



# Shrewsbury Unitarian Church

Founded 1662

nurturing faith embracing life celebrating difference

## SEPTEMBER 2025

Services are held every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

### Services:

### Refreshments:

<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Jacky Heraty 'Flame and Embers'	TBC
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Circle service - Debra Burbery 'Why Read Books?' The offertory will be sent to the Shannon Trust.	TBC
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	Professor Geoff Levermore 'Where Politics Ends and Religion Begins'	TBC
<b>*Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September*</b>	Kevin Watson – Harvest Festival At Bicton Village Hall – see below	Debra

**Follow Rev Sue Woolley's services here:**

<https://www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk/news-and-events/mua-news/>



### Events:

Coffee and Chat every Tuesday from 9am to 1pm and Thursday from 10.30am – 12.30pm

Shrewsbury Food Hub every Tuesday from 9am

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Book sale (12-2pm)

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Poetry Group – 10.30am – 12.30pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Reminiscence Group – 2-3pm

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September - Trustees meeting

### Further information:

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

Facebook Instagram Bluesky

[www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk](http://www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk)

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

Shrewsbury Unitarian Church, High Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 1LR

[shrewsburyunitarians@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburyunitarians@gmail.com) tel: 07487 531913

Registered Charity Number: 1140696

*Any views expressed in this Newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Shrewsbury Unitarian Church or the Unitarian Movement as a whole.*

*Contributions to the Newsletter and News from the Pews are always welcome*



## **MP Julia Buckley**

MP Julia Buckley is due to attend our service on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September.



## **Service on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

This service will be held at Bicton Village Hall due to a marathon and road closures in Shrewsbury.

If anyone needs a lift let Jenni know and we'll see what we can arrange.

[Bicton Village Hall - Google Maps](#)



## **Shrewsbury Unitarian Church - Trustees**

We would really like two more trustees to join the committee – if you think you could do this, or would like to find out more, please speak to one of the trustees.

Thank you



## **AGM 2026**

The date of the 2026 AGM has changed and will now be **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July** (to avoid the 10k run).



## **Reminiscence Group**

The theme of September's meeting will be:

What was your favourite topic at school? Is that still of interest to you?



## **Fairtrade Fortnight**

We will have a Fairtrade stall again for Fairtrade Fortnight (22<sup>nd</sup> September – 5<sup>th</sup> October).



## **Ride and Stride**

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

Ride and Stride is a National Event organised by the National Churches Trust, and the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) arranges the events in Shropshire.

The aims of the day are:

- For Churches to be open, with refreshments. A day when we can visit other churches and meet new people, travelling on foot, by car or by bike.
- A day of fundraising for the Trust and for your Church. The main method of raising funds is by sponsorship. Anyone can collect sponsorship, using our Sponsorship Form, and then set off - visiting churches anywhere in the county, and being sponsored to do so. If you cannot go on the 13th, then you can be sponsored to go on any other day, but some churches may be closed.

We will be open for this event - 10am – 3pm. We have just enough stewards now for the day but any more help would be appreciated. Thank you!

If anyone would like to take part and raise funds through sponsorship, visiting Churches in the area, please speak to Jenni. It would be great to be involved in this way as well as being open.

Please follow this link for more information:

[\*\*Shropshire Historic Churches Trust\*\*](#)



## **Pride**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

There will be stalls in the Church and the upstairs room will be used as a green room for the events in the Square as in previous years. We will need at least 2 stewards throughout the day – from 8.30am – 6pm. Please let me know if you can help.

Thank you!





### **Autumn Workshop Imagining the Future of Unitarianism in the Midlands**

Invitation: Three Horizons Workshop - Imagining the Future of Unitarianism in the Midlands

Join us for a creative and structured online workshop using the Three Horizons framework – a powerful and accessible way to explore the future of Unitarian congregational life in the Midlands.

Saturday 27 September, 11.00am - 3.00pm

Held online, Zoom - [Register here](#)

Together, we'll reflect on:

- ✗ What's no longer working in our 'business-as-usual' approaches to Unitarian life
- ✓ What a thriving, future Unitarianism might look and feel like
- What exciting ideas and innovations are already emerging to help us get there

This participatory session will help spark new thinking, share inspiration across congregations, and feed into wider efforts to renew and reimagine our communities.

All are welcome – members, ministers, lay leaders, trustees and newcomers with energy for the future.



Hosted by Nick Butler-Watts, General Assembly's Innovation Fund Programme Manager.  
Nick will also provide a brief presentation on the Innovation Fund and answer your questions. We hope that this workshop may spark ideas for applying to the fund!



## Mid Wales Unitarians



# SACRED STEPS: CERDDDED CYSEGREDIG

*"Dod yn ôl at fy nghoed"*

*Join us on short pilgrimages in which we  
"return to our trees" to find life balance.*

- 10<sup>TH</sup> AUG - ANNE GRIFFITHS WALK \*
- 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPT - AUTUMN EQUINOX CELEBRATION \*\*
- 26<sup>TH</sup> OCT - LLANGADFAN'S CHAPEL & WELL \*
- 23<sup>RD</sup> NOV - SHELTER & STORM \*\*
- 21<sup>ST</sup> DEC - WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION \*

*For more information and to register your interest, please go to  
our  page or contact: mel prideaux @ drmelpx@gmail.com*

*Please note: Everyone is responsible in assessing their own level  
of fitness to participate.*

MID WALES UNITARIANS IS A NEW FELLOWSHIP GROUP BASED  
NEAR MONTGOMERY, POWYS, WALES. UNITARIANS ARE  
GUIDED BY REASON, FREEDOM OF BELIEF AND THE INHERENT  
WORTH AND DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON. WE HAVE NO  
CREED OR DOGMA. ALL FAITHS, AND NONE, ARE WELCOME.



NB: \* Walk led by Jenifer Brenner; \*\* Walk led by Mel Prideaux.





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## AUTUMN EQUINOX CELEBRATION - 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPT

*Join us for an afternoon in Mel and Ned's woods near Llanbrynmair. Walk as little or as much as you like as we reflect on the turn of the year, as night balances day at the Autumn Equinox. We will spend time on our own and with others in meditative walking with eyes open to what surrounds us. And we will finish around the fire, to talk about what we have noticed and considered during our time together. Led by Mel Prideaux.*

*For more information and to register your interest, please go to our  page or contact: mel.prideaux @ drmelpx@gmail.com*

*Please note: We operate on the basis of each of us having the correct footwear and clothing, packing our own snacks and water, and assessing our own level of fitness to participate. There could be inclines, stiles and possibly slippery terrain underfoot.*

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## Shropshire Humanists Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September

*'The Origins of Humanism by means of Naturalism from the ancient World to present-day Shrewsbury'*

by Madeleine Goodall, Humanists UK Heritage Manager

[Programme – Shropshire Humanists](#)



## MUA

Contributions to the next MUA Now magazine would be very welcome! The theme is 'Sustainability', but any local stories, poems, and general articles on faith, etc, are welcome. The deadline is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

If you have any contributions for the next ***Bits & Pieces***, please also send them to Rev Sue Woolley.

Please send contributions to Rev Sue Woolley: [revsuewoolley@gmail.com](mailto:revsuewoolley@gmail.com)

Thank you



**YOU SHOP  
WE DROP!**



**FREE DELIVERY SERVICE**

**Need help getting your purchases home?**

**Deliveries available Tuesdays to Saturdays 10am till Noon  
within 3 mile radius of Shrewsbury Town Centre  
using a state of the art e-Cargo Bike run by our volunteers.**

**It's a lot of fun! Please get in touch if you would like to help.**

**TO BOOK - JUST ASK YOUR TRADER OR**

**TEXT/WHATSAPP/CALL: 07523 930455**

**EMAIL: [bookings@shropshirecyclehub.uk](mailto:bookings@shropshirecyclehub.uk)**



A Shropshire Cycle Hub initiative supported by:





**Electricity  
Distribution**

**nationalgrid**



# Are you worried about a power cut happening?



Our Priority Services Register  
**is here for you**



**POWER CUT?  
CALL 105**



We understand power cuts can be particularly worrying for those who rely on electricity. Joining our **FREE Priority Services Register** will ensure you receive tailored, practical and emotional support.

The **Priority Services Register** is a **FREE**, confidential service for customers who may;

- be dependent on electricity for medical reasons or equipment
- be of pensionable age
- have communication requirements when contacting us
- become distressed by a power cut due to mental health, a new baby or health and mobility conditions.

Once registered we can support you in various ways;

- provide a dedicated telephone number for you to contact us day or night
- agree a password with you before we visit to make sure you feel safe
- keep in touch with you throughout a power cut 24 hours a day to give you advice and information of when your power may be restored
- update you in advance of any planned interruptions to your supply.

**Join our Priority Services Register today**

To join the register or for more information call **0800 032 8301**, visit **[nationalgrid.co.uk/psr-warmwelcome](https://nationalgrid.co.uk/psr-warmwelcome)** or scan the **QR code** – it only takes two minutes.





## Shropshire Historic Churches Trust Open Gardens

*The Gardens Open programme has benefitted from beautiful weather this year with the majority of events gaining record figures. This weekend the heatwave gives way to slightly cooler temperatures providing the perfect weather for the bank holiday Sunday at Sambrook and Ellerton garden trail. The more formal gardens at historic Preen Manor are open the following weekend.*

**24<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Sambrook & Ellerton Garden Trail**  
**Entry: Sambrook Manor TF10 8AL**  
**11am – 4pm**  
**Entry £6**



Joining the colourful borders, Japanese garden and arboretum at Sambrook Manor there are seven gardens open this year extending to the Old Mill (pictured above) in nearby Ellerton. A 1789 listed-mill, Old Mill, looks over a crystal clear mill pond with a prominent willow cascading over the water. The garden is surrounded by beautiful trees including with a collection of acers with a stream running through the other side.

**St. Luke's Church:** A pretty village church built in 1856 by Benjamin Ferrey.

**Car parking is available next to the entry to the trail at Sambrook Manor. Old Mill is a short drive away and parking will be signposted. Dogs on leads are welcome in most gardens at the discretion of the owners. Teas served at Sambrook Manor.**

**Directions:** Between Newport and Ternhill one mile off the A41 (*not the A4 as advertised in the leaflet*) in Sambrook village.

**31<sup>st</sup> August**  
**Preen Manor SY6 7LQ (satnav SY6 7LF)**  
**2-5pm**  
**Entry: £6**

A fascinating garden of formal rooms partially among the ruins of a Cluniac monastery with the beautiful church adjacent to the manor house. The garden has many interesting features including topiary, potager, a chess garden, cottage garden borders and a hazel tunnel. Beautiful views of Wenlock Edge can be enjoyed from the garden which gives way to parkland below and woodland walks.

**St. John the Baptist:** The church's nave can be dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, despite later rebuilding, in line with its establishment by the Cluniac monks for the village. The 13<sup>th</sup> century north chancel windows can be seen despite the church being heavily restored by the Victorians in 1866. The ancient yew in the churchyard dates from 457 AD and is thought to be the oldest tree in Europe.

**Teas are served in the garden. Plant stall. Dogs are welcome on leads.**

**Directions:** Use SY6 7LF for sat nav and follow the signposts.