



## Issue 40

June 10 2021

Probus Covid-19 Lockdown  
Newsletter 2021

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Dear all.

Well we wait with baited breath as usual, which way will we go?

If it all pans out favourably we may be able to meet face to face as a group in a couple of months.

Your committee are mulling over whether to try to hold our annual lunch in October.

If you are for it please let us know and we can start making some enquiries with a few hostellers that could accommodate us all.

Best wishes

Paul

## Speaker's Corner

**At our next Probus Zoom meeting on Thursday 17th June at 10.30am the speaker will be from Liberty Travel speaking to us about 'Life of a travel agent'**

If you have not yet been able to join us at a Zoom meeting (a relatively simple type of on-line video conferencing) and need any help or advice do let me know and I will talk you through the process.

As ever I hope that you and yours are keeping safe and as well as can be. This week I have deliberately stopped listening to the news or reading anything about what is going on in the political world. I have at long



last come back to the conclusion that 'what is true today is often different tomorrow'. It has been quite cleansing and reminded me that whatever happens happens. Let's hope though that the recent limited unlocking won't have any infection repercussions.

Social media has so much to answer for: the good, the bad and the ugly. People can seem to share innermost secrets with strangers inadvertently through Facebook for instance. Yet social media and on-line internet access such as Zoom can be an absolute life-line for others to keep touch with friends and loved ones. What a strange contrasting world we live in these days but wasn't it always? At last it looks like the huge tech giant companies will be paying a more realistic tax to help countries recover from the Covid-19 economic trauma.

Limitless and immortal, the sea is the beginning and end of all things on Earth

It must have been very moving for those able to attend the 77th Anniversary of the D-Day landings and Battle of Normandy on Sunday at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas. Equally live-streaming of the £30million (UK funded) memorial in France commemorating the 22,442 British servicemen and women killed there will have been very moving.

On Thursday there will be 197 days until Christmas! Plenty to get on with in the meantime and hopefully this year we will all be able to see some of our family face to face.

Wishing you well and hopefully of good spirit, as ever,

Jeremy

**Speaker: David Skillen, "The Bentley Boys"**

Jeremy welcomed David, guests and members.

David's talk with period photographs covered the rise of Bentley motor-racing in the 1920s and beyond. Walter Owen Bentley (WOB) was the tenth of ten children living in St John's Wood, London. Even as a child he had a fascination with anything mechanical, dismantling and rebuilding clocks for instance. He developed an interest in steam trains which led him to an apprenticeship as a railway engineer/designer in Doncaster in early 1900s, travelling up from London each Monday and returning home each Friday by train. He then decided to travel by a four horse-power max 36mph motorbike. This led to an interest in automotives and when his apprenticeship finished he became more car-focussed, buying a franchise of small two-seater sports cars manufactured by DFP of France, noticing that they had aluminium pistons rather than the traditional iron. WOB soon recognised that to sell cars the publicity from motor-racing was paramount.

He was conscripted in 1914 as a navy aircraft engineer. In 1919 he set up his own car 'factory' in Cricklewood building a 3litre 'Bentley' with no exhaust/silencer, basically a chassis and engine which the buyer would then take to a body-builder eg Vanden Plas. Each car cost £1,050 in 1920, the equivalent of four times the average annual salary.

In 1921 and 1922 he took his early cars to the Isle of Man TT which then involved both motorbikes and cars. At the 1922 TT the weather was wet and previously without mudguards the pits had to improvise mid-race to provide rain-protection from the mud and spray for the driver.

In 1923 it was decided to compete in the Le Mans 24-hour endurance race in rural France. Road surface conditions were primitive, driving conditions very challenging and there were regular competitor breakdowns. Bentley came third. Drivers were dressed in plus-fours and mechanics were not permitted to work on the cars mid-race, only the drivers could change wheels, refill fuel and undertake any running repairs. The Bentleys also raced at Brooklands achieving speeds of 90mph.

The 'Bentley Boys' were a group of drivers all of whom had served in WW1 and naturally lost many comrades on the front line. Their ethos was to live their lives for their fallen compatriots in memory of them. They included Woolf Barnato (son of a wealthy diamond magnate), George Duller (steeplechaser), Dr Benjy Benjafield (a Harley Street doctor), Baron Andre d'Erlanger (who described himself as an 'international playboy'), Sir Henry Birkin and Sammy Davis amongst others. All had substantial means behind them.

In 1925 and 1926 the Bentley team raced in a 3-litre car, distinctive with its metal grill on the radiator and undersill to protect the car from flying stones during the races. The Bentley company fell into financial difficulties and was eventually bought by Woolf Barnato who ploughed £13million into the firm between 1926 and 1930 to keep it afloat. He became Chairman. By 1927 it became clear that the 3-litre engine was not powerful enough so the 4.5litre model was developed, known as 'Old Mother Gun'. That year Bentley competed at Le Mans with the new model and two 3-litre ones, the former lapping in eight minutes 45 seconds. The race started as usual at 4.00pm and at 9.30pm no cars were coming past the pits so something was clearly wrong. At Whitehouse Corner the 4.5litre car had been wrecked in a crash.

***Cont. page 4***

One of the 3litre Bentleys crashed at the scene and the other got through the wreckage at 20mph but the steering became out of adjustment. Back in the pit it was all to be put back into a semblance of a drivable state. At 2.00pm the Bentley was four laps behind the leader, a French car which then developed a problem and broke down. The Bentley won the race despite all the difficulties.

A dinner was held at the Savoy Hotel in honour of the Bentley cars and one was driven into the first floor dining room (wheels removed, body lifted up the staircase and wheels replaced).

In 1928 at Le Mans an extra headlight was fitted. Bentley won again.

In one Le Mans race the Bentley had a puncture. The driver Sir Tim Birkin (known as 'the car wrecker') put his foot down until the tyre shredded and jammed the wheel. His Swiss-army knife trimmed the broken rubber but he discovered that there was no wheel-jack so ran 3 miles to the pits to get one. His co-driver Jean Chassange (who raced in a collar and tie) picked up two jacks and ran back to change the wheel to the spare. Naturally they didn't win that race but not through lack of trying.

Barnato famously raced a train in a Bentley from Cannes to Calais and won.

In 1929 Bentley produced a 6.5litre Speed Six for which at Le Mans that year there was no competition. Bentley came first, second, third and fourth.

There were also some 'Bentley Girls', the most notorious of which was Mrs Victor Bruce who later in life on her 85th birthday qualified as a pilot. In 1929 she contacted WOB to ask to use a Bentley to break a world record in France. She did, averaging 89mph.

1930 brought strong competition from Mercedes at Le Mans with their 7.5litre supercharged SSK model, of which only fifty-five were built. Superchargers were notoriously unreliable but Bentley decided to supercharge and, thanks to funding from Hon Dorothy Paget, built the famous 4.5litre 'Blower Bentley' which weighed two and a half tons, 0-60mph in eight seconds.

The rivalry between Bentley and Mercedes was 'gentlemanly'. That year the Bentley brand was sold to Rolls Royce following liquidation. Birkin, Benjafield and Bernato died by their mid 50's. WOB was employed by Rolls Royce and then went to work for Aston and Lagonda.

The Bentley name remains as a prestige car, also competing and in 2000 came third at Le Mans, then winning in 2003.

A 27-litre Rolls Royce Meteor-engine powered car was built. Currently twelve replica 4.5litre Bentleys have been/are being built, each sold for £1.8million.

Following a good selection of questions from the members and guests Jeremy thanked David for a fascinating nostalgic and informative presentation and a round of applause was given to David.

***This is a real treat for us as there are very few copies left. So a huge thanks goes to Estelle Parker for giving us permission to publish it.***

## **The Story of The Parish Church of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Ellesmere**

***First edition May 1995 Fourth (revised) edition July 2003 By Estelle Parker***

These relics were put there by Hamo's descendants, in the 15th century Sir Richard le Strange and Elizabeth his Wife, in 1439~49 and were not discovered until 1904 when the tower was being restored by Sir Arthur Blomfield. The soil was unfortunately thrown out into the churchyard, its significance not being realized at the time, but the pipkins, footwear and iron artefacts. are on display inside the church. Hamo le Strange and Isabella had no children of their short marriage. Isabella had two more husbands before she too died eight or nine years later she was probably not even thirty years old. After the death of Hamo the Lordship of Ellesmere went to his brother, Roger le Strange. The Knights of St. John, as we saw earlier, were closely connected with our church for the better part of three centuries. Throughout that time they appointed the parish priests here, they built much of our church, they ran the preceptory at Ralston and they ran the vast estates there, very efficiently; they provided hospitality to travellers and pilgrims hospitality was regarded as one of the most eminent acts of piety and humanity'; they cared for the sick and injured, any sick person who arrived or was brought there was to be well looked after, put to bed in the sick bay or infirmary and given the best medicines and food.

They encouraged people to go on crusade to the Holy Land, and provided training, and money for this; they were the landlords of much land and many properties here, repairing and maintaining these (and receiving the money due); they held a Court here; they kept the church in good repair and provided the fabric and the furnishings, books, candles and adornment; and they gave their name to the hill leading from the town up to the church and southwards out of Ellesmere: St. John's Hill.

In early Tudor times S. John's Chapel was rebuilt Carved in one of the massive roof beams can be seen the initials RW : FS. The Order of St. John gradually concentrated its interests on the military aspects of its role, especially after its headquarters moved to Cyprus and then to Malta. Its vast estates in Europe provided a valuable source of revenue and helped to maintain the Knights in the Mediterranean, with their castles and their ships, and it became more expedient to let out their estates in return for money rather than run them themselves. Here some of their Ellesmere estates were let out in 1514 to Jasper Kynaston 'for sixty years', In return for the lands, tenements, pastures and meadows Jasper was to pay an annual rental of £4 10s 8d, half of which was to be paid at Michaelmas (September 29th) and half on Lady Day (March 25th), the money to be payable at Ralston Preceptory.

The agreement did not last for sixty years, but only for twenty-six, as in 1540 the Order of St. John was suppressed in this country at the Dissolution, and its estates and property were confiscated into the hands of the king, who sold them.

Some of the church lands (the 'church manor') of Ellesmere were bought by George Leighe (*Lee*) and were later sold to Sir Tomas Egerton who bought the castle lands ('castle manor') as well, from the Stanleys/le Stranges.

That story is continued in little while

***Cont. page 6***



In the 15th century S. Anne's Chapel, on the south side, was enlarged and made into a chantry chapel. As the church was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the side chapel was dedicated to her mother, S. Anne, the grandmother of Jesus.

The Blessed virgin and S. Anne enjoyed huge popularity and much devotion in the Middle Ages.) The eastern-most pillar and arch in S. Anne's were added at this time, the 15th century, extending the chapel eastwards. In the 14th, and especially the 15th, centuries there was great increase in bequests to churches, notably for chantry endowments. A chantry endowment secured prayers for the wellbeing of the donor in his or her lifetime, and prayers for the salvation and repose of the soul after death. Those who had the money, or property, left *some* to the church so that the money or rents paid for a chantry altar, and also paid for a priest to offer prayers and chant (sing) the mass. People liked to be remembered. We know the names of some of those who endowed this chantry Chapel, a certain John Lloyd Taylour and John Lloyd, and also Isabel Vechan. A chantry certificate of Edward VI's time the Reformation, when chantry lands were sold notes *The servince off saynt Anne Within the sayd parishe Ellesmere) ffyrste ffounded by John Lloyd Taylour and 10hn Lloyd off Salopp and afterwarde Augmented by dyuerse benefactours to laue a preste tocelebrate at thaulter off seynt Anne within the parish churche ther entended to have continuance or ever.* ' In S. Anne's, on the north-west wall, is a very interesting tomb effigy, perhaps of a Scrivener or Notary Bare-headed and clean shaven, with long curling hair, his head rests on a cushion and his feet on a pet dog. Under his tunic he wears a garment with close buttoned sleeves. In his hands is a book, indicating his learning. A portable inkhorn, with lid, mid a pence hang on his left side from his belt. The belt, buckled on the right, reaches down to the ground where his little dog catches it and holds it in his mouth. This person could be one of the founders of the Chantry Chapel of S. Anne he could possibly be John Lloyd Taylour or John Lloyd, or he could be more likely one of those who left a bequest to this Chantry, and this is his tombstone or grave effigy. At the Reformation, when Chantries were suppressed and their lands sold this graveslab was hidden away in the south wall and whitewashed over, for fear of damage or even destruction by the Puritans and it was not discovered until 1847, when the walls were scraped during restoration work, and the effigy was mounted in the west wall. It is a very unusual effigy and has been pronounced to be of the time of Edward IV (1461-1483). We also know the name of one of the 'dyuerse benefactors' Isabel Vechan (Vaughan). Isabel had inherited lands and tenements from her parents, Dyo and Kateryn Gruffe (Gruffith), and in 1471, in the time of Edward IV, she had a deed drawn up giving them to the church, to found a chantry in S. Anne's after her death Isabel's surname is different from that of her parents so she had married and was now probably a widow, and not as young as she was. Perhaps she was finding her house, probably a very large one too big for her, no children are mentioned, and when she made over her lands and tenements to the church here (to 'Sir Thomas Parker vicar of the parish church of S. Mary of Ellesmere, Richard Otteley, John Kynaston of Ellesmere, etc.') it was arranged that she have a room in the m'de of the newe howse next towart Ric. Barker from the Somer', during her lifetime. A room was now all she needed to live in. (It was probably more than one chamber, and more like a self-contained flat with sitting room and bedchamber, and kitchen, and a small chamber where someone to look after her could sleep.) She would also receive a sum of money annually (46s 8d) to live on, sufficient for her everyday needs, and her chamber in the new house would have access 'northwart to the mere to wasche and to fache water to her eese and occupation'.

Note that it was mere-Water that was used.

*Cont. on page 7*

Watergate Street may originally have had a gate leading to the Mere where people would take buckets of water for their washing, etc., or go fishing (or the name could mean Water Street).

It is easy to see why ale was drunk and why there were so many maltsters in Ellesmere. Water was used for infusions and possets and for that it was more or less boiled. After Isabel's death the money from the lands and tenements, she had given to the church was used to found a chantry in St. Anne's. It was to be used as a perpetual chantry, with an altar on the north wall and a priest to pray and to chant the mass. St. Anne's would then have had at least two altars, one on the east wall and one on the north wall and perhaps others too. Some of Isabel's money provided the stipend of the priest who was to 'pray for the souls of the said Isabel, Dyo, Katerin (*sic*), etc.' Funerals were and are events of some importance in parish life. This was especially so in the case of people of means in the later Middle Ages. Such people would leave money to provide for an impressive funeral and good works (of charity). They could pay for prayers to help their souls in the hereafter: extra priests and chaplains were often paid to take part (and this would create an impressive number of celebrants and servers at the funeral service and at the Requiem Mass). To their prayers would be added those of the poor, who were given money to attend and pray (and sometimes they were provided with food afterwards). Candles and tapers were lit, a knell was rung, prayers were offered - and this might be every day for thirty days of commemorative rites. It is very probable that this was the case with Isabel. Her bequests would be attended to, and every year thereafter on the anniversary of her death the exequies would be sung by the chantry priest she had provided for, and then a Requiem Mass would be celebrated. The parish hearse would stand before the High Altar, draped with a pall and with tapers burning at the head and foot, in an annual re-enactment of her funeral. In this way people would not only remember her almost tangibly but they would offer their prayers for her soul, every year. And because she had endowed the chantry, her priest would sing the Mass and offer prayers for her, daily. This continued right until the suppression of chantries in the time of Henry VIII. The chantry lands belonging to St. Anne's were sold by Edward VI in 1548.

It is interesting to note that 'some landes and tenements' had also been given to Welshampton (included in the parish of Ellesmere until 1392). The yearly rent from those lands and tenements paid for 'certen lyghtis to be maynteyned within the seyde Chappell for ever'. The rents were 2s per annum, and this money provided the candles. Cockshutt and Dudleston were also in the parish of Ellesmere.

At Dudleston a stock of cattle had been given to provide the stipend of a priest there, 'within the Chappell off Dudleston in the sayde panshe (Ellesmere)'. The cattle were priced at £4 6s 8d annually.

Dudleston was originally built as a Chapel of Ease (built to save people walking all the way to the parish church in Ellesmere); and the church of St. Helen's at Cockshutt was founded by 'Lewys Davys sometime Vicar of Elsomers' (Ellesmere) for the same reason to save people walking the four miles or so to Ellesmere.

We must now return to the Le Stranges. We saw that the king (Henry III) had given the lordship and castle of Ellesmere to Hamo Le Strange, who had gone on crusade and died in the Holy Land. Ellesmere was then given to his brother, Roger Le Strange, who died in 1311. (Hamo was Lord of Ellesmere and Wrockwardine, and Roger was Lord of Little Erca11 and then Ellesmere.) Both died without children, and the Le Strange lands then passed through the line of the elder brother John (whose son was the first Lord Strange of Knockin) to his great-grandsons John (died childless 1323) and Roger, the third and fourth Lords Strange of Knockin. Knockin was a fortified castle and had been in the family since the 12th century and it 'would have been the Le Strange base in this area.

**More to come in the next issue**

## Inheritance Tracks

There is a programme on the radio as you may know which invites people to provide two meaningful pieces of music, one which they remember as being handed down to them from their parents/ childhood and one which they would like to hand to their next generation. Desert Island discs on a small scale!

It would be good to hear the Inheritance Tracks from you, our other Probus members but to start the ball rolling, here are mine:

The selected track that I was passed down from my parents is 'Born Free' sung by Matt Monro first released in 1966. Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers seemed to have had an amazing life together as early pioneers of understanding and teaching through cinema films the importance of respecting and protecting threatened wildlife. 'Ring Of Bright Water' is another favourite film of theirs with the title song by Val Doonican. But the lyrics of 'Born Free' really hit the spot in many ways, not just about Elsa the lioness but about all of us. Here is the link:

<https://youtu.be/ISWOrlOWaLs>

The selected track that I would like to pass on to my son and grand-children is 'Myfanwy' sung by the Rhos Male Voice Choir. It is a song of the sadness of parting yet kindness, sung in the Welsh language gives it real poignancy. I was torn between the version sung by Cerys Matthews or this one but local allegiances won the day. This is the English translation.

Here is the link:

<https://youtu.be/F02JbiXXhFU>

If you would like to let us have your own Inheritance Tracks selection that would be good. If you need help inserting the actual music-links let us know and we will sort that out. Looking forward to hearing your tracks and brief stories.

Jeremy Stretton



# **The Series of Memories of Ellesmere Residents Extracts from book 6 of the “Memories” Booklets Published in early 2000 by the Ellesmere Society**

Memory 40

## **The Ellesmere Festival 1988-1998**

*Remembered by Sandra Thomas*

During 1987, Ellesmere suffered a severe blow with the closure of the dairy on the Wharf. Also, Lakeland's School had only just managed to avoid closure, due to the sterling efforts of the town.

A need for a "feel good" event was met by the school deciding to organise a "one-off" festival. With the aid of other organisations in the town "The Lakeland's Festival" was born.

It was eventually held in July 1988 and had a Victorian theme. The school children had a major part in it with a large pageant that toured the town. Boats gathered at the Wharf and an inter-denominational service was held on the Sunday. With many other activities involved, the two day event achieved its purpose and the organisers assumed their job was finished.

In June 1989, however, British Waterways stated that they wanted to stage another festival. As it had taken nearly a year to organise the original festival, it was obviously impossible to stage another within one month. With considerable effort the second festival was eventually held in September 1989. This time it was called "The Ellesmere Waterways Festival", and remained as such for the next two years.

1991 saw the 200 year anniversary of the founding of the Ellesmere canal and with extensive advertising by British Waterways, the festival reached its high point. The British Waterways' works were opened to the public, a Beer Festival was incorporated, Ellesmere College combined their Open Day with the festival weekend, and cycle races around the town were included.

Many more boats gathered at the Wharf. The next year saw a continuation of most of these activities, but British Waterways withdrew due to lack of funds. However, a large gathering of Morris Dancers helped to make the 1992 festival another success. It had now become simply "The Ellesmere Festival", and has remained as such to date.

From 1993, the centre of the festival has varied between the Wharf, the town, and Cremorne Gardens, and gradually reduced in size.

It was possible that the festival, as first envisaged, would not survive the end of the Millermium.

It was, however, intended only as a single event to boost the town's morale. Many features that started within the festival have developed into their own events. In particular, the cycle races have seen the introduction of the annual Triathlon, and Ellesmere is now recognised as one of the best venues in the Triathlon Grand Prix circuit. The Beer Festival has also become a major annual event.

The gathering of boats at the Wharf is now an Inland Waterways official rally and thus seems certain to continue.

As Ellesmere's development is associated with the coming of the canal, it is hoped that the Boat Rally can still be the basis for the continuation of "The Ellesmere Festival".

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## The Probus Club of Ellesmere

*Remembered by Peter Shephard in 2007*

Slowly the Probus is a worldwide association of clubs of retired and semi-retired men and women.

The name is an abbreviation of the words **PRO**fessional and **BUS**iness, but membership is not restricted to these two groups.

A Probus club offers members opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances and of similar interests. We welcome both male and female membership, meeting weekly or monthly.

After several preliminary meetings involving the assistance of Mr. Trevor Humphreys, then vocation chairman of Ellesmere Rotary Club, the Probus Club of Ellesmere (for male membership) was founded at a meeting in the Red Lion Hotel, on Thursday 23rd November 1989.

The club meets on the first and third Thursday of each month. from October to April inclusive and on the first Thursday only of each month from May to September inclusive. Meetings are now held in the Comrades Club between 10am and noon.

After coffee there is a brief session for club business, followed by the main event - the speaker.

Speakers include both members and visitors. They cover a wide range of subjects, and usually they provoke a lively discussion. Where it is considered the subject is of special interest the meeting is declared open to non-members.

Entrance is free of charge and anybody, male or female, may attend.

Three examples were :- *'Experiences as a Prisoner of War in Germany' by Squadron Leader "Jimmy" James, M.C. (This meeting attracted some 150 people including scholars from Ellesmere College, and Lakelands School).*

*'Transporting Medical Equipment and a Bakery Unit to Rumania' under the "Operation Christmas Child" charity. 'Fighting Cancer for all of Us', by the Tenovus charity.*

In addition to the monthly meetings the club organises an annual luncheon, a Christmas gathering and at least two outings to places of interest, selected by members. For all of these events, members are free to invite partners and friends.

Some memorable visits include the Ffestiniog and Severn Valley Railways, R.A.F. Shawbury, Dinorwic Hydro-electric Station and the Clywedog dam, where they had a return visit.

Since 2007 when the above was published the Ellesmere Probus Club has celebrated it's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special lunch and entertainment at the Bryn Howells Hotel.

## Well I never... Did you know?

- ◆ Supermarket apples can be a year old  
Apples are usually picked between August and November, covered in wax, hot-air dried, and sent into cold storage. After six to twelve months, they finally land on your grocery store shelves.
- ◆ People used to say “prunes” instead of “cheese” when having their pictures taken  
In the 1840s, a big grin was seen as childish, so one London photographer told people to say “prunes” to keep their mouths taut.
- ◆ Dunce caps used to be signs of intelligence  
Thirteenth-century philosopher John Duns Scotus believed that a pointed cap would help spread knowledge from the tip to the brain, and his “Dunsmen” followers wore them as a badge of honour. In the 1500s, though, his ideas became less popular and the meaning of the Duns cap was turned on its head, becoming something of a joke.
- ◆ Dentistry has been performed since 7000BC, which makes dentists one of the oldest professions.
- ◆ Ancient Roman surgeons were trained to block out the screams of human pain.
- ◆ Snakes can help predict earthquakes. They can sense a coming earthquake from 75 miles away, up to five days before it happens.
- ◆ An animal’s yawn is based on how large their brain is. The bigger the brain, the longer each yawn will be.
- ◆ In Switzerland, it is illegal to own just one guinea pig. This is because guinea pigs are social animals, and they are considered victims of abuse if they are alone
- ◆ A strawberry is not an actual berry, but a banana is.
- ◆ There is an uninhabited island in the Bahamas known as Pig Beach, which is populated entirely by swimming pigs.
- ◆ On Valentine’s Day in South Korea, only women give gifts, not men.
- ◆ A group of horses will not go to sleep at the same time – at least one of them will stay awake to look out for the others.
- ◆ Jellyfish are believed to be biologically immortal. They don’t age and will never die unless they are killed.
- ◆ There are thought to be more stars in space than there are grains of sand on every beach in the world.
- ◆ Humans cannot walk in a straight line without a visual point. When blindfolded, we will gradually walk in a circle.
- ◆ The longest one-syllable word in the English language is “screeched.”

The human eye makes movements 50 times every second.

## Local information

### Age UK Befriending Service

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/services/befriending-services/sign-up-for-telephone-befriending/>

Good news the Vaccine is here. **Please don't phone the surgery to book a vaccine.** You will be phoned from the surgery and be offered an appointment at the RJAH hospital, or Prees surgery. The invitation could be from either Ellesmere or Whitchurch surgeries. If you receive a letter from the NHS offering you an appointment at one of the large vaccination hubs in Birmingham or Manchester etc there is no need to accept it, if you don't take up the invitation you will still be on the local practice's list.



Take 1 minute each day and help fight the outbreak.

Get the Covid 19 Symptom Tracker App from the App store or Google

### Urgent Care Centres

Urgent Care Centres (UCCs) at Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Telford and the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH) will temporarily relocate to the Minor Injury Units (MIUs) in Whitchurch and Bridgnorth to form two Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs).

### **PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURS .....**

**Key contact details:** Ellesmere Covid-19 Community Support Group:  
01691 596290 / 622689

[www.ellesmerecovidsupportgroups.org.uk](http://www.ellesmerecovidsupportgroups.org.uk)

**Shropshire Council Helpline:** 0345 678 9028

**For people living in the Welshampton or Lyneal area** - please contact the Parish Council on 01948 710672 or go on their website <https://www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk/> where you will find information about their local Community Support group



## *Pastoral Support from the Churches in Ellesmere*

### **Rev'd Pat Hawkins St Mary's Church**

Tel [01691622571](tel:01691622571) email [revpat.hawkins@gmail.com](mailto:revpat.hawkins@gmail.com).

**St Mary's Ellesmere:**

**Weekly services have once again had to stop during this 3rd Lockdown.**

**However, some services are streamed and are on You Tube**

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The  
**Cellar  
Church**  
ELLESMERE

### **Pastor Phil Wright 'The Cellar Church'.**

[07711 986694](tel:07711986694) email: [pastor.phil@me.com](mailto:pastor.phil@me.com)

The Cellar Church online every Sunday 10am and Wednesday 6pm

Follow the link Directly on our Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmxif6AT5w7IJH4Yxkbi6tQ>

On the cellar church website: <https://www.cellarchurch.co.uk/audio-video/>

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### **Rev Julia Skitt Ellesmere Methodist Church**

[01691 657349](tel:01691657349) email: [rev.julia@mail.com](mailto:rev.julia@mail.com)

Ellesmere Methodist Church Services can be streamed from:

Wesley's Chapel in London - on Wednesdays 12.45, Thursdays 12.45 and Sundays 9.45 and 11.00am

<https://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming/>

Methodist Central Hall, Westminster - Sundays at 11.00am

[https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents?](https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents?utm_source=Methodist+Church+House&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11417259_Update)

[utm\\_source=Methodist+Church+House&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=11417259\\_Update](https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents?utm_source=Methodist+Church+House&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11417259_Update)



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### **Ellesmere Catholic Convent Chapel**

The Chapel is open, the building on the left as you drive in. 8:30am - 6pm.

If you have anything that you'd like to ask the sister to pray for you: Phone [01691 622 283](tel:01691622283)

