



**May 21, 2020**

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**From the editor**

I hope you had a good week, and managed to commemorate VE Day, we certainly did, with a scrumptious hamper from the Red Lion.

It was lovely to see the shop windows in the town dressed up in a VE Day theme, plus all the social distancing street parties happening throughout Ellesmere and the surrounding villages.

As you will see in this issue a number of members have come forward with items for the newsletter, many thanks guys.

Keep safe  
Paul

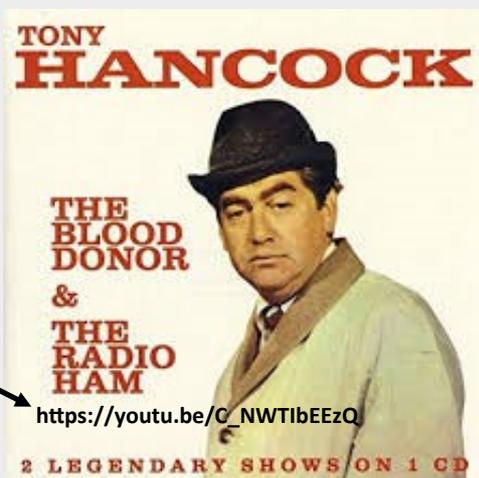
*PS  
And Please send in your articles for the newsletter, items such my favorite book', film, podcast, joke, hobby etc.*

Dear fellow Probus Members,  
I hope that you and yours are keeping well and safe during these Covid-19 restrictions. I know a number of us are finding comfort in contacting family by video-links.

In this national Mental Health Awareness week it seems appropriate to reflect on the acts of kindness that help us through and uplift us. We sometimes can forget though to be kind to ourselves. Wisdom from every culture across history recognises that kindness is something that all human beings need to experience and show to be fully alive.

I am sure you will join me in sending Paul many thanks for his continued excellent work in producing our Lock-Down Newsletter - a quality product !

Very best wishes to you and yours,  
Jeremy



To watch the Blood Donor  
click on this link



[https://youtu.be/C\\_NWTIbEEzQ](https://youtu.be/C_NWTIbEEzQ)

For those who are isolating and didn't get a chance to go into Ellesmere last weekend here are a few photos of the shops dressed for VE Day thanks to all the shops that took part



## ***30 years with Staffordshire Bull Terriers.***

*By Alan Barker*

This article is to show the uplifting effect that all our animals and beloved pets can impart on families in these troubled times and sometimes how we underestimate their contribution in the rush of modern life I would like to describe a unique species of dog namely the STAFFORD.

In 1970's my wife and I decided we wanted a small lively dog so that our children could grow up with a interactive pet. At the time I working as a factory manager in the Black Country and became fascinated by the locals with their obviously cherished pets and soon realised they were something special .The dogs displayed a tremendous affection for families, children and in general human beings who showed the slightest interest in them. Their bonding with Downs Syndrome children was a joy to behold so I joined the crowd and with expert advice became the owner of a lively male puppy who soon created mayhem and bonded immediately with all the family. The dogs today originated from cross breeding in the 19th and early 20th century mainly the now defunct Manchester terrier and local types/bulldogs resulting in "sporting dogs" a general term which incorporated fighting, rat control and strong, with low cost management and companiable characteristics with the large family units in cramped conditions. Needless to say, dog fighting traits are abhorrent and still persist. This trait is gradually being eliminated but the dislike of other dogs is still apparent and I did not go out without it on the lead. The main problem is loose dogs interfering with your dog which is under control. Having said that my dogs always played well with non aggressive type of animals and they can sense good and bad 200 yards away.

The interaction with children was great to watch from babies to teenagers they would love any rough and tumble. they enjoyed long walks but not the hot weather preferring a comfortable human being's lap to have a nap on. My later dog did not like the rain!

The strength of the Stafford was phenomenal and we used to let him hang off a bicycle tyre suspended from a tree in the garden. All this behaviour disappeared when children were around and the Stafford knew what was wanted.

I belonged to the local Staffs Bull Terrier Association and went to the shows and gained many friends. The Staffie was also the mascot of the Staffs regiment and was yearly paraded sometimes taking the stage with royalty particularly HR Majesty at the Molineux.

I hope I have given you a glimpse of the Staffie as a wonderful dog with vibrant characteristics but requiring strong handling and more responsibility than average from the owner.

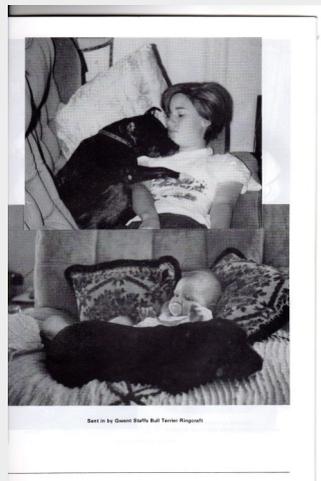
They are now in the top ten of UK preferred dog ownership and deserved.

When you see one please give it stroke! you might get few face licks in return.

*Alan Barker*



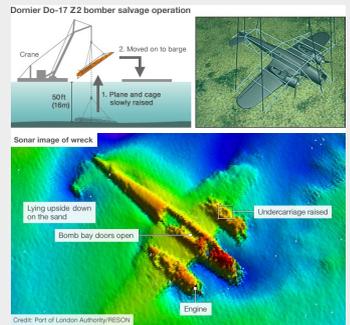
***Staffordshire Regiment's Mascot***



***Staffies with the Kids***

The speaker was Darren Priday manager of the Conservation Centre RAF museum Cosford to tell us about the recovery of a rare German wartime bomber that had been discovered on the Goodwin Sands.

Darren told us that the Dornier was discovered seventy years after it was shot down during the height of the Battle of Britain. Darren said it was shot down on 26th August 1940, the Dornier's historical importance is immense: this is the world's only surviving Do-17, a German aircraft type that played a crucial role in the Battle. Darren said that research showed that the Dornier 17 was part of a large enemy formation intercepted by RAF fighter aircraft at midday on 26 August 1940 as they attempted to attack airfields in Essex. This particular aircraft was forced to make an emergency landing on the Goodwin Sands at low tide after an attack by Defiant fighters of No 264 Sqn that left both engines stopped and the crew wounded. The Dornier, had been flown by Feldwebel, (Flt Sgt) Willi Effmert attempted a wheels-up landing on the Goodwin Sands. He touched down safely and the aircraft sank inverted. Effmert and his observer were captured but the other crewmen died and their bodies were washed ashore later.



Darren said that in preparation to the rising of the aircraft a metal cage had to be manufactured and subsequently reassembled underwater. The actual raising of the Dornier was a frustrating operation, with the weather seeming to be against them, but eventually it was lifted out of

the water and onto a dumb barge.

The aircraft is in remarkable condition - considering the events surrounding its loss plus the effects of spending so many years under water. Other than marine concretions it is largely intact, the main undercarriage tyres remain inflated and the propellers clearly show the damage inflicted during their final landing.

Work to conserve and prepare the Dornier for display is being undertaken at the RAF Museum's award-winning conservation centre at

Cosford. Here the Dornier will be placed alongside the Museum's Vickers Wellington which is currently undergoing long term restoration. Darren said that the original idea to submerge the aircraft in a large tank of water to preserve it was considered impractical, so instead it was covered with a Poly Tunnel and sprayed with water mixed with lemon juice to neutralise effects of the sea-water.



## Light Music part 2

In the last issue I gave some 19th century examples of classical works which could be described as "Light Music", written by classical composers even though the term was not invented at the time. I hope that some of you may have listened to them on the internet. Remember that every tune mentioned is easily accessible. Most are on YouTube but Spotify will give more choice and better sound quality.

Moving into the 20th C we see the growth of Light music stimulated by the growth of orchestras playing not only in concert Halls but on bandstands at the seaside and in the Palm Courts of Grand Hotels.

Then, in the 1920s the BBC began broadcasting and in 1945 the Light Programme began.

You may remember programmes such as "Music while you Work" and "Friday Night is Music Night".

There were popular orchestras such as Sidney Torch, Geraldo and Mantovani. Further opportunities to listen to light music came from film scores, television advertisements and signature tunes. The BBC itself commissioned a great deal of light music even down to tunes to be played while showing the Test Cards. All went well until the coming of "Top of the Pops" in 1964, followed by the start of Radio 1 in 1967 replacing the old "Light Programme". Tastes had changed and Light Music suddenly became old-fashioned.

In the next two issues I will write about a few of the better known composers and orchestras in the genre. I hope that you will enjoy listening to them and, perhaps, reviving old memories.

First a favourite of our parents. **Alfred Kételbey** (1875-1959). His best known piece is *In a Monastery Garden* but my favourite is *Bells Across the Meadows* (1921). It was reputedly inspired by the many different chimes of church bells on the island of Gozo where he went on holiday. He could afford his holidays because his earnings made him Britain's first millionaire composer. You may also be surprised to learn that in 1929 he was voted "Britain's greatest living composer". Dream on, Sir Edward Elgar.

*Continued Page 5*

Another famous composer who missed out when the vote was taken was **Sir William Walton** (1902-1983). He was a boy from Oldham who studied at Oxford and made good (with the patronage of the Sitwells). His output included orchestral music and opera but in 1962 he was commissioned by Granada Television and wrote a piece that was played at the beginning of programmes every day from 1965 to 1973. It was originally scored for full orchestra but was rearranged by **Gilbert Vintner** with quiet passages so that announcements could be made. It is called the **Granada Prelude**.

On the subject of music written for television I'm sure that you will recognise **Lancashire Blues** by **Eric Spear** (1908-1966). It was composed for the BBC as the theme tune for a trial of a new soap opera called "Florizel Street". The trial series was a success though the name was changed because it sounded too much like Zoflora, a margarine. Guess what they called it? "Coronation Street".

The story goes that when the composer recorded it both he and the band were offered the choice of a single payment or royalties. The band all opted for cash but the composer wisely opted for royalties every time the tune was played. Didn't he do well?

The sound of **Mantovani's Orchestra** is unmistakable. You either love it or hate it. Try **Charmaine** for example. Mantovani himself hailed from Venice. His father was concertmaster at La Scala under Toscanini.

The "Cascading Strings" effect was devised by the composer **Ronald Binge** (1910-1979) who also played in the orchestra. Binge himself wrote some well known pieces such as **Elizabethan Serenade** and **Sailing By**.

**Richard Adinsell** (1904-1977) may not be a familiar name but he composed the well known **Warsaw Concerto** for the film "Dangerous Moonlight (1941). The story is that the film makers wanted music in the style of Rachmaninoff but Rachmaninoff was otherwise engaged.. Another gentler piece by him was composed to accompany a stage play "Ring around the Moon". It is the "**Invitation Waltz**".

My next choice is **Serenade for Guitar** by **Sir Malcolm Arnold** (1921-2006). A pleasant piece which demonstrates that you can't judge a composer by his music. Apparently he was a very disagreeable man. He was also a depressive, an alcoholic and a serial womaniser. Nevertheless he was a successful composer, not only of light music and film scores (eg **Bridge over the River Kwai**), but also wrote several symphonies and concertos.

Finally for this Issue of the Probus Newsletter, I'll tell you a little more about **Eric Coates** (1886-1957), the composer of **By the Sleepy Lagoon-Valse Serenade** (1930). He was a prolific and financially successful composer who wrote many well known works such as **The Dambusters March** (1955), **The Three Elizabeths** (1944) and **London Suite** (1932).

In his earlier life he was Principal Viola in the Queens Hall Orchestra under **Henry Wood**. , "... which post I held for seven years," he said, " until, I regret to say, I was dismissed through sending deputies to take my place when I was conducting my works elsewhere. Henry Wood little knew what a great help he had been to me by dispensing with my services, for from that day I never touched my viola again and was able to devote all my time to my writing".

Eric Coates was a pal of the conductor **Sir Thomas Beecham** who was well known for his cutting remarks. For example he once described Karajan as "a musical Malcolm Sergeant", thereby slandering two competitors with a single phrase. In the present context Beecham said something to the effect that he would rather listen to a piece by Eric Coates than anything by Johann Sebastian Bach!

Next time, in the third and final episode, I will describe some more composers of well known pieces in the Light Music genre and will tell you how the BBC's enormous collection of Light Music scores was saved from the skip.

**Mike Grundy**



1. What year was the current Gregorian calendar system was started?
2. What is a banger?
3. Cryptography is the study of
4. Salop is an abbreviation of Salopsberia derived from which language?
5. Which UK soap series had the highest viewing figures in 2019?
6. How many recognised colours of the rainbow are there?
7. Port Said is in which country?
8. In Charles Dickens Oliver Twist what was the name of the person who owned Bull Terrier
9. A camel can remain without intake of water for how many days on average?
10. Usain St Leo Bolt has won Olympic gold medals how many times?
11. Greta Thunberg, environmental activist was born in which country in 2003?
12. Feline is to cats what ovine is to?
13. "There's a bright golden haze on the meadow" is a song from which show?
14. Which of these is not currently a judge on TV's 'The Voice'
15. Oklahoma is a State in the USA . Which State is it next to??
16. Who had a 1960s hit with `Lets go to San Francisco` ?
17. A female deer is called?
18. "When shall we three meet again" is a quotation from?
19. Which sign of the zodiac immediately follows on from Aries?
20. Which Greek god was the god of the moon?

Answers on page 13

## ***Foot & Mouth - by Bill Ferries***

While at Glasgow University vet school in 1966 I distinctly remember a lecturer saying he would quickly skim through the Foot & mouth sections as none of us would ever see F & M unless we went to work in countries where the disease was endemic, such as Middle/Far East/ South America/ Africa.

I arrived in Ellesmere in July the following year to become an assistant at a three man practice in Talbot Street which at that time was a narrow one way street with a row of terraced houses on the right.

The surgery was a small black and white property where Blakemeres' surgery is now. The practice was mainly farm work especially dairy. I was enjoying the work and getting to know the area and clients when, surprise surprise, Foot & Mouth broke out in October.

The first case was diagnosed at a farm at Nantmawr on the other side of Oswestry and within days it spread to neighbouring farms and also arrived in the Ellesmere area. The first local farm affected was Broome Farm Tetchill where the owner was one of our members, David Batho. It spread rapidly throughout the district and of course not only affected all the farming community but also people in all the towns and villages in Shropshire. It was very much like the present day Lockdown. People were scared to mix or meet as no one knew where the disease would appear next. Farmers had to put up NO ENTRY signs and non essential visits to farms were banned. All markets, sales and shows were banned, all meetings and social events were cancelled, a nationwide ban on livestock movements was introduced. Local shops and traders suffered as life ground down and the town had a cloud of depression over it.

The ministry of Agriculture (MAFF) now (DEFRA) set up an office in the Black Lion Hotel and vets were drafted in from other parts of the UK to help deal with the outbreak. As the disease spread further the MAFF took over the whole of the former library in Victoria Street and increased their pool of vets to over 40, a lot of whom came over from Ireland. The two senior members of the practice in Talbot Street joined MAFF and I was left to run the practice. This was good experience for me and an opportunity to meet more clients. Farmers were anxious not to have visitors but livestock still needed treatment on occasions so I had to make some farm visits. Prior to entry to any farm a process of disinfecting one's self/car and equipment had to be done and likewise when leaving.

Inevitably I sometimes discovered an animal with F & M symptoms and had to break the bad news to the client. The next step was to inform the MAFF centre and wait until one of their vets arrived. If he confirmed the case he would proceed with the numerous items of paperwork arrange for an auctioneer to come and value all livestock on the farm, and arrange for slaughtermen to come to carry out the grim task of slaughtering every animal on the premises and also those in the farm's fields. Often the stock on adjacent farms were slaughtered as "contacts". This was all done at speed and usually within 24hrs followed by a disposal team, a squad of men with heavy plant machinery which was used to dig huge pits where the carcasses were buried and covered in Lime. Incineration was the other method of disposal when huge pyres were built of sleepers/pallets/ tyres etc before plant machinery lifted the many carcasses on top. As animal carcasses take a very long time to dispose of these fire burned for days on end and were an eerie sight at night as several fires could be seen miles apart.

Shropshire and Cheshire were the counties most affected with Staffordshire. North Wales and Lancashire also having many cases. MAFF also had centres in places like Welshpool/Market Drayton/Stafford and the outbreak was finally under control by June 1968 with Ellesmere base being the last to close.

The epidemic resulted in over 2,300 outbreaks and the slaughter of approximately 200,000 cattle, 100,000 sheep and 100.000 pigs. The cost was estimated at about £150 million.

### ***Foot and Mouth part two by - Bill Ferries.***

In 2001 I had another involvement with Foot & Mouth after it was discovered in an Essex abattoir on 19<sup>th</sup> February and it spread to a local farm there.

Three days later a sheep sale was held at Longtown, Cumbria, UKs largest sheep market and by the time the outbreak was in the news thousands of sheep had been dispersed from the sale to many areas of the UK, some carrying Foot & Mouth.

The disease is particularly difficult to diagnose in sheep but soon cases were found on farms in Devon, Cornwall, Scotland and the Lake District which very much bore the brunt of the epidemic. In a major attempt to control the disease the Government brought in the Army to help DEFRA staff, vets and police.

DEFRA introduced a policy of slaughtering all sheep within a three kilometre radius of a confirmed case which meant very large numbers of sheep were culled.

Many sheep which were being outgrazed on farms long distances from their original farm were banned from being transported anywhere unless direct to an abattoir. At the time I was doing supervisory duties at an abattoir in Machwiel, Wrexham and this abattoir elected to become one of the few in the UK to take part in this cull.

So for weeks I was involved in supervising the intake, slaughter and disposal of sheep from a huge area, mostly Wales/Midlands/Cheshire/Lancashire/Yorkshire, working six days a week to slaughter some 2,000 to 3,000 animals per day. This was a sad cull as most of the animals were completely healthy yet by law their carcasses had to go for incineration.

This epidemic was brought under control by October 2001.

There had been approximately 200 cases with over 6 million cattle and sheep being slaughtered.

Cost of compensation to farmers, slaughter, disposal, clean up, food chain losses, personnel costs, losses to agriculture and associated trades and tourism were calculated to be approximately £8 billion.

### ***Letter from a mad tax-man:***

This is reproduced from Accounting WEB, Business Management Zone, 02/10/03"

Contractor UK reports on a quite extraordinary extract from an Inland Revenue Inspector's letter.

This is an extract from a 15-page letter received in response to Contractor UK questioning the Revenue's reasoning with regard to an IR35 (employment status) case:

"You appear to be the kind of accountant who invited my opinion for the express purpose of using it as target practice for the sport this provided and for the further honing of the logistical skills involved, albeit with a deceptively smooth veneer of diplomatic language. What I gave you, I gave you my capacity as someone who is not paid commission, is not paid bonuses for tax brought in to the Exchequer's coffers, is not like a get-rich-quick opportunistic solicitor operating fast-and-loose on a 'no win, no fee' basis in a culture of compensation and insurance against everything"

"when I do this and, let us say for argument's sake, an ex-civil servant, having nailed his colours to the enemy's mast and now sailing the seven seas as an entrepreneurial privateer, comes straight back at me on a reciprocal bearing delivering a broadside of exactly the same grapeshot of information that he once used as a conscientious low-paid officer of HM Government, only from the opposite side of the divide, so to speak, then the whole customer service beacon of light that the Government pays me to wield for the purpose of dispelling the pools of uncertainty in employment status risks being blown away amid the shot and gun smoke from such a privateer, and any loud hailing as to what the maritime code says on such engagements only falls on deaf ears for there are none so deaf as those who will not hear".

***Courtesy of Jeremy.***

## Recommended reading

By John Shone

Over the past few months, I've been enjoying the stories of three remarkable and inspirational women and one incredibly multi-talented man. whose genius still benefits us today.

I think you would enjoy reading them:



**The Woman Who Saved the Children.** This is Clare Mulley's award-winning book detailing the life and times of our own Ellesmere-born heroine, Eglantyne Jebb. It gives a great insight into her early years at The Lyth, the country house on the outskirts of town, where Eglantyne enjoyed a privileged upbringing in idyllic surroundings. Those early years as part of a large and loving family, with a great social conscience, were a huge influence in her development as one of the greatest, but now almost forgotten, social reformers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as co-founder of the international relief charity, Save the Children.

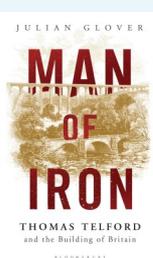
**Let it Go** – the memoirs of Dame Stephanie Shirley, the German-born philanthropist who arrived in Britain as a Kinder-transport refugee in 1939-- a five-year old Jewish girl fleeing the Nazis, with no money and without a word of English. After being educated at Oswestry Girls' High School, she went on to set up a highly-successful computer software company and became one of Britain's richest businesswomen before retiring and giving away most of her fortune to charitable causes. However, her success was overshadowed by the tragedy of losing her adored autistic son, Giles when he was 35, and she has devoted much of her life to providing support for people with autism.



**Becoming Michelle Obama** – a vivid and candid account of a feisty, clever and determined girl from a working-class Afro-American family who became America's First Lady and is now a global icon. Her story is up close and personal and gives a fascinating behind-the-scenes account of life at The White House and a great insight into the hurly-burly of American politics at the highest level.



**Man of Iron** – Thomas Telford's name is familiar, his story less so: a complex, ambitious, but deeply private man who changed the world with his revolutionary engineering and whose genius we still benefit from today. In a life spanning almost eight decades, Telford invented the modern road, built churches, harbours, docks and canals – including Ellesmere's -- and of course his great masterpiece, the famous Pontcysyllte aqueduct, near Llangollen. And he still found time to write poetry! Drawing on contemporary accounts, author Julian Glover presents a brilliant portrait of a man whose constructions were the most stupendous in Europe for a thousand years; amazingly, almost everything he built remains in use today.



John Shone

## God and St Francis discuss lawns

*By Kathy Gates, submitted by Jeremy*

**God to Saint Francis** Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

**Saint Francis** It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

**God** Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

**Saint Francis** Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

**God** The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

**Saint Francis** Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it- sometimes twice a week.

**God** They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

**Saint Francis** Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags. **God** They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

**Saint Francis** No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

**God** Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

**Saint Francis** Yes, Sir.

**God** These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

**Saint Francis** You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

**God** What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

**Saint Francis** You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

**God** No!? What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

**Saint Francis** After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

**God** And where do they get this mulch?

**Saint Francis** They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

**God** Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

**Saint Francis** 'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

**God** Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

## Local information

This is a new service which when it was trialed in parts of Shropshire proved very popular.



We are now using eConsult

Submit an eConsult via our website [www.churchmere.co.uk](http://www.churchmere.co.uk) and click on the button **Ask for advice with an eConsult** and we will contact you by the end of the next working day.

You can contact our doctors online 24/7 for routine medical advice, trusted self-help from the NHS and administrative requests such as fit notes, GP letters or test results.



Take 1 minute each day and help fight the outbreak.

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

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance & Support

Click on this link—

[https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?utm\\_source=Members&utm\\_campaign=fdd441f999-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_06\\_08\\_03\\_15\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_206970988f-fdd441f999-348581597&mc\\_cid=fdd441f999&mc\\_eid=d02ed78b4c](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?utm_source=Members&utm_campaign=fdd441f999-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_06_08_03_15_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_206970988f-fdd441f999-348581597&mc_cid=fdd441f999&mc_eid=d02ed78b4c)

## 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.

# Local Businesses providing Services as at 18th May, these services can change anytime.



Ellesmere Businesses	Opening Hours and details
(in alphabetical order)	Updated 18 May 2020. (Subject to change)
<b>Mere Motors</b>	Open Monday to Saturday 6.30am - 8.00pm Open Sunday 7.30am - 8.00pm
Tel 01691 622343	Petrol Station includes a mini supermarket selling milk, eggs, newspapers, food and alcohol.
<b>Post Office &amp; Party Shop</b>	Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 3.00pm
Tel 01691 622623	If possible please post any items before midday.
singh.po@gmail.com	Offering free local delivery for orders over £10 from the Party Shop, balloons, cards, gifts etc.
bkaup.po@gmail.com	Please contact for more details.
<b>Richards Auto Services</b>	Phones are now manned and taking bookings for week commencing 1 June 2020.
Tel 01691 622421	
<b>Rightways</b>	Mon, Tues and Fri 10.30am - 4.00pm Saturday 9.30pm - 5.00pm.  Closed lunchtime 1.00pm - 1.30pm. Closed Wed & Sun.
<b>The Ellesmere Pharmacy</b>	Monday - Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Tel 01691 623118	Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm. Closed Sunday
<b>The Washing Well Laundrette</b>	Open every day. 7.00am - 9.00pm
<b>TG Builders Merchants</b>	Open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm & Saturday 8.00am - 12 noon
Tel 01691 622540	Orders need to be made by phone or email for a time slot collection or delivery.
ellesmere@tggroup.co.uk	
<b>TSB Bank</b>	Monday - Friday 10.00am - 12.30pm. 1.30pm - 4.00pm
	<b>TSB Customers:</b> If you have no mobile phone or internet banking please call the branch on 01691 594999 and the TSB will make a one-off payment for you.
	<b>TSB Customers:</b> can be issued with a cheque book if required. Also any TSB customer who is self isolating and needs to withdraw money please contact the TSB on 01691 594999.

Ellesmere Businesses - CONTACT by telephone, email or Facebook ONLY	
(in alphabetical order)	Updated 18 May 2020 (Subject to change)
<b>A Mere Cycle Hire and Sales</b>	Working mobile until further notice. Monday - Saturday 9.30am - 5.00pm
Tel 07988 842038	
Email <a href="mailto:amerecycle@gmail.com">amerecycle@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Concept Town Planning</b>	Office hours Tues & Thurs 10.00am - 4.00pm Available all other times Monday - Friday 8.30am - 6.00pm via email or mobile.
Tel 07890 428918	
<a href="mailto:mail@concepttownplanning.com">mail@concepttownplanning.com</a>	
<b>Gough-Thomas &amp; Scott, Solicitors</b>	GTS are still open for business however to protect both staff and clients they are not allowing visitors to the office. GTS can still be contacted by telephone or email.
Tel 01691 622413	
Email <a href="mailto:ellesmere@gtssolicitors.co.uk">ellesmere@gtssolicitors.co.uk</a>	
<b>J A Milton Upholstery Supplies</b>	Online and telephone orders Open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm
<a href="http://www.jamilton.com">www.jamilton.com</a>	
<b>Lily the Pink, Florist</b>	Contact to place an order. Delivery only.
<b>Morris Cook, Chartered Accountant</b>	Open most weekdays Email or telephone if you need to bring anything into the office. Letter box on Watergate Street.
Tel 01691 622098	
Email <a href="mailto:megan@morriscook.co.uk">megan@morriscook.co.uk</a>	
<b>Ortho-Bionomy UK</b>	Open Monday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
Tel 07377 315865	Self-care packages tailored to cover your individual pain requirements.
Email <a href="mailto:dr.anna.hayes@sutlook.com">dr.anna.hayes@sutlook.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.ortho-bionomy-uk.com">www.ortho-bionomy-uk.com</a> or via Facebook	Contact Anna by email or telephone.
<b>Princes LHS Ltd</b>	Still operating during the lockdown and providing essential plumbing, heating, electrical and renewable energy services.
<b>The Rennet Works, Market Street</b>	
Tel 01691 624336	
<b>Pure Beauty</b>	Shop online for Tropic products.
<a href="http://www.tropicskincare.com/helenahale">www.tropicskincare.com/helenahale</a>	
<b>Sanchi Jewellers</b>	For any purchases, leave a message by phone or Facebook. Payment made via card over the phone. We will be post free of charge any item chosen.
Tel 01691 622282 or via Facebook	
<b>Susan Haskey, Chiroprapist</b>	Open as usual, Mondays and Fridays
Tel 07974 091984	
<b>Sweetmere Sweet Shop</b>	Contact to place an order. Delivery only.
Tel 07896 881242 or Facebook	

Ellesmere Businesses - Food Shops.	Opening Hours	Home Delivery
(in alphabetical order)	Updated 18 May 2020 (Subject to change)	
<b>Co-op</b>	Open every day. 8.00am - 8.00pm	
Vulnerable workers, NHS & key workers	8.00am - 9.00am (Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am)	
<b>Ellesmere Newsagents Tel 01691 622498</b>	Monday - Friday 5.00am - 5.30pm	YES
Delivery of newspapers and provisions inc bread, alcohol, tinned, frozen & chilled food, pet food, tea, coffee, biscuits, toiletries and cleaning products.	Saturday 5.00am - 5.00pm	
These ordering for delivery of provisions who are not current customers must pay by cheque or cash, left in a container outside the door at delivery time.	Sunday 6.00am - 11.00am	
<b>Hawkins Butchers Tel 01691 622329</b>	Monday - Saturday 8.00am - 3.30pm.	YES
Welcome to ring ahead to place your order or for any enquiries.	Local delivery services to those self-isolating.	
<b>Moolah - Local Food Tel 01691 623532</b>	Open every day. 9.00am - 6.00pm	YES
Homemade ready meals - mains & puddings (inc freezer-ready). Savoury and sweet delights. Fresh veg, meat and dairy. Pizza. Teas & coffees.	Deliveries undertaken within Ellesmere and to outlying villages during the Covid-19 lockdown.	
<b>Tesco</b>	Monday - Saturday 7.00am - 10.00pm. Sunday 10.00am - 4.00pm	ONLINE ORDERS
<b>Elderly and Vulnerable Priority time:</b>	Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.00am - 10.00am	
<b>NHS Workers Priority Time</b>	Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday 9.00am - 10.00am	
<b>Vermeulens Tel 01691 622521</b>	Monday - Saturday 7.00am - 4.00pm.	YES
Bakery (bread, baps, rolls etc), cakes, hampers, cold meats and speciality pies. Delicatessen. Sandwiches.	Orders delivered 10.00am - 12 noon to those self-isolating. Order anytime.	
<b>Pet Shop including pet/animal feed</b>		
<b>Pets Pantry Tel 01691 624492</b>	Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 3.00pm.	YES

Ellesmere Takeaways	Opening Hours	Home Delivery
(in alphabetical order)	Updated 18 May 2020 (Subject to change)	
<b>Asian Spices Tel 01691 623689</b>	Friday & Saturday 5.00pm - 10.30pm	YES
Delivery 6.00pm - 9.00pm every day (except Monday). After 9.00pm collection only.	Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sunday 5.00pm - 10.00pm. Closed Monday.	
<b>Comrades Club</b>	Order Sunday Lunch by Friday. Ring any day between 9.00am & 5.00pm	YES
Tel 01691 622419 & 07871 733375		
<b>Ellesmere Kebab House</b>	Tuesday - Sunday 4.30pm - 9.30pm	YES
Tel 01691 624638	Closed Monday.	
<b>Meze Greek Restaurant</b>	Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday	YES
Tel 01691 622660 & Facebook	Order by phone 9.00am - 8.30pm. Collect 4.30pm - 8.30pm	
<b>New Wan Loy</b>	Tuesday - Sunday 4.45pm - 10.45pm	
Tel 01691 623479	Ring to check times.	
<b>Pete's Sandwich Bar</b>	Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd, Saturday 23rd Open 8.00am - 2.00pm for takeaway only.	
Tel 01691 623414	Details on Facebook. Telephone orders will be given time slots to collect.	
<b>Shropshire Fish Bar</b>	Open every day 11.30am - 10.00pm	
Tel 01691 624287		
<b>Thai Gate Restaurant</b>	Tuesday - Saturday 12 noon - 9.00pm	Delivery coming soon
Tel 01691 239478	Sunday 12 noon - 8.00pm	
5 High Street, Ellesmere	Closed Monday.	
<a href="http://www.thaigate.co.uk/order-online">www.thaigate.co.uk/order-online</a>	Takeaway available. Collection only.	
<b>The Red Lion Coaching Inn</b>	Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Order by phone 5.00pm - 8.30pm. Closed Sunday.	YES
Tel 01691 622632 & 07854 191238		
<b>Pete's Meals on Wheels on temporary loan to The Red Lion</b>	Order: Mon - Fri 10.00am - 12 noon Orders delivered to your door 11.30 - 12.30 Monday to Friday.	YES
Tel 01691 622632		
Ring with any queries regarding meals and to place your order.		

### Gas and Electricity Cards

The Ellesmere Newsagents (01691 622498) can top-up cards - they will take a cheque or, if you have an account with them, they will add the amount to your account.

Mandy @ the Co-op (07971 250311) sell top-up cards.

The Ellesmere Post Office sell Gas & Electricity cards over the counter.

Mere Motors 01691 622343 Offers all Paypoint facilities - Gas, Electric, Bill Payments, Phone Top Ups, Parcel Point (NB not British Gas)

For up to date information please check the Ellesmere Covid 19 website

[www.ellesmerecovid19supportgroups.org.uk](http://www.ellesmerecovid19supportgroups.org.uk)



## Pastoral Support from the Churches in Ellesmere

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

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

St Mary's Ellesmere: follow Church of England

Services are streamed online [https://](https://www.churchofengland.org/)

[www.churchofengland.org/](https://www.churchofengland.org/)



### 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://](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmxif6AT5w7IJH4Yxkbi6tQ)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCmxif6AT5w7IJH4Yxkbi6tQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmxif6AT5w7IJH4Yxkbi6tQ)

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



### 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)



### Ellesmere Catholic Convent Chapel

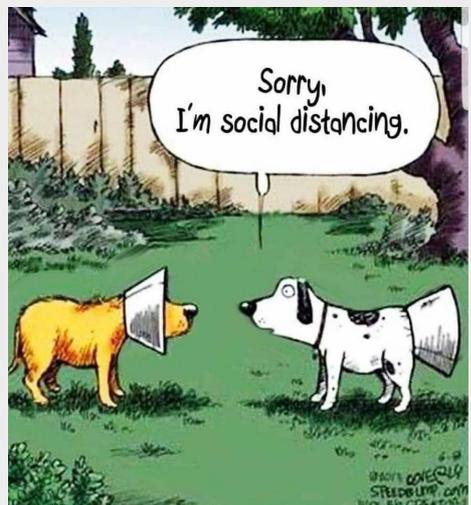
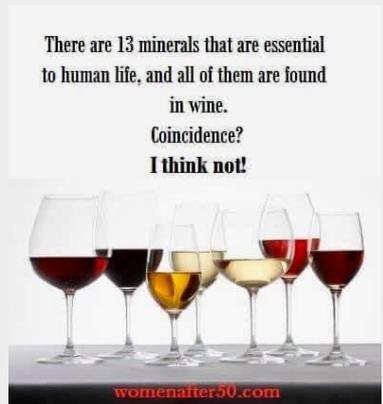
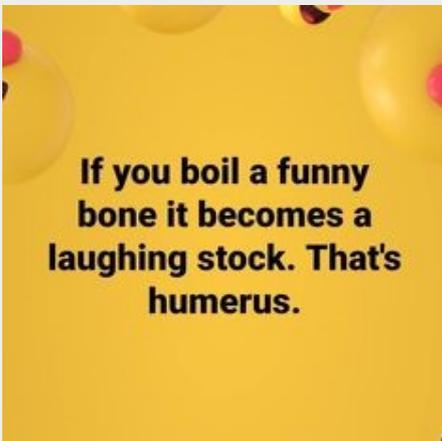
The Chapel is open, the building on the left as you drive in. 8:30am - 6pm.

If you have anything that you'd like to ask the sister to pray for you: Phone

[01691 622 283](tel:01691622283)



# A few funnies to entertain you



- Quiz answers**
1. 1582, 2. Sausage, 3. Code Breaking, 4. Anglo French, 5. Coronation Street, 6. 7, 7. Egypt,
  8. Bill Sykes 9. Thirty, 10. 8, 11. Sweden, 12. Sheep, 13. Oklahoma,
  14. Dannii Minogue, 15. Colorado, 16. Flower Pot Men, 17. Hind, 18. Mabeth,
  19. Tarnus, 20. Selene