



Trefoil Talk

March 2026 49

News from the Trefoil Guilds

Shrewsbury Trefoil Guild

One of our Shrewsbury Trefoil Guild has been very active lately - mini knitted Pudseys.

Barbara is one of the more active ladies of Shrewsbury Trefoil and has been busy helping with Children in Need for a number of years.

Her story. walked around the carnival route Wem waving and collecting as I go for Children in Need. But this year because of the horrid weather I stood in Co-Op foyer, then had lunch at town hall. I visited Playmates nursery which was really nice. The children all loved to see the Wem Pudsey. Finally, I finished up with a quick wander through the High Street with my collection box

I had made a start on the Thursday with attending my exercise class in my Pudsey outfit.

I cannot believe how kind people were and I paid in the wonderful amount of 381.34 to Children in Need. As a bit of fun I also knitted four little mini Pudsey's and hid them around the town.



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Barbara has also been involved with the Wem Carnival each year and does her stint as Old Barbie.

Shrewsbury Trefoil's November meeting is always a charity meeting and this year we had a speaker from The Shrewsbury Parkinsons Group, Maggie Connell. We hold a special raffle on the day and we donate the proceeds to the charity along with a donation. This year we were able to give £135 to the Shrewsbury Parkinsons Group.



Maggie Connell with members of the Shrewsbury Trefoil Guild



Branch chair Maggie Connell writes:

I very much enjoyed meeting the ladies from Trefoil on Wednesday 6th

November, when I gave a short talk about Parkinson's and about Shrewsbury Parkinson's branch. This was the first time of "flying solo" and my tremor (usually controlled) was very much in evidence!

Barbara Branch had organised the event and so I knew one friendly face, and also Yvonne (I think - whom I met when we were both selling Christmas cards on Saturday).

There were about 18 ladies (all of whom had been involved in Girl Guiding at some point in their lives) - all in their uniforms. They meet regularly at the Lantern off Sundorne Road.

Shropshire East

Shropshire East had two meetings in October. The first was to Attingham Park. Four of us visited the Mansion to view the two special costumes there and then had a walk to the walled garden. Naturally, we finished with refreshments.



everyone. We finished with a chat and refreshments.

In December, Shropshire East Trefoil had their Christmas lunch. It was held at a member's house and was a bring and share. This resulted in a very varied selection of savoury and sweet dishes which we all agreed was better than a restaurant could offer.



For the second one we invited friends to join us for Chair Yoga at the Scout and Guide Headquarters. This was gentle exercise which suited



St Andrew's Church Shifnal holds a Christmas Tree festival every other year in December. We used our efforts from our craft afternoon in November to decorate a tree. Over all, there were 70 trees – well worth a visit.



In February, Shropshire East Trefoil held a 'Fun and Games evening'. We played an unusual version of 'Pass the Parcel', a different version of Charades and a super quick simple 15 minute version of Monopoly. The Monopoly was a special version called Girlguiding Monopoly which is definitely to be recommended. A very enjoyable evening with tasty refreshments at the end.

Our March meeting was a food event. We each brought food to taste and the recipes to go with them. It turned out to be very evenly balance between savoury and sweet and all different and delicious. After discussing how each taster was made, we turned to food activities. A list of recommended places to eat was compiled. Then, we tested our knowledge of different foods by trying to find a food for each letter of the alphabet in groups. X proved to be challenging!



South Shropshire



For our September meeting Ludlow and South Shropshire joined together and visited Much Wenlock, where we were joined by Chris Cannon. Some of you will remember him from our county summer event. He took us on a short walk to the field where the first Olympic Games were held. He told us all the history of

the trees that had been planted over the years and the tradition of soaking the roots of the trees in champagne. Barbara, from South Shropshire, planted a tree with the help of Jonathon Edwards, the story is that not all the champagne went on to the tree roots! We visited the family grave of William Penny Brookes and then the museum, which holds



items that were used at those first Olympics. We ended our visit with a very nice lunch, which Chris joined us for, at the Fox in Much Wenlock.



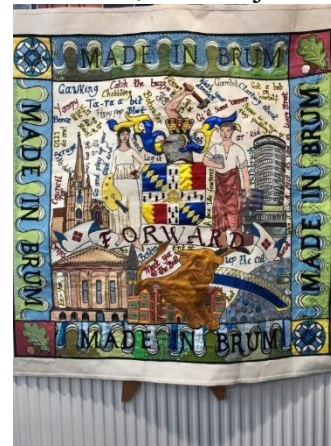
At the October meeting of South Shropshire Trefoil we were engrossed in decorating shells. Judy had previously painted a base coat so that we could complete the decorating at our meeting. I believe the painted shells will be gracing several tables during the Christmas season.

International Day at Dorridge. 6 of us from South Shropshire and Ludlow attended the day. We had a warm welcome from Birmingham Trefoil. The day started with the lighting of the Peace Candles, which Ruth did on behalf of Shropshire.

That was followed by Piali Ray who spoke about Sampad. For the rest of the morning we could watch, or even join in



with, different actives - Morris Dancing, singing and learning to play Steel Drums. On display were several Commonwealth Tapestries.



The afternoon we were entertained by Simon Topman from ACME, who told us the history of Whistles. They have been

making whistles in Birmingham since 1870. We were all presented with a replica of the first Guiding whistle to bring home, along with a badge.



Newport

Here's our calendar for 2026 - anyone is welcome to join us for any/all of them but probably best to check with me nearer the time in case of venue/time changes.

We meet on 2nd Thursdays, 19.00-21.00, Cosy Hall, Water Lane, Newport, TF10 7LD Cris: 07842 342 752, crislizjones@gmail.com

- Mar 1st Responders talk.
- April Decorated bottle/jar brought from home, also cheeky photos - any that raise a giggle but don't embarrass!
- May Campfire at Cheswardine, member's home, lovely occasion.
- June Walk (or not!) + cuppa/drink at Norbury Junction
- July Speaker - Magic & Mystery - plus some examples. (We had discussed and agreed to inviting Shrops East!!!)
- Aug Old games, penny hike in town,
- Sept Re-order, re-use, re-cycle.
- Oct Making our own poppies for Remembrance + other flowers as time allows
- Nov Rag wreaths
- Dec Xmas buffet.

We have teas/coffee during the meeting and bring our own mugs (although there are some available.)

County Events

Craft Day

In November, Shropshire Trefoil Guild held its annual craft day in Shrewsbury. It was attended by members from the different Trefoil Guilds in Shropshire. There was a wide selection of crafts to choose from, most related to

Christmas. One lady brought a pre-cut pirate ship to build which could be filled with chocolate at Christmas. There were also tree ornaments to make in various media,

cards, brooches flowers. We learnt new skills and enjoyed a lovely day socialising together.



Shropshire Executive meeting

Shropshire Trefoil exec had a meeting in December at The County HQ in Donnington. The new chair, Joanne Eyles had an opportunity to meet other members of the exec and discuss the way forward. A few guests also attended. We all enjoyed the activities and completed the meeting with a bring and share Christmas lunch which was varied and tasty.



Annual Meeting

Shropshire County Trefoil held its Annual Meeting combined with celebrating 100 years of World Thinking Day. We were pleased to have Elaine Diack, Midlands Region Chair, and



Marion Wyn Shropshire's Girl Guide President join us. The theme was friendship and all our activities followed this theme. We thought of friendship around the World,

greetings from different countries, each person brought a photo of a personal friend, met new friends, worked together on activities even singing. We brought a packed lunch but greatly enjoyed the desserts



produced by Mid Shropshire Trefoil, our hosts, and the mini cakes with the 100 year topping.



County Events coming up

County Summer Event Saturday 4th July

County Autumn Event Saturday 10th October

The County Singing Circle.

Contact Barbara Peart for details. diheime72@gmail.com

Shropshire Trefoil Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shropshiretrefoilguild>

Girlguiding Shropshire

www.girlguidingshropshire.org.uk

Midlands Trefoil Facebook : www.facebook.com/trefoilguildmidlands

Midlands region <http://www.girlguiding-midlands.org.uk/>

Please send any information and/or photos to Mandy McCartney