



**Shropshire
Hills**
National
Landscape



CARING FOR GODS ACRE IN THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS: THE IMPORTANCE OF BURIAL GROUNDS FOR NATURE

Supported by the Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust

Friday 31 October 2025

Norbury Hall, with visit to the Norbury Churchyard Yew at lunchtime

Booking essential!

This is a free event and includes lunch but a donation of £25 will ensure we can hold events like this again in future. Thank you. Book your place through: conference@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk



Photo: Andrea Gilpin

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Friday 31 October 2025, 9.15-4.30

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PROGRAMME

09.15 Doors open /tea/coffee/pastries

10.00 Oliver Goode, Caring for God's Acre Trustee &

The Venerable Dr Fiona Gibson, Archdeacon of Ludlow: **Welcome**

10.10 Harriet Carty, Caring for God's Acre: **A Whistle-stop History**

10.30 Chris Knapman, Ancient Yew Group: **Have I Got Yews for You!**

11.15 George Peterken OBE, ecologist: **Churchyard Natural History and Vegetation**

12.00 Q&A

12.15 Lunch, stalls, visit the Ancient Yew in Norbury churchyard

1.15 Oliver Goode: **Welcome back**

1.20 Mary Steer, Shropshire Lichen Group and Vice-President of the BLS: **Churchyards and their importance for Lichens**

2.00 Lisa Worledge, Director of Conservation, Bat Conservation Trust: **Bats in Churches and other Batty Business**

2.40 Stuart Edmonds, Shropshire Mammal Group: **Havens for Small Mammals**

3.00 **Three Exemplar Sites from the volunteers caring for them**

3.30 Kirsty Stevens, Caring for God's Acre: **Opening the Ark**

3.50 Harriet Carty, Caring for God's Acre: **Going Forward**

4.15 Q&A close



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