

Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership

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Press Release

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Switch to the Shuttles for Snailbeach Open Day

Fancy a memorable day out this Sunday - a beautiful journey through the Shropshire Hills and a chance to experience the reality of working underground in the Snailbeach mine? Then take the Shropshire Hills Shuttle bus to Snailbeach Village and Mine Open Day on Sunday 29th June.

Jump on the Shuttle at Shrewsbury (9.45 am, Meole Brace Retail Park) or Church Stretton (10.10am, Beaumont Road) and the bus will take you on a scenic tour over the Long Mynd and into Bridges, then across the Stiperstones and through the old mining villages of the Bog and Tankerville, to reach Snailbeach in time for 11am, when the open day begins.

Snailbeach Mine has the best set of preserved lead mine buildings in the U.K. You will be able to go inside a number of the buildings including the Locomotive Shed, the Blacksmith's shop, which includes a working forge, and the small visitor centre. There is also a self-guided trail to follow around the site.

Experienced guides will be leading tours underground into Perkins Level (helmets will be provided - torches and 'wellies' are recommended if you want to go one of these tours - some lights and 'wellies' will be available to borrow). Members of the Civil War re-enactment society will also be on site to give demonstrations of how the Roundheads lived.

The Shuttle bus is an hourly service, so there are plenty of return times to choose from - the last Shuttle would leave Snailbeach just after 5pm. For more detailed Shuttle information visit shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk or pick up a copy of the 2008 Shuttle leaflet from your local library or Visitor Information Centre.

For more information about Snailbeach Open Day please visit www.snailbeachmine.org.uk

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Editors Notes:

2008 marks the 50th anniversary of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

For further information contact Stephanie Hayes, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership, Shrewsbury Road, Craven Arms SY7 9NZ Tel: 01588 674080. E mail: SHAONBO@shropshire.gov.uk www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk

The Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is one of 40 AONBs in England & Wales. This designation is recognition of the national value of the area's landscape, and brings duties on local authorities to conserve and enhance its natural beauty. Covering 23% of the county, the Shropshire Hills AONB extends from the Wrekin to the Clun Forest and from the Stiperstones to the Clee Hills. It is a diverse and tranquil area, with rugged

hills, rolling pastoral fields, woods and meadows, picturesque villages and historic buildings, hillforts and ancient monuments.

The management of the AONB is guided by a statutory Management Plan produced by the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership which comprises 5 local authorities, 31 other organisations and independent community members. The AONB staff team are funded by Natural England and the local authorities, and work with others to implement the AONB Management Plan. Shropshire County Council acts as host authority for the AONB Partnership. The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership plays three main roles:

- To develop policy and strategy for the area especially through the AONB Management Plan, and influence the policies and strategies of others
 - To take and co-ordinate action to conserve and enhance natural beauty, promote enjoyment and understanding, and further sustainable development
 - To support the involvement of the community in the management of the AONB.
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