shropshire-broadband-speed/#\\_ftn1](https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2020/10/shropshire-broadband-speed/#_ftn1)

The Connecting Shropshire broadband coverage map shows whether premises in the Council area currently have access to a superfast broadband connection, whether they are planned for delivery before June 2023, or have no current/planned superfast broadband coverage. More information is available on our website: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/broadband-coverage-map/>

## Additional funding to support business

- Are you a small business in Shropshire?
- Do you mostly trade with other businesses rather than the general public?
- Do you need a better broadband connection at your business premises?

Eligible businesses could qualify for a **£25,000** grant each to 100% fund access to a high-speed broadband connection.

### Sansaw Estates received a £60,000 grant from the Scheme

Connecting Shropshire, in partnership with Fastershire and part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), have developed the Marches & Gloucestershire Business Broadband Grant scheme. For more details, see: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/business-broadband-grant/>

## Information and advice for Shropshire Council residents & businesses

If anyone in the Shropshire Council area has a query about the broadband infrastructure available to their home or business, please contact

Connecting Shropshire on 01743 252203 or [connecting.shropshire@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:connecting.shropshire@shropshire.gov.uk)

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