

Sheriffhales Parish Magazine

Aug/Sept 2026

August and September, a golden transition



In this issue we celebrate flowers and harvests with a farmers eye view of the parish harvest in progress and a look around Shropshire Petals new HQ. Unfortunately we know that the extreme weather is once again causing challenges for farmers and growers.

Sadly July was the time we had to say goodbye to Reverend Chris Thrope who has been part of our community for 18 years. We look back at the Celebrating Sheriffhales service on 5th July. It's always an uplifting service which celebrates everything about our parish. It was also Chris's last service at St Mary's Church.

We shall miss seeing him at services and community events as well as his contributions to the magazine but, we wish Chris and Sarah a very happy retirement.



"August is the border between summer and autumn; it is the most beautiful month I know." – Tove Jansson

The hum of a combine in the fields on a balmy summer evening is as British as the sound of leather on willow. But when the crops are ready and the weather is changeable it's critical they are gathered quickly which often means working very late nights and early mornings.



Ripening crops in Sheriffhales. Picture by Jacqui

A path well travelled

Old roads were carved out long before modern surveying, leading to winding paths which went around natural obstacles.

The medieval wayfair cross at Heath Hill shows the road through the parish is an ancient and well trodden route. In our archive story we take a look at the history of the road through Sheriffhales.

A hundred years ago the road was a narrow winding lane with high sides, cut away from centuries of use.

The introduction of motor vehicles brought new dangers and led to the road being widened and sadly the demolition of old cottages.

Celebrating Sheriffhales and giving thanks

On **Sunday 5th July 2026**, St Mary's Church was filled with thanksgiving, celebration and heartfelt appreciation as the village gathered for our annual **Celebrating Sheriffhales** service before bidding a fond farewell to Rev Chris and Sarah as Chris retired after 18 years of faithful ministry to the Benefice of Shifnal, Sheriffhales and Tong.

The Celebrating Sheriffhales service has become a cherished tradition, recognising all that is good about our village and celebrating the people, organisations and volunteers who make Sheriffhales such a wonderful place to live. Throughout the service, the **Community Choir**, led by **Rachel McConnachie** and accompanied by **David Fisher** on the beautiful grand piano kindly provided through **STM Presents**, enriched the celebration with outstanding music and anthems that reflected both the joy and the poignancy of the occasion.



Rachel McConnachie leads Sheriffhales Community Choir, accompanied by **David Fisher**

Headteacher **Mrs Justine Keeling-Paglia** spoke about the many exciting developments at Sheriffhales Primary School over the past year, particularly the opportunities children now enjoy through the school's thriving garden and allotment. **Pippa Hodgetts**, Chair of the Parish Council, celebrated the wide range of community activities on offer, from the long-established WI and Bowls Club to newer groups such as Yoga and the Sewing Bee. **Jo Matthews**, Churchwarden at St Mary's, thanked the many volunteers who have made the Community Café such a valued meeting place over the years and expressed the hope that, although currently paused while more volunteers are sought, it will return in the future.



Catherine Rogers, Churchwarden, **Jenny Wynn**, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire and **Rev Valerie Fairclough** with **Rev Chris** and wife **Sarah**.

The service then turned to giving thanks for the ministry of Rev Chris. **Jenny Wynn**, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, paid tribute to Chris's remarkable contribution to both church and community, recognising his commitment to building partnerships and enabling people and communities to flourish.



Beautiful flowers from Shropshire Petals



Pippa celebrated all the parish community activities



Rev Chris addresses the congregation at St Marys for the final time

On behalf of St Mary's PCC, Churchwarden **Catherine Rogers** reflected on the lasting legacy that Chris and Sarah leave behind. During Chris's ministry, many much-loved traditions have been established, including Plough Sunday, Rogation, Lammas, Advent Greening, the Tractor Rally and the Celebrating Sheriffhales services themselves. His vision helped strengthen the close relationships between the church, school and village hall, while initiatives such as the Seekers Club, Community Café and Community Choir have enriched village life and brought people together. Chris's encouragement to think creatively has also helped ensure that St Mary's remains at the heart of the community, with the church now open daily for prayer and reflection and regularly hosting concerts and community events. Throughout his ministry, he inspired people to recognise and use their gifts, strengthening both faith and community.



To mark their retirement, Chris and Sarah were presented with a beautiful **teak garden bench**, a traditional **Sussex trug** and a stunning bouquet of locally grown **Shropshire Petals** flowers as gifts to enjoy in their new home. These were given as a token of the affection, gratitude and best wishes of the people of Sheriffhales.



Julie Heminsley gives one of the poignant readings



Special thanks were also given to **Sarah**, whose support throughout Chris's ministry has been invaluable. Through her work as Dementia Coordinator, she has helped Sheriffhales become a more dementia-friendly village and encouraged greater understanding, compassion and inclusion. The congregation enjoyed **Dee Walker's** reading of the poem *Blessings for your Retirement*, a fitting tribute as Chris and Sarah prepared to begin this new chapter of their lives.

The service concluded with warm applause, heartfelt thanks and prayers for every blessing in the years ahead. As we wish Chris and Sarah every happiness in their retirement, we give thanks for their faithful service, friendship and unwavering commitment over the past 18 years. Their ministry has left a lasting legacy, not only within St Mary's Church but across the whole village, and Sheriffhales is undoubtedly a stronger, more connected and more caring community because of them. May God bless them both as they begin this exciting new chapter.



The church was packed with well wishers who came to thank Chris and Sarah and wish them a happy retirement.



The lovely afternoon concluded with afternoon tea enjoyed in the church with Chris and Sarah.



Events coming soon

LIVE MUSIC
AT
ST MARY'S CHURCH
SHERIFFHALES

MR G & FRIENDS
PLAY COUNTRY & BLUES

FRIDAY 11TH
SEPTEMBER
7.30PM

DOORS OPEN 7PM

BAR ★ HOT SNACKS

TICKETS £10 PER PERSON

FROM CATHERINE TEXT 07846 131098
families@shifnalbenefice.org.uk



Sunset **SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH**
2026

PETALS & PIMMS

An exclusive evening in the Shropshire Petal Fields fundraising for St Mary's Church, Sheriffhales

Enjoy a stroll through the petal fields with pork rolls and strawberries. Includes a glass of Pimms.

Paying bar open

fields and bar open 6pm
music from Sheriffhales Community Choir

£25 adult . £15 child
Advance tickets only from
Catherine
07846 131098
families@shifnalbenefice.org.uk

Pave Lane Farm
TF10 9AX
just off A41



The charming Orchestra of Folk play at St Mary's fundraiser

The Orchestra of Folk concert was another successful fundraiser for St Mary's Church.

The collective of around 15 talented amateur musicians entertained with music from folk to pop, to classical to classic rock and back again. It was an enjoyable evening with music, food and laughter, raising around £1,000 for church.

Thank you to all of those who helped to organise the event and run the evening.



Sheriffhales Primary pupils hold art exhibition at church

At Sheriffhales Primary School, we have held an art exhibition in honour of nature. In the church, in Sheriffhales village, we had a wonderful time looking at the art with every class doing a different theme based on nature. Acorns created owl collages, Willow painted vivid leaves with watercolour, Oak class used a variety of oil pastels and Lime class drew zentangle landscapes.

Parents were invited so their children could display their art work and show their artistic skills. The school PTFA team provided refreshments and guidance. A huge thank you to the staff and children for working so hard to make the exhibition a success.

Written by Abigail and Willow



Piano and Penguins. The talented Arthur Jeffes delights fans at St M's



World class pianist and frontman of Penguin Café, Arthur Jeffes played at St Mary's Church on 3rd July at the latest St M's Presents concert.

Many had travelled some distance to hear Arthur play a specially bought in grand piano. Some had returned to St M's after a great night at the Neil Cowley Trio gig in April.



Arthur delighted the crowd, a talented musician and a fascinating and delightful guest artist.



The St M's concerts aim to blend contemporary music with the amazing acoustics and history of the 900 year old church building.

He delighted existing fans and certainly left with new ones. The beautiful set included his own compositions as well as solo versions of music from Penguin Café.

Each piece was introduced with a charming anecdote and the audience even learned a little about penguins. (As well as talented musician, Arthur is also an arctic explorer!)

Guests were very complimentary about their friendly welcome from the St M's team and the charm, beauty and acoustics of St Mary's

Coming soon at St Mary's Church

Friday 2nd October 2026
Transglobal Underground

Folk rock music group Transglobal Underground specialise in a fusion of western, Asian and African music.

Tickets from Skiddle.com

St.M's
PRESENTS



'Bold, bristling and ballistic barrier breaking blends of Arabic, Afro, Asian, dub, dance hall, acid and Romany rhythms are this London Collectives natural habitat' Gavin Martin - The Mirror

If you wondered how the St M's team bring a grand piano into the church for concerts, this is how it is done!



And then the piano tuner gets to work. This piano stayed a few days and still sounded gorgeous at the Celebrating Sheriffhales service when it was played by David Fisher.

Sheriffhales WI— pet rescues and poppies

Hello to everyone in the village from Sheriffhales Women's Institute.



We are as busy as ever planning for our meetings and organising extra events. We recently had a poppy making evening and it was nice to see some ladies from the village joining us. We hope to have another event soon and extend our welcome to anyone who would like to join us to make poppies in any medium. Men are also encouraged, the more the merrier and there is always cake to fuel the production!. We would like this to be a brilliant display for remembrance this year. So please come along.

Following our birthday party in May we had a visit from some exotic animals for our June meeting. Jelly Exotics, a non-profit organisation caring for rescued animals. Contrary to fears by members there were no spiders amongst the creatures and no pressure to interact with them at all, however, all members ended up intrigued and eager to look closer, stroke and hold them. We were introduced to Hiccup the Crested Gecko and Drew the Fat Tailed Gecko. Randal the Rankins Dragon, Baby the White Bearded Dragon, Freya the Corn Snake, Cecily the Royal Python, and finally Seamus the Boa Constrictor.

Members learnt how the creatures came to be under the care of Jelly Exotics, what their natural habitat would be, their diet, their ages and process of growth and shedding skins as well as other physical attributes and disabilities. We also learned how they had been cared for/ fed by the family. What specialist vet services were required and finally what the plans for the future of these lizards and reptiles would be. It was a truly fascinating evening!

For our June meeting we are looking forward to a visit from Ruth McIntyre and hearing all about her sewing talents, so the varied programme continues, how fast the months pass by.

We look forward to seeing you at some of our future events and if you would like any further information please give us a call.

Kindest regards

**Linda Boddison
Secretary
Sheriffhales WI**



WI Members met some unusual rescue pets during a visit from Jelly Exotics

The group are making progress with their challenge to create an amazing poppy display to mark this year's Remembrance. Please get in touch if you can make a poppy in any medium and add your legacy to the project.

Look out for more friendly workshops coming soon.

Sheriffhales Poppy Challenge

*Calling all who knit or
crochet to knit/crochet a poppy or 2*

This year, as a community, we thought we could mark Remembrance by making a display of handmade poppies. To cascade from St Mary's bell tower and cover the triangle by the flag pole.



We are asking for poppies to be between 4" and 12" in size. You can choose your own pattern, acrylic wool apparently works best for longevity.

Look out for some WI lead Poppy making coffee mornings to help with folks that would like to be involved but may need instruction.

Any donations of wool would be gratefully received.

For further information, contact Pippa on 01952 460474/07811 143195



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Community Café takes a break

We started up Community Cafe again in 2022 after Covid, with the idea (as from the beginning in 2013) of bringing school families and local residents together to enjoy the end of a busy week.

We were a large group of volunteers (around 10-15 people) at the beginning and this seemed to work well. We took it in turns each week to bake or set up and serve. We averaged around £40 a week for church, with one weeks takings exceeding £70!

School parents seemed to enjoy it and some were jumping on to help us serve. Thanks to Nicola, Jules, Carla, Sarah Dakin and Jeannie for this. The children loved tuck as always, and morale was good.

Then something changed and in September 2025, we lost a lot of volunteers either because their children had left school, or because they had got a job and gone back to work. The team dwindled to 7 stalwarts- Linda, Caroline, Jenny, Gail, Toby, George and me.

With limited volunteers, the workload got on top of us, another of us got a job, and after a lot of thought we moved to the potting shed to see if we could make it easier on us. Thanks to Pippa and the Village Hall for their part in accommodating this.

This did not appear to suit our customers, and although we tried for a good few weeks, takings were decreasing to a regular £25 or less a week. After asking for more volunteers (thanks to the Head at school for her persistence in encouraging parents to help), unfortunately we had no takers and to be honest the stalwarts had had enough.

As it stands, Community Cafe is having a long term break. Should things change, we may reconsider so, watch this space!

Although this is a bit of a sad ending, we still need to celebrate the time, efforts, support and baking skills of all of our volunteers over the last few years. Thank you to all of you- those mentioned and those not.

We have raised over £4,000 for the church since 2022, which is an incredible amount of money. We sold over 220 cakes, from lemon drizzle to apple, carrot and elderflower and strawberry. I can't imagine how many cups of tea and coffee were drunk! We sold special fairy cakes beautifully decorated by Julia, famous fat rascals from Jenny, delicious chocolate cakes from Ruth and the classic Victoria sponge from Linda and Caroline. I will look back fondly on our time running the cafe.

I'd like to finish by saying a huge thank you to Gail for running tuck for a ridiculous number of years. She has purchased sweets, delivered them to the hall, made up bags, sorted the float and been there most weeks to serve. She has done all this just to see the pure enjoyment and excitement of 'a child in a sweet shop'. You are a star Gail, thank you.

By Jo Matthews

St Mary's Diary dates

Services at 10am unless otherwise indicated

Sunday 2nd August

Lammas Service with Community Choir
Come and share delicious homemade bread as we celebrate the first loaf of the harvest.

Sunday 9th August

Trinity 10 with Holy Communion

6pm - 'Petals & Pimms'

Enjoy a stroll through the petal fields with pork rolls and strawberries and music by Sheriffhales Community Choir. Tickets in advance only from Catherine Rogers £25.

Sunday 16th August

Patronal Festival of St Mary

Sunday 23rd August

Trinity 12 with Holy Communion

Sunday 30th August

Trinity 13 with Holy Communion

Saturday 5th September

Wedding

Sunday 6th September

Trinity 14 with Holy Communion

St Mary's Playgroup Exploring and sharing!	Term Time Fridays 9:00am - 11:00am at St Mary's Church Sheriffhales Children to be accompanied by an adult. Small donation asked for tea, coffee and resources
Come and join us! Fun for pre-schoolers and their carers. Games and activities, Opportunity to meet, chat and play. Contact Jo Tel: 07841 286915	St Mary's Church Sheriffhales Reaching out together to share God's amazing faith, hope and love.

Harvest diary



Thanks to Rob Llewellyn who captured this years frantic harvest from a farmers eye view.

2026 is seeing one of the earliest and fastest harvests on record, breaking records set just last year. Many farms are reporting their earliest ever harvest. The prolonged heatwave and lack of rain are causing crops to ripen weeks ahead of the traditional calendar.

The unseasonably dry spring and summer causes crop stress, affecting quality and yield and crops ripening at the same time adds additional challenges for farmers and hauliers.

The scorching conditions make crop fires a constant threat forcing farmers to carry water tanks and, as the first on the scene, often tackle blazes before help arrives. It's a beautiful scene but a stressful time for the rural community.



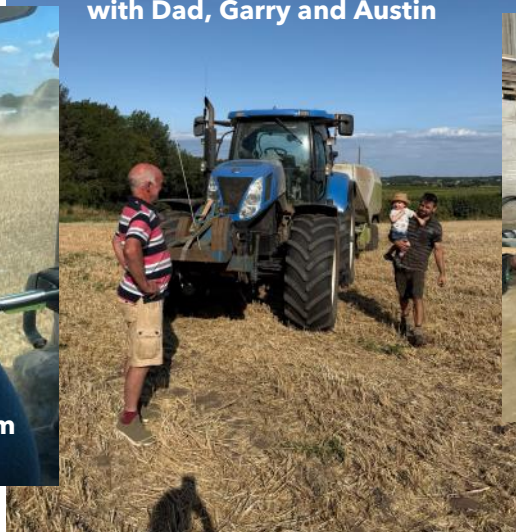
Farmers are working long hours in a race against time to complete the unusually early and fast 2026 harvest caused by the scorching conditions.



Rob checks on the harvest with Dad, Garry and Austin



Twiggy supervises from the cab!



The less scenic side of the job - all this and it turned out to be a broken clutch pedal!

Show success for village herd

Congratulations to Harvest Herefords of Weston Heath who had a successful showing day at this year's scorching Newport Show.

Their home-bred Lulu 5th and her heifer calf Lulu 11th took championship place at the show on top of winning the overall Midlands cow and calf herd competition last month. Harvest Herefords also won the small herd competition. Their other heifer, Lulu 6th also took 1st place in her class at Newport. Glynis and Dave have been breeding pedigree Herefords for 8 years and say they are a lovely breed of quiet and friendly cows.



Gazebo's and plenty of water at the Harvest Herefords stand to keep the cows cool



Rob takes a break from the harvest to help Mum Glynis show Lulu and her calf at Newport Show



Summer Holiday Quiz

1. What is the first line of the song 'Summer Nights' from Grease?
2. Where was the BBQ invented?
3. Who's Summer Residence is called Castel Gandolfo?
4. Which group had an 80's hit with the song 'Cruel Summer'?
5. What vitamin do we get primarily from sunlight?
6. What colour flags at the beach warns of dangerous surf or currents?
7. The modern Olympic games have been held during the summer since 1896 but which games were actually held in the Spring?
8. What is the traditional birthstone for August?
9. Which country has the longest coastline?
10. In which country can you visit The Summer palace with its lakes, gardens and palaces?



Cornflowers growing at Shropshire Petals They were once common weeds in fields of corn giving them their name.

Cornflowers have been long associated with the wild spirit of the countryside. The vivid blue petals were once thought to protect against misfortune and were often carried as good luck charms. Historically associated with love and courtship, they earned the nickname 'Batchelors button' when men wore them to indicate they were single and interested in a woman. Archaeological evidence shows they have been common in British countryside since the iron age,

Report from Parish Council



SHERIFFHALES
PARISH COUNCIL

Last Meeting 14th July 2025

Top Priorities

Moving forward, the Parish Council will have 3 priorities to work towards over the year, this helps to stay accountable to the Parish. The 3 for 2026/2027 are;

- Reducing the Parish Council Debts to use the saved interest to use in other projects, and ask residents what they would like to see

- Further defibrillators installation to cover the whole Parish

- Reducing speed limits at Heath Hill and purchase of further Speed Indicator Display Signs

The Parish Council would like to ask members of the Parish to help us prioritise what they want for the future in the Parish. The projects would be April 27 – March 28, please email clerk@sheriffhales-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Council will continue with the Parish maintenance, although with no funding now from Shropshire County Council, this is becoming quite difficult, hence the debt priority. Street cleaning and gully cleaning for example is now only done once a year and the costs for an extra clean are too expensive (over £1000 for a few hours), so other funding and support will need to be attained.

Fix My Street still remains the main contact for all to use with regards to potholes, path obstruction, fly tipping, anything really, however we would ask you to give as much information as you can when reporting an issue, together with photographs as this has been proven to get the job done quicker if the council can see and understand the problem and impact it has.

The email is www.fixmystreet.com and there is an app. you can also download for ease in reporting. Please also copy in the clerk so the council can follow up the reports clerk@sheriffhales-pc.gov.uk

Funding

The grant application has been rejected by the Sheriffhales Community Energy Committee, for paying off the Public Works Loan Board for the playing fields, and no other funds have been offered. If this loan had been paid off, it would have allowed the Parish Council to have £3240 per annum to spend in the Parish on other projects and the councillors were disappointed with the response. As this avenue has been exhausted, the Parish Council will seek funding elsewhere, if a member of the community has any suggestions, it would be gratefully received.

Speed Indicator Display Sign (SID as we like to call it)

Many will have noticed whilst driving through the village that there is a new speed indicator sign. It not only tells you your speed, but also collects data of all vehicle speeds for analysis. It is being managed and looked after by Cllrs Mrs P Hodgetts and P Bradburn. They are changing the battery every 2 weeks and there are on average 85,000 vehicle movements per month travelling through the Parish. It was noted where SID is located it shows that most vehicles are staying under the speed limit. SID is located where it is at present as it's the only available pole. The Parish Council are looking into the provision of further pole sites throughout the Parish to enable the sign to be moved around in more appropriate areas.

Now the speed through the village is manageable, the Council will now need to look at getting the 60mph limits reduced this will allow speed watch to take place in that area and hopefully reduce vehicles coming through the Parish as a short cut. They will start looking at Heath Hill and using the reason of pedestrian access, they will also site a SID sign in the area to collect data without the display on. The Parish Council welcomes the community involvement with this campaign and will keep everyone updated.

50 mph Speed Limit Woodcote Wood

Shropshire Council proposes to place a 50mph speed limit on the following lengths of roads in Woodcote Wood: A41 from a point 200 metres south of the junction with Kings Street northwards to the County Boundary with Telford and Wrekin. The B5314 Plough Bank from its junction with the A41 south easterly for a distance of 24 metres.

Documents relating to this consultation can be viewed at Shifnal Library, Broadway, Shifnal, or at get-involved.shropshire.gov.uk.

Alternatively, you may request copies by: - - - E-mailing: traffic.engineering@shropshire.gov.uk writing to: Traffic Engineering Team, Guildhall, Frankwell, Shrewsbury or by calling 0345 678 9077.

We always welcome any feedback or requests from the Parish, please feel free to come along to the meetings or email clerk@sheriffhales-pc.gov.uk

Next meeting - Tuesday 8th September 7pm start.

Shropshire's Prettiest Petals

A passion for flowers and sustainable family farming



Shropshire is a quintessential English rural county with its patchwork of fields, hedges, quiet lanes and market towns. It's a place where rural life has changed slowly and has long been viewed as a model of quietly, productive countryside.

This tapestry of fields tells a story of a land that's been worked and shaped by farming families for centuries and we are so fortunate to look out from our parish across this classic 'green and pleasant land'

Much of the land around us has been farmed by the Bubb family since shortly after the second world war. Their rotation of crops in village fields creates an ever-changing bucolic view of maturing crops and golden harvests. In Sheriffhales we are also lucky enough to have beautiful flower fields in the mix because the Bubb family farm is also home to Shropshire Petals, one of the UK's favourite growers of natural petal confetti.

How it all began - Nanny Bubb loved flowers



Daisy Bubb, Michael's mother had a passion for growing flowers

The family's history of farming at Lynn Farm South began in 1948 when John Bubb and his wife Daisy farmed potatoes, sugar beet and cereals alongside a dairy herd. Daisy was also a keen gardener with a passion for flowers, so she asked John for a patch of land to grow more flowers. By the 1980's Daisy (aka Nanny Bubb) started selling dried flowers at the WI stand in Newport for pin money.

The PM was lucky enough to visit the Shropshire Petals team at their new headquarters at Lynn South Farm to find out more about their fascinating story and how 'Nanny Bubb's' love of growing flowers for pocket money grew into supplying natural confetti across the UK and beyond.



Michael Bubb with sons Jim (L) who runs Shropshire Petals and John who manages the arable side of the business.

The 1980's & 90's - a dried flower boom



Rose pictured at the peak of the dried flower business

By the 1990's Michael Bubb (John and Daisy's son) and his wife Rose had built up the dried flower business to its peak of 150 acres. It was the time of 'country chic' fashion - chintzy fabrics, old pine and dried flowers were the look everyone wanted.

But as the 90's progressed, tastes changed and as Scandi style minimalism took over, the fashion for dried flowers waned and the company looked for new ways to use the flowers.



Picking the flowers in the 1980's



The packing shed in the 1990's

The early 2000's - a lightbulb moment and 'Shropshire Petals' is born

At a time when churches were becoming unhappy about the mess and pollution of traditional paper confetti, the family began to experiment with the idea of dried petal confetti after a 'lightbulb moment' when a flower customer asked for some petals.

In 2005 'Shropshire Petals' was born and the very first recorded order was from a flower shop who purchased 4L of petals, one lilac, one pink and 2 mixed.

By the late 2000's they were featured on BBC Countryfile who reported on the company's ground-breaking new petal confetti and the rest, as they say, is history. They began to attend wedding Fayres across the country to promote their eco friendly alternative to traditional confetti. It was a hit with vicars, wedding venues and bridal parties. In 2011, Michael and Rose's son, Jim took over the running of the blossoming (excuse the pun) Shropshire Petals.



The 'confetti' shot with its cascade of petals and laughter is now believed to be the most requested and popular shot at modern weddings.

Because the dried petals are so light, they generally stay airborne for longer, fluttering and drifting to help photographers capture stunning images and magical memories.

In 2025, Shropshire Petals hosted a workshop in the confetti field for professional photographers to experiment using the petals without the pressure of a real life wedding.

Jim and Jess Bubbs married at St Mary's in 2013 with generous amounts of petal confetti

Sustainable family run values

The petal confetti is 100% natural, biodegradable and free from dyes or preservatives and the company is incredibly proud of its efforts to create a sustainable farming environment which benefits the land and wildlife.

This is also an ethos which follows through to the arable side of the business led by John which grows potatoes for McCain through regenerative farming techniques and sustainable crops for 'Wild Farmed' and remains rooted in sustainable family run values. (We reported on this in farming diary of our Spring issue.)

The flowers are handpicked, using only what is needed, natural and sustainable with a low carbon footprint.



Wildlife in the flowers

The flower fields don't just look stunning, they offer a haven for wildlife with numerous species of insects, birds and animals, including hares and deer, often spotted. Most significantly they provide a large area for beneficial pollinators - hopefully Paul's bees are enjoying a great summer in this year's village field.

A rainbow of confetti

A large variety of flowers are grown which provides a vibrant mix of colours, all entirely natural to match the colour themes of any event. Customers can pick and mix to create their own unique petal blend or choose from the ready blended varieties. Shropshire Petals also developed ways to freeze dry larger rose and hydrangea petals which can be used to add texture (and photo opportunities) to confetti, proposals, scattering down the aisle or tables to add colour. All of the confetti is mixed by hand before being beautifully packaged in ecofriendly materials.

The Dua Lipa effect!

At the time of our visit, two of the most popular mixes recently had been Confetti Carnival and Blush although the team noted a recent increase in demand for natural whites, creams and pale green. But then, there was the Dua Lipa effect!

When global singing superstar Dua Lipa married actor Callum Turner in May, guests showered them with Shropshire Petals 'Wonderland' confetti as they left the iconic Marylebone Town Hall. In an age of social media, celebrities are some of the most powerful trend setters and as the pictures spread across the world, the enquiries flooded into Shropshire Petals HQ - everyone wanted the same confetti as Dua Lipa!



The 'Wonderland' mix chosen by Dua Lipa for her wedding to Callum Turner is a stunning mix of white 'icing sugar', pink 'candy floss' and lilac 'amethyst' petals

It wouldn't be wedding season without clouds of confetti cascading down although it is also used for other celebrations including baby showers, gender reveals and memorial events

The dried flower comeback

While much of the company's focus went into developing petal confetti, the pendulum of fashion was swinging back, and dried flowers have made a huge comeback in recent years. Shropshire petals also grows dried flowers and creates bouquets, arrangements and wreaths which are all created here in Shropshire and sold directly to customers online as well wholesale customers, including National Trust, Kew Gardens and RHS Wisley. They are increasingly seen as a sustainable, long-lasting and good value over fresh imported flowers. Improved drying techniques mean a huge variety of dried blooms are available in vibrant colours that can last for years in the right conditions.



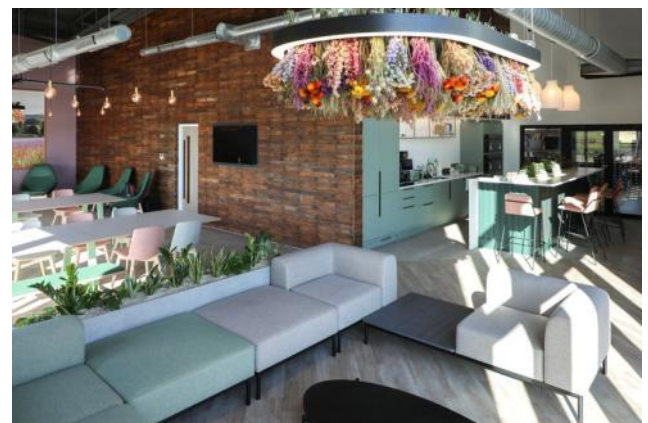
The stunning Shropshire Petals Fields site in 2025

But farming is at the mercy of Britain's unpredictable weather and for the team trying to balance exactly when the flowers will be at their prime around planning opening dates is pretty nerve racking! Although they work towards a window, the exact opening dates are not announced until around June and it's still a nervous wait watching the crop's progress. The team love staging the open field event, but it does sound very stressful and a great deal of hard work clearly goes into making it happen.

The New HQ

In 2025, a new headquarters was built at Lynn Farm South to replace the old barn and allow the petal and arable sides of the business to be housed together for the first time. Marketing Executive Alannah, kindly gave us a tour and a backstage look at petal HQ. The building has been created with the same style as the gorgeous Shropshire Petals products, and we did come away with serious desk envy!

The office houses a staff of around 30 and they had an input in the design of the new building. The result is a light, airy and inspirational environment which blends modern design with agricultural heritage.



The light and spacious staff canteen incorporates an inventive rustic wall clad using the sides of old wooden potato crates from the farm, some date back to 1940.

Shropshire Petal Field Event



The spectacular Shropshire Petal Fields event with paths cut through fields of flowers. Visitors can immerse themselves in a fairytale setting, the perfect backdrop for photographs that will be treasured for a lifetime.

For years Shropshire Petals have been asked if visitors could come and visit the flower fields, and in recent years this has been possible through the collaboration of Shropshire Festivals, an award-winning event company. This summer Shropshire Petal Fields will be open to the public on selected dates from Friday 7th – Sunday 16th August, where visitors can wander through acres of beautiful blooms. There'll be an onsite café, woodland walks, photo features, dog friendly days (12th, 15th and 16th August), vintage tractors, hampers, sandpit, games, yoga mornings, and much more. Book your tickets at www.shropshirepetalfields.co.uk

Proms and dancing queens in the petals

New for this year are limited evening openings to enjoy the spectacle at sunset. On 31st July, ABBA Sensation will take the fields back to the golden days of ABBA with street food and bar as the sun goes down. On Saturday 1st August, the first Proms in the Petals is planned with a 50-piece orchestra performing music from stage and screen.



Dried flowers are imaginatively showcased throughout the office. Rose and Ashley put the finishing touches to a bespoke dried flower display.



Some of the team in the 'Daisy' meeting room which is named after 'Nanny Bubb' – Daisy whose imagination and love of flowers started the whole thing. Dried flowers have been incorporated into the beautiful, unique wallpaper.



Dogs are a welcome part of the team



The confetti is carefully mixed for each order. 36 blends come in a rainbow of colours or brides can pick and mix to design their own blend which the team then prepare.



Members of the Shropshire Petals team pictured in the fields last year



Michael, Rose and the family have been very involved in the fundraising campaign for St Mary's Church in Sheriffhales. In 2025 they hosted the first 'Petals and Pimms', fundraiser on a stunning evening in the fields with Sheriffhales Community Choir. This years event will take place on Sunday 9th August.



In 2022 the company took delivery of the world's first delphinium planting and weeding robot, affectionately named 'Florrie' by social media followers. While we soak up the sunshine, solar powered robots sow and then weed around the flower seeds, using GPS technology to remember the location of every seed. They are powered by nature, don't need much of a break and because they are light weight they don't damage the soil, all good news for parish worms!

A family farm at heart

Shropshire Petals will be turning 21 this autumn. Although the company has grown significantly in those years and the technology is now state of the art, it remains at it's heart a family farm now led forward by the next generation, Jim and John Bubb. But the ethos remains the same, to provide sustainable, natural products produced with integrity on a family farm and to protect the land for the generations which will follow.

A long and winding road

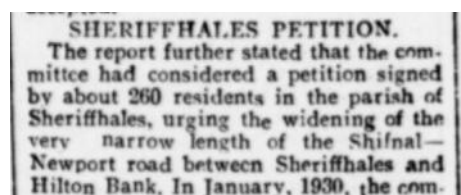
The road through Sheriffhales was originally a narrow lane with high sides, carved out from centuries of feet, horses and carts. This picture shows Hilton Bank taken around 1930 showing 'Clewleys Farm' which was probably demolished not long after this photograph was taken.



Concerns about the safety of the road though Sheriffhales are nothing new. Press cuttings dating back to the 1930's record, near misses, accidents and dangers which eventually led to a petition signed by parish residents and presented to the county council. A campaign by the Parish Council eventually led to the road being widened in 1935.

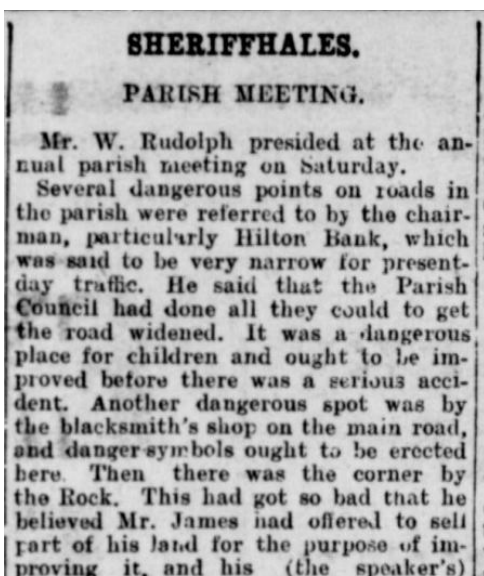
'Extreme narrowness and high embankments'

It was agreed that they would organise a petition signed by everybody in the parish demanding that the county council take action to widen the road at Hilton Bank on account of it's extreme narrowness and high embankments' on either side before there was a serious accident



'no funds available'

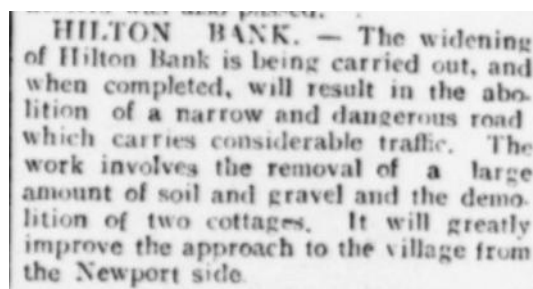
By the 1930's there has been an increase in motorised traffic but horse drawn vehicles still widely used and the narrow road between Heath Hill and Sheriffhales was becoming a dangerous place. The road is referred to as the Shifnal to Newport Road in one article, having clearly been the main route between the two towns for a long time.



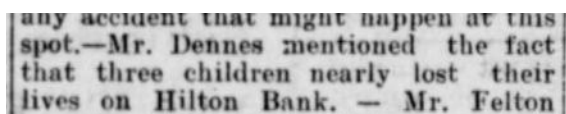
At a parish council meeting in April 1932, councillors discussed concerns about the roads safety. In particular the section at Hilton Bank which was described as too narrow for modern traffic and the "worst place in the parish"

Headmaster Mr Dennes told the meeting how three children from the school had nearly lost their lives at Hilton Bank.

Thatched timbered cottages demolished at Heath Hill in 1968 to 'widen the road.'



The road widening finally took place in 1935 as reported in the Shrewsbury Chronicle in May of that year. It was a major operation involving the removal of large amounts of earth and sadly the demolition of two old cottages.

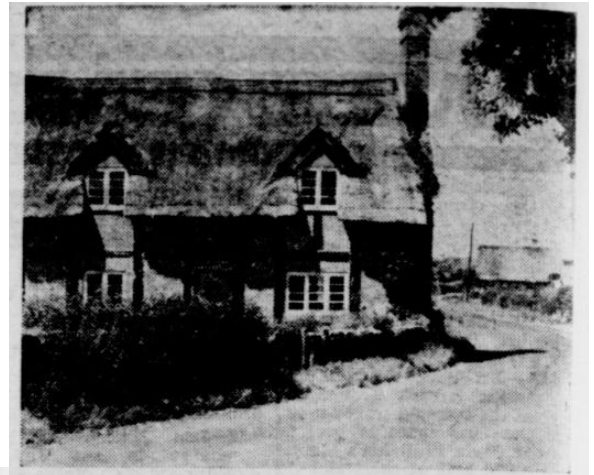


Councillors also raised concerns about the section of road by the blacksmith shop on the main road where they believed danger signs should be erected. And the corner at the top of The Rock has apparently become so bad that Mr James had offered to sell some of his land to the council to widen the road.



1968, Centuries old cottages demolished at Heath Hill

The main road was widened at Heath Hill in 1968 leading to the demolition of more timbered cottages. The Shropshire Star carried a report about unfortunate retiree Mr Bennet who's 'centuries old' half timbered cottage was a victim to the planners' decree. The cottage was condemned to be demolished because it sat on a bend on the road which was to be straightened. Unfortunately the compensation he received was not enough to buy a new property or build one of the remainder of his plot. With only two months to solve the problem, it was a stressful time. Fortunately he managed to purchase an innovative pre-fabricated bungalow from The Lilleshall Company at Oakengates which was erected in just over two weeks.



The bend in the road must be straightened, declared the planners. Which meant this picturesque old cottage (above) had to come down. The problem facing the owner was how to provide an alternative home on the remainder of the site with the limited amount of compensation money offered by the local authority. The answer came with the bungalow (below). With the owner providing the base and without central heating, the new building cost £1,800.

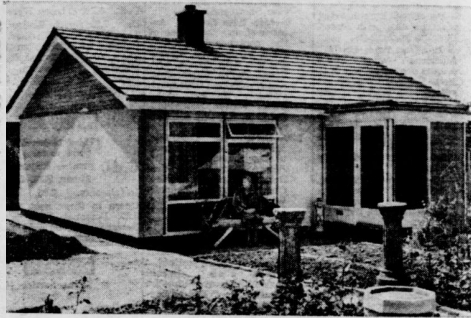
WHEN Shropshire County Council decided to go ahead with road widening at Sheriffhales it meant that eventually Mr. J. Bennett, of Heath-hill, would have to lose his retirement home.

His home was a centuries old half-timbered cottage. But it was on the apex of a bend in the road . . . and the planners decreed "it must go."

The compensation he received was not enough to either buy or build a traditional style replacement. Worse still, he had only about two months to solve his problem.

With time running out, he contacted the Lilleshall Company, Ltd., of Oakengates, and asked about the cost of their industrialised bungalow homes.

The company and Mr. Bennett's advisors reached agreement and site work started on land close to Mr. Bennett's old home on March 12. On April 27 Mr. Bennett took over his new home.



Herbert Brown, (right), outside his village blacksmith shop in 1930



John Docherty delivering fish from Macklins fish shop in Newport outside Sheriffhales Post office.

These two pictures from the early 1900's show the area of road in the village centre deemed as particularly hazardous by councillors. It is the same area where the modern traffic calming measures exist today.

At the start of the 20th century, country roads were usually constructed of 'Macadam', off white broken stone compacted over sand. This had been developed by Scottish engineer John Loudon McAdam around 1820. From about 1905, 'Tarmacadam', which incorporated tar for a more durable and dust free surface started to appear in towns, spreading to country roads during the 1930's.

A report in the Market Drayton Advertiser in 1911 reported on a meeting of the highways committee of Shifnal Rural Council. "The sub committee who had inspected the roads in Sheriffhales Parish Had reported that the roads were badly broken up owing to the dry weather. Many were without foundation, of bad cross section and required improvement and were generally in coat of a good coat of metal." (Metal in this context refers to the crushed stone of the macadam surface)



The village road at Crackley Bank, taken in 1917 seems to show a 'macadam' surface of off white broken stone.

Newspapers record numerous accidents over the years including one in 1951 where a motor van driving towards Shifnal was overtaking a farmers horse drawn dray at Heath Hill at 'a very fast speed' The driver lost control of the van and crashed through hedge landing on the side.

A summer celebration on a plate

Strawberries have an extraordinary affinity with elderflowers and following on from our elderflower article, Jenny shares the recipe for a stunning and perfect summer cake which blends both flavours and sounds absolutely delicious!

'This is one of my favourite recipes. It is from a book I borrowed from the library van. 'Celebration cakes' by Fiona Cairns. Once I got it home I realised that I had to have it. That is what is great about the library van. I have bought several books that I have previously borrowed and so know that I will find useful.

The recipe I have chosen follows on from the last issue of the magazine as it uses both strawberries and elderflowers. We managed to make two lots of elderflower champagne before the warm weather caused them to fade quickly. Of course there will soon be the berries for those of you who would like to make wine!

I have to say our elderflower champagne is delicious, especially in the warm weather. It will not last long once family and friends visit! I often wonder how much my mother made. There always seemed to be some when we visited in the summer holidays'.

Pre-heat oven to 180C (fan 170C)/gas mark 4

To make the three tiered cake, take three 20 cm round sandwich tins, butter tins and line the bases with baking parchment. (If you only have two tins, divide the mixture into three and keep one aside and bake as soon as a tin becomes free) For this cake I use an electric mixer with beater attachment but you can use a food processor or bowl and electric whisk.

Sift flour and baking powder into bowl, add the butter and eggs, lemon zest and sugar and beat well adding the cordial towards the end. Be careful not to overmix as you want a light cake.

Bake for 30-35 minutes until a skewer emerges clean. (To halve recipe bake in two 20 cm tins for 20-25 mins.) Remove from oven and leave for a couple of minutes before turning sponges onto a wire rack and removing paper. Trim the cakes flat.

For filling and decoration

Slice 400g of the strawberries and toss in a bowl with the sugar and vanilla. Leave for 30 mins for flavours to mingle. Whip cream into soft peaks adding the cordial slowly as it begins to thicken.



Place one cake on a stand and spread with a layer of cream and half of the sliced strawberries. Repeat with another cake, a layer of cream and the remaining sliced strawberries. Top with last layer of cake, spread the remaining cream over the top and sides.

Take the best shaped 20 strawberries and cut 10-12 in half. Place the halved strawberries, cut side up, in a circle around the edge of the cake and pile up the rest in the centre. Cut the remaining strawberries into slices or half and press into the cream all around the sides. Assemble only a couple of hours before it's needed and chill if you can. A summer celebration on a plate.!

The British strawberry is a hybrid of an imported giant from the Americas that was brought here in the 17th and 18th centuries. The only strawberry known to Europeans before this time was the small wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*). It would have been foraged and eaten since ancient times.



Ingredients

For the cake

450g unsalted butter, really soft diced plus more for the tins.

450g SR flour

2 tsp baking powder

8 eggs lightly beaten

Finely grated zest of two unwaxed lemons

450g golden caster sugar

4 tablespoon elderflower cordial

For the elderflower cream

1.2 kg ripe even sized strawberries, cleaned, dried and hulled

2 tbsp golden caster sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

600ml double cream

8 tbsp elderflower cordial

Harvesting Natures bounty

Jenny has a few ideas for managing and preserving after a sudden harvest glut

Damson or Victoria plum ketchup

"The recipe is from Delia's 'Complete works' I have not made this recipe with plums but I have made it several times with damsons. It is a brilliant way of using up a lot of fruit as it uses 8lb or 3kg 600g of fruit.

I put my ketchup in small bottles that can be put straight on the table. It is so tasty and enhances any meal. So collect your damsons and give it a go!"

Ingredients

3.6kg plums or damsons
225g currants
450g onions, peeled and chopped
1.2L distilled white wine vinegar
50g sea salt
450g demerara sugar

Tie the following spices in a piece of muslin/gauze

6-8 dried chillies
1 tablespoon black peppercorns
1 tablespoon mustard seeds
10g fresh root ginger, peeled and grated
10g whole allspice berries
2 garlic cloves peeled

First slit the plums with a sharp knife and remove the stones then place the fruit in a large pan and add the currants, onions and the bag of spices.

Add 1 pint of the vinegar and bring to the boil and simmer gently uncovered for around 30 minutes or until the mixture is soft. Now remove the bag of spices, place the contents of the pan into a liquidiser and blend until perfectly smooth—if necessary sieve as well.

Then rinse out the pan and return the puree and bag of spices to it adding the salt, sugar and the 1 pint of remaining vinegar. Bring to simmering point and cook gently uncovered until the ketchup has reduced to approx. 3.3pints/2 litres stirring every now and then

In the meantime prepared the containers by boiling the bottles and their tops. When the ketchup is ready pour into the bottles while they are still hot. Filling them to within 2-5 cm/an inch from the top. Put the tops on immediately but only turn half way and if using the pop type bottles place the top on but leave the lever up.

Place the bottles in a pan standing them on an upturned plate and add warm water to the pan within 4cm from the top. Bring the water to a boil and after 10 mins transfer the bottles to a wooden surface and complete the sealing.



"We are lucky to have plenty of damson trees all around the village. I was once told that when the farm cottages were built every cottage had a damson and an apple tree."

"I often hear that people have too many courgettes. I actually never have that problem. I grow courgettes every year but they never do too well. I don't give up easily. Every year I try to grow them in different parts of the garden.

I'm not sure if courgettes were around years ago when dad grew his ten (or more) vegetables! He would not have liked them as he liked his vegetables to be big. I remember that he was not impressed with cherry tomatoes when they were first available! He did however grow marrows and they were BIG.

For those of you who do well with courgettes, here is a great recipe. It is from Delia's white book number three. Delia got a lot of flack about these 'How to Cook' books but there are some great recipes in them that I use often.

This recipe is a big family favourite. The patties are great for lunch or as starters. They freeze really well".

Courgette and potato cakes with mint and feta cheese

6 medium courgettes (about 700g)
4 medium Desiree potatoes (about 700g)
4 tablespoons fresh mint
450g feta cheese crumbled
4 spring onions finely chopped
2 large eggs beaten
2 tablespoons plain flour
50g butter
1.5 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and fresh black pepper



Coarsely grate the courgettes (food processor ideal) and put into a colander. Sprinkle with two teaspoons of salt to draw out excess moisture and leave to drain over a bowl for about an hour.

Scrub the potatoes and put into large saucepan with a little salt. Pour over boiling water to cover and simmer gently with a lid for 8 mins to parboil them. Leave them aside until cool enough to handle. Then peel them and using coarse side of the grater grate into a large bowl and season with salt and pepper. When the hour is up rinse the courgettes under cold running water, squeeze out as much moisture as possible with your hands and then lay onto a clean tea cloth and roll it to wring out every drop of moisture so the cakes are not too wet.

Add the courgettes to the grated potato with the onions, feta, mint and beaten eggs and using two forks, lightly toss it all together. Next divide the mixture into 16 and shape them into rounds about 1cm thick, pressing firmly together to form little cakes. They don't need to be too neat. Then dust with flour.

Pre-heat the oven to 220C/gas 7 and also pre-heat the baking trays. Melt the butter and oil in a saucepan and brush the cakes with it on both sides. Place cakes on trays and return to the oven for 15 mins. Carefully turn them over with a palette knife and return to the oven for a further 10 mins. (Swap the trays from the top and middle at this point to ensure even cooking). Serve hot.

Makes 16 cakes

Our neighbour Priorslee has a fascinating history dating back to the early Roman occupation. But it was the industrial revolution, and what lay beneath the ground, that transformed the fortunes of this once small rural parish.

The area we know as Priorslee was once owned by Wombridge Priory, a small 12th century monastery at Hadley Wood. The name derives from the Latin 'prios' meaning priest and 'lee' the Anglo Saxon word for a clearing in a wood. A small chapel was built at Priorslee in 1150 (in the area now opposite The Lion pub) and the font from this chapel sits outside Priorslee's later St Peter's Church.



Priorslee in the early 1980's before the major housing development overlooking Priorslee Hall with Priorslee Lake on the left and the M54 running left to right.



The 12th century chapel at Priorslee which was demolished around 1838 after St Peter's Church was built to serve a rapidly increasing population.

In the 1750s, the area was still a small rural settlement and there is evidence of a moat close to the A5 thought to be the remains of a medieval farm.

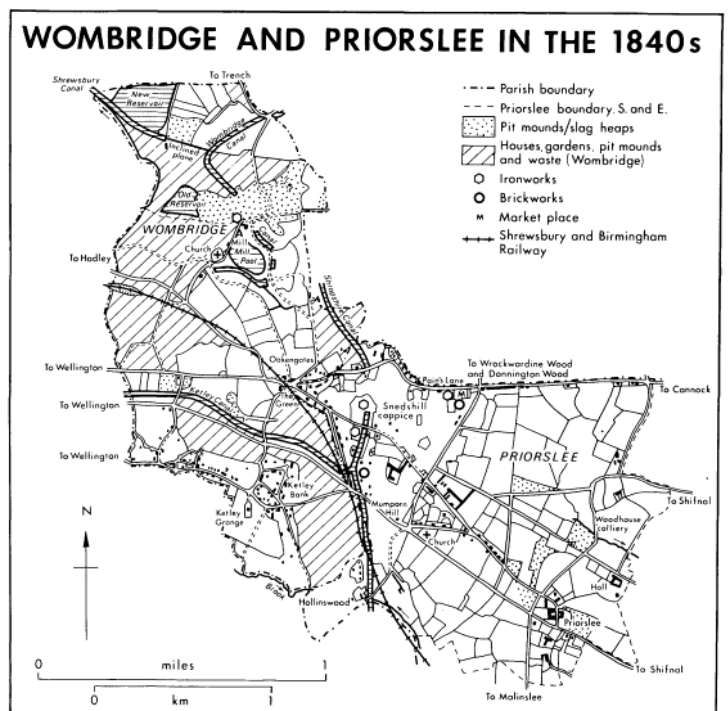


Priorslee Hall was built around 1728 by Edward Jordan once high sheriff of Shropshire on his estate. The hall is still standing but now surrounded by a car park rather than a country park.

But the area grew rapidly at the start of the industrial revolution after engineering pioneers 'The Lilleshall Company' arrived at Oakengates and began mining around Woodhouse Lane Farm. Most of the houses in the old Priorslee village (which is now largely hidden by modern houses) were built for mine workers at the company's pits. The company took over Priorslee Hall in the 19th century using it as a residence for their managers and later as their headquarters.

The origins of the Lilleshall Company date back to Earl Gower (of Lilleshall Hall) who formed a company to build a canal through his estate and exploit the local coal, ironstone, and limestone under his land.

The new St Peter's Church was constructed on Mumpton Hill in 1836 and the old chapel demolished two years later. It remained part of Shifnal parish until 1898 until it became a parish in its own right. Sadly, St Peter's Church closed in 2022 because of repairs needed to the building.



The early 18th century houses in Priorslee old village were built for mine workers at The Lilleshall Company's pits.



The eventual closure of Priorslee's once thriving coal and ironstone pits, furnaces and tramways left a landscape that facilitated the expansion of Telford in the 1970's. Priorslee Hall became the headquarters for Telford Development Corporation before becoming part of The University of Wolverhampton's Telford campus.

The Romans take the high ground



A view towards the Roman settlement of Uxacona at modern day Red Hill. The site served as the motorway services and travel lodge of it's day during the 4th and 5th centuries.

Long before the monks of Wombridge priory owned the area, the Romans built a small settlement called Uxacona (High Place) on high ground at Red Hill close to the present Telford Crematorium.

Watling Street (the A5) was a major roman road linking Kentish ports to Wroxeter before branching off to reach Holyhead. The Roman site at Red Hill is believed to date back to the 1st century as a fortified military storage depot or signal post during it's earliest period. By the 4/5th century the small settlement straddled the road and contained a mansio house with stables which provided overnight accommodation for messengers. Pottery fragments found by archaeologists before recent housebuilding suggested the site was at the lower end of the social scale – the 2000 year old equivalent of mediocre motorway services!

Tiny fragments of such low grade Roman cooking pots frequently turn up in village fields which isn't surprising given our proximity to one of the major Roman routes in the country. There is other evidence of Roman occupation in the area including two temporary, marching camps which at existed at Burlington for troops to rest at the end of a days march.

The country's network of older A roads roughly corresponds to Britains network of Roman roads

What did the Roman's ever do for us?

(Apart from the roads, heating, plumbing, sanitation, written history, food on the go, standard currency, Julian calendar.....)

The Romans bought many crops and fruits to Britian, including the damsons so common in this area, as well as pears, apples and cherries. But not everything they imported is quite so welcome.



Ground elder, must be one of the least popular Roman legacies

Ground elder came to Britain with the romans. They didn't see it as a weed but a vegetable. They grew it, ate the young leaves like spinach and used it as a gout remedy which is reflected in the Latin name *Aegopodium Podagria*.

This medicinal and culinary use continued through the Middle Ages when it was still used to treat gout, an affliction bough on by the rich diet of the wealthy. All parts of the plant are said to be antirheumatic, diuretic, sedative and have healing properties. Infusions were used in the treatment of rheumatism, arthritis and disorders of the bladder and intestines. Externally, it was as a poultice on burns, stings, wounds, painful joints etc. The leaves can be eaten raw or cooked but apparently have an unusual tangy flavour which isn't that popular.

Unfortunately, its aggressive spread and ability to outcompete other plants has made it the nemesis of many gardeners. Ground elder roots delve notoriously deep into the soil making it hard to get rid of, hence the common name of 'Devil's guts'.

If you are doing battle with ground elder, blame the Romans!

With their love of checking things thrice, they also introduced Britain to bureaucracy!

Other species bought to Britain by the Romans include the edible snail and, the now-rare, stinging Roman nettle. The stings were said to have been used by soldiers to warm their arms and legs in Britain's cold and wet climate!

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- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Summer Lovin' had me a blast | 6. Red flags |
| 2. The Caribbean | 7. Sydney Olympics in 2000 |
| 3. The Pope | 8. Peridot |
| 4. Bananarama | 9. Canana |
| 5. Vitamin D | 10. China |

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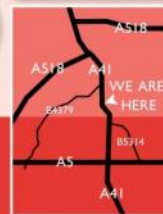
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Useful Contacts

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pippa.hodgetts@sheriffhales-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council clerk; *clerk@sheriffhales-pc.gov.uk*

Bowling Chair; Tom Leath 07795965841

WI Secretary; Linda Boddison 07396 288909

thebods@hotmail.com

Village Hall; Pippa Hodgetts 07811143195

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Church Warden; Catherine Rogers 07846 131098

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Unitary Councillor; Elizabeth Barker

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Recycling and rubbish (including garden waste and missed collections): <https://orlo.uk/ipKFS>

Meet a customer service advisor face to face at Shropshire Local: <https://orlo.uk/2Omzs>

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About me

Hi, my name is Demi and I am offering structured dog walks around the Shropshire area. I have completed a dog training mentorship and I am currently shadowing my mentors and frequently attend dog training seminars.

I am fully insured.

I am based in Sheriffhales but willing to travel to surrounding areas.

Contact

07715824280

demiwhittam@hotmail.com

What I offer

Pre walk meet

Before any of these services, I will come to visit you and your dog to get to know more about them. It also gives you a chance to meet me.

Drop ins

I can drop in and have a play session with your dog or just spend some time with them.

Half an hour drop in £10

Structured walks

I will collect your dog from your house and walk your dog, sticking to the training you implemented.

- Half an hour solo: £12
- Hour walk solo: £16
- Two dog household hour walk: £22

Walk and train

I will work on any areas you are struggling with, for example, loose lead walking, obedience, confidence building, exposure, duration.

- 1.5 hour walk and train: £25
- 3 hour walk and train: £45

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Forget why you went into a room?

Did you know

The physical act of passing through a doorway is the reason why you often walk into a room and completely forget what you were doing! Because going through a door signifies the beginning or the end of something. This creates an 'event boundary' in your mind. Basically every time you go through a door your brain starts filing away thoughts from your previous location to make room for a new group of memories in the next.

AND FINALLY....



A stunning shot from Jacqui which captures the spirit of summer

Paddy and Oscar on harvest quality control, which surely deserves a biscuit

Don't miss this years Lammas Service which celebrates the harvest in a centuries old way by sharing bread baked from this years first grain.



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Copy deadline for the next issue is Friday 11th September. If you are sending a large amount of copy, it's really helpful if you can give us an idea in advance to help us plan layouts. Please send images in a PNG or JPEG format. Thank you.

You can continue to send us news in between issues for publication via the Parish News WhatsApp group

E-mail: sheriffparishmag@gmail.com or leave in the PPE (the porch at Wisteria Cottage) marked for the magazine.

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Disclaimer - all views expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors of articles and not of the editors nor the collective views of the village of Sheriffhales. We are not qualified genealogists and although we look carefully, any assumptions about the lives of past residents are based on what looks likely from the parish records and census records

We were delighted to catch up with Charlotte on our visit to Shropshire Petals HQ. Charlotte very kindly prints the PM for us in the office.



Summer, strange but true

The Eiffel Tower grows taller in the Summer. It is largely made of puddled iron which expands when hot, meaning it can be 12-15cm taller on hot days.



The coldest ever Summer temperature recorded in the UK was -5.6 degrees Celsius at Dalwhinnie in 1955

To fully fry an egg on the pavement on a hot summer day, the pavement would need to be 70 degrees Celsius. This would need a sunny day of around 32 degrees although an ambient temperature of 38 degrees apparently creates the optimum asphalt frying conditions!



Sparky's Home Made Ice cream in Columbia, Missouri makes some unusual flavoured ice cream including 'Mountain Dew and Dortios' and 'Margherita Pizza' complete with tomato sauce, mozzarella and basil!

Lammas Service
Sunday 2nd August 10:00am
with Community Choir



Come and share delicious homemade bread as we celebrate the first loaf of the Harvest!



St Mary's Church
Sheriffhales

Reaching out together to share God's amazing faith, hope and love

