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Throughout this magazine you will see website addresses, We have tried where possible to direct you to the right place for the information, this means that sometimes the address can be a little long.

We have used website addresses which start with **bit.ly** these are still regular website addresses and will take you to the correct location. You just type them in as you would any other website address.

We would like to thank people for their contributions;

Photos: Dave Granger, Sue Thornhill, Jack Rogers, Bob Dibben, and the Wem Local Website.

Centre Map: Shropshire Council **Shop Map:** Oliver Richardson

The Magazine production: Sam and Simon Harris - The Ideas Cupboard.

The Town of Wem Welcomes you

Welcome to all those that read this booklet, it is full of useful information to help newcomers, visitors and those in the local community. It was initially developed for newcomers moving into the town and local area but has become very popular within the local community and visitors.

We are delighted to say that we have had nothing but excellent reports about the booklet particularly the inclusion of the Town Map in the centre pages and the shop map on the following page. This year we are adding extra 4 pages of Town Rural which will expand the knowledge of the Wem area for the readers of this booklet.

We thank the businesses/associations that make it possible for the booklet to be printed, those businesses logos are located the back page. Those that have donated, sponsored or given us grants The Midcounties Co-op, Meres and Mosses, Rotary Club of Wem & District, Wem Town Council, Monks Estate Agents, The Castle, Robinson & Young, Princes and The Ideas Cupboard.



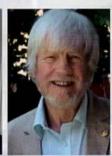
Bob Dibben Information Coordinator



Brian Gee Treasurer



Jean Cooley Funding Liaison



Phil Moyse Chairman



Liz Broomhall Secretary

Our team, Bob Dibben (information Co-ordination), Brian Gee (Treasurer) Jean Cooley (Funding liaison member), Liz Broomhall (Secretary) and Phil Moyse (Chairman) continue to work hard to produce and update information for this issue 2019/2020. Simon and Sam Harris from 'The Ideas Cupboard' design and print our information into this terrific booklet.

Other Useful information:

'The Wemian' a great little booklet which comes out 4 times a year, should be with us shortly and be available in shops, library, Cafes and Town hall.

If you are into Facebook, look at 'What's on in Wem' gives you an insight of events of what's going on in the town of Wem.

The Wem Civic Society, further information can be found on www.wemlocal.org.uk. Contact details are email: wemcivsoc@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 01939 235443

Thank you to Oliver Richardson for updating the shop map and to Dave Granger for photographs of the Mayor.

Visit our website www.welcometowem.com developed to keep the information up to date.

Phil Moyse - Chairman of the WtW community committee 01939 233533 philipmoyse7@gmail.com

Wem Town Council

Wem: Birthplace of the Modern Sweet Pea

Wem Town Council Offices Edinburgh House New Street Wem Shropshire SY4 5DB

Tel & Fax: 01939 232733 Email: info@wem gov uk Website: www.wem.gov.uk



Town Clerk and Treasurer Mrs P. E. O'Hagan Assistant Clerk Email: assistant.clerk@wem.gov.uk

Greetings from the Mayor of Wem 2019/20

I am delighted to support this booklet and invite all newcomers and the local community to have a good read.

Learn more about what is available to those that live in Wem and Wem Rural (for the first time Wem Rural have 4 pages) you will be surprised.

The object of this booklet is to give you information about Wem and the local area.

This includes our local Council who have a team of hard-working dedicated councillors with whom I am looking forward to working with as the Mayor of Wem Town.

To those that are joining us in Wem and the local community welcome to Wem 'The Town with a Heart' - Welcome Enjoy Mingle.

Phil Glover





Membership Of Wem Town Council



Clir P Glover Mayor West Ward philipeglover@gmail.com 01939 234037



Cllr Mrs C Granger West Ward constancegranger123@btinternet.com 01939 236460



Cllr P Broomhall Deputy Mayor West Ward peterbroomhall2@icloud.com 01939 232573



Clir Mrs P A Dee Town and Shropshire Councillor East Ward pauline.dee@shropshire.gov.uk 01939 233037



Cllr Mrs R E Dodd West Ward rosemary.dodd@mypostoffice.co.uk 01939 233083



Clir E W Towers
East Ward
edwardtowers@btinternet.com
01939 235283



Clir P Johnson East Ward paul.johnson27@yahoo.com 01939 232035



Cllr Mrs M J Meakin East ward mandymeakin@gmail.com 01939 23483



Cllr C J Mellings
Town and Shropshire Councillor
East Ward
Chris.mellings@shropshire.gov.uk
01743 2529299



Cllr Roger Drummond East ward jandrdrummond@yahoo.co.uk 01939 232363



Clir J H Murray West ward jhmurray@hotmail.co.uk 01939 232007



Cllr G Nash West Ward George.h.nash@hotmail.com 07947 558 402



Clir G Soul East Ward geoffsoul@yahoo.com 01939 232544



Health & Welfare



Surgery for Wem & Prees Grocott Medical Centre Inc Rowlands Chemist New Street, Wem 01939 233476

www.wemandpreeshealth.co.uk



Whitchurch Rd, Prees 01948 840206 www.wemandpreeshealth.co.uk bit.ly/DoctorsClive



Clive Medical Practice High Street, Clive 01939 220295



Shropdoc - Out of hours Urgent Medical Attention 0333 222 66 55 shropdoc.org.uk



First Responders North Shropshire northshropcfr@gmail.com 07738 960811 northshropshire-cfr.com



Scrivens Opticians and Hearing Care 10 High Street, Wem 01939 232016



Rowlands Unit 1 Morris Central Shopping Parade 01939 234004 bit.ly/WemPharm



Drawwell House Dental Practice Noble Street, Wem 01939 233809 bit.ly/Drawwell



Spa Dental Dental & Implant Centre 16-18 Chapel Street, Wem 01939 232864 www.spadental.co.uk/



Defibrillators are located at: The Co-op Supermarket; Edinburgh House; Robinson and Young's Garage; St Peter's Primary School.

bit.ly/DefibWem



Landona House Care Home Love Lane, Wem 01939 232620 bit.ly/Landona



The Harmony Centre Treatment Centre 7 Maypole, Wem 07853 264905 bit.ly/HarmonyCentre

The Harmony Centre

Fully qualified therapists delivering high quality Treatments in tranquil and pleasant surroundings

Treatments include the following: Monday - Acupuncture - 01948 880170 Tuesday - Chiropractic - 01939 230998 Wednesday – Shiatsu - 07900 081356 Thursday – Foot care - 07583 264905 Friday – Osteopathy - 07989 360004

For general enquiries please call Jenny Copley on 07583 264905



Carers Trust 4 All Meets in The Castle Hotel, Wem High Street 01939 809424

Health & Welfare

Shropshire Telford and Wrekin Age UK 3 Mardol Gardens, Shrewsbury, SY1 1PR 01743 233788



Need some help ground the home?



Whether it's cleaning, shopping or gardening, or someone to do the laundry and ironing, our Help at Home service can assist you. You'll have the same Home Support Worker each time, giving you peace of mind that there's always someone there for you. You can have visits as often as you need, at a competitive price.

For more information about the support

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin can provide
please ring 01743 233 788 and have a chat with
one of our friendly team or call in and see us at

3 Mardol Gardens, Shrewsbury SY1 1PR

Whitchurch Community Hospital

01948 666292

Claypit Street , Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1NT www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk



Minor injuries unit

This Department is managed by Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust

Opening times

Monday 09:00 - 17:00
Tuesday 09:00 - 17:00
Wednesday 09:00 - 17:00
Thursday 09:00 - 17:00
Friday 09:00 - 17:00
Saturday Closed
Sunday Closed

Public holidays and other dates



Sight Loss Shropshire

The Lantern, Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NG 01743 250 808 bit.ly/Sightloss



The Sight Loss Shropshire office is staffed from 8:15am – 1pm Monday to Thursday.
Telephone us on 01743 250808 or email us at sightlossshropshire@shropshire.gov.uk

Sight Loss Shropshire website has the following information:

- Forthcoming social group meetings & other events
- · Local News relating to visual impairment
- · Information about the services we provide
- · The 'See & Hear' van and Winter's Day Out
- · How to contact us
- · More about Sight Loss Shropshire
- · Local and national services for the visually impaired
- The See & Hear Exhibition

Sight Loss Shropshire gratefully acknowledges the support of Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council.

Health & Welfare

Macular Society and Blind Veterans UK club Started in Wem by Ted Davies For more information Call - 01939 234387 or

Email - teddavies123@outlook.com





Hearing Aid Clinic Wem Library & learning Centre 3 High Street Wem SY4 5AA Shropshire NHS Audiology 01743 261482

audiology@sath.nsh.uk

Drop in for hearing aid tube changing, battery collection and advice on hearing aid care.

3rd Thursday of the month.

Clinic is staffed by NHS Audiology trained volunteers

Wem Good Neighbours Team

Good neighbours are volunteers who offer help according to the needs of their community

Tel: 01939 231181

Email: wemgoodneighbours@gmail.com

Wishing Well - Home care

Contact award winning home carer Sue Perry on Tel: 01939 233114 Mob: 07971 182163

Email: enquiries@wishingwellhomecare.-

Unit 4 Maypole Court, High Street, Wem



DIABETES in Wem

NORTH Shropshire Diabetes UK Group 2019 programme of Talks

June 26th Podiatrist- Diabetes and Feet July & August – no meetings September 25th Peter Shorrick – Diabetes UK November 27th Sophie Edwards – Physiotherapy

Venue – Wem Methodist Church Aston Street Wem SY4 5AN

All Welcome 2-4

Refreshments are available

Tel: 01939 234163

To find out more have a look at our Website

www.north-shropshire.diabetesukgroup.org





Nurseries, Schools & Colleges



The Thomas Adams School Lowe Hill, Wem Secondary School 01939 237000 thomasadams.net



The Thomas Adams College Lowe Hill, Wem Sixth Form College 01939 237000 bit.ly/CollegeTA

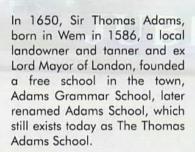


The Thomas Adams School



Adams House Boarding Lowe Hill, Wem Boarding House - School/College 01939 233311 bit.ly/BoardingTA

St Peter's C of E Primary School Shrubbery Gardens, Wem Primary School & Nursery 01939 232292 www.st-petersprimaryschool.co.uk





Playmates Unit 1, Wem Business Park Nursery 01939 233643 www.playmateswem.co.uk



The Stables
Wemsbrook Road, Wem
Nursery
01939 232723
www.stablesday.carenursery.co.uk



Veterinary Surgeries - Kennels - Cattery



Bridgefield Vets Central Car Park, Wem Barclay-Moore Partnership 01939 232291 www.bmvets.co.uk



Roden Grove Vets 1 Roden Grove, Wem

01939 232446 www.rodengrovevets.co.uk



Fairfield Kennels & Cattery mail@beaconsfield.farm.co.uk 01939 210370 www.fairfieldkennels.co.uk



The Hollies Hotel for Cats Butlers Bank, Shawbury, Shropshire, SY4 4HG 01939 251723 info@hollieshotelforcats.co.uk www.hollieshotelforcats.co.uk



Hillcop Bank Boarding Kennels Linda Patchett, 07388721555 www.hillcopboarding.co.uk

Transport - Bus, Train, Private Hire & Taxi



Alexanders of Wem Taxi, Private Hire & Airport Runs alexandersofwem@gmail.com 07904 669 149 wemprivatehire.co.uk



Wem Dave's Transport Airports, taxi service Wheelchair friendly wemdaves.travel@gmail.com 01939 550 200 07725 171 967 wemdavestaxi.co.uk



North Salop Wheelers Community Service bus for rural town & villages Wem - Thursday 01948 880037 www.northsalopwheelers.co.uk



Shrewsbury - Wem - Crewe & intervening stops bit.ly/WemTrain



Local Towns Bus Daily - Shrewsbury - Wem -Whitchurch Bus 511 bit.ly/Bus511

Fuel

Robinson & Young Petrol Station Services:

- Fuel
- Shop
- Cash Machine

Facilities within the town

Refer to website for events and opening times.



High Street

01939 236995

bit.ly/WemLibrary

Registration services
Births, deaths and marriages
have moved from Edinburgh
House to the Library.
Registration services timings are
10am to 2pm

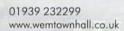


Fire Station High Street bit.ly/WemFire



Arts and Community Centre Wem Town Hall, High Street

- Cinema
- Markets
- Live Music
- Theatre
- · Room Hire
- Workshops
- Wedding Receptions





Cash Machines

- · Outside Co-op Supermarket
- Robinson & Young Petrol Station during opening hours
- At the Post Office counter during opening hours
- At Dedmans Store (Shrubbery Gardens)



Railway Station Aston Street

Aston Street Unattended station with self-service ticket machine bit.ly/WemTrain



Swimming Peel & Multi gym

Bowens Field 01939 232460

www.wemswimmingandlifestylecentre.org.uk



Post Office Inside entrance to the Co-op Supermarket



Facilities

- · Letters & Parcels
- Travel Services
- Broadband & Homephone
- · Bill Payments
- Cash Deposits
- Cash Withdrawals
- · Car Tax
- Banking Facilities



Recreation Ground

- · Station Road
- · Aston Road

Football pitch, Children's play areas, Tennis & Bowls. Outdoor fitness equipment, Basketball training area, Skateboard area, Climbing ropes



WENT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Advantlaments for sails of pocus or services



Sports and Social Club Bowens Field 01939 233287

wemsports.wixsite.com/wemsports wemsportsandsocial@gmail.com

Recycling

Wem Bring Bank Bowens Fields Car Park

Veolia 0345 6789007 customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk

Smithfield Car Park, Very limited (behind the Co-op)





Home Recycling Areas - Shrewsbury & Whitchurch



Veolia Environmental Services are working in partnership with a charity SHOFUR (Network of Shropshire Furniture Schemes to collect bulky waste in most areas. By teaming up with SHOFUR, bulky waste such as furniture or white goods can be re-used for people in need.

If you have items of this nature, please ensure they are kept dry until collection. Please contact the Customer Service Centre to arrange for your item to be collected.

The contact number is: 0345 678 9007 or view the South Shropshire Furniture Scheme web site. www.furniturescheme.co.uk

If you have goods that you cannot recycle at your home there are two good recycling centres around: Waymills Industrial Area, Whitchurch Business Park, Whitchurch, SY13 1TT

Shrewsbury Household Recycling Centre, Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 3TG Tel: 01743 452150

Follow us on Twitter @shropshirewaste and like us on Facebook – Shropshire Waste – for up to date information about recycling and waste in Shropshire



Bulky Waste Collections Some larger items of waste can be collected by arrangement at a small

cost.

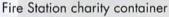
Charities in Wem

If you have recently moved here and either need to get rid of some of your belongings, or buy home items, there are 2 excellent Charity Shops in the Town and also on Fire station car park there is a container for books, toys, bric a brac and electric goods.



Severn Hospice

5 Leek Street
Currently receives most good quality items.
This Charity does a lot to help local people
01939 234396



located in the Fire station car park on Noble Street.

Deposits of adults' and children's clothing including underwear, linen, handbags and shoes in pairs.

This charity helps injured Firemen.



Rural Charity

High Street
Currently receives Furniture and other items.
This Charity is fighting deprivation in rural areas.
01939 236559
www.facebook.com/TheRuralCharity

Other Charities in Wem

Wem Town Hall bit.ly/TownHallTrust

The Robert Hill and Noble Street Charity bit.ly/RobertHill

Wem Food Hub

The Wem Food Hub is a subsidiary of the Shrewsbury Food hub. Volunteers from Wem collect food on Sundays from Sainsbury's and Lidl in Whitchurch. Until recently food that is fit to eat was being disposed of to the refuse tips. Food that is within 3 days of best before date we accept and take away to sort for our customers' needs and distribute on Monday mornings.

All volunteers have to have a food hygiene certificate — level 1 which we organise online and have to sign an agreement. We have a small number of volunteers but would welcome new members.

If interested in helping, please contact: Steph on 07906534157.





Churches & Funeral Directors



The War Memorial - St Peter and St Paul's Church



Methodist Church Aston Street Deacon Carys Woodley 01939 809239 bit.ly/MethodistWem bit.ly/MethodistWemFB



Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church Leek Street Rev Patrick English 01691 633383 bit.ly/CatholicWem



The Religious Society of Friends 'Quakers' Rose Cottage, Chapel Street T Hobday, G Roper 01939 234082 01939 233754



St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church (Anglican) High Street

High Street Rev Nick Heron 01939 232550 bit.ly/AnglicanWem



Baptist Church Chapel Street 01939 233453 bit.ly/BaptistWem



Grindalls of Wem 40 Aston Street Wem, SY4 5AU 01939 233903



R. Greaves & Co 40 High Street Wem, SY4 5DG 01939 768070



Retirement Homes & Independent Living



Roden Lodge Mill Street, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5DD

Retirement Housing available for adults over 55

8 one bedroom and 26 studio purpose-built properties for rent

Contact Melanie Sims Telephone: 01939 233474 Email: Melanie.Sims@anchor.org.uk



Vaughan Place Westlands. wem, SY4 5FH

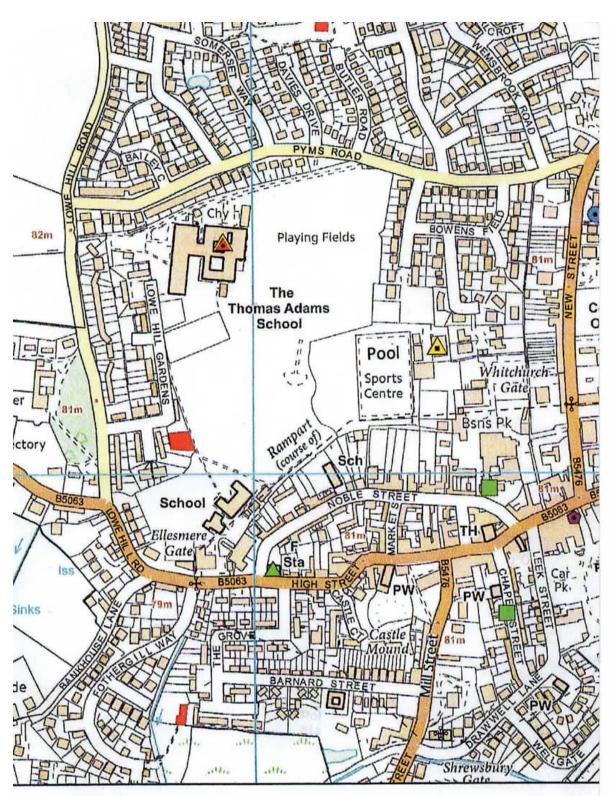
For people that need support Independent living

32 flats, bungalows. Built in 2018. 1 & 2 bedrooms

Tel: 0300 3031190

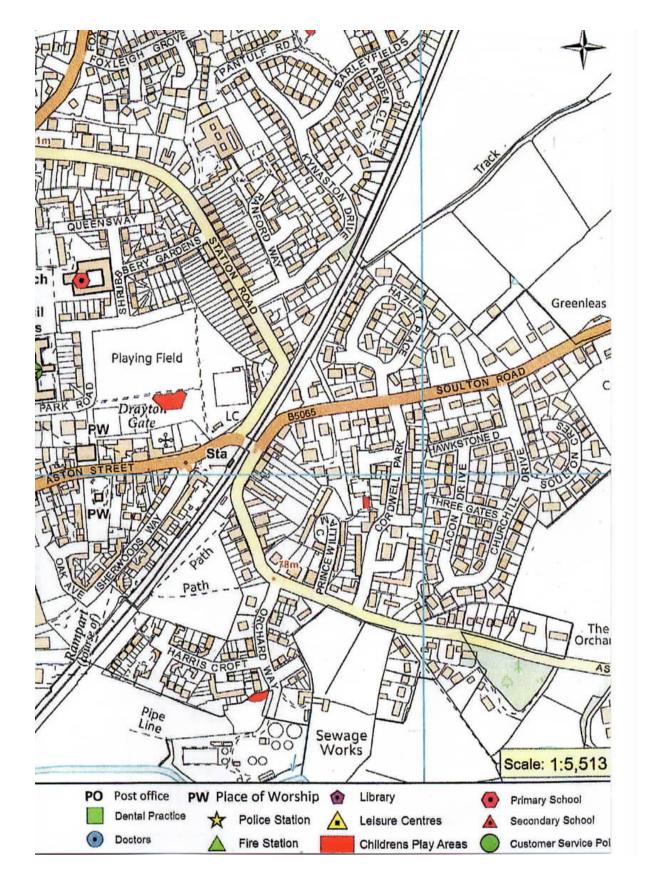
E: info@shropshirehousing.org.uk



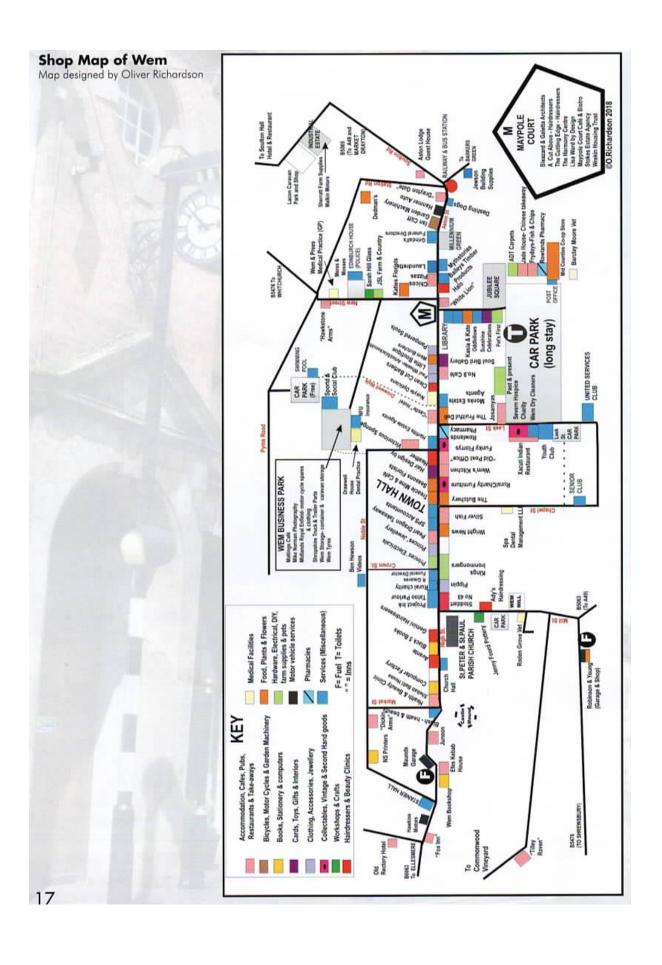


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Public Houses & Restaurant



Castle Hotel
14 High Street
• Serves food
01939 236088
bit.ly/CastleHotelWem



The Fox Inn 127 High Street • Serves food 01939 768202 bit.ly/FoxWem



Hawkestone Arms 97 New Street • Guest Ales 01939 232927 bit.ly/HawkestoneWem



The Old Post Office 25 High Street • Serves food 01939 768098 bit.ly/OPOWem



The White Lion
1 High Street
• Sports Bar
01939 232927
bit.ly/WhiteLionWem



Dickin Arms 37 Noble Street • Guest Ales 01939 236815 bit.ly/DickinArms



The Old Rectory
Lowe Hill Road
• English Food
01939 233233
www.oldrectorywem.co.uk



Shabab Balti 62 High Street • Indian / Balti 01939 234333 bit.ly/ShababWem



Maypole Court Café Bistro Maypole Court • Café & Bistro 01939 235802 www.maypolecourtcafebistro.co.uk



Tilley Raven
Tilley Village
• English Food
Closed until further notice



Junoon 71 High Street • Indian 01939 234390



There are approximately 20 Restaurants in and around Wem. Please try the link below for more information

bit.ly/WemTrip

Cafés, Coffee Shops & Places to Stay



Silver Fish High Street

- Seating facilities
- · Open 7 days a week



The Fruitful Deli

- High Street
- Seating facilities



Comyn Bruce

- Greenbank Farm, Wem
- Luxury Private Caterers 07709065195 www.comyn.bruce.com



Town Hall Café

- High Street
- · Café 01939 238279 www.wemtownhall.co.uk



Josamya's

- Leek Street
- · Coffee Shop 01939 235806 bit.ly/Josamya



The Nest @ Soul Birds

7 - 9 High Street · Coffee Shop 01939 236814

bit.ly/NestWem



The New Maltings Café

Business Park - New Street · Café 07387 826180 bit.ly/MaltingsWem



The Old Rectory Lowe Hill Road, SY4 5UA

· Hotel 01939 233233 bit.ly/OldRectoryWem



Aston Lodge

- Soulton Road, SY4 5BG
- 01939 232557 bit.ly/AstonLodge



The Moorhead

- Edstaston, SY4 5RG
- B&B
- 01939 809247 bit.ly/TheMoorhead



Lower Lacon Caravan Park The Coaching Barns Soulton Rd, SY4 5RP

· Caravan Park 01939 232376 info@llcp.co.uk www.llcp.co.uk



High St, SY4 5AA

- 07791894505
- bit.ly/CoachingWem



Soulton Hall

- Soulton, SY4 5RS
- B&B
- 01939 232786
- enquiries@soultonhall.co.uk www.soultonhall.co.uk



The Cottages

- Soulton Farm SY4 5RS
- · B&B Cottage
- 01939 232786
- enquiries@soultonhall.co.uk www.soultonhall.co.uk



Wem Angling Club 07769041307 bit.ly/WemAC



Badminton Junior Thomas Adams 07976 973480



Wem Cricket Club Soulton Road 01939 234680 bit.ly/WemCC



Crown Green Bowls Albion Club The Recreation Ground, Station Rd 01939 232093 Public Practice -Wednesday 2pm - 4pm



Crown Green bowls Sports and Social Club Bowens Field 01939 233918 bit.ly/WemSandSC



Crown Green bowls United Services Club BC Leek Street 01939 232806 bit.ly/CGBUSC



Cycling Routes bit.ly/CycleWem



Extend Exercise Exercise for the over 60s Methodist Church Aston Street 01939 234156



Golf Society Weekly Games Monthly Society Games 01939 236088



Wem Football Club Sports & Social Club Bowens Field bit.ly/WemSandSC



Junior Football Club Eagles Bowens Field 01939 233287 bit.ly/WemTFC



Wem Judo CLub 98 Adams School 01939 234642 bit.ly/WemJudo



Snooker Conservative Club Noble Street 01939 232573 Open Sun - Fri Evenings bit.ly/ConsevWem



Snooker United Services Club Leek Street



Wem Tennis Club Park Road 07905 845615 bit.ly/WemTennis



Wem Walkers Tony Eccleston 01948 841264 bit.ly/WemWalker



Age Uk Prince William Court Tues 10am -3pm 01939 233000



Amateur Dramatics Stage Door Theatre Aston Road 01939 232466



Army Cadets Thomas Adams College Noble Street



Art Society Wem Senior Club Chapel Street 07775 574805





Brownies

Bowens Field

01939 232859

bit.ly/guidesWem

Scout / Guides HQ



Wem Community Choir St Peter & St Paul's Church Hall High Street wemcommunitychoir@gmail.com 01939 200309



Civic Society Wem Senior Club Chapel Street 01939 235443



Beavers









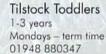
of SHROPSHIRE



01939 232573

Conservatives

Cubs Scout / Guides HQ Bowens Field 01939 234481 bit.ly/ScoutWem





The PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE



Garden Club Wem Senior CLub Chapel Street 01948 710328 bit.ly/GardenWem



Getting Older Adults Online Edinburgh House New Street 01939 233533 https://goalwem.wordpress.com



Girl Guides Scout / Guides HQ Bowens Field 01939 232859 bit.ly/guidesWem



Incredible Edible Wem bit.ly/IEWem



Jubiliee Band Senior Band Thomas Adams School 01939 234950 bit.ly/WemBandS



Jubiliee Band Junior Band Thomas Adams School 01939 236527 bit.ly/WemBandJ



Millennium Green Opposite Methodist Aston Street



Oddfellows 1 Talbot Development 01939 200673 bit.ly/OddfellowsWem



Scouts Scout / Guides HQ Bowens Field 07734 859029 bit.ly/ScoutWem



Quiz Nights
The Castle, High Street
Monthly Event raising
money for local charity
01939 236088



Probus (Men) 29 Leek Street 01939 233034 bit.ly/ProbusWem



Probus (Women) 29 Leek Street 01939 234156 bit.ly/ProbusWem



RLNI Wem Branch bit.ly/WemRLNI 01939 233779



The Saturday Club 2nd Saturday every month 2 pm - 4pm Methodist Church Aston Road Pat Davies 01948 880278



The Womens Insitutes Wem Senior Club Chapel Street 01939 232140



Rotary Club Wem & District The Old Rectory 01691 610452 bit.ly/RotaryWem



The Royal British Legion United Services Club 29 Leek Street 07896 921612 bit.ly/TBRLWem



Shell Club -For children age 7+ Methodist Church Fridays 7pm - 8:30pm Contact Susan O'Brian 01939 233908



U3A Wem Town Hall 01639638869 Mr John Smith bit.ly/U3AWem



United Services Club 29 Leek Street 01939 232806 bit.ly/USCWem

Friendly Members Club with excellent facilities. Membership only £10 a year and £5 for over 65s

Members Lounge, Bowling Green, Snooker Tables, Function room with Kitchen and Bingo every Friday.

The function room with kitchen is available to hire out for £40 per event.



Wem Senior Club Chapel Street 01939 235533



Young Farmers Wem bit.ly/WemYFCFB bit.ly/WemSYFC Jen Lokier - 07457718984



Youth Club Wem Youth Centre Leek Street bit.ly/WemYouth 01630 684218



Bridge Club (Clive Friendly) Contact Chris Abbey 01939 220755



Severn Artists Wednesday – term time 7pm-9pm 01939 233790



Scrabble Group Every Tues 2pm Wem Library 01939 236005



Tea Dancers 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm Held at WSSC 01939232418



Walking for Health 30 to 60 minutes' walk
Town Hall
10am - Monday Mornings
Contact Liz Evans
01743 255068.
Liz.evans@shropshire.gov.com

Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre

New gym is a big hit come visit us and enjoy.

www.wemswimmingandlifestylecentre.org.uk





Easy Fitness Unit 5 & 6
Wem Industrial Estate
07497293845
Opening times
9am to 9pm Monday to Friday,
9am to 4pm Saturdays and
9am to 2pm on Sundays.

The Golf Barn

An indoor golf tuition facility which benefits from the latest in golf course simulation and launch monitor technology, all within the comfort and seclusion of The Moorhead smallholding.

Contact Phil - Head Golf Coach Tel: 07446 510267

Email: thegolfbarn@themoorhead.co.uk

'The Castle' Golf Society

Monthly Diary Dates for the rest of this year::

September 15 & 16th Pierre Golf Club – 'Castle Cup'

October Friday 11 Chesterton Golf Club

For further details please contact Richard on 01939 236088

Markets

Wem Town Hall WTH hosts the Wem Town Market every Thursday morning from 8am, which is extended to the Jubilee Square (next to Co-op supermarket in the main town car park).

There is a wide range of traders - selling fresh, tasty, local produce as well as cards, gifts, clothing, household items and more. Traders enquiries should be directed to WTH reception in the first instance.

The Jubilee Square also hosts Wem Farmers' Market, which runs every 2nd Saturday of the month, from March to December, 9am to 12.30pm

Wem Spring and Harvest Markets are popular events showcasing a wide range of local food, drink and crafts available for sale from local and regional traders.

Taking Place in April and September respectively the markets are organised by members of Wem Civic Society, Wem District Garden Club and Wem Transition Town Initiative as the Wem Combine Harvesters.

All profits from the markets go to the groups and their local projects.

For more information please email: wemharvest@yahoo.co.uk or tel: 01939 235443



Market Days

Indoor Market - Town Hall Thursday Morning until 12pm

Outdoor Market - Jubilee Square Thursday Morning until 1 pm

Wem Farmers Market - Jubilee Square 2nd Saturday each month 9 – 1 pm.

Men In Sheds

Contact: Wem Town Council 01939 232733 menssheds.org.uk



Edinburgh House on New Street

Edinburgh House contains the local offices of:

Meres and Mosses Housing Association, Total Response, Shropshire Council, and Wem Town Council

Opening times

Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri: 9am - 5pm Wed: 10am - 5pm (closed between 1pm and 2pm)

This Shropshire Council service point via self-help computer and telephone links provides information on Council services, together with a wide range of community information.

- Blue badge applications
- · Council tax and housing benefit applications
- · Applying for concessionary travel
- · Making bookings for appointments with the Registrars Team
- Referrals to the Housing Options Team
- · Issuing and renewing parking permits and season tickets
- · Reporting missed waste collections
- · Reporting highways issues and faults

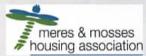
Contact:

Customer Services
Email: customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk
0345 678 9000
Edinburgh House
New Street Wem Shropshire SY4 5DB

Community Groups located in Edinburgh House are: GOAL (Getting Older Adults on Line)

Wem Police station now located by the clinic between the Coop and the Vets.











There is no longer a reception point at Edinburgh House. A telephone area inside the double doors are: On the left there is for calls to Shropshire Council.

On the right the telephone can be used to contact Meres & Mosses, Wem Town Council & Total Response.

GOAL Is still located in Edinburgh House, but the entrance is now through the staff entrance. There is a bell on the right-hand side with GOAL marked on it.





Police Inspector Tracy Ryan 223912 07817 947156



Police Constable Liam Heathcote 222649 07870 510220



PCSO Jamie Robinson 40390 07967 301147



Sergeant Scott Barnes 3021 07976 938574



PCSO Elizabeth Walmsley 226416 07967 3035671



Annual Events in Wem



Wem Millennium Green

Plant sale usually takes place in May from 9am to 12 noon

on the green, Aston Street.



Wem Harvest Market

Usually in September includes stalls selling local produce and crafts in the Town Hall and Senior Club. bit.ly/WemHarvest



Vehicles of Interest - held in July

Cars complete a circuit around the Town and are then on display on the Recreation Ground. There are trade stands.



Eckford Sweet Pea Show - held in July Display of sweet peas and other plants, etc. in the Stanier Hall of Thomas Adams College, High Street.

bit.ly/WemSweetPea



Wem Christmas Lights Festival & late night Christmas Shopping Held annually 1st Friday of December



Wem Spring Markets Market Square bit.ly/WemSpring



Santa Sleigh Run

Wem Rotary's very popular event for the children, has a stationary spot by the Co-op and also visits areas in and around Wem.



Wem Carnival

Includes display floats parade around town, and other events on the Wem sports and Social Club Sports Ground. Usually first Saturday in September (afternoon and evening parades). bit.ly/CarnivalWem



Rotary Tree of Light

dedicate a light in memory of a friend or relative and help two local hospices.

Places to visit within 20 miles of Wem



Attingham Park (National Trust)
Mansion House, Deer Park, Walks,
Children's play area, events, Café.
SY4 4TN 15 miles



Battlefield 1403 Historic Walk & heritage centre, Café and birds of prey centre SY4 3DB 8.4 miles

www.battlefield1403.com



British Ironwork Centre Sculpture Park, Shop, Café, Free Ice cream for Children

SY11 4JH 16.3 miles bit.ly/IronworkCentre



Chirk Castle (National Trust)
Mansion House, Walks, Cafe
LL14 5AE 20.3 miles
bit.ly/ChirkCastleNT



Wroxeter Roman Vineyard Wine tasting & tours SY5 6PQ 16 miles



Corbet Wood & Grinshill Wooded walks, picnic areas, SY4 3BW 4 miles bit.ly/CorbetWood



Dorothy Clive Garden Gardens, Café and shop, Events TF9 3DJ 13.4 miles dorothyclivegarden.co.uk



Haughmond Abbey (English Heritage) Historic remains of Augustinian Abbey SY4 4RW 11.2 miles bit.ly/HAbbey



Haughmond Hill
(Forestry Commission)
Circular easy access route walks,
cycle route, picnic area & tea room
SY4 4RW 11.2 miles
bit.ly/HaughmondHill



Whittington Castle
Historic medieval Castle, picnic area,
shop, garden
SY11 4DF 15 miles
www.whittingtoncastle.co.uk



Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom Animals galore, Sheep racing, events. Picnic areas, play zones. TF6 6DJ 19.1 miles www.hoofarm.com



Hawkstone Park & Follies
Historic woodland fantasy with
crags, caves & monuments, beautiful
views. Was part of the film set for
The Chronicles of Namia
SY4 5JY 6.5 miles
bit.ly/HPFollies



The Lyneal Trust Canal boat Holidays 01948 710 708 E:bookings@lyneal-trust.org.uk www.lyneal-trust.org.uk



Wroxeter Roman City
(English Heritage)
Fourth largest Roman City, Viriconium
Surviving basilica wall & recreated
Roman Town House.
SY5 6PH 15.9 miles
bit.ly/RomanCity

Shrewsbury - Our County Town on main bus & train routes. Nearest Park & Ride, Harlescott SY1 4HA

Sabrina Boat Cruises

Leisurely trip along River Severn loop. Day & evening trips, themed cruises, private hire. Discounted Tickets from the information centre

Quarry & Dingle Beautiful park in Shrewsbury with tree lined avenues alongside the River Severn, children's play area, picnic lawns. Sunken garden created by 'Percy Thrower'.

Visitor Information Centre 01743 258888

visitorinfo@shropshire.gov.uk Please contact for events, Guided Tours information.

St Mary's Church

Ancient building with stained glass spanning over six centuries. One of the tallest spires in England. Now home to a Café and seasonal Charity Christmas Card shop. Open to visitors.

Shrewsbury Castle & Regimental Museum

Dating from 1066. Lovely gardens and viewpoint.



Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery the 'Music Hall' in The Square, Shrewsbury is a

mix of extraordinary buildings dating from 1200's including a medieval town house and early Victorian public rooms.

Shrewsbury Abbey

Founded 1083 as a Benedictine Monastery. Famous for Brother Cadfael novels by Ellis

Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings

The world's first iron-framed building. Find out how the modern skyscraper was born in Shrewsbury. Pre-booked tours only, building under redevelopment.

Coleham Pumping Station Built 1900 to house two steam-driven beam engines. "Steam Open days" throughout the year.





History of Wem

Iron Age

Iron Age settlers called the Cornovii, left evidence of at least two camps in the area of Wem but the history of the area is not well recorded until after the Roman conquest when the local tribes were overrun and the Romans colonised what is now Shropshire.

Saxon times

To the Saxon founders, Wamm meant a 'marsh' and has since been spelt as Wemme, Weme, Wimme and finally Wem. The marshy ground refers to the area surrounding the river Roden which flows through the town.

Doomsday Book

The 1086 entry in the Doomsday Book records Wem as being "William Pantulf holds it of Earl Roger" and that it consisted of "four manors or farms". It paints a picture of a thickly wooded landscape with roebuck and hawks as part of the local wildlife. Wem remained with the Pantulf family for over a century and they gave their name to local places such as Pankeymoor.

Wars of the Roses 1455 - 1480

The town was now well established with a substantial castle and walls but was 'torn to the ground' by the Earl of Salisbury on behalf of the Yorkists, later to be rebuilt in 1500 by Ralf Greystock.

Civil War

The town had passed to the Darce and Howard families before Wem became the first town in Shropshire to declare for parliament in 1643 under Colonel Mytton who organised the town fortifications. An attack on Wem by Lord Capel was successfully held off by the townsfolk, giving rise to the verse; "The women of Wem and a few musketeers, beat Lord Capel and all his cavaliers".





The Thomas Adams School

In 1650, Sir Thomas Adams born in Wem in 1586, a local landowner and tanner and ex Lord Mayor of London, founded a free school in the town, Adams Grammar School, which still exists today as Thomas Adams School and College.

The Great Fire of Wem

In 1677, a 14-year-old girl, Jane Churn, dropped a candle, which started a huge fire that destroyed most of the wooden buildings in the town.

This caused a disaster for Wem far greater than the destruction of the town seen during the Wars of the Roses. The intense heat partly melted the church bells, which had to be recast.

Sweet Peas

More recently, the first modern Sweet Peas were cross-bred in 1887 by Henry Eckford FRHS who lived in Wem. Eckford's contribution to horticulture is celebrated every year in Wem with the annual Sweet Pea Show, which is under review due to a lack of volunteers.

bit.ly/SweetPeaStory



The late Hanny Economic V. M. H.,

History of Wem

The Hanging Judge

Judge Jeffreys, Lord Chief Justice of England, acquired the barony of Wem in 1684. Judge Jeffreys never visited Wem but did acquire the sobriquet of "The Hanging Judge" following the brutal hanging of prisoners following the Monmouth rebellion.

His son inherited the title and did visit Wem, staying at Lowe Hall, which became known as Judge Jeffreys' House and still stands today.



18th Century Wem

The Earl of Bradford purchased the Barony of Wem in 1709. It was during this time that Wem produced more than its share of artists and writers. John Ireland, famous for his biography of William Hogarth was born at Trench Farm.

William Hazlitt, son of a Unitarian Minister, the essayist and critic spent his childhood in Wem and may have attended Adams School. His home can be seen in Noble Street. Also in Noble Street, one of the few dwellings to have escaped the great fire was the home of John Astley, the painter. The Rev Samuel Garbet, the second master at Adams School who researched the history of the town and wrote the History of Wem, lived in New Street.

Well known people from Wem

Wem's main claim to fame is that it was the childhood home of one of England's greatest essayists and critics, William Hazlitt. Hazlitt's father moved their family there when William was just a child.

Hazlitt senior became the Unitarian Minister in the town, occupying a building on Noble Street that still stands.

In 2008 the town held a 230th Anniversary Celebration of Hazlitt's Life and work for five days, hosted by author Edouard d'Araille who gave a series of talks and conference about 'William of Wem'. William Hazlitt moved away from Wem in later life and died in London.

Wem was also the birthplace of actors Peter Vaughan and Peter Jones.

Stand-up and comedy actor Greg Davies spent his childhood in the town and attended The Thomas Adams School, as did professional wrestler Neil Faith. John Astley, an 18th-century portrait painter, was from the town. Anna Essinger moved her boarding school to Trench Hall, near Wem when Bunce Court was given short notice to evacuate during World War II. Sybil Ruscoe, radio and television presenter was also born in Wem.

Flight Lieutenant Cyril Douglas Swain, known as 'Sid', was born in Wem in 1911 and is remembered as one of the 76 escapees from Stalag Luft III ("The Great Escape") for whom a commemorative piece hangs in the Parish Church.

After being recaptured he is believed to have been one of the 50 escapees shot by the Germans and his grave is to be found at Poznan Old Garrison Cemetery, Poznan Wielkopolskie, Poland.

Welcome to Wem Rural Parish

Wem Rural Parish is a sporadically populated civil parish spread over a large area in the north of Shropshire with a population of approximately 1500 people, 670 homes and in excess of 250 businesses. We surround Wem town, a bit like a large doughnut shape, and consist of a number of small hamlets including: Coton, Cotonwood, Creamore Bank, Edstaston, Paddolgreen, Quina Brook and Ryebank to the northwest; Newtown, Northwood, Poolhead and Wolverley to the northeast; and, Aston, Barkers Green, Horton, Lacon, Lowe, Palms Hill, Tilley and Trench to the south and east of Wem town.

The parish was formed in 1900 when the original large Wem Parish was divided into two, separating the now Wem Rural Parish from the more urban Wem Town Parish which lies at its centre. The parish of Wem Rural consists of several small hamlets joined together by a network of mostly minor roads, which meander their way through the district.

Geography, geology and landscape

The landscape of Wem Rural is, as the name suggests, very rural in nature. Much of the land is generally low-lying and quite flat, and is mostly made up of clay and marl – resulting from the action of the glacier that covered this area during the last Ice Age some 10,000 years ago. This is interspersed with pockets of loam, peat and sand deposits, which occur sporadically throughout the area.

The Ice Age also formed the boggy landscape of the 'Meres and Mosses' area of North Shropshire, including Fenn's, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses, as well as Cadney Moss and Wem Moss.

Of these, only Wem Moss falls within the boundary of Wem Rural Parish, but together these mosses form a unique and very special habitat containing one of the





largest and finest examples of a raised bog in Britain. They are an internationally recognised area for both wildlife and scientific research.

The River Roden is the main local river. It has several tributaries, some of which originate in the north of the parish and in the Mosses area. These tributaries flow generally southwards to join the River Roden near Wolverley in the west of the Parish, before the Roden passes through Wem town, and then to the south through Aston. It continues roughly eastwards out of the parish on its journey to join the River Tern, which flows on to join the great River Severn.

On the northern edge of the parish, one of the Roden's tributaries marks the English border with Wales as it passes through the Mosses. It leaves Wem Moss and passes under a bridge in Northwood where it forms the boundary with the neighbouring parish of Welshampton in Shropshire, England, in addition to part of the National border with Wales.

Archaeological finds so far suggest a long history of human habitation in the parish, including the Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Mediaeval periods, as well as evidence from more recent centuries since the Reformation and English Civil War. Wem Moss may conceal further evidence of early man's activities in this landscape.

In 1202 Wem received a market charter from King John, and the growing relationship between the market town and its surrounding farmsteads and developing small hamlets connects back to this early time.

Originally held on a Sunday, market day was changed to a Thursday in 1351 and we have a number of Wem Rural businesses that still sell there today.

Special sites – The Domesday Book mentioned a number of individual properties in Wem Rural Parish,

including some moated properties that may possibly date from the time of the Norman invasion and subsequent settlement of Britain following the Battle of Hastings.

Of these Northwood Hall near Newtown is of particular note being a rare 'double-moated' site (i.e. a moated site within a larger moated enclosure, one of only two such sites in existence in Shropshire). The moats are registered and protected as a Scheduled Monument, and today you can take in the vista while enjoying lunch or a coffee at the Moatshed.



Soulton Hall (the more 'recent' 16th Century hall is now a hotel) is believed be built on part of the early mediaeval site of the old Domesday manor of Soulton, and its single moated site is also a Scheduled Monument. Recent additions include the Soulton Long Barrow; only the second such monument to have been built in the UK for 5,500 years. It takes its inspiration from the Neolithic period and, like those ancient monuments, is a focus for honouring lost loved ones, for contemplation and celebration of live, and for supporting community and each other.

Lowe Hall is reputed to have been owned by Judge Jefferies (the 'Hanging Judge' of infamous reputation). He was created Baron of Wem in 1685 but is not thought to have actually lived at Lowe Hall.

Tilley and its surrounding farms represent a unique survival from late mediaeval times. Its timber framed buildings, all featured on a map dated 1631, have been the subject of a major archaeological survey. More recently, the community is looking at becoming a Conservation Area; one of nearly 10,000 English sites considered worthy of preservation for its special architectural and historic interest.

There are, indeed, a number of protected and listed sites spread throughout the parish – Scheduled Monuments, Grade I, Grade 2* and Grade 2 listed houses, churches, outbuildings, bridges and memorials, and even a collection of lime kilns and



brickworks. These demonstrate a variety of building materials; ranging from timber (local woodland), wattle and daub (local lime), reed and thatch (growing locally), cob and peat/moss dwellings, locally quarried stone (from Grinshill), locally fired hand-made bricks (clay found in local fields), glass (made from the vast sand deposits of Cheshire), commercially produced bricks (initially from local brickworks, replaced by the emerging industrial area at Ruabon near Wrexham) and slate from the quarries of North Wales.

Churches and chapels

There are two Parish Churches in Wem Rural – in Edstaston and in Newtown. Both are of historical and architectural merit.

Newtown has a 19th century Grade II listed Parish Church with an interesting bellcote. It was built on the site of an earlier 18th century Chapel of Ease, and an even earlier site nearby was first dedicated to Charles Stuart in 1665. It is unusual for a church to be named after a monarch, and the Church of King Charles the Martyr in Newtown is one of only six churches in England to have been given this name in the 17th century.

In Edstaston, the Church of St. Mary is a Grade I listed Parish Church (originally a Chapel of Ease),



which dates back to the late 12th century. It has received some restoration through the centuries but is one of the most complete Romanesque buildings in Shropshire. It still retains many fine and original architectural details and fittings, including beautiful doorways, wall paintings and a bellcote.

There are also two chapels still in use in the Parish – Northwood Primitive Methodist Chapel and Coton Primitive Methodist Chapel. Both were built in the 19th century.

The War Memorials in Edstaston and Newtown remind us of the sacrifice given by young men from our parish in more recent times, with names of the fallen from both World Wars.

Agriculture and industry

Following the granting of a Market Charter for Wem (and indeed other local towns), agriculture continued to develop with traders taking their wares to local markets, selling the food and other goods needed by the growing local population living in the Manors in and around Wem.



Until the 16th century much of the wider area was still deeply wooded, as indicated by some of the place names e.g. Cotonwood, Northwood, Wolverley, Tilley and Tilley Green, Paddolgreen, Barkers Green, (a 'ley' and a 'green' are clearings in woodland).

As this woodland was cleared, the low-lying land that came into cultivation produced good quality crops and the grass provided excellent fodder for animals. The lands around Wem were part of a frequently marshy floodplain of the River Roden and its tributaries but, as land drainage increased in the 16th and 17th centuries, more land was brought into agricultural use and this led to the building of associated dwellings.

Throughout England the pattern of agriculture continued to change as land was transferred from the open 'common fields' of the mediaeval feudal system,



to 'enclosed' fields, accelerated by the Parliamentary 'Inclosure Acts' that began in the 18th century. And, throughout Europe, the Agricultural Revolution and the increased mechanisation of the 18th and 19th centuries also had an impact on the growing of crops and the keeping of animals to meet the demands of a rapidly growing population, many of who were moving to the towns and cities for work.

By the 19th century, the lush grasslands of Wem Rural meant that dairy farming was widespread on the small farmsteads that had grown up and dotted the local landscape. The area was known far and wide for the quality of the milk, butter and cheeses and the area supplied several local market towns.

The livestock market in Wem closed in 1962 and, although there is still a general market held in the town every Thursday, its loss impacted on both the town businesses and the surrounding farms and smallholdings.

Despite the many pressures and challenges facing the agricultural industry in Britain in the 21st century, agriculture continues to be a major influence on land use in our area today, which is reflected in the still predominantly rural landscape that is so in evidence in our parish.

Over the centuries the area has seen very little in the way of large-scale industrial development, even in the urban centre of Wem town. But the Industrial Revolution did not pass-by the area completely.



The coming of the canals and railways in the 18th and 19th centuries also had an effect upon the area, and an impact upon the local economy. The building of the Prees Branch of the Shropshire Union canal occurred in the early 19th century and, although it never actually reached Prees, it did go as far as Edstaston where it terminated and a wharf was constructed c.1806.

As a result, a number of limekilns were built at Quina Brook. Coal could be brought in by canal to fire the kilns, and lime could be transported out, leading to the development of a local lime production industry that maintained until the end of the Second World War in 1945. Today the Prees Branch of the canal is only operational as far as Whixall Marina. Beyond this, and where the canal actually passes through Wem Rural Parish, it has now been allowed to return to nature and has become part of the Prees Branch Nature Reserve.

The arrival of the railways in the 19th century created further opportunities for increased transport links and, therefore, some industrial development. The single track Crewe and Shrewsbury Railway line was finally opened in 1858 (upgraded to double track in 1862) and served the parish at Prees Station. The district was now connected into the broader Midlands and national railway networks.

The building of the railways encouraged the development of a number of brick and tile works around Wem, particularly during the 19th century. These developed to meet the growing demand for building materials, and they were able to use the natural resource of local clay as well as the benefits of the new rail transport facilities. Mostly these brickworks were fairly small-scale industries such as at Dobson's Bridge and Brickwalls in Whixall, although Fenn's Bank was a much larger scale operation. There were also two brickworks in Wem Rural, at Tilley and Barkers Green. Barkers Green survived into the 20th century, but finally closed





in 1926 during the years of the Great Depression. Remains of old 'Beehive' kilns can still be seen on the Barkers Green site.

The Crewe to Shrewsbury railway line still runs through the parish and the station at Prees (as well as that in Wem Town) is very well used.

Education, employment and social life

We have one primary school in our parish located in the hamlet of Newtown. This school attracts children from a wide area with a large number being bussed in from the neighbouring Loppington Parish, and some from Wem itself. Unsurprisingly, most of the children of secondary school age travel from throughout the parish to the Thomas Adams School in Wem.

Today there is an industrial estate in the parish, close to the boundary with Wem Town, which hosts a wide and varied range of small businesses. Indeed, the area in and around Wem town is very well provided for with large numbers of small, independent businesses. Technological advances in recent years, such as the Internet, have meant that an increasing number of people can work from home within the parish, and as broadband speeds and connections improve and increase, perhaps this will create other opportunities for the area.

As well as three pubs in the parish: the Horse & Jockey in Northwood, the Dog and Bull in Coton and the Raven in Tilley), our one village hall is in Edstaston. The hall is a well-used community asset and a proactive fundraising campaign is currently underway to extend and modernise the building.

Wem Rural Parish Council

You can stay up-to-date with all the local news in our area, or find your local councillor, by visiting our website and social media feed:

www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk www.facebook.com/wemruralPC The Welcome to Wem Committee thank our sponsors:





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