

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| AgeUK Shropshire Telford and Wrekin ext.231 | 01743 233123 |
| BINS - Waste Management customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk | 0345 6789007 |
| CAXTON SURGERY https://www.caxtonsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx | 01691 654646 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau, Castle View | 03444 991100 |
| CORBET SCHOOL www.corbetschool.net | 01939 260296 |
| DIAL-A-RIDE, Volunteer Bureau and Qube Arts centre (main switchboard Osw.Community Action) | 01691 656882 |
| ELECTRICITY Scottish Power (Manweb as was) | 0800 001 5400 |
| KNOCKIN Medical Practice | 01691 682203 |
| NHS Out of Hours Service | 111 |
| Orthopaedic Hospital | 01691 404000 |
| PARISH COUNCIL email: westfeltonpc@gmail.com https://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk/ | |
| POLICE, West Mercia Non-Emergency number Oswestry Police Station Safer Neighbourhood team—email: oswestryc.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk | 101 0300 333 3000 |
| PRADOE CHURCH: Chairman: Andrew Kenyon | 01691 610218 |
| PUNCH BOWL | 01691 610322 |
| QUEENS HEAD RESTAURANT | 01691 610255 |
| RAIL STATION, GOBOWEN | 01691 681010 |
| ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH: Fr Philip Holy Mass Saturday 6:30 pm, Sunday 10 am | 01691 652248 |
| RSPCA Shropshire Branch | 07703 567935 |
| SAMARITANS | 116 123 |
| SCHOOL – West Felton C E School | 01691 610388 |
| SHOP: West Felton Stores | 01691 610863 |
| SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Anti-Social Report Line | 0345 6789000 0345 6789020 |
| Your Shrops Councillor: Steve Charmley email: steve.charmley@shropshire.gov.uk | 01691 587958 |
| ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH: Revd Suzan Williams | 01691 674948 |
| Church Warden: Dr Michael Davie | 01691 610612 |
| ST. CHAD'S: Chapel Warden: Mrs A Hampson | 01691 610845 |
| ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Secretary | 01691 610357 |
| VILLAGE HALL Bookings | 01691 610629 |
| WASP Problems Emergency number | 01691 831251 / 07772 006994 |
| WATER - Severn Trent Water Authority | 0800 783 4444 |
| WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: Gillian Sturgess | 01691 611811 |

Year 31

MAY 2024

ROUND and ABOUT WEST FELTON

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Home around 6:30pm

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Coach trip to Stratford £15 per person

Optional Boat trip £10



**A
West Felton
WI event**

WHAT'S ON

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Parish Council | Second Tues of the month, 7:30 School Hall |
| West Felton Walkers | 10am Mondays, Punch Bowl EXCEPT... see page 49 |
| Pilates Class | Tuesday mornings: 2 sessions: 9:30-10:30 & 10:45-11:45am Need to book on line GYMATCH. Phone: Abi 07904456368 |
| Tai Chi | Tuesday 2pm to 3pm, Village Hall |
| Badminton | Every Tues evening: 8pm to 9:30pm. Village Hall |
| Baby & Toddler | 9:15- 10:30 Termtime WEDNESDAY at the school |
| Felton Flexors | Wednesday mornings 9:30am to 10:30am Village Hall |
| Table Tennis | Thursday 7:30pm Village Hall |
| WI | 2nd Thursday of the month 7pm Village Hall |
| Short Mat Bowls | contact Glynnis on 610336 |
| Royal British Legion | 8pm Meeting, THE PUNCH BOWL first Monday of the month except Bank holidays then second Monday. |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| | GARDEN VISITING MONTH! See all the opportunities... Will yours be listed here next year? See page | 31 |
| 6 May | WHITTINGTON GARDENS open with music, plant sale | 37 |
| 9 May | 10am=noon COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING Village Hall | 11 |
| 11/12 May | 10:30-4:30 JON YOUNG OPEN STUDIO/GARDEN with guest artist Holly Hayward | 35 |
| 12 May | 2-5 pm PRADOE GARDEN OPEN | 33 |
| 18 May | Day trip to STRATFORD UPON AVON - see front cover | |
| 19&21 | BROWNHILL HOUSE GARDEN open | 39 |
| 14 July | WEST FELTON CARNIVAL24 - book your stall now | 13 |



- Interesting opportunity Page 29
- Need help? Taylor Maid Page 20
- Shrops Co Co wants to know what you think about charging for Garden Bins P19

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Opening time :
Wednesdays only : 9:30am until 11am.

Round and About West Felton

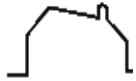
Articles/advertisement amendments for inclusion
in next issue
to Editor by email (preferred) or phone

**Last day for submission of copy and
Deadline for content changes 10th MAY 2024**

Editor: Colleen Hughes

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St Chad's, Haughton : 9:30am on the second Sunday of each month

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WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to West Felton Parish Council: **Mrs Rosemary WOOD**
Parish Office: 5 Newtown Gardens
Baschurch Shrewsbury SY4 2HF Tel 01939 262 881
 Email: westfeltonpc@gmail.com
 Website: www.westfeltonparish.co.uk

Chairman Cllr David WALKER 01691 897 117 (Rep Helicopter Noise Group)
Vice-Chairman Cllr Kerry GROVE 01691 611 776 (Rep SALC Area Comm).
 Cllr Carole COLES 01691 610 225
 Cllr David CURTIS 01691 610 665 (Rep WF Primary School)
 Cllr Marian HESKETH 01691 610 441 (Rep for Village Hall).
 Cllr John HOUGHTON 01691 610 834
 Cllr Chris JONES 01691 610 354
 Cllr Pat MABE 01691 610 400
 Cllr Ed NICHOLAS 01691 610 230 (Rep ABP committee)
 Cllr Ozcan OZAGIR 07879 330 598
 Cllr John THORNHILL 07714 759 466
Shropshire Councillor Cllr Steve CHARMLEY 01691 650 488

Parish Council report March / April

Our 12th of March meeting was our last at the Methodist Chapel.

The first main item on the agenda was Reports. Members received written reports from the Clerk, Cllr Thornhill on the Safer Roads Grant application, Cllr Mabe on a quiet SALC Area Committee, and Cllr Hesketh on the School Hall opening. The Police report arrived too late for the meeting. Our Shropshire Councillor wasn't present with no apologies given and no report received in his absence.

The Clerk's report outlined updates from David Woodhouse regarding a potential tree survey for new TPOs, bus shelter cleaning, mole hills at the burial ground, Rednal Airfield Monument, Neighbourhood presentation by David Ward, and correspondence from residents.

Cllr Thornhill reported that the OPCC Safer Roads Grant funding had been approved for one VAS, conditional upon approval being received from Shropshire Council and submission of a quote. He had been liaising with Shropshire Council officers to secure the approval and arrange a site visit which he hoped would take place by early April.

Cllr Hesketh reported that she and Cllrs Thornhill and Mabe had represented the Parish Council at the official school hall opening (with Cllrs Houghton and Curtis attending in a different capacity). They had enjoyed the afternoon and been im-

(Continued on page 9)

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These personal mobile numbers/email addresses can be used to gain quick contact with our local policing team **BUT are not to be used to report new incidents**. All incidents must be reported on either of the two numbers: 101 in the case of non-emergency and 999 for emergencies.

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Local Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Stuart Carroll 07970 544372.



West Felton Walking Group

We meet at 10.00 am Mondays at the Punch Bowl car park

EXCEPT on the first Monday of the month when departure is 9:30 to allow time to travel to our chosen destination for the away day walk.
New members always welcome.

Walk leaders:-

Mike Bossen 01691 610623

Hilary Iles 01691 610707

John and Eileen Hanmer

01691 610629

Liz and Dave Embrey

01691 658275

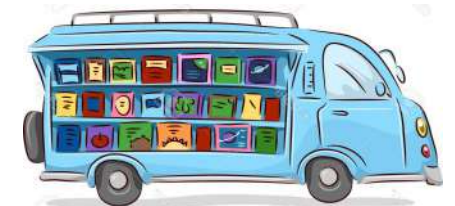
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(Continued from page 7)

pressed with the presentation. Cllr Hesketh agreed to email the Head Teacher to thank her for the invitation and convey the Parish Council's congratulations.

After noting income received and resolving payments, members agreed to support a planning application for a new roof and conversion of an outhouse with landscaping.

Following consideration of extra information about the surface type for the footpath to the new accessible play equipment, members agreed to delegate power to the Clerk to agree the surface type with Tim Simmons provided the quote didn't exceed £11,000. This was subsequently agreed after the meeting with Tim Simmons in consultation with Cllr Jones to surface the path with compacted Breendon stone and pin kerbing for £9,769.50 and reported back to the April meeting.

Our 9th of April meeting was our first in the school and opened with apologies and a report to say that Cllrs John Houghton and Carole Coles had resigned from the Parish Council, both due to family and work commitments impacting their free time and their capacity to fulfil their role. Cllr Houghton has had two stints as a member of the Council, and his incite and professionalism has been invaluable to the council. Cllr Coles has been a member of the parish council for 26 years and has served as the Chair of the council. Her knowledge and experience will be difficult to replace and has been extremely helpful to the council. The Clerk will soon publish a notice of casual vacancies. If you are interested in becoming a councillor then please contact the Parish Clerk via our website.

Reports to members included reports from the police, the Clerk, our Shropshire Councillor and members. The Clerk's report updated members on a request for a meeting between Cllr Jones, Cllr Walker and David Woodhouse about the TPO tree survey; insurance pre-renewal questionnaire regarding the war memorial; the OPCC grant; the playing field footpath; the withdrawal of Scottish Power from the market to supply power for the streetlights; and correspondence from the school and residents. Our Shropshire Councillor Steve Charmley asked about correspondence he had received from a resident and wanted to know our take on the issue but otherwise didn't have anything to report to members. Cllr Curtis drew members attention to a public meeting in Pant about the Vyrnwy Frankton Project, highlighting the new map showing the wider area of study for the project.

Members approved a range of finance matters, considered a planning application at Manor House Farm, agreed to switch the street light energy supplier to Shropshire Council, agreed to apply for a grant from Shropshire Council for another VAS sign, and readopted the disciplinary policy and the grievance policy.

Our next Parish Council meeting is on 14 May 2024 at 7:30pm in West Felton CE Primary School.

Cllr David Walker

Chair of West Felton PC

Wills, Property Protection, Powers of Attorney

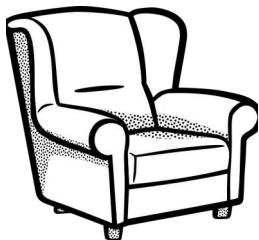


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(Continued from page 45)

fills us with God's wisdom and power for the tasks which he has called us to. On the day of Pentecost it is the Holy Spirit that takes the group of timid and bewildered disciples and equips them to declare the gospel message. Jesus before his Ascension had promised them that they would receive the Holy Spirit to equip them as His witnesses throughout the world.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

This power that comes with the Holy Spirit is very real and is available to us

just as it was to the first disciples. It is power to live our lives as God intended, power to encourage us and to strength us for acts of service. It is not to make us feel better, or for our own benefit but it is the power to build one another up and to inspire the Church. So as Pentecost approaches perhaps we need to re-evaluate this slightly misunderstood Christian Festival and celebrate the birthday of the church with a bit more style and flair! Our prayer certainly needs to be 'Come Holy Spirit!'

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

Every Blessing, Suzan



WEST FELTON METHODIST CHAPEL and SCHOOLROOM

After the closing service on 7th April, the building will be **CLOSED**.

It will remain the property of the Methodist Church, so should be considered as **PRIVATE PROPERTY**, and it will be regularly checked.

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Rector's Ramblings

Rev Suzan Williams

Pentecost or more traditionally Whitsun is I think the Cinderella of Christian festivals, it has never really had the impact of Christmas and Easter. It doesn't have the same traditions or social events around it which make it stand out in the wider culture either. I think increasingly the church doesn't really know how to mark the occasion and even the recent 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer campaign which has actually taken off across the churches in recent years doesn't really make much of Pentecost itself. Yet Pentecost is perhaps one of the most exciting of the church festivals for it marks the moment when God started the church! It is in effect the Church's birthday, the day that God sent the Holy Spirit to inspire and empower ordinary Christians to do extraordinary things for Him.

The Holy Spirit is given freely to all of us as a free gift from God. Jesus promised his disciples that we would receive this gift so that we might know his presence with us as we live out our faith on a daily basis.

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforter to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you..."

- John 14:15-16

The problem is when most of us think of comfort we think of the luxuries of life, or being wrapped up in a warm blanket or duvet. We also think of comfort as something that consoles us when we are upset or in need. Whilst all these things are true the word used in the New Testament has a completely different meaning to those we might expect. The word comfort is the same word that we find in relation to prodding, strengthening or stirring into action. The Bayeux Tapestry has a wonderful panel of Bishop Odo, forcing his men into battle, at the end of his battle club, with the abbreviated Latin words: which when translated means: "Here, Bishop Odo, comforts his troops." As individuals we might not find such 'comfort' comforting but the Holy Spirit is given to equip and spur us into action! In fact, the word comfort has traditionally also meant to give or add strength to someone or to encourage, urge or exhort. When we see the coming of the Holy Spirit in that way it makes much more sense of both Jesus' words and what we see in the book of Acts as the early church begins to emerge.

The Holy Spirit also empowers us to be the people God created and knows us to be, in that sense the Holy Spirit

(Continued on page 47)

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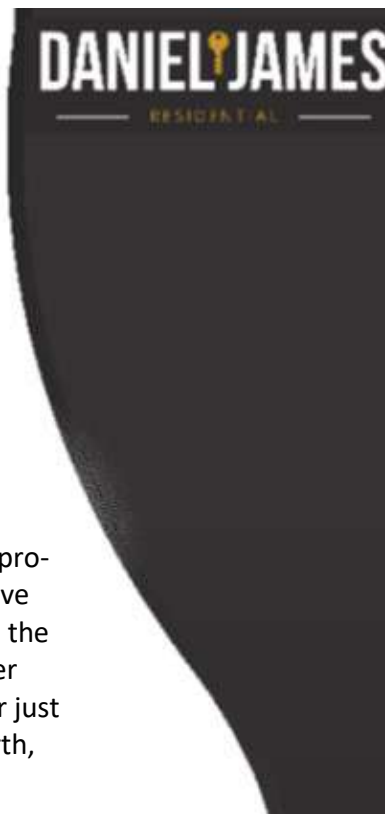
So don't hesitate, contact us today to schedule your free home valuation and get the information you need to make informed decisions about your home and investment.
Kind regards,
Daniel & team

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WEST FELTON CARNIVAL 24 14th July 2024



From Joanne
and the
Carnival
Committee

**We've already got plenty booked in for the
Carnival on Sunday 14th July including live
music, entertainers and inflatables!**

- For this year's Carnival there will be a prize for the best decorated house in the village, so dig out your bunting and balloons and see how creative you can be!
- In the face of rocketing costs we're reaching out to local businesses and anyone in our generous community who is able to sponsor the day, make an in-kind contribution, make a donation towards carnival costs, or donate prizes for the Grand Draw.
- **IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY, BIG OR SMALL PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.**
- If you're interested in having a stall please get in touch for more information. Everyone welcome, so if you have a homemade talent you'd like to sell or promote, or if you're a more seasoned stall holder please contact us by email, phone or FB Messenger.

Email: wfcarnival@gmail.com

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May the good times roll

Hopefully, the good times of May will not be spoilt by a late frost, but it is necessary to keep at least one eye on the weather and have the fleece at hand. Climate change seems to mean extremes and the unexpected. We suffered enough from the extreme rain-fall earlier so gentle weather in May would be much appreciated. Probably the most vulnerable things are the new potatoes being frosted and getting bed-ding out in the last week of the month.

Before that, I will be spreading compost on the soft fruit and scattering Growmore on the grass. Like the bought in soil conditioner I applied to the vegetables and some flower beds in the winter, the compost will be spread rather more thinly than I would ideally like, and less than the no dig gurus preach about. However, it is probably a bit more than most people would use in a conventional digging routine. The amounts of organic material applied in the ideal no dig situation are perhaps a bit like woodland that gets a deep covering of leaves every year. Our garden is well endowed with trees and we try to make good use of the fallen leaves by keeping them on the beds, but there is sometimes a bit of conflict between doing good and having a tidy look.

Tender vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers and courgettes will need potting on, while very early tomatoes

can go out into a cold glasshouse. It is also time to sow runner beans and many of the brassica such as cauliflower, cabbage and kale, plus the last of the maincrop potatoes. I sow all brassica in 40 cell tray inserts and use large modules (12 cells to a tray) for runner beans. These can be put in a cold frame to germinate. Sweet corn will go into small modules (18 cells to a tray) and kept in a warm glasshouse. Using containers is much safer and certain than sowing direct.

In contrast to the danger of frost, there is now more heat in the sun and I find it necessary to remove some panes in one glasshouse to give extra ventilation. Subject to that eye on the weather forecast, I shall start planting out bedding in the last week of May, starting with plants in containers.

It brought home how individual gardening is when I read Christopher Lloyd saying that May is not a peak month in most gardens and his is no exception. On the contrary, I often think that May is my favourite time and the garden at its best. Obviously, it depends on what you grow, a host of spring shrubs like rhododendrons will boost the May interest while a lot of bedding will not be making its presence felt until much later. What is certain is that everything is still fresh and not overgrown in May and you will still have enthusiasm for tackling the weeds. ♦

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WEST FELTON BRANCH

Our village has proudly been part of the Royal British Legion story since its conception in 1921. Not so many years ago members proudly marched from St Michael's Church to the Village Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. The marching may have disappeared but not the enthusiasm of Parishioners gathering at the memorial on the 11th November. Even in recent memory many fundraising events were organised during the year including BBQs and Cheese and Wine parties, all of which were very well supported.

Sadly, due to falling numbers of active members, the Branch can no longer arrange these year-round activities and has had to concentrate on just the events that mark Remembrance itself. We have however always ensured that we hold the longstanding and hugely loved, Memorial Concert at the Village Hall. This event has been wonderfully supported through the years and is contributed to by both young and old. It also makes a major contribution to our local POPPY APPEAL.

The Branch has sadly come to a point where active membership has reduced to a point where we must consider the future. To get us through these difficult times we are inviting anyone who wishes to help in any way, to join us at our next regular monthly meeting on Monday 13th May. The meeting will be held informally at the PUNCH BOWL Public House, starting at 8pm. Please remember you do not have to be either a serving or retired member of the armed forces to join our membership. If that were the case the RBL would have ceased existing a long time ago.

**Please come along
and enjoy our friendly banter
and help us put the world to rights!
Everyone is Welcome.**

David Curtis



HAUGHTON FARM

Rednal Aerodrome - WWII

Roger Hampson remembers his father selling off livestock because much of the farmland had been requisitioned for building the aerodrome.

The airfield perimeter track ran along the back of the family farm, and only a few yards from the house was a fuel storage area, with three underground tanks each containing 3,000 gallons of fuel. Because they were so close to the airfield, they were given extra protection by the RAF – **a reinforced steel kitchen table, which the whole family was instructed to hide under in the event of an emergency!**

Roger said, *“My brother Henry and I used to stand at the farm gate when they started up the Spitfires and we’d see whose had flown off first.”*

On the 8th September 1942, SERGEANT-PILOT STANLEY PAUL LISTER, RAF took off from Royal Air Force Station Rednal, Oswestry, Shropshire, in Spitfire P7963.

Tragically, on this day Stanley's aircraft developed a swing on take-off, and he crashed into a barn at Haughton Farm on the edge of the airfield. Rednal Watch Tower witnessed the horrific accident and immediately sent out the crash tender and ambulance, who quickly arrived at the scene.

Sgt Lister was taken from the wreckage by the Emergency crews, who did all they could for him; but sadly, Stanley died from his injuries in the farmyard at Haughton Farm.

Stanley's body was brought back home to his grieving family, and he was buried at The Military Cemetery at Shorncliffe Camp, Folkestone, Kent.

There is a plaque in his memory at Haughton Farm, Rednal.

**IN MEMORY OF
SERGEANT PILOT S.P. LISTER RAF.
BORN: 3rd NOVEMBER 1921,
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Accessibility - The auditorium is situated on the first floor but sadly due to the building being Grade II listed we have no disabled lift accessibility. There are 20 low rise stairs to the auditorium and wheelchairs/prams can be left downstairs. Men's, Ladies' & a Disabled Wash Room are all located on the ground floor.

We have a loop system and Senheisser Connect system installed and our Sunday matinees have Audio Described subtitles for the Hard Of Hearing.

We are thrilled to be supported by Film Hub Midlands through the BFI Film Audience Network with funds from The National Lottery. **The aim of this support is to give everyone in the UK the opportunity to enjoy a**

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*From FOLKESTONE, HYTHE, SANDGATE & CHERITON HERALD
Saturday 12 September 1942*

TOWN COUNCILLOR BEREAVED

P/SGT. Stanley Paul Lister, fourth son of Counc. and Mrs. C. E. Lister, 34 The Crescent, Sandgate, lost his life as the result of a flying accident on Tuesday, less than a week after he became engaged to be married.

Sergt. Lister, who was aged 20, was born at Netley, Hampshire. He was educated at the Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone, and was a member of the hockey first eleven.

He enlisted in The Buffs as a Territorial at the age of 17, and two years later joined the R.A.F. He underwent his training in Canada, and returned with his unit to this country in April.

Councillor and Mrs. Lister have three other sons serving.



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TREES

by Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing
breast;
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

May-flower

by Emily Dickinson

Pink, small and punctual
Aromatic, low
Covert in April,
Candid in May,

Dear to the moss,
Known by the knoll,
Next to the robin
In every human soul.

Bold little beauty,
Bedecked with thee,
Nature foreswears
Antiquity.

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TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



go to www.shropshire.gov.uk/gardenwastebudget2024

GARDEN WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRES

We're asking for your views on proposals for an annual subscription charge to collect garden waste from homes in the Shropshire Council area - and about how we can reduce the cost of running our five household recycling centres.



A six-week consultation runs until 20 May.

What are we asking?

We want to know if you would be willing to pay £52 a year - equivalent to £1 a week - to have your garden waste collected.

We're also asking how we can reduce the cost of running our five household recycling centres. Would you be willing to pay more than £52 a year for a garden waste collection if the additional money was used to keep all the centres open? Should the opening times be reduced? Should a permit scheme be introduced?

Why are we proposing this?

Shropshire Council must make £62m of savings from its budget this year - mainly due to growing demand for social care, which now accounts for almost £4 in every £5 of the council's budget. This means making some difficult decisions.

Charging for garden waste collections, and closing two of the council's five recycling centres, are two proposals that are in the council's budget plans. But before we make any decisions, we first want to know your views.

Did you know?

Collecting garden waste is not a service that the council must by law provide but is one that we, and we're sure most residents, would prefer to continue.

While garden waste collections in Shropshire are currently free, more than 80% of English councils already charge for this service and many have been doing so for several years. The average annual fee across the country is £55.



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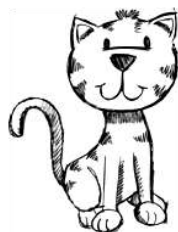
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Church House, Church St, SY11 4DT
(1 acre garden, shade plants, free-range chickens)

(follow signs in village)

(Admission by donation covers all three gardens)

Plant Sale, Music by Haslington Folk Group, Andy on Bagpipes

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WEST FELTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The March meeting was open to members of
other Institutes, friends and visitors were
warmly welcomed.



Book sales tables available at this meeting and again in Oct
2024. Members invited to donate books at any future meeting.

Programme 2024/5 booklets were available upon receipt of subscription which
includes WI Life magazine posted to every member. All communications from
Shropshire Federation are emailed to members, as are the regular County news-
letter, National Federation news, details of the WI Learning hub, etc.
The **WI online learning hub** is now live. Lots of free workshops/talks/vocational
subjects. Access live for 7 days after they take place. Many sessions are on-
demand.

WF Bursaries - Members were reminded that there are two available bursaries
of £50 each towards an educational course.

The upcoming events mentioned are:

- **First Aid session** 7pm Tuesday 26th March in the new West Felton school hall.
Emphasis on 'waiting for the ambulance'.
- **Ladies Lunch** - Mon 8th April 1pm, Kings Head, Oswestry.
- **Girly Gourmets** - Thurs 25th April, Olde Boote Inn, Whittington, 7pm.
- **Outing** Saturday 18th May - Stratford upon Avon £15. Optional boat trip £10.
members +1 including men. Trip will also be open to outside WFWI after the
April meeting.
- **Overton Village Open Handicraft Show** on Saturday 18th May.
- **Shropshire Federation of WIs Annual Meeting.** Tuesday 21st May at Theatre
Severn, tickets £16. Guest Speaker is Sarah Clarke- "Black Rod". 10:30-3:30pm
(lunch 12:30pm-2pm, take a packed lunch or visit the café).
- **Derwen Fete** 25th May. Oswestry WI running the stall this year. Members are
invited to provide parcels, minimum value £1, new items only. Adult male and
female items especially needed. Please indicate age and gender on the par-
cels. There will be a collection box again at April WI meeting.
- **June outdoor meeting** Thurs 13th June. Cambrian railway centre Oswestry.
Tour, talk and train ride.
- **Garden visit** part of Shropshire Open Gardens - Thurs 27th June - arrive
6:30pm. £10 inc refreshments, Moat Hall, Annescroft, Shrewsbury.
- **School Farmers Market** 5th July. WFWI will have a stall to sell biscuits, craft.
- **West Felton Carnival** Sun 14th July - Rhian England is now the float organiser.

At the April meeting on 11th April at 7pm, the guest speakers will be John and
Annie Moody who will tell of their lives, living and working in Windsor Castle. ♦

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West Felton C.E. Primary School Sports news



West Felton Primary School strongly believes in the value of sport for all and understands the need to balance both competition and inclusive sporting opportunities for the children in our care. We were awarded the Gold School games award last year for our commitment to sport and hope to retain it again this year.

So far, we have had a great sporting year, enjoying a variety of clubs and taking part in many School games tournaments and local festivals to keep us active and enthusiastic about sport. With the addition of our fabulous new hall, we can now exercise come rain or shine.

We encourage children to take part in many sports activities. Our year 6 playleaders provide sporty play activities at lunchtimes and after fundraising at school, we now have new playground markings to encourage fitness and fun.

We offer many sports clubs in school including football, netball, dance, dodgeball, rounders. You may well have seen our running club racing through the village at the end of last year.

Often, these clubs help us to prepare for local schools competitions at Corbet school. Already this year, we have entered teams for football, netball, dodgeball, cross country, indoor athletics and rugby. In fact our brilliant netball team won the local schools competition and move forward to the North Shropshire finals in April.

Our curriculum lessons are supported by various organisations throughout the year as we seek to increase pupil activity and teacher knowledge. In curriculum time this term, Mr Hughes (from Shrewsbury Town in the Community) has provided excellent rugby and football lessons for the whole school and Beech and Willow enjoyed tennis lessons from Shrewsbury Tennis club as part of an LTA initiative. Also Y4/5/6 have enjoyed swimming lessons at Oswestry school this term as we aim for every child to leave our primary school with the skills to keep themselves safe in the water.

The Summer will provide another busy term of sport, with the whole school participating in a day of cricket, our y1/2 engaging in a multi-sports virtual competition, our Y6 visit to Arthog outdoor centre as well as National Sports week with our much anticipated School Sports day. We may even get a visit from Lenny the lion from Shrewsbury town.

Sport and play provide an important role in our busy lives, a 'good workout' helps ease stress, tension and anxiety so follow our children's lead and get active today.





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GARDEN OPEN
Pradoe, West Felton,
(in aid of Pradoe Church)

Sunday 12th May 2024
2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Entry: £5.00 per person (under 12s free)

Well behaved dogs welcome

(on a short lead please)

**Bluebell walk, blooming Rhododendrons,
rose garden and rolling lawns**

Tea and plant stall

Directions: Head out of West Felton towards Shrewsbury. Take first
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Ecclesiastical Declarations

Michael Davie

George Kennedy Allen Bell:

if the name means anything to anybody it may be that as Bishop of Chichester he was accused, 37 years after his death, of sexually abusing a girl during the 1940's and '50's. (The accusation was subsequently not confirmed). Yet as the present Church of England Bishops come out with a declaration that the war in Gaza and the killing of Palestinians should cease immediately, George Kennedy Allen Bell should be remembered as a harbinger of such proclamations.

The Church of England has a knack of being able to divide opinions. In 1939 Bishop Bell argued that the church should not be simply a spiritual prop to the state, but should stand against destruction of moral values. Famously on 14th February 1944 he spoke in the House of Lords against the bombing of civilian populations as a means of warfare, possibly influenced by the experience of Guernica in the Spanish Civil war. During the Second World War civilian populations had been affected by bombing on both the German and the Allied sides. The most controversial was yet to come with the bombing of Dresden in 1945. Whether this was justified or not remains a subject for military debate. Bell's speech probably cost him the post of Archbishop of Canterbury.

The dilemma of waging a moral war has engaged the church for over a century. During the First World War, Randall Davidson, the Archbishop of Canterbury at the time, urged the government not to use poison gas, as the Germans were doing. Most of his urgings however related to the welfare of the troops, advising that alcohol should be limited and that brothels should not be close to army camps. As military capabilities became more destructive, so the church became more involved in trying to prevent actions on the battlefield that it felt to be immoral.

In calling for a cessation of the conflict in Gaza to prevent deaths amongst the civilian Palestinian population, the Bishops in the Church of England have embraced matters involving non-Christian religions and with which this country is not directly involved. Although the declaration called upon both Israel and Hamas to stop fighting, the emphasis has inevitably fallen upon the Israeli army to stop fighting since it is they who are causing the casualties. Bell would undoubtedly have called upon the Israelis to cease fighting: would he have called upon Hamas to end the weaponisation of the population? In times past the Church itself might have sought a military solution, although Christianity has in general confined itself to fighting when Christian

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The "Yellow Book" includes many of Shropshire's best gardens, some magnificent country estates and some hidden jewels owned by ordinary garden-lovers, offering a cost-effective day out, with beautiful gardens and home-made refreshments, all raising money for our good causes.

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For more information about the work that The National Garden Scheme does please visit our website.

<https://ngs.org.uk/>

For any additional information about how the Shropshire Team works and to make any enquiries about opening a single garden, a village or a town trail or anything else please contact me.

**Andy Chatting, Shropshire County
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interests were at risk (the Crusades) or Christianity itself was split (the Wars of religion).

Yet as the church seeks to settle foreign disputes, it has those closer to home to resolve. Separate arrangements have had to be made for those who do not accept women clergy. Same sex marriage continues to raise emotions. Most recently six Dioceses in the Midlands have caused controversy over an advertisement for an officer for “deconstructing whiteness”. Such was the outcry that the Archbishop of Canterbury was moved to write to the lead Diocese asking “what on earth the advertisement meant”. Seeking to elucidate this phrase, Treena Larkin, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, General Synod member and a participant in the Diocesan minority ethnic clergy group, gave this explanation. “Whiteness means race; it predates slavery, and is manifested by the social, political, economic, and cultural behaviour”. She further explained that this was the norm by which other cultures were compared. Unsurprisingly the advertisement was deemed to be racist and was withdrawn. As the furore died down, more sober voices pointed out that Treena Larkin was trying to deconstruct the whole culture of the country. It had nothing to do with ‘whiteness’; the population happened to be white rather than any other

colour. More provocatively it was pointed out that our country can't be that bad if so many people want to come here. Senior members of the clergy complained that such language risked alienating ordinary members of the Church of England and made people feel guilty about being white.

Where would George Bell have stood? He was undoubtedly attracted to serving the underprivileged having worked in the slums of Leeds amongst Indian and African immigrants. He arranged for asylum for those fleeing Nazi persecution and worked hard for ecumenism. He would probably have supported the integration of peoples and racial equality, though in a more thoughtful and subtle way, given the scholar that he was. ♦





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Valerie Stock RIP

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the messages of sympathy, donations and floral tributes received on the recent sad loss of Val (Stock). They gave us great comfort and were very much appreciated.



Thank you. Steve, Dot, David & Kathy