

# SHREWSBURY CIVIC SOCIETY MAGAZINE



**Summer 2025**

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## Message to Members and Supporters

The Civic Society, through its sister organisation, Shrewsbury Historica, has arranged for several events in the coming months. The popular History Series, which has looked at the History of Shrewsbury since prehistoric times, will start again in August, this time looking at the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the way in which the town has changed since 1900. Further information can be found later in this magazine.

We have also restarted the pub tours that were once undertaken by the late John Brown. Two dates in June and July were sold out almost as soon as they were advertised, so we are looking to insert a new date into the calendar for August. Keep an eye out for details on the website:

[www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk)

This year’s Heritage Day offering will focus on some of the castles in Shropshire. This is a free event, but you will still need to book a place so that the venue is not overcrowded.

### CHECK OUT ALSO OUR EVENTS PAGES IN THIS MAGAZINE



Use the QR reader on your smartphone (or any other device) to scan the above QR Code and be taken directly to our website.

Finally, members are also being informed of events organised by other providers. Our membership secretary, Amanda Mullins, will inform members of these events, which should provide full contact details for interested members. Amanda can be contacted on [amanda@bpg-ltd.co.uk](mailto:amanda@bpg-ltd.co.uk)

**Come and visit our Shirehall Exhibition – on at the Bear Steps Gallery between 8<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July**

## Don't miss our art exhibition "Shropshire's Shirehall: Too Good to Lose"

We are excited to announce the opening at Bear Steps of our exhibition of archive photographs and artworks inspired by our county's iconic 1960s building

8 July -19 July 10-4pm

Admission: Free

Our members will also be invited to an exclusive preview event. Look out for an invite in your inbox. We look forward to seeing you!

Scan the QR Code to sign the petition

## Shropshire's Shirehall: Too Good to Lose

Exhibition of an iconic modernist building in archive photographs and art



Bear Steps Gallery

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July

10am - 4pm

Admission: Free



Above: The circular council chamber 1967. Photo credit: Architectural Press/RIBA Collections. Colourised by Talbot Printing

## Comic book artist Charlie Adlard backs campaign to save Shirehall

Charlie Adlard, celebrated as the artist of the Walking Dead, and a native of Shrewsbury, has joined the campaign to save the Shirehall by using his creative talents to produce a campaign poster

The artwork will be on display at the Bear Steps art exhibition in July

The civic society has produced postcards of the work and is inviting supporters to send them to their newly elected councillor. They are available at the desk at Bear Steps on request

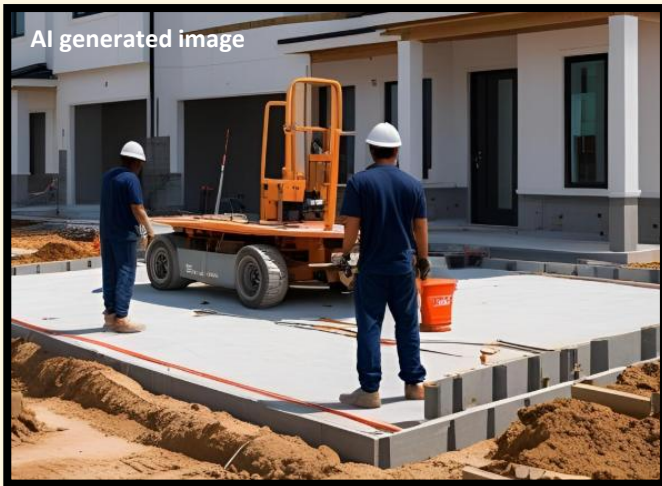
Charlie said: "Shirehall has an historical significance equal to any building from any other era and needs to be nurtured equally with them"



# Are planning rules changing? – Oh yes!

*(All images in this article are AI generated)*

You may not see it immediately but there are a lot of changes coming that are affecting planning and development in Shropshire and Shrewsbury. This is because the national government is determined to build many more homes and there is a new regime leading Shropshire Council that is keen to make decisions more collaboratively. Additionally, several senior planning officers in the council have left without being replaced and the 'Local Plan' has been abandoned and will be started again - all factors suggesting a tense period in the making.



Already there have been a few planning applications for new housing that rely on the national planning relaxations and the lack of a Shropshire Local Plan. The Government is now hoping for a less restrained “presumption in favour of development”, although there are efforts to make that presumption in favour of “sustainable development”. One example is the suggestion to allow development in areas of wildlife habitats, such as those with newts or bats, but the developers will have to pay for their relocation. Ecologists disagree with this. Another example is to allow some less significant green belt land to be developed. While there is no official green belt around Shrewsbury, the one near Shifnal is already being looked at by developers.



These changes are likely to be enacted by the forthcoming Planning and Infrastructure Bill and by the new revisions to the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework), which itself will be more frequently updated. Shropshire will still have a “duty to co-operate” with adjoining authorities, which means an increased number of houses to be built. The previous Local Plan policy was that Shrewsbury should provide land for 30% of the county’s growth. We have already provided a good part of that, but the new Local Plan will have a different starting base with a new formula to assess local housing need.







In a few ways the town is ahead of the game. We actually have a Design Code for parts of the town centre, and this is something that the government feels can moderate unsympathetic development, although their idea is a much broader generic design code for larger areas – a task that local authorities will find too broad to be useful and too costly to develop.

The bill claims to provide for quicker planning decision-making and more integrated infrastructure. It wants to enable planning authorities to charge more for dealing with applications, without setting a national scale. It also wants council planning committees to be more efficient. In Shropshire’s case, a very high proportion of applications are dealt with by officers under delegated powers. However, Shropshire’s difficulty is that, without an agreed Local Plan, decisions taken to appeal will have to be allowed.



**KEY QUESTIONS**

- So how much more growth should Shrewsbury support?
- Can we avoid the label of NIMBYism if resisting more town fringe estates?
- How can we ensure that new housing is properly sustainable and provided with adequate infrastructure?
- How will sufficient affordable housing be provided?
- Will the bill’s measures overcome the lack of a Local Plan?
- How can local views be better heard in a “streamlined” system? Can groups like Shrewsbury Civic Society play a stronger role?
- How can it collect your views?
- Shropshire’s ‘SCI’, (its official Statement of Community Involvement) is very restrictive for local views. Can it be improved?



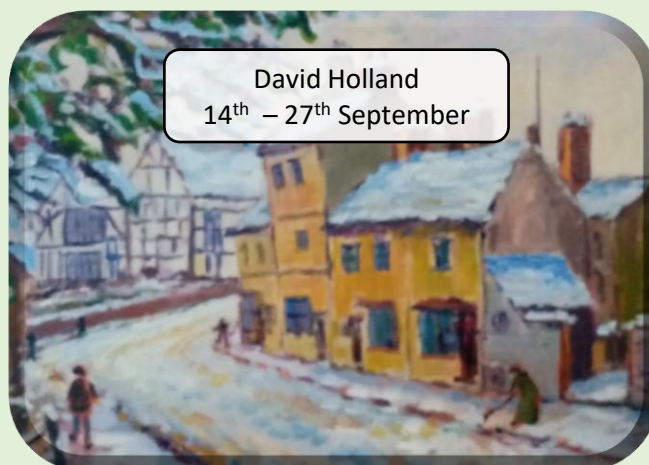
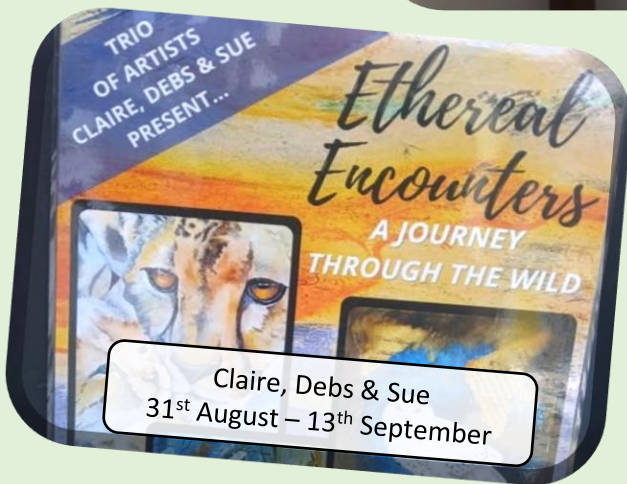
## Art Exhibitions 2025: March - June

Shrewsbury Bear Steps Gallery has three galleries (the main gallery, the balcony and the link room) that may be booked for exhibiting purposes. These galleries can be booked separately or together. The galleries are popular and 2026 is almost fully booked already, with bookings now being taken for 2027.



If you wish to book one of our galleries for a future exhibition, contact Dave Lupine on 01743 442361 or 07944 202962 or 01743 344994, or at [info@shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk)







# Civic Society Events (Shrewsbury Historica) for 2025

(all events take place at the Bear Steps Hall and are open to non-members unless otherwise noted)

**For details of the upcoming History Series, see next page**



This year's presentation for Heritage Day in September will focus on some of the castles in Shropshire. Shrewsbury Historica's Russell Game, the presenter of the History of Shrewsbury series, will look at the fascinating history, architecture and stories behind the castles in Shrewsbury, Ludlow, Stokesay and elsewhere.

This is a free presentation, but you will need to book your ticket by clicking on the link below. This is because the presentation will take place in the Bear Steps, and there is a limited amount of space. Please note that the presentation is likely to last about an hour, with time allocated for questions at the end.

[Heritage Open Day A talk on Shropshire Castles by Russell Game Tickets, Sun, Sep 7, 2025 at 4:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

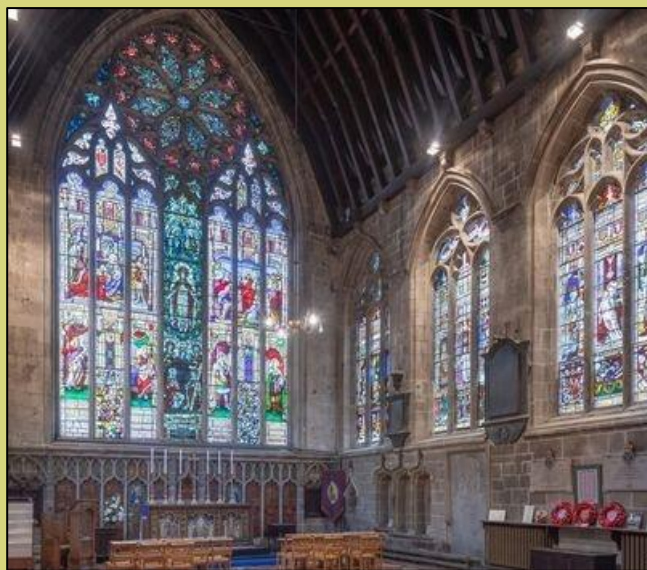


Join the Jubilate Choir at St Mary's Church as they mark 30 years' existence. Tickets can be obtained by clicking on the following link:

[Jubilate !!The Oxford Choir now 30 year's together & performing at St Marys Tickets, Fri 22 Aug 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

This is the third year of Shrewsbury's stained-glass festival, which will last from August 1<sup>st</sup> until August 31<sup>st</sup> at St Mary's Church. Check out the full programme at

[www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk)



THE CELLO'S VOICE:  
MASTERWORKS WITH PIANO

FEATURING WORKS BY SCHUMANN, DEBUSSY,  
RACHMANINOFF AND MENDELSSOHN

ADMISSION FREE - RETIRING COLLECTION

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

Start time - 3:00 PM  
ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH  
SHREWSBURY SY11UL

Winnie Su  
Piano

Rob Wheatley  
Cello

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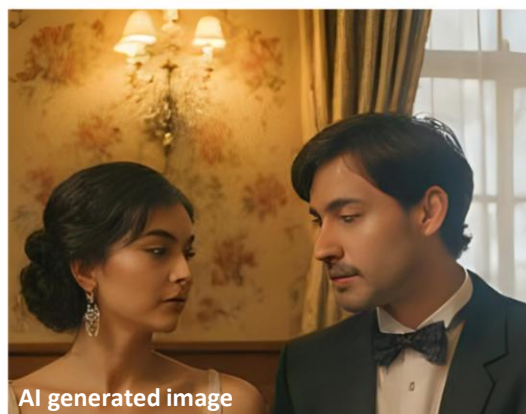
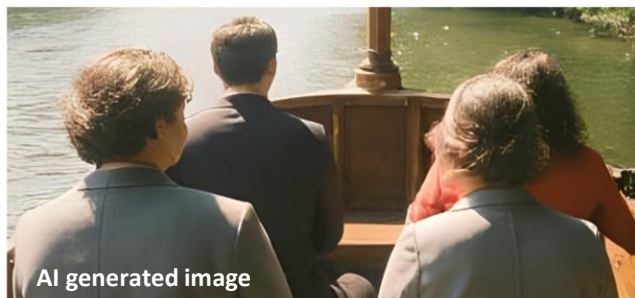


## HISTORY SERIES SEASON FIVE

*Join us for the concluding series in our presentations on the History of Shrewsbury*

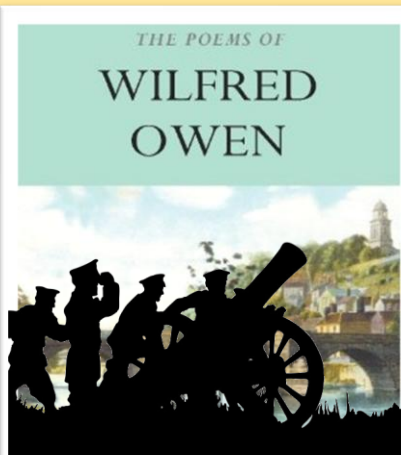
### Session One: Early 20<sup>th</sup> century developments

- Comparing early 20<sup>th</sup> century Shrewsbury with today
- The state of sanitation and public health at the start of the 20th century
- The fate of the railways – failures and disasters
- Educating Shrewsbury – the development of the grammar schools and secondary education
- Crossing the river – the nine (plus one) bridges of Shrewsbury



[History Series 5/1 Early 20th Century Developments Tickets, Sun 17 Aug 2025 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Wednesday repeat of History Series 5/1 Early 20th Century Developments Tickets, Wed 20 Aug 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)



### Session Two: The First World War and beyond

- The effect of the First World War on Shrewsbury
- The role of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry in the war
- Wilfred Owen – Shropshire's own war poet
- The interwar years – social and environmental developments
- The 1930s – growth and the first signs of modernism and 'urban development'

[History Series 5/2 The First World War & beyond. Tickets, Sun 21 Sep 2025 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Wednesday repeat..History Series 5/2: The First World War and Beyond Tickets, Wed 24 Sep 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

### Session Three: The Second World War

- The changing use of landscape and buildings
- Protecting Shrewsbury – defences, defenders and air raids
- Social change – evacuation, rationing and the food supply
- Harlescott and 'the spy who might never have been'
- The postwar years – celebration, morality, reality and the town of flowers

[History Series 5/ 3 World War 2 Experience the turbulent times Tickets, Sun 19 Oct 2025 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Wednesday History Series 5/3 World War 2 Experience the turbulent times Tickets, Wed 22 Oct 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)



## Session Four: The Modern Period

- 'Urban Improvement' – the changing appearance of Shrewsbury
- Conservation after the 1960s and the birth of the civic society
- Was Shrewsbury a 'cultural backwater' when it came to modern music?
- Sporting Successes – cricket, rugby, golf and football
- The changing landscape – comparing Shrewsbury now and in the past

[The Modern Period History Series 5/4](#)

[Tickets, Sun 16 Nov 2025 at 16:00 |](#)

[Eventbrite](#)

[Repeat The Modern Period History Series 5/4 Tickets, Wed 19 Nov 2025 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)



## Session Five: The Finale

- The truth behind the Silhouette factory
- The story of Shrewsbury's ace pilot
- Percy Thrower – the first TV gardener
- The murder of Hilda Murrell
- Is Frankwell safe?
- The story of the Shrewsbury Pickets
- Our Town Shrewsbury – fun facts
- Conclusion and farewell

[The Finale History Series 5/5 5 years of Shrewsbury's History ends Tickets, Sun 14 Dec 2025 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Repeat History Series 5/5 The Finale The last of our 5 year series Tickets, Wed 17 Dec 2025 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

All sessions consist of a presentation that lasts around 90 minutes, with a break about halfway through. Tea and coffee will be served during the break and is included in the price of your ticket. In line with the season, the final session in December will offer mulled wine as an alternative to tea/coffee. All sessions will offer the opportunity for attendees to ask questions or to speak with the presenter, either as a group or as an individual

If you have difficulty booking online, then please contact us at [info@shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk](mailto:info@shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk) or call on 01743 344994 between 10 am and 4 pm. *(Please note that Shrewsbury Civic Society is staffed by volunteers so there may not always be someone available to take your call)*



# PLANNING ROUND-UP



## DISCLAIMER

*All images in this article have been generated using AI and are included solely to provide graphic accompaniment. They are not and are not intended to show actual plans or impressions of the Riverside development*

In the previous 'Planning Matters' I looked at the redevelopment of Roushill. Both the new 'pocket park' and the indications we have about development off Roushill Bank seem to have much going for them. The outlook for the area north of the park on the site of the Riverside Shopping Centre, for which outline permission has now been granted, is more mixed.

The major problem with phase 2 for the architects and indeed the Council is that the Environment Agency has insisted that the development be raised above flood level on a podium, in effect adding the equivalent of a couple of extra storeys to the overall height of any development. It would also create blank walls at street level around most of the site, an outcome that planners and architects for good reasons normally try to avoid.



On the Roushill side the problem is resolved by the new park where the podium wall is well integrated but elsewhere care and imagination will be needed so that it doesn't become a hostile fringe devoid of street life and best avoided, particularly at night.

As an outline permission there are no definitive building designs, footprints or building heights for any individual building. A full application, or applications, will only follow when the Council have found developers who are interested in building on the site. Neither we nor the Council know yet who they might be, what they might want or when they might want it so the timescale for a full planning application is unknown. All those artist impressions in the press are only educated guesswork at this stage.



What the Council's application has done is to lay down a broad collection of constraints within which any developer would have to operate. The Design Code and Access proposed a variety of permitted footprints and maximum development parameters including height and massing and the Planning Committee were reassured by the considerable amount of thought put into the detailed proposals for elevations.



We did however object to the block heights being suggested and recommended an alternative denser, more 'urban', footprint that we felt could help to reduce the maximum heights. We also felt that a sense of a 'low town' below the Pride Hill escarpment ought to be kept and that any new blocks shouldn't reach the height of the Darwin Shopping Centre. It is tempting to allow development to its height partly to block out views of its huge bulk but we argued that at some point the shopping centre will probably be remodelled and that this new development shouldn't be beholden to it in its current form. There has since been a slight tweak to the massing of the blocks so that the spire of St Mary's would now be visible from the Welsh Bridge.

There will also be a new, or rather extended, road with the working title of 'The Avenue' between Raven Meadows and Smithfield Road to take traffic away from Roushill. Whilst a good idea in principle, we are concerned that the application dealt almost entirely with highway issues, making little mention of the environment that would be created next to it. An adjacent revamped bus station would be the entry point for many visitors to the town and give the first impression they would have of it. An 'Avenue' implies a broad tree-lined street where we can imagine these arrivals and other pedestrians spending time in pleasant surroundings perhaps watching the comings and goings from a roadside café and not just a basic traffic artery. Watch this space!

The popular pub tours, once led by the late John Brown, have been revived with Shrewsbury Historica's Russell Game as guide. The first of these took place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, as can be seen in the image to the right, where Russell is explaining the story of the pubs that once existed in Butcher Row.

A second tour will take place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July, which has sold out already. Look out for another tour in August on our website

[www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk)

Be quick – these tours sell out quickly!





## LOGGERHEAD



It is often said that the best way to resolve opposing views is to find 'the balance', as if there is a right solution. Actually, what is meant is to find a compromise. And so it is with the town's development.

Since the pandemic it appears that Shrewsbury's shops have been doing fairly well. The town is certainly pulling in crowds of visitors with a growing footfall – so much so that it's sometimes hard to see the beautiful town that we love through all the visitors. Frequent large crowds, pavement licences, huge rubbish bins and now enormous cycle stores impinge on our pavements, reducing access and amenity. There now seems more crime; even a High Street stabbing. Groups such as the B.I.D. have helped the town to be a busy tourist destination: Great for the shops and hospitality, but not so good for long-term Shrewsbury residents!

So, are we reaching a tipping point and starting to impair the very asset being promoted? It's happening to a few other towns where councils are introducing measures to limit tourism and promote less harmful forms of economic growth.

Is there a compromise to be had?

## Gibbons' Mansion, Wyle Cop

Gibbons' Mansion was a large timber-framed building of three storeys, jettied at first and second floor levels, built c.1570 which stood behind 19 Wyle Cop. Its builder Nicholas Gibbons was an attorney who regularly travelled to London to present legal cases before the Court of Common Pleas in Westminster. He was a town bailiff in 1588 and 1596. At the time of the English Civil War his son Richard, mayor of the town in 1641, was taken prisoner when Parliamentary forces captured Shrewsbury in February 1645.



*Drawing of Gibbons' Mansion c.1912 looking south with a later opening at first floor level allowing access across a boundary wall from a garden in Dogpole. In H.E. Forrest: Old Houses of Shrewsbury (1912)*

The siting of high-status dwellings behind the street front was common in the medieval period in Shrewsbury, the stone hall of the Vaughan family being one that can still be seen today. A timber hall stood behind 8A Castle Street until the early 1960s (qv) and there was a hall behind the Nag's Head, Wyle Cop of which the service end survives. Gibbons' Mansion was one of the earliest of the

prominent timber buildings that appeared after a long period of economic recession, and consequent lack of building, dating back to the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. It has been described as a 'transitional' building that shared elements of both medieval and later Elizabethan styles.

The close studding of its timbers, s-shaped braces and heavily moulded bressummers are typical of the 'Shrewsbury School of Carpentry' of the late 16<sup>th</sup>- early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries albeit lacking the more florid motifs associated with that 'school'. Its bay windows were additions by the carpenter to the main framework rather than fully integrated with it as happened in later Elizabethan buildings in the town. Its plan form was strongly reminiscent of medieval layouts with the first-floor rooms reflecting the unequal sizes of the larger hall and smaller solar of that earlier period as was the medieval-type arrangement on the ground floor which was entered through a screens passage dividing a hall to one side from a service room on the other.

Its roof space was not ceilinged off from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, so it had no usable attic which was the typical arrangement of later timber houses and instead was reminiscent of the way in which medieval halls were open to the roof timbers. However, these timbers were not blackened by smoke from an open hearth as the mansion from the start had floors below and a chimney, a feature that had been rapidly proliferating in the town from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. There was no sign of a kitchen which must have been elsewhere on the site.

H.E Forrest notes that the mansion was accessed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century through a garden in Dogpole, but this seems unlikely to have been the original arrangement. More likely is that it was reached by a passage under or alongside 19 Wyle Cop. The relationship with number 19 isn't fully understood and a surviving timber wing behind it, that would have adjoined and been recessed behind the line of the western elevation of Gibbons' Mansion, has been described as the southernmost bay of the Gibbons' property.





*Western elevation of Gibbons' Mansion c.1944 looking north. (Image courtesy of Shropshire Archives PH/S/13/W/6/30)*



*Western elevation of Gibbons' mansion c.1944 looking south towards Wyle Cop (Image courtesy of Shropshire Archives PH/S/13/W/6/28)*

By the 19<sup>th</sup> century the mansion had fallen out of domestic use and was the workshop of Betton & Evans, nationally important stained-glass manufacturers whose most famous restoration work can be seen in St. Mary's Church and in Winchester College chapel. When Forrest visited the mansion just before the Great War, it was "disused and much decayed." In 1944 it was seriously damaged in a fire.

The western elevation survived and was taken down leaving open the possibility that it might one day be re-erected, much as had been intended a few years earlier with Lloyd's Mansion (qv). The timbers were stored inadequately and were last seen in 1978 at a Council store behind Coleham Pumping station. Ultimately those timbers that remained were reused to repair other timber buildings. A fine model of Gibbons' Mansion can be seen in Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery.



*Rear of 19 Wyle Cop showing surviving southern bay of Gibbons' Mansion*

### **Bibliography**

HER Record 01526

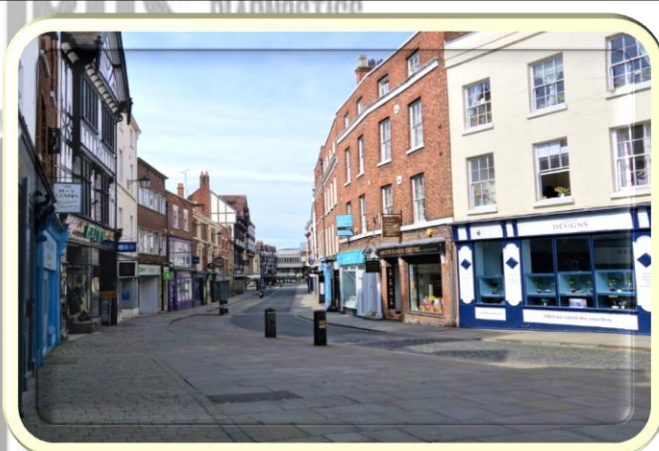
H.E. Forrest: Old Houses of Shrewsbury (1912)

J.T. Smith: Shrewsbury: Topography and Domestic Architecture to the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. (Unpublished MA thesis, University of Birmingham 1953)



## FIVE YEARS LATER...

Five years ago, Shrewsbury had just emerged from the first lockdown after the appearance of Covid 19. It was not to be the only lockdown. Here are some images from the time that now seems an age ago...



Shrewsbury became a ghost town as people were told to stay in their homes other than for essential purchases, such as food



Messages adorned the town centre, warning people to take all necessary steps to avoid contaminating or being contaminated by other people



An assessment centre was set up outside the football ground on Oteley Road. This was done to provide face-to-face assessments of people with symptoms of coronavirus





Every Thursday evening for a few minutes, people would gather on their doorsteps or at their windows to applaud those essential workers who were trying to deal with the pandemic and its consequences

The 'experience' went on into 2021 – this image shows a deserted Quarry during another lockdown. People were permitted to take exercise outside, though in this case the weather might have been as off-putting a factor as lockdown and coronavirus...



## WHERE IN SHREWSBURY WOULD YOU FIND THE FOLLOWING?

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2



3



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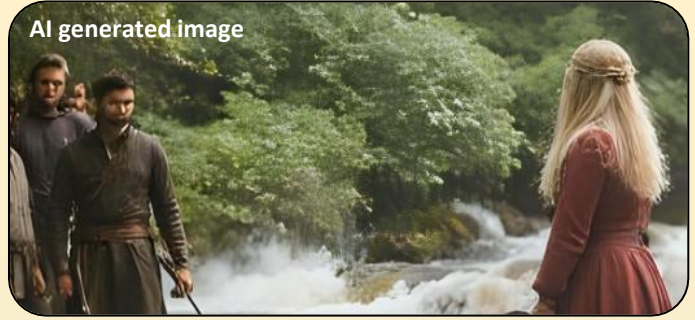
## St Milburga

St Milburga was an Anglo-Saxon princess and abbess who was accredited with several miracles. She was the daughter of King Merewalh of the Magonsaete, who ruled a sub-kingdom of Mercia covering much of south Shropshire and Herefordshire. The king had embraced Christianity c.660 after he had married a Kentish princess. Kent had been the first area of England to accept the tenets of Roman Christianity\*, and the union with Merewalh connected Milburga to a network of devout and influential relatives.



AI generated image

Milburga entered a religious life at the monastery in Wenlock, which was then a dual house, i.e. a place where both monks and nuns lived. As abbess, the monastery flourished through the expansion of its estate by means of acquisition and gift.



AI generated image

It is said that she attracted the attention of a neighbouring prince, who sought her hand in marriage. He was unable to accept her rejection of the offer, on the grounds of her commitment to the religious life, so he went after her with a small army, intending to abscond with her. However, when she reached a local river, generally assumed to be the River Corve, it swelled up after she had crossed, preventing the jilted prince from following her.

It was not the only miracle associated with her. Apparently, Milburga rejected a request from a grieving woman to resurrect her dead child, but she then prayed for the child with such intensity that the child came back to life. She was also said to be able to heal people and to control nature so that crops remained undamaged. She could even cause springs to appear.



AI generated image



She died in 727\*\* and her tomb became a site for pilgrims. The monastery at Wenlock was destroyed by the Vikings, but the relics of the saint were later found by the Cluniac monks who rebuilt Wenlock Priory. Her feast day is 23<sup>rd</sup> February, which has also been designated as Shropshire Day.



A possible reconstruction of Wenlock Priory in the High Middle Ages



The three arched entrance to the chapter house -  
Photo © Michael Garlick (cc-by-sa/2.0)

\* Much of Britain had accepted Christianity during the Roman period, but the arrival of the pagan Anglo-Saxons ended much Christian practice. Christianity was kept alive in the areas that resisted the Anglo-Saxons, notably Wales and Ireland. Their Celtic practices differed somewhat from the Roman Church, whose tenets were reintroduced by St Augustine in 595. He landed in Kent, which is why Kent was the first kingdom of Anglo-Saxon England to convert to Roman Christianity.

\*\* Not every source agrees with this date. Some place her death in 715 or 716.



Wenlock Priory today



# The Castles of Shropshire

## Ellesmere



*The site of Ellesmere Castle from the air. The one-time mound (or motte) can be seen clearly by means of the modern-day bowling green*

Ellesmere is a classic example of the type of motte and bailey castle that was introduced all over England as a consequence of the initially uneasy Norman Conquest. It is thought by most historians that the castle was ordered by Roger de Montgomery, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury. It was sited on a prominent hill overlooking the Mere so that it could command the surrounding landscape and monitor any potential threat.

The castle changed hands several times, reflecting the turbulent political landscape of the Middle Ages, until it fell under the ownership of the Earls of Derby. However, the end of the Welsh Wars and growing stability of the English monarchy meant that the castle's role as a defensive stronghold decreased over time until it was destroyed during the English Civil Wars. Today there is very little left of the castle – only the motte can be made out, with the flatter surface at the top, once the location of the main keep, now being used for a bowling green (see above).

The motte once supported a timber tower, which acted as a watchtower, the lord's residence and the last bastion of defence should the castle come under attack.

*Photo © Jeff Buck (cc-by-sa/2.0)*



*Looking up to the former mound of Ellesmere Castle*

It was later granted to the Peverel family by Henry I, possibly as a consequence of the failed rebellion by Robert de Bellesme, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury. Henry II granted it to Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd, the husband of Henry's half-sister, Emma. Its strategic location meant that it played a significant role in Welsh Wars.

*Photo © Ade Farmer (cc-by-sa/2.0)*



*Looking down from the former mound of Ellesmere Castle*



# SPORT AND LEISURE IN TIMES GONE BY...

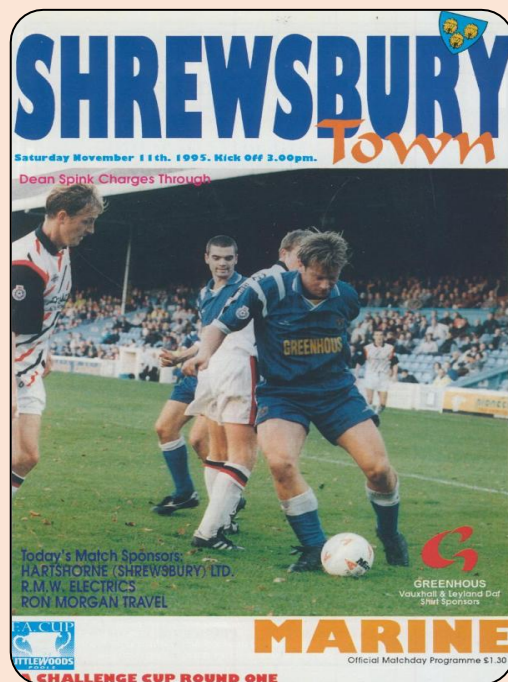
## A Feast of Goals

A fresh afternoon on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 1995 saw an FA Cup first round match between Shrewsbury Town and Marine at the Gay Meadow. Marine offered non-league opposition for the league team, and thus they were very much the underdogs for this match.

Shrewsbury set up in an attacking formation, and from the start imposed an aggressive press, which meant that the Marine players found themselves with very little time on the ball. Very quickly, the professional team was interchanging quick passes and exploiting gaps in the Marine defence. By the end of the game, Shrewsbury had scored eleven goals. Marine did gain the consolation of two goals, but the final score of 11-2 represented a record victory for Shrewsbury Town Football Club, which has yet to be surpassed.\*

This was a cup match – the record victory in league football for Shrewsbury Town is 7-0. This was achieved twice – against Swindon Town in 1955 when Shrewsbury were in League Division Three (South)\*\* and again when they played Gillingham in 2008 in a League 2 game. That latter victory did Shrewsbury little good – the two teams met again at the end of the season in the final of the League 2 Play Offs at Wembley. Gillingham won the game 1-0 with a late goal and were duly promoted. Shrewsbury remained in League 2.

Shrewsbury also gained a second 7-0 victory in 2008, this time in the EFL Trophy, then known as the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. This victory was against Wycombe Wanderers and took place away from Shrewsbury, whose main striker at the time, Grant Holt, scored five goals.



The FA Cup game against Marine can still be experienced on YouTube.

[Shrewsbury Town 11-2 Marine | FA Cup 1995/96 | Full Broadcast](#)

To just see the goals, click on the link below

[\(5\) Shrewsbury Town 11-2 Marine \(Just the goals\) | 11th November 1995 - FA Cup 1st Round - YouTube](#)

Footage was before High Definition, so the quality of the video is not great

**\* For those long-suffering Shrewsbury Town supporters who have endured the past season, it is worth noting that only 41 goals were scored in the entire 2024/2025 season. This tends to explain why Shrewsbury were relegated...**

**\*\* When Shrewsbury Town joined the league in 1950 the football pyramid had two Divisions Three – North and South. These later morphed into two separate divisions, now known as League 1 and League 2**



## BIGGEST VICTORY EVER...

Not to be outdone, Shrewsbury Town Women's team ran out 11-0 winners in a Shropshire FA County Cup game on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025 against Albrighton. This is the biggest margin of victory in any competitive game played by Shrewsbury Town teams, men or women

# SHREWSBURY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery (SM&AG) sits proudly in the town square and is the county's flagship museum and art gallery. Visitors will find a full programme of activities including courses, workshops for schools, film showings, weekly toddler groups, holiday activities and one-off incredible events inspired by our temporary exhibitions programme.

**Entry is free, though SM&AG welcomes any donation** - more information can be found at [Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery - Shropshire Museums](https://www.shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk/museums)



## Answers to the Picture Quiz (Page 17)

- 1 – The Abbey Gardens, next to Shrewsbury Colleges Group, English Bridge site
- 2 – The Darwin statue on Mardol Head
- 3 – The Leybourne tomb in St Mary's Church
- 4 – The paving on Pride Hill
- 5 – The balcony at the Bear Steps complex
- 6 – Chester Street in flood



## THE BEAR STEPS Gallery Shop

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Mon – Sat  
10 am – 4 pm  
Bear Steps Hall  
2 St Alkmund's Place  
Shrewsbury  
SY1 1UH

[www.shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk)  
[info@shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@shrewsburycivicsociety.co.uk)  
Bear Steps Art Gallery

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And that's exactly why we've lined up some great local bands to provide the soundtrack to Shrewsbury Food Festival.

*PS. We're staying open until 10pm on Saturday, 28th for a Charity Concert so you really can dance the night away!*

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SHREWSBURY CIVIC SOCIETY (SCS)

New Standing Order Instruction and one-off payment

I agree to the data protection policy of SCS. This can be found on our website and will grant Shrewsbury Civic Society permission to contact members by email

**Standing Order for your bank (To the Bank: please cancel any previous order to SCS)**  
Standing order to commence on the       day of       in the year       and thereafter every year until further notice and debit my account accordingly.

Bank Name:	
Sort Code:	
Account Name <i>(please print)</i> :	
Account Number:	
Account Payable <i>(see below)</i> :	
Beneficiary:	Shrewsbury Civic Society
Bank:	NatWest
Sort Code:	52-41-16
Account Number:	42597099
Name <i>(please print)</i> :	
Signature:	
Address:	
Email Address:	

**Category of Membership:** *(Please circle)* Individual (£15); Family/Joint (£25); Student (£10); Corporate (£50)

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I would like all donations (including Membership Subscriptions) that I have made to Shrewsbury Civic Society Trust Limited since 6th April 2000 and all donations (including Membership Subscriptions) I make from the date of this declaration to be treated as Gift Aid Donations, until I notify you otherwise. I will inform you if I am no longer a tax-payer.

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**Standing Order:** You will need to fill in this form and hand it into your bank. Alternatively, you can print out the form found on our website and hand that into your bank.  
**Over the Counter:** You can visit us at the Bear Steps and pay over the counter.  
**By post:** Send your completed application form to the Bear Steps Gallery, 2, St Alkmund’s Place, Shrewsbury, SY1 1UJ with a cheque for the desired membership.  
**Online:** For online BACS payments, please make payment to Sort Code 52-41-16, Account No. 42597099, and include the word Membership and your full name as the BACS reference. Please also email us with your contact details.

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