

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	07543 040618
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
Shrops Councillor: Cllr David Walker	01743 256863/ M 07484 541576
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH: MINISTRY vacant Church Warden: Dr Michael Davie	01691 610612
ST. CHAD'S: Chapel Warden: Mrs Ann 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: President: Rhian	07375 997 782

Year 32

SEPTEMBER 2025

ROUND and ABOUT WEST FELTON

www.westfeltonmagazine.co.uk

Supporting local business - Supporting the community

All welcome

HARVEST SUPPER
West Felton Village Hall
7pm Friday



See page 15 for details
Book early to avoid disappointment

W H A T 'S O N

Parish Council	Second Tues of the month, 7:30 School Hall
West Felton Walkers	10am Mondays, Punch Bowl EXCEPT...see page 16
Pilates Class	Tuesday mornings: 2 sessions: 9:30-10:30 & 10:45-11:45am Need to book online GYMATCH. Phone: Abi 07904456368
Tai Chi	Tuesday 2pm to 3pm, Village Hall
Badminton	Every Tues evening: 8pm to 9:30pm. Village Hall
Tuesday Tots	Every term time Tuesday 9.15 - 10.30 West Felton 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	INFORMAL MEETINGS 8pm Meeting, PUNCH BOWL first Monday of the month except Bank holidays then second Monday.

4 Sept	10-12noon - COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall	11
19th Sept	7pm HARVEST SUPPER, West Felton Village Hall	19
21st Sept	9:30am HARVEST SERVICE, St Michael's Church	
28th Sept	4pm ST CHAD'S HARVEST FESTIVAL, at St Chad's Church	15
6th Oct	9am SCHOOL HARVEST SERVICE AND EXHIBITION, St Michael's Church, details next month.	
11th Oct	10am-4pm WEST FELTON ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR, Village Hall	25
21st Oct	6:30pm DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING, West Felton Village Hall	15
25th Oct	7:30 pm - QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Hope House Children's Hospice. West Felton Village Hall. Brought to you by DANCE HQ	13
22nd Nov	CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING Village Hall	
13th Dec	ILLUMINATED TRACTOR RUN	

David Davies & Sons

"Serving the community for over 170 years"

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

An independent family business offering a complete service including pre-paid funeral plans

1 Upper Church Street, Oswestry SY11 2AA
01691 653116



W. E. Price FUNERAL DIRECTORS

We provide the highest level of care, compassion and professionalism.

Available 24 hours a day. Pre-paid funeral plans available

West Felton 01691 610975
Oswestry 01691 652995

www.wepricefuneraldirectors.co.uk

Oakwood, Salop Road, Oswestry, SY11 2RN



OSWESTRY TOWN MARKET



COME AND ENJOY
THE WARM and FRIENDLY
ATMOSPHERE

INDOOR MARKET:

Wednesday,
Friday &
Saturday

**OVER
30
STALLS**

STREET MARKET:

Wednesday
&
Saturday

WEST FELTON VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity No. 702175

for Social events, Concerts, Weddings, Clubs,
Sales, Children's parties
Eileen Hanmer 01691 610629

Hourly rate	£10	Concerts	£60
Morning or Afternoon	£50	Children's Parties (max 3 hours)	£40
Discos/parties	£80	Weddings, all day	£200

Commercial rates by arrangement

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 SEPTEMBER 2025**

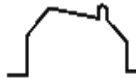
Editor: Colleen Hughes

Tel 01691 610300

colleenhughes748@btinternet.com

Advertising Rates
for 12 insertions:

Quarter page	£60
Half page	£90
Full page	£150



WEST FELTON STORES

Telephone - 01691 610 863

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 7am - 8pm

Saturday: 7:30am - 8pm

Sunday: 10am - 7pm

We are doing the delivery service again for those who are shielding at home.

Please order between 9-12 on our

- phone number 01691 610 863 or
- Whatsapp your order on our business number (+441691 610 863).

We will deliver as soon as possible, please leave your name and telephone number, so we may contact you.

Thank you.

Essential items only please, the minimum spend is £10.00 (excluding alcohol, tobacco and cigarettes).

Parish of Whittington and West Felton with Haughton

Services in West Felton Parish:

**St Michael's, West Felton
9:30am every Sunday**

**6 October 9am
SCHOOL HARVEST
SERVICE &
EXHIBITION**

**St Chad's, Haughton
SERVICES TO BE ANNOUNCED
SERVICE ACCORDING TO THE
BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER**

**28 SEPT 4PM
HARVEST FESTIVAL
ALL WELCOME**

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

Please arrange with The Churchwarden:

Dr Michael Davie 01691 610 612

Pradoe Church

Services - at 10:30am unless otherwise stated

Sunday 7th September at 10.30 am : Family Service

**All Welcome,
Tea, Coffee & Biscuits served after service**

All enquiries to Andrew Kenyon 07968 257452



Electrical M&V Renewables

01691 712830
office@rjwelectrical.com

Your Local
Electricians & Solar
PV Installers

- Domestic, Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Electrical Installations
- Electrical Installation Condition Reporting
- Solar PV
- EV Charger
- Renewable Technologies
- PAT Testing



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 John THORNHILL 07714 759 466
Vice-Chairman Cllr Ozcan OZAGIR 07955 232 199
 Cllr David CURTIS 01691 610 665 (Rep WF Primary School & SALC Area Committee)

Cllr Alastair FORBES 01691 610 524
 Cllr Mick GREEN 07928 479 305
 Cllr Marian HESKETH 01691 610 441 (Rep for Village Hall).
 Cllr Chris JONES 01691 610 354 (Rep SALC Area Committee).
 Cllr Pat MABE 01691 610 400
 Cllr Ed NICHOLAS 01691 610 230 (Rep ABP committee)
 Cllr Neil SUMMERS 07523 318 005
 Cllr David WALKER 01691 897 117

Our Shropshire Councillor : Cllr David Walker T: 01743 256863
Mobile: 07484 541576

Our Member of Parliament : Helen Morgan T: 01939 809387
E: helen.morgan.mp@parliament.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS (no meeting in August)

13 January 2026	9 September 2025
10 February 2026	14 October 2025
10 March 2026	11 November 2025
14 April 2026	9 December 2025
12 May 2026	

To Contact the Parish Council

Clerk – Rosemary Wood – 01939 262881

Email: westfeltonpc@googlemail.com

Website Address - <https://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk>

Under the main heading 'Contacts' on first page

click on a named person

and you will be taken to an email contact form to write to them.

MAX NEWALL TREE SERVICES

www.maxnewalltreeservices.co.uk

BASED IN WEST FELTON FOR THE PAST DECADE, WE COVER EVERY ASPECT OF TREE SURGERY FROM ROADSIDE REMOVALS TO PLANTING AND EVERYTHING IN-BETWEEN. ALL STAFF ARE FULLY QUALIFIED AND WE ARE INSURED UP TO 10MILLION.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTATION TO SEE HOW WE CAN HELP LOOK AFTER YOUR TREES.

- 07770503049 | 01691 700212 -

MAX@MAXNEWALLTREESERVICES.CO.UK



DS PLUMBING & HEATING



LPG, NATURAL GAS AND OIL
Gas Safe & OFTEC Registered
Breakdowns - Servicing
Landlord Certificates

David Swift Mob: 07794 362873
Email - djafswift@gmail.com

Anthony Roberts Tree and Garden Care

- Tree Surgery
- Hedge Trimming
- Fencing
- Patios
- Landscaping
- Wood Chipping available
- Stump Grinding



Free quotations
Whole of Shropshire covered

Tel: 01691 770054
Mob: 07725819414



Cut & Colour Baschurch


Hair, beauty, nails,
personal care

01939
809589



**Cut & Colour
Baschurch**
Station Road
Baschurch SY4 2BB
@sarahatthehairstation

cutandcolourbaschurch@hotmail.com

 [cutandcolourbaschurch](https://www.facebook.com/cutandcolourbaschurch)

Report from West Felton Parish Chairman, Cllr John Thornhill

Helen Morgan, the Lib Dem Member of Parliament for North Shropshire, attended at West Felton Village Hall on Wed 18 August 2025 to meet members of the parish and hear their concerns about a range of issues.

Helen began by saying that she wanted to hear our concerns about what was happening in and around the village and indicated that there were forms which attendees could complete send to her on specific matters.

She talked about the topics on which she focussed in Parliament and how she was reacting to them. Her number one priority was to reduce ambulance delays had been seeking from local organisations detailed information about delays in arrivals at hospitals. She commented that there had been some improvements in the figures within the West Midlands area but that handover times at local hospitals still needed to improve. She added there was still a long way to go before the timings would be satisfactory and that the group of five MPs to which she belonged would keep up the pressure.

Her next priority was over the booking arrangement for doctor appointments with the aim of reducing the time delays. She also referred to the limitations in obtaining a place with a dentist surgery particularly in this area.

Helen explained that in relation to public transport Government had provided

funding but that it was mainly being distributed in urban areas stating that rural areas such as ours might lose out. This would impact severely on those who do not or cannot drive, the elderly who live alone, the infirm and young persons. She was working to persuade government to reconsider the distribution of such funding.

She reported success in ensuring that the Oswestry Post Office had been saved but that she was pressing the Post Office and Banks to recognise the needs of local rural communities and improve the services offered and was appalled that our local sub post office had been closed with subsequent adverse impact on the community.

She recognised that in areas such as ours, phone connectivity and access to adequate broadband was limited and extremely poor. An all party group on which she sat had undertaken a full report on this matter and had achieved some success. She pointed out that what Ofcom maps showed as signal availability was quite different from the reality and promised to have a conversation about this issue. She gave examples, confirmed by attendees, of how signal can just drop in the middle of a conversation of on-line activity including whilst driving down the A5. She reported that Freedom Fibre the company with the contract to develop this

(Continued on page 9)



LAWN & ORDER

- Professional Mowing & Edging
- Reliable, friendly service
- Monthly and Bi-weekly plans
- Free Quotations

Call or text Wes for more info:

07756 143 704

Because every lawn deserves justice.



Is your grass growing out of control?
Call in Lawn & Order



Shropshire Housekeepers

If you would like more time to enjoy your home and family, and less work and worry,

for cleaning, handyman, garden work, pet care - contact

www.shropshirehousekeepers.co.uk

info@shropshirehousekeepers.co.uk Tel: **07803 029928**

A & J CATTERY

Open all year round | Cattery is fully heated
Covered outside runs

Collection and Delivery



“Give your cat a holiday while you enjoy yours”

Sandstone Holdings, Dovaston, Kinnerley, Oswestry SY10 8DS

Tel: **01691 682 606** We are only **5 minutes** from **West Felton**

AURA

HAIR, BEAUTY & WELLNESS

24 SALOP ROAD
OSWESTRY
SY11 2NU

01691 655655



AURA.OSWESTRY@MAIL.COM

PSM Kitchens

Designing kitchens for you



- Local business, West Felton based
- Extensive range to suit all tastes
- Quality products / affordable rates
- We come to you offering a true home selection service with a no obligations chat
- All units made to order offering many bespoke options
- Free planning and design
- Supply only or full fit service using local trades



Contact paul@psmkitchens.co.uk
more info at www.psmkitchens.co.uk

Call today for a free quote 01691 664252

S. Owen & Sons

Fuels

The Wharf House, Pant, Oswestry

For all your Coal and Heating Oil Supplies

Phone your Local Supplier on

01691 830315

info@sowenandsons.co.uk

Stokes Tree Works

NPTC Qualified Tree Surgeons

DIFFICULT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Lopping * Felling * Pruning * Shaping
to British Standard Specifications



www.stokestreeworks.co.uk

Email: stokestreeworks@aol.com

01691 870300 or 07811 320982



P & S Electrical Contractors Ltd

**DOMESTIC ~ COMMERCIAL
FREE ESTIMATES**

**ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING
POINTS FITTED**

**Rewires
Periodic Testing
and Inspection**

General Electrical Work

Fuse Board Upgrades

CONTACT STUART

07710 664 254

pandselectrical27@gmail.com



Disclaimer

Round and About West Felton Magazine is not responsible for any advertiser's products, services or company, nor for any claims made by advertisers.

The information, statements and opinions expressed in reports or articles published in Round and About West Felton Magazine are solely those of the authors and do not in any way reflect those of the magazine committee.

(Continued from page 7)

technology in our area had gone bankrupt leaving many house-holds unconnected as there was no other company completing the work. She explained that Freedom Fibre had been government backed and that she was pressing for continuity of work.

This was a topic in questions raised by attendees who stated that the only real signal in this area was 3G which was soon to be cancelled. Attendees provided a number of examples of poor and inadequate provision. She agreed this was a main priority in our area and was following up on the matter commenting that the plan to improve service had failed and that providers were not meeting requirements. She promised to continue her campaign. When questioned about 5G she stated that because it used a short wave length there was a need for more masts to support it. It was pointed out in our area 5G would need about twenty five masts whereas there were only about twelve so far.

There were a number of comments and questions around transport and access in the region with observations that the Guinevere Park development in Oswestry was 'gridlocking' the town. Concern was raised about the planning of this development questioning the practicality of creating a roundabout simultaneously with house building which resulted in a full road closure on the principal access to the town for ten months. Surely it does not take ten months to create a roundabout? Would it not have been far less of an inconvenience if that had been planned first with the re-opening of the road before house building took place? Helen agreed the situation was unacceptable stating that the development had started late and foreshortened the time allowed for completion.

In relation to the access to rail transport Helen argued there was a need to convince government to develop the rail and road links in the area. In response to concerns about the reliability of local train facilities Helen commented that the local provider had agreed to purchase new rolling stock and dispense with old stock but commented that this development may not have been adequately coordinated. She added she did not know of any plans to nationalise the service.

She added that there had been a call for the A5 to be made into a full dual carriage way from Shrewsbury to Wrexham as it is elsewhere in the country which would include plans to alter a number of junctions such as the exit at the Queens Head. She admitted to trying always to avoid this and other similar junctions and promised to push forward on this issue.

The issue of speeding in the village was also raised and parishioners will be aware that the local Parish Council has pursued this matter for some time – over two years! There has been movement since the election and a site visit has taken

(Continued on page 11)



SHROPSHIRE'S BEST
ATTRACTION

TEL: 01691 610952 Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 4JH
www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk

Waggly
tails

Doggy Day Care & Home Stay Services

- 🐾 Fully insured 4* star rating.
- 🐾 Your pet treated as one of the family.
- 🐾 Secure dog run for fun & games.
- 🐾 Individual needs catered for.
- 🐾 Pick-ups and drop offs available on request.
- 🐾 Daily dog walks located in the countryside.
- 🐾 Chill-out zone.
- 🐾 Home-from-home alternative to kennels.
- 🐾 As well as dogs we also offer pet sitting for cats as a home visitation service.



Get in touch:

Located in West Felton, Oswestry
 Tel: 07974 152022
 Email: suzanne.galliers@btinternet.com
 @wagglytailswestfelton

RIDGE FUELS COAL, LOGS, GAS BOTTLES

QUALITY PRODUCTS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
LOCAL AND NATIONWIDE DELIVERY
EXCELLENT RANGE OF FUEL FOR ALL APPLIANCES
SELECTION OF MIXED WOOD including KILN DRIED & KINDLING STICKS
SELECTION OF GAS BOTTLES
CASH AND CARRY SHOP IN SHREWSBURY
FREE ADVICE FROM OUR HELPFUL KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF
Wholesaler and Retailer



Instagram

Please ring for more information on **01743 241122**
 Visit our website: www.ridgefuels.co.uk
 Ridge Fuels Ltd, LMS New Yard, Castleforegate, Shrewsbury SY1 2EN
 What3words - ARTS.RUINS.BURST



d.ab
plumbing & heating™
SPECIALISTS IN PLUMBING & HEATING

GAS & OIL CENTRAL HEATING
INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS
SOLID FUEL
GENERAL PLUMBING
07855811321

info@dabplumbingandheating.co.uk





SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE
Registered Waste Carrier
Local Operator
For a prompt and efficient service
Contact Edward Scott
on 01691 682080 or 07989 881870

Paul Humphreys
DipFA, MLIBF, CeMAP

I am a financial planner and mortgage adviser based in Oswestry offering bespoke financial advice in the following areas:

 Mortgages & Equity Release	 Pensions & Retirement planning
 Protection	 Inheritance tax & estate planning
 Care Fees Planning	 Tax efficient savings & investments



Paul Humphreys DipFA, MLIBF
Financial Planning Consultant
Book your **FREE** initial financial consultation
T: 01691 652233
E: paul.humphreys@quilterfa.com



Scan me

Approver: Quilter Financial Services Ltd and Quilter Mortgage Planning Ltd, July 2024.

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Come and meet the neighbours.



Thursday, 4th September

10-12noon in the village hall.

£1.50 entry includes tea/coffee biscuits.

Bacon baps £1 extra.

(Continued from page 9)

place with consequent action to cost the installation of more Vehicle Activated Speed signs on various sites around the village. It was suggested that the police speed cameras could be set up on Holyhead Road instead just on The Avenue bridge over the A5. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to reducing the speed limit but it was argued that this might be unenforceable. Surely that is irrelevant if it is felt necessary?

The application to install a battery unit at Rednal was raised with concerns being expressed about the fire hazards and Helen said she that the fire services should be fully involved in any discussions. The Parish Council submitted a strong objection to the application based on this risk and other concerns about water pollution if there was a fire. Helen stated that this was a private and not publicly funded development and agreed that a thorough environmental impact assessment was a high priority.

Attendees raised the issue of the housing developments in Oswestry and planning applications for West Felton with Helen agreeing there should be a co-ordinated approach to considering how to develop the infra-structure to support an increased population and traffic movements. It was proposed that this should include improved facilities for education, health and other amenities.

It was an interesting meeting and in discussion with attendees it was felt that our MP was aware of rural concerns and was making efforts to improve facilities and the quality of life for residents. The point was made that we pay the same taxes as those in urban areas and are entitled to the same facilities. ●

Approved

Care and Support

Private Care

SUPPORTING YOU
WITH YOUR CHOICES
IN YOUR OWN HOME

01691 655999

14A Salop Road, Oswestry, SY11 2NU



JIM PARKES

Specialists in oil fired heating systems
Domestic and Commercial Boilers
All aspects of plumbing work undertaken.
Covering Wrexham and Oswestry area

*Fast response to breakdowns,
And oil and water leaks*

City &
Guilds

Tel 01978 722598 Mob: 07929 016814



ValentineWindow CLEANING

www.valentinewindowcleaning.co.uk

07540 648565



WINDOWS | SOFFITS & FACIAS | CLADDING | CONSERVATORIES
GUTTER CLEANING | JET WASHING | SOLAR PANELS

Annual property review

Are you curious about the value
of your home?

- Have you made cosmetic changes in the past 12 months?
- Have you simply outgrown your home?
- Was the last time you had your home valued 2+ years ago?
- Do you understand how to maximise the value of your home?

Our team of experienced professionals will provide you with an accurate and comprehensive estimate of your property's value, based on the latest market trends and local data. Whether you're thinking about selling, refinancing, or just want to know more about your home's worth, we're here to help.

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

01691 674494



The Don,
Albion Hill,
Oswestry
SY11 1QA

daniel@danieljamesresidential.com



DANIEL JAMES
RESIDENTIAL

ONE STEP AHEAD

Joanne and Chelsea
MOBILE FOOT HEALTH

For treatment of:

- Overgrown nails | Corns
- Diabetic foot care
- Ingrowing nails | Verruca
- Free foot care advice

Fully Insured local
foot health practitioners

E: onestepaheadfhp@gmail.com
T: 01691 757111

Covering
Oswestry &
Surrounding
Areas.



Call Jennifer Scott on

07866 472083

or 07791 655559

www.facebook.com/
cleanandgleamovens

Email:

cleanandgleamovens@gmail.com

Give your oven a little TLC with

*Clean
&
Gleam*
OVENS



Professional
Oven Cleaning Services
covering Oswestry & surrounding areas

North Shropshire Timber Rednal Ind Est.

SY11 4HS - 01691610570

Your local independent sawmill
for all your internal and external timber needs.
Kiln dried, sawn to size, or machined to profile.

Durable natural oak and larch beams suitable for any project

**Seasoned firewood, ready to burn,
delivered six days a week.**

Log prices for 1.65 cubic meter, loose volume

Stove mix offcuts	£ 85
Oak/Ash offcuts	£110
Split softwood logs	£152
Split hardwood logs	£173

**Special offer this month 3.3 cubic
meters stove mix offcuts £160.00**

fundraising for
hope house
tŷ gobaith
children's hospices

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

Dance HQ is proud to support Hope House

Teams of 4-6 or come along
and form a team on the night.

Donations of raffle prizes very welcome on the night
Bring your own drinks (alcohol allowed) and nibbles
£5.00 per person entry (cash only)

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HOPE HOUSE

Saturday 25th October 7.30pm

West Felton Village Hall SY11 4EH



DANCE HQ

Bringing Dance To Shropshire

Enquiries to
Ian on
07740485925

Check out our numerous 5★ reviews on Facebook!!

ALL ASPECTS OF BUILDING WORK UNDERTAKEN



BIRCH & SONS GENERAL BUILDING LTD

**BRICKLAYER &
GROUNDWORK**



- Plumbing
- Roofing
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms

- Electrics
- Renovations
- Digger hire
- Tractor hire

**Bricklaying • Plastering • Timber Framework
Fencing • Extensions • Landscaping & Slabbing
Groundworks/Drainage**

Reliable family run business offering high quality work
at a reasonable rate. Contact us for a no obligation quote on
07484 775590 joshua.birch1985@hotmail.co.uk

www.birchsonsgeneralbuildingcontractors.com

(Continued from page 37)

Gadzooks!

One half their lives was reading
books!

The nursery shelves held books
galore!

Books cluttered up the nursery floor!

And in the bedroom, by the bed,
More books were waiting to be read!

Such wondrous, fine, fantastic tales
Of dragons, gypsies, queens, and
whales

And treasure isles, and distant shores
Where smugglers rowed with muffled
oars,

And pirates wearing purple pants,
And sailing ships and elephants,
And cannibals crouching 'round the
pot,

Stirring away at something hot.
(It smells so good, what can it be?
Good gracious, it's Penelope.)

The younger ones had Beatrix Potter
With Mr. Toad, the dirty rotter,

And Squirrel Nutkin, Pigling Bland,
And Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle and-

Just How The Camel Got His Hump,
And How the Monkey Lost His Rump,

And Mr. Toad, and bless my soul,
There's Mr. Rat and Mr. Mole-

Oh, books, what books they used to

know,

Those children living long ago!

So please, oh please, we beg, we
pray,

Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install
A lovely bookshelf on the wall.

Then fill the shelves with lots of
books,
Ignoring all the dirty looks,
The screams and yells, the bites and
kicks,

And children hitting you with sticks-
Fear not, because we promise you

That, in about a week or two
Of having nothing else to do,
They'll now begin to feel the need
Of having something to read.

And once they start -- oh boy, oh boy!
You watch the slowly growing joy
That fills their hearts. They'll grow so
keen

They'll wonder what they'd ever seen
In that ridiculous machine,

That nauseating, foul, unclean,
Repulsive televi-
sion screen!

And later, each
and every kid
Will love you more
for what you did.●



CREATING STUNNING, DREAM KITCHEN MAKEOVERS

For up to 50% Less
than a New Kitchen



It couldn't be easier to have your dream kitchen...

1. Choose your style colour from our large range of door styles and colours.
2. **Everything is made-to-measure** to ensure a first class transformation of your existing kitchen at a fraction of the cost.
3. All door styles are one price, whichever you choose the cost will be the same.
4. Most kitchens can be transformed in 1-2 days.



LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS

KITCHEN AND BEDROOM

REVIVALS
THE HOME OF KITCHEN AND BEDROOM MAKEOVERS



Visit our Showroom: Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury SY1 3TG
(opposite the Household Recycling Centre) email: sales@kitchen-revivals.co.uk

www.kitchen-revivals.co.uk 01743 588087

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

Improve your confidence about taking action to save lives should the need arise.

Come along to a short training session provided by West Midlands Ambulance Service.

Tuesday 21 October 2025, 6:30pm,

West Felton Village Hall

No booking required but any enquiries to

westfeltonpc@gmail.com

Training is free,
but donations to West Midlands Ambulance Service welcome.



Come and join us!

HARVEST SUPPER

Friday 19th September at 7pm

West Felton village hall

Tickets £10 from Churchwarden Michael Davie

or any member of the Parochial Church Council

Delicious food, good company

Raffle, quiz



ROSS HINES CHIMNEY SWEEPING

CLEAN CHIMNEYS ARE SAFE CHIMNEYS

BRUSH AND VACUUM - LEAKAGE TESTING - NESTS REMOVED
COWLS, BIRD GUARDS AND CAP SUPPLIED AND FITTED.
OPEN FIRE, MULTI FUEL STOVES, AGA, DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL.
FULLY INSURED WITH NFU, CERTIFICATES GIVEN.
FOR A FAST, FRIENDLY AND CLEAN SERVICE
OR JUST HELP AND ADVICE.

CALL 01939 768319

24 THE WHEATLANDS,
BASCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE.

NACS MEMBER 12/05



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 & Eileen Hanmer
01691 610629**

Television

Roald Dahl

The most important thing we've learned,

So far as children are concerned, Is never, NEVER, NEVER let

Them near your television set -- Or better still, just don't install

The idiotic thing at all.

In almost every house we've been, We've watched them gaping at the screen.

They loll and slop and lounge about, And stare until their eyes pop out.

(Last week in someone's place we saw

A dozen eyeballs on the floor.)

They sit and stare and stare and sit Until they're hypnotised by it,

Until they're absolutely drunk

With all that shocking ghastly junk.

Oh yes, we know it keeps them still,

They don't climb out the window sill,

They never fight or kick or punch,

They leave you free to cook the lunch

And wash the dishes in the sink --

But did you ever stop to think,

To wonder just exactly what

This does to your beloved tot?

IT ROTTS THE SENSE IN THE HEAD!

IT KILLS IMAGINATION DEAD!

IT CLOGS AND CLUTTERS UP THE MIND!

IT MAKES A CHILD SO DULL AND BLIND

HE CAN NO LONGER UNDERSTAND A FANTASY, A FAIRYLAND!

HIS BRAIN BECOMES AS SOFT AS CHEESE!

HIS POWERS OF THINKING RUST AND FREEZE!

HE CANNOT THINK -- HE ONLY SEES!

'All right!' you'll cry. 'All right!' you'll say,

'But if we take the set away, What shall we do to entertain

Our darling children? Please explain!

We'll answer this by asking you,

'What used the darling ones to do?

'How used they keep themselves contented

Before this monster was invented?'

Have you forgotten? Don't you know?

We'll say it very loud and slow:

THEY ... USED ... TO ... READ! They'd

READ and READ,

AND READ and READ, and then proceed

To READ some more. Great Scott!

(Continued on page 39)

Wills, Property Protection, Powers of Attorney

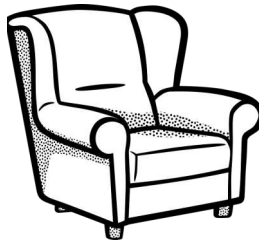


Wills £150
Lasting Powers of Attorney £150
For Free info Call Paul Humphreys on:



Tel. 0800 5977 433 • 01691 652 233
www.Asset-Wealth-Preservation.co.uk

D PRICE REUPHOLSTERY



SUITES ANTIQUES - CONTRACT UPHOLSTERY
Wide range of Fabrics - OLD BAKEHOUSE, QUEENS HEAD

For Free Quotes call
01691 610153 or 0780 1108860

The Queens Head

Visit our website at: www.the-queens-head-oswestry.co.uk

Our full menu is available online

We can cater for most dietary needs

Takeaway available on all our menus 10% discount

01691 610255

have a great Hair Day

Salon Style In Your Own Home

Advanced Cutting Techniques / Colour Specialists

Perming / Setting and Straightening

Gents Grooming / Children

Wedding Packages

www.NatashaValentine.co.uk

Freelance Hairdressing - 07967 620555



Archbishop of Canterbury vacancy

Michael Davie

Much comment has appeared in the press about the time that it is taking the Church of England to appoint a new Archbishop of Canterbury. That the appointment is viewed as a poisoned chalice probably has much to do with it. Election to the Crown Nominations commission (CNC), the body charged with finding a new Archbishop, rendered the Bishop of Norwich, a prime candidate, ineligible for the post. At a more basic level the failure to agree on the representatives by the Canterbury Diocese for the CNC (the Archbishop is also Bishop of the Diocese of Canterbury) has caused a delay. The Church of England sent the chairman of the CNC down to Canterbury "to give advice and support". This effectively meant that they sent down a hard man to knock some heads together, put the boot in and get them to select their representatives, which they dutifully did. The Chairman having done a good job there, then proceeded to damage his image by failing to tread carefully in matters of sex. He was asked whether a woman could become Archbishop. He said that there was no reason why a woman shouldn't be appointed, but he thought it unlikely. Unfortunately

he went on to say that it is "pretty clearly demonstrated that there are a lot of people who think that it would be really good to have a woman Archbishop for a number of reasons, one amongst which is the safeguarding issue". That last sentence implies that a number of the problems in the Church of England arise through sexual indiscretions by men, particularly male clergy. Worse still, it could imply that the church would be a lot safer place if the clergy were female. The Crown Nominations commission comprises 16 people plus the chairman. The chosen include five male and five female clergy and from the laity 3 persons of each sex. Those chosen include representatives from Asia, Africa, a Maori priest and the Bishop of Llandaff, who although in Wales, represents Europe. An interesting member is the representative of Africa who is not only female, but also a priest and both a Chaplain and Professor of Economics at the Kwame Nkrumah university of Science and Technology in Ghana. The presence of a female priest from Africa may sway an appointment towards a female Archbishop of Canterbury. Indeed the recent advancement of the Bishop of Mon-

(Continued on page 19)



SPECIALIST FOOT CARE

IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

- * Nail trimming * Corn removal
- * Diabetic Foot Check
- * Warm Wax Therapy
- * Cracked Heel Treatment
- * Ingrowing Toe Nails

E: amy pate92@yahoo.co.uk 07943 869164

Amy Pate - Foot Health practitioner/chiropractist

Mobile
Footcare for
West Felton



SECURE LIFE TECHNOLOGY

Specialists in Home, Business & Farm Security Systems...

The presence of CCTV cameras is a significant deterrent to burglars and vandals. Criminals are less likely to target a property if they know they are being watched. Strategically placed cameras covering entry points such as doors and windows, as well as areas like driveways and garages, can provide comprehensive coverage. Visible cameras and signs indicating surveillance can further discourage criminal activity.

- CCTV & ALARM SYSTEMS
- STARLINK INSTALLATION
- WI-FI EXTENSION SERVICES
- GPS VEHICLE TRACKERS

T: 07719 331357

E: SecureLifeTech@hotmail.com
<https://securealarmcctv.com>

Contact us today to arrange a free no obligation quote.

RICHARDS GROUNDWORKS

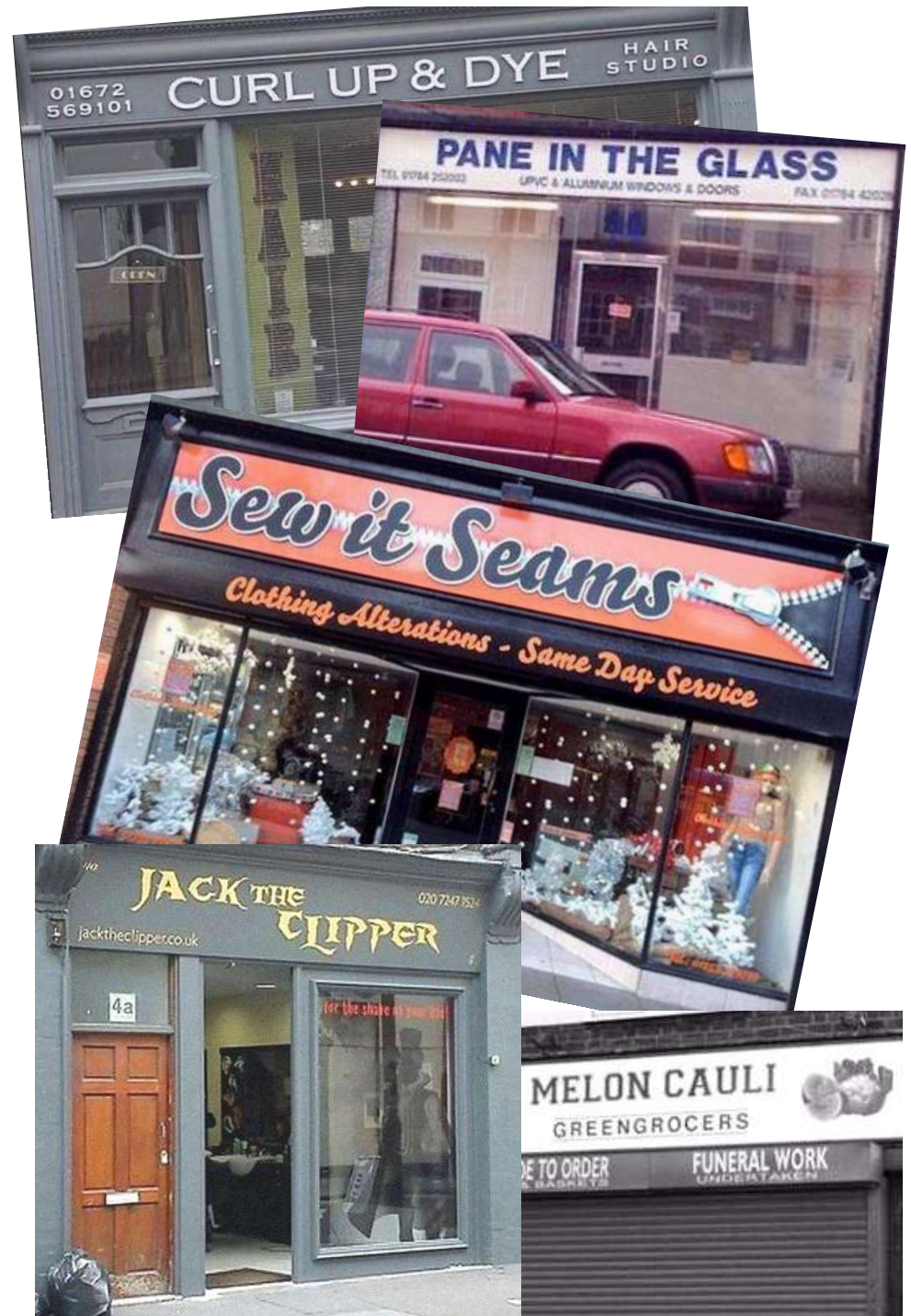
Surfacing Contractor

Drives - Tarmac - Block Paving - Slabs

Highways and Local Authority Approved Contractor
References available

John Richards, Pentre, Nesscliffe

Telephone: 07958 156054 / 01743 741503



- ✓ Free no obligation quote
- ✓ Debit & Credit cards accepted



- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ 12 months Guarantee

Review by happy West Felton clients: Highly Recommended! 5*****

PAINTHAUS

Shropshire's Premier Decorating Company

Interior & Exterior Painting and Decorating

www.painthaus.co.uk

07985 709453 info@painthaus.co.uk

GREEN HOLLOW VETERINARY SURGERY

D. W. THURSTON BVetMed MRCVS

DOMESTIC PET, HORSE & FARM ANIMAL PRACTICE

24-hour Emergency Service - Consultation by appointment

High Ridge
Wem Road
SY4 4NW
**01939
251180**

**Morning, afternoon
and evening surgeries**
**ALL NEW CLIENTS
WELCOME**

School Road
Ruyton-X1-Towns
**01939
261216**

FARM ANIMAL SERVICES :

- Routine Fertility work
- Herd Health plans
- Sheep and Goats...
- Alpaca work

SMALL ANIMAL SERVICES :

- Microchip Identity
- Diagnostic X-ray & Ultrasound
- In-house lab testing
- Pet food & accessories
- Free Pet Health advice

HORSE WORK : ● Wormers (discounts on large quantity)
● 'Vetting' pre-purchase/insurance

(Continued from page 17)

mouth, a female, to be Archbishop of Wales may also set a precedent. The method of choosing the Archbishop of Wales is considerably different from that of choosing an Archbishop of Canterbury. Each of the six Dioceses in Wales had 3 lay and 3 clergy representatives. Thus lay and ordained were equal, whereas in England clergy representatives on the CNC outnumber the laity. A female Archbishop of Canterbury might still upset the Anglican Communion in Africa and the more evangelical wing of the Church of England together with the churches in the diocese of Oswestry which oppose the ordination of women.

The Church of England itself is becoming more female. Preliminary analysis of the persons being ordained Deacons (the step before becoming a priest) in the Church of England recently shows a female excess (56%) although this did not reach statistical significance. However Dioceses appointing females to the Diaconate outnumbered those with a male excess. Larger dioceses by population created the greater number of Deacons, although the smallest Diocese by population (Hereford) generated both the highest proportion of Deacons per head of population

and the most female Deacons per head of population. There is little doubt that women are becoming both more numerous and more influential in the Church of England. Two female Bishops have contributed to the downfall of more senior (male) colleagues. The Bishop of Newcastle led the pressure to get Welby to resign and the Bishop of Warrington was instrumental in the downfall of the Bishop of Liverpool, largely over matters relating to safeguarding. Possibly the chairman of the CNC had a point about safeguarding. Attitudes in society have changed and men have to be careful. At a recent safeguarding meeting one (male) member commented; "when I was a child, I was told to take my hands out of my pockets; now I keep them firmly in my pockets". What is clear is that women are becoming more numerous in the priesthood and that the time will come soon when women dominate at the highest level leading to further splits in the Anglican Church.●

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her bag for her offering when a large TV remote fell out and clattered into the aisle. The curious usher bent over to retrieve it and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?" "No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

Oswestry Rural South SNT
(oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



PC Mark Wright M: 07977 957689 Direct Dial: 101.

PCSO Kurt Mabe 07870 219669

PCSO Stuart Carroll M: 07970 544372 | Direct Dial: 101 Ext. 7704043

Team email: oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk

OSWESTRY RURAL SOUTH Safer Neighbourhood Team,
West Mercia Police, Oswestry Police Station, Park St, Oswestry, SY11 2HE.

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.

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Twitter: @OsCops

Non emergency number : 101 web: www.westmercia.police.uk

MOBILE LIBRARY

Owen's - Route 4

Subject to change due to inclement weather, vehicle breakdown, COVID-19:

Alternate Thursdays

Grimpo 14:10 to 14:45
West Felton Village Hall
15:00 to 15:40



(Continued from page 31)

clothes, for farm or housework. Boys wore short trousers until the age of 13 or 14 and girls wore dresses or jumpers and skirts. All clothes were of natural fibres, mostly cotton and wool unlike today's man made fibres.

Women's fashions were based on small touches which did not take a lot of extra material - bows, tucks in sleeves, straight or A-line skirts, belts and gathers. Sometimes old clothes were taken apart to make a new outfit and it was common to unpick a hand knitted jumper, wash and dry the yarn and then knit a new garment.

Amazingly, young women and girls wore long dresses even to a village dance, especially if there were likely to be any servicemen present. My own mother and her friends would cycle five miles in long dresses to a dance at an RAF base. Parachute silk was worth its weight in gold - it could be made into evening dresses, or nighties and undies for a girl's trousseau. For a wedding during a brief period of leave, friends clubbed together to give the bride their clothes coupons for a 'costume' (matching skirt and jacket) and the chap wore his uniform - or his or his father's pre-war suit. ●

1940s Vintage Style
Sewing Pattern 4683

Uncut WWII Parachute
Wedding Dress



BOURNE HANDY



Tel: 07830 050908

Email: ed@bournehandy.co.uk

Do you need a bit of help
around your house and garden?

- DIY jobs
 - House repairs & maintenance
 - Gardening services
 - Single and double glazed unit replacements
 - Small plumbing and electrical jobs
- Fully insured.
Competitive rates.
Quotes on request.
Covering Knockin,
Melverley,
West Felton,
surrounding areas.*

Duncan Galliers Master Upholsterer and Furniture Restorer Upholstery

Specialist in traditional
techniques for antique and
modern furniture.

Spring repair,
foam cut to size
and sundries!

Call **01743 353981** or
email
duncangalliers@aol.com



www.supportmycomputer.co.uk



- New PCs and Laptops fully installed at home
- Spyware Removal/Installation of Leading Edge Spyware Prevention
- Performance Tuning and Business PC Support
- Hardware/Software Installations and Training
- Upgrades and Automated Backup
- Remote Support/Annual PC Health Check Also Available
- For low fixed Prices from £19.95

PC/Laptop Stopped running or running slow or need a replacement?
Call Justin on (01691) 830822 or (07772) 596029

OIL BOILER SERVICING AND REPAIRS

Call Stuart for prompt and efficient response

01691 682480

07940 757503

OFTEC qualified engineer - all works fully insured

Up the Garden Path with Topiarius

New Gardening Year

Rather than simple global warming, climate change seems to bring more uncertainty and variation of seasons. In the July heat wave this year the river by our garden was about as low as it gets. It made me remember a July of some years ago when it rose to give the biggest flooding ever, not even winter could compete. Members of a visiting French garden club seems more interested in the water than the garden. Now we will see what variations and perhaps extremes autumn and winter bring this time.

Like many people, I think of September as the start of a new gardening year when we look forward to doing it all again. There is a sort of immortality to gardening as you tend to assume you can do it for ever. High on the list for September will be starting on the list of changes logged in the July garden assessment. The setbacks of the previous season can be forgotten or at least swept under the bushes. A major job for me this autumn and winter will be reducing the many overgrown shrubs. It is not just the task of the pruning but the greater work of clearing and disposing of the cut material.

There will of course still be some routine jobs to be done, not least the weeds will probably have renewed vigour and the pests not yet hibernated. Perhaps you can sow some late salads, especially if you have a frame of glass-

house, while it is a good time to attack moss, scarify and aerate the lawn. It is also a good idea to wash glasshouses to allow maximum light in the duller months. Not a long list so time to dream of next year's successes. However, we add to that continued harvesting, in particular fruit, and the problem of deciding when such things as pears are ripe. I have never really mastered the signs and have to go by trial and error.

One thing I won't be doing a great deal of in the autumn is digging, having adopted a largely no dig regime in the vegetables. Amongst other things, this will mean that I will not be disturbing too many earthworms. I have forgotten how, but I came across a fascinating little book by Sally Coulthard entitled The Book of the Earthworm (Head of Zeus, 2021). Firstly, it really brought home the immense if not overwhelming importance of worms before entertaining with one thing after another about them that I didn't know. I suppose I dimly knew that there were different kinds but hadn't realised that some live on the surface, some burrow very shallowly whilst others, including the common earthworm, dig deeply (to as much as 3 metres). When they come up at night to grab plant material, they are able to find their way back to their own burrow, and that burrow is sometimes passed on to their offspring. And much more.●



**West Felton C of E School poets
And the judges**



(Continued from page 30)

was launched to encourage people to make their existing clothes last longer. I don't imagine there were many people in Ruyton XI Towns who had two spare dresses to convert into one or who had access to parachute silk to make their undies. More important was Mrs. Len Edwards who lived in Wykey who, would make the journey to Merseyside and return with clothes and shoes, doubtless gathered from bombed houses, which she sold to local people. Apparently she did a roaring trade and people came from miles around to buy her wares, which needed no coupons.

Endless articles appeared in women's magazines on how to make a man's old suit into a woman's two-piece costume, remodel shirts, make shorts for boys out of old flour bags or turn blankets into siren suits (onesies) for young children. Mrs. Dorothy Cocks remembered that Mrs. Hughes at the Post Office had a sewing machine, perhaps people were able to borrow this very useful bit of technology to alter or make clothes

Looking at designs of clothes during the war show that revere collars and buttons down the front of blouses and dresses copied the design of uniforms. Dresses and skirts were shorter, to save on fabric and slacks became commonplace when many women were doing men's jobs.

Keeping up appearances was very important to keep up morale, but make-up was expensive so women and girls resorted to black shoe polish for eyebrows and mascara, and beetroot juice for a bit of lip colour. Bare legs were stained with gravy browning and a pencil line down the back of the leg looked like a stocking seam when such luxuries were not available, and sugar water kept the waves in your hair in place. Clothes did not come off ration until 1949.

When clothes rationing came in, it was a question of how many coupons you had, rather than how much money .

Clothes were basic, without the luxury of outfits for special occasions. In the country men and women spent most of their time in working

(Continued on page 33)

Village Home Front - CLOTHES

Yoland Brown 2005

Clothes Rationing would have had a lot less impact on most people back in 1940, for many people wore working clothes during the week and had a Sunday best outfit - I don't know how they managed on Monday, the universal Wash Day!

Clothes rationing, 1st June 1941, when a quarter of the population were in uniform, whether in the forces or the many voluntary organisations, so factories had completely turned to producing wartime uniforms.

Families could get extra coupons for children, who have a nasty habit of growing out of their clothes, but many places and organisations set up clothing exchanges where you could take outgrown clothes and swap them for larger sizes.

When buying new clothes, the shopper had to hand over coupons with a 'points' value as well as money. Every adult was initially given an allocation of 66 points to last one year, but this allocation shrank to only 24 coupons for the eight month period, after VE Day, from 1 September 1945 to 30 April 1946, effectively allowing the shopper only 3 coupons a month.

The 'Make Do and Mend' campaign



(Continued on page 31)

Winning Carnival Float - Remembering the women in WWII



West Felton School Choir perform at the Carnival



The Punch Bowl Inn



Sally, Paul
and Mark
welcome you!

Now serving ...
SUNDAY LUNCH

between 12 and 3pm.

Booking is advised.

For reservations call 07543 040618

DARREN TOWNSEND

Painter & Decorator
All aspects of interior or exterior
decoration undertaken

Hanwood - Shropshire

01743 860241 mobile 07795 262629

darrentownsend18@hotmail.com



Tanat Foot Care
Registered Foot Health Practitioner



Treatments in a modern clinic
Llanyblodwel, Oswestry SY10 8NB

- Toenail Trimming
- Calluses
- Cracked Heels
- Corns/Verrucae
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Ingrowing Toenails
- Fungal Nail
- Athlete's Foot

07891 087394

Email: tanatfootcare@hotmail.com



(Continued from page 27)

Sadly, the effect of these measures was the rise in accidents and fatalities 4,133 in the first four months of the war, 2,657 of whom were pedestrians.

Buses, trains and the Tube were jam packed and must have been miserable to use.

In April 1941 the petrol ration was reduced to 125 miles a month, and many people just put their car on blocks in the garage for the duration.

To counter the black market in petrol, farm petrol was dyed red.

If you had the money, you could pay up to six times the cost of a gallon of petrol.

People tried to counter the petrol problem by using alternatives, such as a **bag of gas on the car roof** (see this magazine cover from October 1939)...

or even converting the old Ford into a steam car by burning wood!•





Little Pixies Nursery
 Parents are welcome
 anytime to come along
 and visit us.
01743 741554

Children's Nursery

- Full day care from 12 weeks to pre-school
- 24u funding accepted
- Nursery Education Funding from 9 months accepted
- Open daily 51 weeks from 07.30 - 18.30
- Set in acres of farmland with large outdoor garden
- Fresh home cooked food using locally sourced products
- All inclusive Fees

www.littlepixiesnursery.co.uk
 Kinton Business Park, Kinton,
 Nr Nesscliffe, SY4 1AZ

ARRIDGE GARAGE DOORS



Up and over Sectional Roller Side-hinged

All types supplied, fitted and repaired - Remote Controls
Prompt professional service - Quality guaranteed installations



Est 1989 - Trade and Retail
www.arridgegaragedoors.co.uk
 68-70 Roft Street, Oswestry, SY11 2EP

Opening Hours
 Mon to Thurs 9-5pm
 Fri 9-4pm
 01691 670394

Business Support **Management Accounts**
Payroll Services **Tax Planning**
Business Start Ups **Accounts Preparation**
Software sales and support (accounts/payroll)
Financial Services



Offices at: Ellesmere, Oswestry and Llangollen
 Telephone: 01691 622098
 e-mail: partners@morriscook.co.uk
www.morriscook.co.uk

Chartered
 Accountants
 and
 Business Advisers

WEST FELTON

ARTS AND

Craft
 FAIR

**West Felton
 Village Hall
 11th OCTOBER
 10am to 4pm**



West Felton Village Hall is proud to announce the return of the very popular
ANNUAL AUTUMN ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

- Homemade Cakes & Produce
- Handmade Crafts
- Unique Gifts
- Greeting Cards



REFRESHMENTS SERVED ALL DAY

ENTRANCE FREE

WEST FELTON VILLAGE HALL
 REG. CHARITY NUMBER: 702175



Yoland Brown 2005

The Village Home Front - TRANSPORT

Transport would not have been a big deal here in Ruyton XI Towns as the village was pretty well self-sufficient. I was told that a farmer actually walked his cattle from Wykey to Oswestry Market, probably due to the lack of petrol. Here, the bicycle and Shank's Pony (walking) ruled for most people.

The Kraft cheese factory in the village would have employed a significant number of people and they, like farm workers, were considered to be in Reserved Occupations and were unable to resign from their jobs. Now in 2025 there is just Gittins' farm in the village, but during the war there were another five family farms from Platt Mill to School Road.

Men and boys would have cycled to get to Rednal to build the airfield and Mr. Guest got on his bike every day to cycle from Worlds End, between Ruyton and Baschurch, to Tern Hill airfield, come rain, wind, or snow. Some 20 miles, and then back home after a hard days building a runway.

I believe there was a bus to Shrewsbury & Oswestry, but not often, due to the shortage of petrol.

Unlike today, there was not the same need to go anywhere, with three grocery shops in Ruyton - Princes Terrace (opposite The Quillets Estate) The Top Shop, on the corner of Little Ness Road and the main shop opposite the garage.

There was also a butcher at Riversdale, opposite Cafe Eleven and you could get spares for your trusty bicycle from the shop next to the Talbot Inn, now the function room. Then there was also the lady at Wykey, who sold bomb-damaged clothes from Merseyside. (see page 35).

(Continued on page 27)

(Continued from page 26)

MOTORING RESTRICTIONS and FUEL RATIONING

Car ownership had grown considerably in the 1930s, no longer just for the doctor and the landowner, more and more cars, especially small sports cars, were being bought for pleasure motoring. As fuel came from America, every gallon crossing the Atlantic risked the lives of British sailors from attacking U-boats, so petrol was the first thing to be rationed, on 23rd September 1939.

As blackout curtains hid household lights, on 22nd January 1940 the Ministry of Home Security brought in headlight masks, and the edges of bumpers and running boards, as well as kerbstones, were painted white.



(Continued on page 29)