

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 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 270072 |
| KNOCKIN Medical Practice | 01691 682203 |
| Methodist Chapel: Revd Julia Skitt Methodist Hall (Bookings) | 07810 360778 01691 611733 |
| 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 | 101 |
| Oswestry Police Station | 0300 333 3000 |
| Safer Neighbourhood team—email: oswestryc.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk | |
| 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 / 07779 811025 |
| WATER - Severn Trent Water Authority | 0800 7834444 |
| WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: Gillian Sturgess | 01691 611811 |

Year 30

AUGUST 2023

ROUND and ABOUT WEST FELTON

www.westfeltonmagazine.co.uk

**Calling all local
Crafters
Makers
Bakers
Artists**



*start your preparations now
for the great*

WEST FELTON ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR 2023

14th October

West Felton Village hall

11am - 3pm, set up from 9:30am.

Tables £12.50 each.

**We invite all makers, hoping for a variety of stalls,
from gift ideas and quirky ornaments to art and ...
well, who knows what will turn up?**

**To book your table, please call
01691 610665 or email:
christinecurtis2022@hotmail.com**

WHAT'S ON

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Parish Council | Second Tues of the month, 7:30 Methodist Hall | |
| West Felton Walkers | 10am Mondays, Punch Bowl EXCEPT... see page | |
| Pilates Class | Tuesday mornings: Two sessions: 9-10am & 10:15-11:15am Need to book on line GYMATCH. | |
| Tai Chi | Tuesday 2pm to 3pm, Village Hall | |
| Badminton | Every Tues evening: 8pm to 9:30pm. Village Hall | NEW TIME |
| Baby & Toddler | 9:15- 10:30 Termtime Tuesdays 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, Punch Bowl first Monday of the month except Bank holidays then second Monday. | |
| Bumps, Babies And Tots | 8:45am - 10:45 Fortnightly Termtime Fridays at Methodist Schoolroom Email rev.julia@mail.com | |

Happy Summer Holiday Month, Everyone.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 14 Oct | Village Hall Craft Fair on Saturday, 14th October | |
| | | |

Ecotec Plumbing & Heating
Formerly trading as **apexx plumbing**
See page 52



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.

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

The Post Office is located in the entrance lobby of the village hall. Due to a restructure by the Post Office head office, the Outreach Post Office hours for West Felton have been changed. **The new opening time from the 5th of June is Wednesdays only 9:30am till 11am.** Please keep supporting it.



METHODIST HALL

WF Methodist Chapel School Room (opp. playing field) is available for hire subject to COVID regulations.

Suitable for Meetings, Children's Parties, etc. **£5.50 per hour**

To book, contact Dianne Rowley 01691 611733

Round and About West Felton

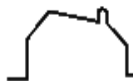
Articles/advertisement amendments for inclusion in next issue to Editor by email (preferred) or phone

Last day for submission of copy: Deadline for content changes 10th August 2023

Editor: Colleen Hughes

**Advertising Rates
for 12 insertions:**

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Tel 01691 610300 | Quarter page | £50 |
| colleenhughes748@btinternet.com | Half page | £75 |
| | Full page | £125 |



WEST FELTON STORES

Telephone - 01691 610 863

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 7am - 8pm

Saturday: 7:30am - 8pm

Sunday: 7:30am - 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

Rector: Reverend Suzan Williams,
The Rectory, Castle Street, Whittington,
01691 674 948

Services in West Felton Parish:

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

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

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

Please arrange with The Rector:

Rev'd Suzan Williams **01691 674 948**
or the Churchwarden:

Dr Michael Davie **0691 610 612**

Pradoe Church

Services - at 10:30am

All are Welcome - Tea, Coffee and Biscuits served after the service

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday 6 August | Family Service |
| Sunday 3 September | Family Service |
| Sunday 1 October | Harvest Festival |
| Sunday 5 November | Family Service |
| Sunday 3 December | Family Service |
| Wednesday 13 December | 7pm Carol Service |
| Monday 25 December | Christmas Day Service |

Christenings, Weddings and Funerals:

Please contact 07968 257452

Ecotec
Plumbing & Heating

Bathroom upgrades
Central Heating Installations
Boiler servicing & maintenance

Leaks
General plumbing maintenance
info@ecotecph.co.uk

07580149352 - 07421 702605



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

LOOKING FOR CHILDCARE?

OFSTED registered CHILDMINDER in West Felton
Homely environment - Fully insured
Competitive Rates
Cache Level 3 Certificate in Childminding
Practice 'pacey' member.
Please call Sharon 610767



ValentineWindow CLEANING
www.valentinewindowcleaning.co.uk
07540 648565



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

WEST FELTON STORES
NOW OFFERING
COVID TEST FOR TRAVEL
RT-PCR TEST
NEXT DAY RESULT

- PCR TEST HOME COLLECTION*
- DAY 5 TEST TO RELEASE
- DAY 2 TEST
- 2ND AND 8TH DAY TEST (AMBER LIST)

FIT TO FLY RT-PCR TESTS

AVAILABLE ON SITE:
NEXT DAY RESULT FROM
£69
POSTAL SAMPLE:
£69
(FOR NEXT DAY RESULTS SAMPLES HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED /COLLECTED BEFORE 3PM)

* HOME COLLECTION SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL CHARGES
* FOR NEXT DAY RESULTS SAMPLES TO BE SUBMITTED/ COLLECTED BY 3pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
PHONE: - 01691 610 863
MOBILE: - 07867 428 577
WHATSAPP: - 01691 610 863



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

07855811321

info@dabolumbingandheating.co.uk





SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE
Registered Waste Carrier
Local Operator
For a prompt and efficient service
Contact Edward Scott
on 01691 682080 or 07989881870

Trusted & experienced property specialists since 1981

Roger Parry & Partners

- Residential Sales & Lettings
- Farm and Land Sales
- Planning and Architectural Services
- Land Promotion and Option advice

Shrewsbury 01743 343343 Oswestry 01691 655334 Welshpool 01938 554499 Llanidloes 01686 449222 Minsterley 01743 791336

www.rogerparry.net



Children's Nursery

- Full day care from 12 weeks to pre-school
- 24u funding accepted
- Nursery Education Funding for 3 and 4 year olds
- 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
- Inclusive Fees

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

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 Programme
- Management Accounts
- Tax Planning
- SAGE software sales & support
- Business Start Ups
- Accounts Preparation
- Financial Services
- Payroll Services
- Auditing



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

Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers



All Aspects Of Building Work Undertaken

- Bricklaying • Plastering • Timber Framework
- Fencing • Extensions • Landscaping & Slabbing
- Ground Works / Drainage

Reliable Family run business offering high quality work at a reasonable rate. Contact us for a no obligation quote

Contact: 07484 775590

joshua.birch1985@hotmail.co.uk



www.birchsonsgeneralbuildingcontrators.com

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

The parish council takes a well-earned break in August, the next meeting will be on 12th September. A report of the July meeting will appear in next month's magazine.

In the meantime, the members wish all West Felton parishioners a very happy summer holiday.



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

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



www.resinboundstonelandscapes.co.uk
also find us on Facebook

Let us increase the kerb appeal of your home
Domestic/Commercial/Full Landscaping

Charlie Jordan

01691 610 412 Mb: 07712 530 107

Email: info@resinboundstonelandscapes.co.uk

Specialists in Resin Bound Stone for

- Driveways
- Patios
- Paths

Very experienced, Quality,
Professional Installations



Annual property review 2023

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

daniel@danieljamesresidential.com



DANIEL JAMES
RESIDENTIAL



Integrate HEARING

Austin Hearing Specialists

The latest invisible, Bluetooth and rechargeable hearing aids available.

- Hearing Tests
- Hearing aids
- Ear Wax Removal



N LLOYD-THOMAS
OPTICIANS



- FREE trial on no deposit.
 - Book your assessment today!
- T: 01691 674498
E: info@integratehearing.co.uk
15 Church Street,
Oswestry, SY11 2SU



Moving home? Need a survey?



For **RICS Home Buyers Surveys** and **Building Surveys**,
contact the Forge team

Email: info@forgeproperty.co.uk Call us on: 01691 610317

forgeproperty.co.uk

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



WEST FELTON VILLAGE HALL Chairmans Report 2022-2023



This is the 100th anniversary of our Village Hall, and it is a testament to the Committee, past and present, that the hall is still well used and valued by all in the Parish. We must also recognise the support we continue to receive from our Parish Magazine especially the information contained over the last few months leading up to the Anniversary. An opportunity to also thank Ann Hampson who is standing down following many years of excellent service.

As a Committee we have put on a variety of events during the last 12 months:

- ◆ The children's magic show, with over 60 very excited children enjoying a show just for them.
- ◆ Well attended Christmas bingo, with many new faces.
- ◆ Our first Craft Fair with over 20 stalls.
- ◆ Family magic show .
- ◆ Easter Bingo.
- ◆ 100th Anniversary Afternoon Tea.

All of which, I am happy to say, made a profit.

Then of course there were the regular and one-off events organised by Institutions/individuals, many of which attracted newcomers to our village. Yet again a packed hall for the Annual Poppy Concert.

On the cost side, we have redecorated the main hall, had all the ceiling lights replaced and changed some of the wall heater elements which had failed. We have further enhanced the sound system with new microphones. We are aiming to have new flooring in the rear meeting room this summer.

The outstanding issue of the defibrillator has been settled, with the Parish Council assuming ownership and responsibility for its maintenance.

Unfortunately Rainbows have ceased to meet. In respect of other hirings, the charges were increased at the beginning of the year – the first time for non-commercial since 2015, and for commercial since 2018. Mindful of pressures continually experienced by the Post Office we nevertheless continue to retain

(Continued on page 11)

ROSS HINES CHIMNEY SWEEPING

CLEAN CHIMNEYS ARE SAFE CHIMNEYS

BRUSH AND VACUUM – LEAKAGE TESTING – NESTS REMOVED –
COWLS, BIRD GUARDS AND CAPS 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

N.A.C.S. MEMBER 12/05

S. Owen & Sons

The Wharf House, Pant, Oswestry

For all your Coal and
Heating Oil Supplies

Phone your Local Supplier on:

01691
830315



Local police officer

PC 3932 Royston (Roy) Alderwick,
Oswestry Police Station, Park St, Oswestry SY11 2HE
Police Mobile 07814042700 Ext 7704043



Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

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

Email: oswestrys.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk Twitter: @OsCops

Local police Officers : PC Roy Alderwick (see above), Oswestry South : (not to be used to report incidents) PCSO Stuart Carroll 07970 544372.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Owen's - Route 4

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

Alternate Thursdays NOTE TIMES

August 10th, 24th

Grimpo 14:10 to 14:45

West Felton Village Hall

15:00 to 15:40



♦ Would you like to help clean up our neighbourhood?

♦ Perhaps on a walk or with a group of friends... ?

♦ Thanks to the generosity of the parish Council,
the WI has ten sets of litter picking equipment
available for use by local residents.

♦ These are free to borrow by groups or individuals.

♦ For more details please email Gillian at:
gilliansturgess@hotmail.com

♦ Please note the WI are just custodians of the equipment. You will have
to do your own risk assessment (example available)

♦ and be responsible for the equipment and safety.



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

West Felton Branch Chairman Jim Maxwell

Branch Sec: Amanda Wood 01691 610 357

MEETING IN THE PUNCH BOWL 8PM, FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH
EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS, THEN SECOND MONDAY.



THE PUNCH BOWL INN

The Cross, West Felton, Oswestry, SY11 4EH.

Tel: 01691 610 322  Find us on Facebook
@Punch Bowl Inn

Opening times:

Monday: 3-11pm
Tuesday: 3-11pm
Wednesday: 2-11pm
Thursday: 12-12pm
Friday: 12-12pm
Saturday: 12-12pm
Sunday: 12-12pm

Food served from Wednesday to Sunday

From 2pm onwards.
Large beer garden and car park.
Pool table and dart board.
Private function hire.

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

(Continued from page 9)

their service albeit on a reduced schedule.

Organisations within West Felton, like ourselves, continue to need additional support. I am very conscious that without new people coming forward and joining committees etc, we run the risk of village events disappearing.

As I have said before, West Felton Village Hall is a major and cherished asset to our village. The Committee are committed to keep this special facility open for the use of everyone and will look for new opportunities whilst continuing with all the traditional events that take place. I must take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the Committee and Staff, for their diligent and unwavering support.

David Curtis, Chairman, 26/06/2023

West Felton Village Hall

West Felton
Village Hall
1923:2023 

Our village Hall in West Felton is looked after by a group of volunteers who meet throughout the year to ensure our well used hall is kept in good order and is available to the village for various sports functions, parties, keep fit activities etc.

The committee is always looking to welcome new members and is currently looking for anyone interested in taking on the role of Secretary.

Anyone who is interested in being part of our friendly committee, please contact Ian Walker on 01691 610224.

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections every few years, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."



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



FINANCIAL HELP FOR THE ELLESMERE SISTERS

The Poor Clare Sisters in Ellesmere have asked for financial help with repairs to the convent. If you would like to help, please contact Mother Abbess.



The Colettines of Ellesmere are a contemplative, Roman Catholic community of nuns. They wear the full habit and observe the Poor Clare way of life: Daily Mass; prayer; meditation; work; holy silence; and happy recreation are faithfully and joyfully observed.

As well as the upkeep of the convent and extensive gardens, many sisters enjoy craft work, including making rosaries for St. Winefride's Well in Holywell, Flintshire. However the sisters do not make things to sell for money for themselves or run any sort of commercial industry.

As true Poor Clare Colettines, they rely on donations and gifts to survive.

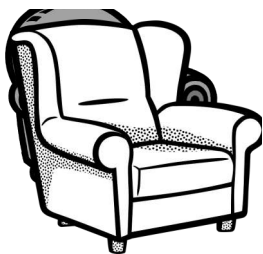
There are two traditional ways of living the Poor Clare Colettine life. A woman entering this monastery can choose to live as an Enclosed Colettine (not leaving the enclosure, except for health reasons) or as an Extern Colettine (who may go outside of the enclosure, on necessary duties for the community). The late, tiny, Sister Martha was famous for going around Ellesmere with her basket, doing the shopping and other chores. All the nuns take the three vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Enclosed nuns take an extra vow of Enclosure.

Mother Abbess, Poor Clare Colettines, Monastery of Our Lady and St Joseph Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 0PA. Telephone 01691 622270.



5 minutes in, Colin realised he had totally misread the sign.

D PRICE REUPHOLSTERY



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

For Free Quotes call
 01691 610153 or 0780 1108860

KARL LEAVER PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Professional and friendly service
 Fully insured
 Free estimates
 Email: karlleaver@hotmail.co.uk
 Mob: 07581423025



SHAW CLEAN
 TIM SHAW SLIPPER CLEANING

SUPERB CLEANING

Tim Shaw recommended & used by leading home furnishing retailers since 1997.
www.shawclean.co.uk
 WEST FELTON - Free advice, quotes & fully insured.

07976 559 072 0800 612 8817

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| • CARPETS | • STONE |
| • UPHOLSTERY | • TILE & GROUT |
| • LEATHER | • WOOD |
| • RUGS | • DRIVEWAYS |
| • CURTAINS | • PATIOS |
| • MATTRESSES | • DECKING |
| • STAIN REMOVAL & PROTECTION | |

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

West Felton Methodist Chapel and Schoolroom - opposite the playing field



Minister: Rev Julia Skitt 07810 360778
 Secretary Christine Curtis 01691 610665

SERVICES AUGUST 2023

- 6th At Oswestry at 10.45
- 13th Professor Mike Jackson
- 20th Songs of Praise
- 27th no service

Do you have a favourite hymn
 that means something very
 special to you?

Join us on 20th August at 11 am
 when we will have a short service
 during which we can all sing
 it with you.

Coffee Morning

No Coffee Morning in AUGUST.

Looking forward to seeing you all on
 Thurs 7 Sept. All welcome



Brian Owen Paintings open studio event

Thank
 You

A message of thanks to all the people of the village who came along and supported us, and an extra special thank you to those who assemble and deliver the magazine, month in month out to every house in and around West Felton, what a fantastic asset to us all. Thank you all for making our Open Studio event so enjoyable.

Brian and Jane

If anyone wishes to contact me about artwork please email
brianowen04@gmail.com or look up **brianowenpaintings** on
 Instagram.

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

Waggly tails

Doggy Day Care & Home Stay Services

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



Get in touch:

Located in West Felton, Oswestry

Tel: 07974 152022

Email: suzanne.galliers@btinternet.com

[@wagglytailswestfelton](https://www.facebook.com/wagglytailswestfelton)

Up the Garden Path with Topiarius



Although it is a quiet month in terms of routine jobs (if you leave aside weeding and watering), I find I have to concentrate to keep up my enthusiasm in August. It is simply a matter of both me and the garden getting just a bit tired, and particularly that the weeding can start to get to you. However, a couple of jobs worth mentioning are cutting back summer raspberries and (if you use them) ordering vine weevil nematodes.

We returned this year to the Cotswolds for our short garden visiting break for the first time since 2010, mainly because we had another event in the region. We visited Snowhill Manor for the first time and were delighted with both the house and garden. On the way back to our hotel, we looked at Cotswold Garden Flowers, primarily to be able to say that we had visited the Bob Brown nursery. The garden attached to the nursery looked to us like the jumble of a cottage garden on a small stately home scale, but I think serves to provide information and experience for the nursery.

We then did the traditional pairing of looking at Hidcote and Kiftsgate which we hadn't visited for a number of years. The visit confirmed that, despite all its qualities, Hidcote is not quite our cup of tea (now wait for the howls of protest from those who love it). First, the rooms type of design does not

greatly appeal to us, preferring the more open landscape approach. Second, we found some of the planting to be muddled, and in fact in places took a leaf out of Bob Brown's planting. That said, there was plenty of good things to see and we enjoyed the visit. We also confirmed that we like Kiftsgate and found the planting much better structured than at Hidcote. The garden has quite a lot of steps that might be called lethal due to their gross unevenness. We made a mental note that, if anyone complained about the steps in our garden, we would refer them to Kiftsgate. The famous rose was not yet in flower on our visit but we took more than usual interest when our own specimen showed its charms.

I was reminded by a column in The Garden of the perils of planting invasive species. I don't suppose there is a gardener who has not had the experience of over enthusiastic species but, by and large, we have got away fairly lightly over the years. It is of course partly a matter of size of garden. Although *Acanthus mollis* has to be hacked back every year, it has not been the problem it would be in a very small garden. Similarly, large bamboos could cause havoc, but with space only need some attack on spurious offshoots from the clump. I think I can safely say that we have far greater problems with invasive weeds such as cleavers and herb Robert. ♦



SUPPLIERS OF COAL, LOGS AND GAS BOTTLES
COAL AVAILABLE IN OPEN TOP SACKS
AND PRE PACK BAGS

RING US ON 01743 241122

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.ridgefuels.co.uk

PLEASE QUOTE REF 002 ON YOUR FIRST ORDER TO GET YOUR
NEW CUSTOMER PACK



Chris Orme Painter & Decorator

Free quotes - All work undertaken

For more information call:

Home 01691 828298 - Mob: 07817 614 848

The Fields, Deytheur, Llansantffraid, Powys SY22 6TE



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



**CLEANING SERVICES
SHROPSHIRE**

WINDOW CLEANING

- All external work
- Conservatories
- Patios
- All Glasswork
- Driveways
- Solar Panels
- Decking

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
COMPETITIVE RATES
REFERENCES ON REQUEST

Contact us for a free no obligation quote

01691 610638 or **07849 217738**
merv@mhcleaningservicesshropshire.co.uk

A day in the life of an oak tree

John Lewis-Stempel, Country Life Magazine

Among their deceptively inert branches, trees shelter feathered Pavarottis, scuttling beetles, opportunistic fungi and fierce owls. John Lewis-Stempel recounts a day in the life of an oak and the creatures that call it home.

Our friends the trees have an unremarkable life, or so it seems to us. They come into leaf, their fruit drops, or is gorged on by birds and the winds of autumn strip them of their dressing to leave them as the cold, bare sentinels of winter.

However, if we were to stand, tree-like ourselves, in a British copse and watch a single oak tree for an entire 24 hours — say when spring hatches out of winter — what would we see?

6.17am First light. The male mistle thrush flies to the top of the oak dome and sings: Pavarotti in feathers, the valley his auditorium. On a branch just below, the thrush is joined by the great tit, who similarly likes a high post to 'ring his bell'. The mistle thrush breeds early and, halfway down the 60ft tree, snug in a dim fork, is its bowl-nest with four speckled blue eggs.

7.01am The slanting rays of morning sun first catch the 1,000 leaf buds in the canopy, then the high untidy drey of the grey squirrel, before illuminating the ground beneath our 300-year-old oak. There, as Robert Bridges versed it: 'Thick on the woodland floor Gay company shall be,/ Primrose and Hyacinth And frail Anemone.' Hyacinth here is the bluebell, lying in a mauve pool.

The leaves of autumn, brought down by the screaming Halloween wind, still lie around the tree in a thick sodden copper

mat; the mould is soft on the pads of the returning vixen as she slinks down into her den among the tree's roots, a rabbit clamped in her jaws from her night prowl. A present for her cubs.

In the brightening of the day, the birds and animals that have roosted in the tree emerge from their lairs; the pipistrelle bats from a hollow branch, the wren from under the ivy crawling up the immense trunk. Early morning is the great feeding time of diurnal birds and to the oak fly a great spotted woodpecker, nuthatch and a tree creeper. The latter climbs our venerable *Quercus robur* in a spiral, inspecting the multitudinous cracks in the bark of trunk and limbs for insects; she is immediately lucky and a Clubiona brevipipes spider, which has overwintered under the tree's rough, hard skin, falls victim to her tweezer-precise bill. The fissures of the oak are, quite literally, crawling with creepy-crawlies; in total, 1,178 invertebrate species use it and 257 of them rely solely on this tree.

10.39am A waft of warm, light, spring wind brings the first of the summer migrants, the chiffchaff, who returns to his familiar bough, to sing his song of only two tones: chiff; then chaff. As did the pied flycatcher, together with the redstart that is hot on her tail, the chiffchaff has timed his arrival to meet warm days and insect hatching. From a twig in front of the chiffchaff hangs a wooden bauble, as if left over from some primitive Christmas display: an 'oak-apple gall' is the most conspicuous result of an insect attack on the oak, caused by tiny wasps (*Biorhiza pallida*, *Andricus quercuscorticis*, *Andricus kollari*) chemically provoking the tree's twigs to form a protective structure

(Continued on page 17)



TRUSTED HANDYMAN
SERVICES

TALK TO ALAN
07515 754227

**Home Repairs
&
Carpentry Work**

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: 01961 770054
Mob: 07725819414

Rector's Ramblings

Rev Suzan Williams

As I sit to write this months Rectors ramblings we've just experienced the hottest June on record and there is the strong possibility that we will be facing water shortages and hosepipe bans. Even though the beginning of July is proving to be a bit more variable we haven't had anywhere near enough rain. And I know the local farming community will be praying for it.

It's interesting isn't it that across the world weather patterns are so much more variable than they would have been in the past.

There was a time in our history when if you planned your wedding or a family gathering between June and August you would pretty much be guaranteed that even if it wasn't hot it would be dry. Now we just can't make that assumption.

Now I know there are those who don't recognise the effects of global warning however obvious and visible the cause and effect might be. In recent weeks Tick tock has come under scrutiny for refusing to take down videos pro-porting that global warning is untrue.

How dangerous mis-information can be!

Genesis 2:15 says "The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it."

We need to take our role seriously and do the things we can to care for the earth that we are custodians for the planet we live on.

If we each do our bit we will be preserving what we are blessed by now for future generations to come.

Every Blessing, Suzan

Rain *by Raymond Garfield Dandridge*

The clouds are shedding tears of joy,
They fall with rhythmic beat
Upon the earth, and soon destroy
Dust dunes and waves of heat.
Each falling drop enforcement bears
To river, lake and rill,
And sweet refreshment gladly shares
With wooded dell and hill.

Every flower, bud and leaf,
Each blossom, branch and tree
Distils the rain, 'tis my belief,
To feed the honey bee.
I pity every wretch I find
Who, frowning in disdain,
Is deaf and dumb and also blind
To beauty in the rain.

J D MAGIC * JACK DENT ON TOUR

Dates Now Available
Tour Starting October 2023

Scan for
Tickets



Stage magic show
suitable for all

.....
2 x 45min halves with
a short interval
.....

The performance includes
musical surprises too!

Shows start at 7:30pm

All Tickets: £7

Raffle tickets and refreshments
available to purchase on the night.

Please pre-book your tickets:

www.JDMagic.co.uk/tour

or Call: 07511770430



Google

EQUITY



Prepare to be spellbound by Shropshire based Magician and
Associate of the Inner Magic Circle... Jack Dent, JD Magic.

This is a "One Night Only" show at a venue near you, where Jack will present his
favourite magic routines, PLUS... a few musical surprises along the way too!

Dates include: Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury - 7th Oct 2023 7:30pm

Shifnal Village Hall - 13th Oct 2023

More dates to be announced on the website!

<https://www.jdmagic.co.uk/>

(Continued from page 15)

— the marble-like gall — around their eggs. Throughout the morning, a green woodpecker chisels a nest hole in a decaying sky-striving branch of our common oak, as a nuthatch, a bird almost as colourful as a kingfisher, plasters up a hole in the noble trunk with mud to make the correct-sized entrance. If we step back from the tree, even if it is still only in leaf-bud, it glows green in the sunshine.

12.18pm It starts raining; on the lee side of the tree, a fallow-deer buck takes shelter, his back to the rain-blackened trunk. On the perennially wet west side, enough mossy, verdant vegetable matter has collected in the bark's fissures for a polypody fern to grow as readily as in soil. The oak is parasite paradise, opportunist opening; lichens, liver-wort, moss, algae and fungi all have their hold on the tree. A whip of wind brings down a rotten bough, soon to be the abode of the oak click beetle.

Into the open socket wound on the tree, a floating spore of the bracket fungus *Laetiporus sulphureus* ('chicken of the woods') gains purchase. An oak supports 108 different types of fungi, above and below ground; the root system of the tree needs a network of mycorrhizal fungi to gather nutrients. The fruiting bodies of these mycorrhizae, among them oak orange bolete and oakbug milkcap, may poke up through the dense leaf carpet during summer and autumn.

2.22pm The rain stops and the buck ambles off to munch on the reachable leaf-buds of a nearby oak sapling. In the ensuing sunshine, the oval leaf-buds of our oak unfurl, to the joy of numerous species of hungry grub and caterpillar; no fewer than 100 different moth types have

been recorded as feasting on oak leaves, perhaps the commonest being the green oak tortrix. The fresh leaf growth of spring also attracts aphids, which then produce their sugary secretion, 'honeydew'; a black line of wood ants is ascending to the very top of the tree in search of this nectar. As the ants climb up, a grey squirrel is heading slowly down a 45° limb, alert and tense; it can hear the tiny cheeping of chicks in the hole-nest of the marsh tit, which despite its name favours trees for its home.

4.44pm In the circle of ground beneath the spreading oak tree, a jay is gulping down the last acorns from its winter larder, a crude hole in the earth at the base of the trunk; jays are particularly partial to acorns, hence the second part of the birds' scientific name, *glandarius*, meaning exactly that, 'eating acorns'. Inside some of the acorns is a protein bonus, the larva of the acorn weevil, an improbable long-nosed character more suited to a Disney cartoon than tooth-and-claw real Nature.

Oaks are 'monoecious', having both male and female flowers on the same tree; these 'catkins' are catnip to a visiting female bullfinch and to the emerged caterpillars of the purple hairstreak butterfly (an oak specialist, thus *Favonius quercus*, the adult of which floats about the canopy in summer). The pollen of the catkins is sweet on the proboscis of the oak-mining bee, too.

5.16pm The ecology of the oak tree is a game of consequences: the newly emerged leaves of the oak are eaten by the pale-green caterpillar of the winter-moth, which, in turn, feeds the blue tit, whose brood has just hatched in yet an-

(Continued on page 19)



Worldwide Flight | Hotel | Package

Associate with

WEST FELTON STORES

Let's Travel To The World...!!



We offer you best rates for Flights & Holiday Packages

For More Information, Please Contact

Phone : 01691 610 863

Mobile : 07867 428 577

WhatsApp : 01691 610 863

(Continued from page 37)

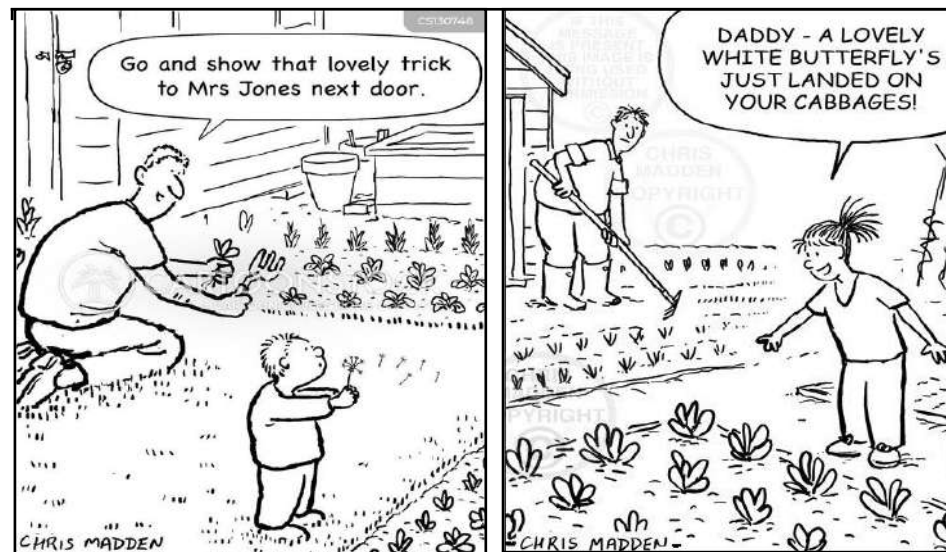
required and money needed to build the extension. Funding for the project progressed well, but two obstacles stopped the PCC in its tracks: ownership of the hall and General Sir Walter Congreve. There was a strong feeling that the new building should be non-denominational and not under the control of the church. Robert Lloyd Kenyon wrote to Sir Walter Congreve asking that he give a piece of land adjacent to the hall and that a new hall be built with a connection to the Haslehurst Hall. Sir Walter wrote back saying that he did not like the idea at all. He felt that the proposed building with a passage way connecting the two would be an eyesore. The tone of his letter favoured a building under parish management. He also thought that the Trustees of the Haslehurst would be unlikely to object to its being under the control of the parish. Lloyd Kenyon dis-



agreed and stated that the Haslehurst should remain under church control.

Other items included the appointment of a sexton to look after the graveyards at West Felton and Haughton at £1-10s per week. One of his duties was the cleaning of the bier at Haughton after use.

The PCC also gave its support to a new Diocese of Shrewsbury as suggested by the Committee on Sees (Dioceses) set up after First World War. Although a suffragan See of Shrewsbury had been established 1534, it had laid in abeyance, apart from 2 incumbents, since then. The new Diocese would have included the whole of Shropshire, thus removing south Shropshire from the Hereford Diocese. The measure was defeated in 1926 in the House of Lords and Shropshire had to wait until 1940 when the suffragan See of Shrewsbury was resurrected. ♦



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

First Week Free!

You'll love the way we care

Care in your home, just as you like it.

We build our care packages around you and your individual needs which means that you and your family can rest assured you'll receive care and support exactly as you need.

Bluebird Care Oswestry
Call us for a friendly chat on

01691 749128

Up to **£1,350** of **free at-home** care*!
Four weeks of high quality care for the
price of three!

*terms and conditions
apply

(Continued from page 17)

other of the tree's cavities; the sparrowhawk, terror of the copse, flashes between the tangled branches, to catch and feed on the blue tit.

7.59pm In the white sunset, the mosses and lichens that clothe the bark of the trunk gain a subtle beauty; more than 700 different lichens inhabit the oak's rough tessellated bark; the most conspicuous of these strange symbiotic beings, part fungus, part alga, is *Ramalina farinacea*, which resembles the antlers of the fallow buck who used the tree as shelter earlier in the day.

8.16pm Under the darkening silhouette of the tree, a woodcock comes patrolling through the shadows, probing with its long bill down through the copper top of the leaf litter into the black mulch below; a stag beetle burrowing through the rotting leaves is luckless and gulped down. A flat-backed millipede suffers the same fate.

10.30pm Around the cupola of the moonlit tree, pipistrelle bats swirl in pursuit of moths. At the base of the tree, in the mouth of the fox den, two cubs play roly-poly.

Midnight A shambling badger, almost invisible in the willow pattern of dark and light, stumbles on the last of the jay's acorn trove; Brock's clumsy, bear-like pawing dislodges an oak bracket fungus at the base of the tree. Meanwhile, on a low crooked branch, a tawny owl sits as still as a stump. She is listening to the patterings of the small mammals, the shrews and the mice, as they scour the floor beneath the oak for invertebrates and the acorns that the jays, the squirrels, the badgers and the wood pigeons have overlooked. A wood mouse holds up an acorn as a prize, then feels the talons of the owl on its neck. The wood mouse's death shriek is an old sound under the oak in the copse. ♦

from **THE OAK TREE**

by Mary Howitt

Sing for the Oak Tree,
The monarch of the wood;
Sing for the Oak Tree,
That groweth green and good;
That groweth broad and branching
Within the forest shade;
That groweth now, and yet shall grow
When we are lowly laid!

The little sapling Oak Tree!
Its root was like a thread,
Till the kindly earth had nourished it,
Then out it freely spread:
On this side and on that side
It grappled with the ground;
And in the ancient, rifted rock
Its firmest footing found.

The Oak Tree was an acorn once,
And fell upon the earth;
And sun and showers nourished it,
And gave the Oak Tree birth.
The little sprouting Oak Tree.
Two leaves it had at first,
Till sun and showers had nourished it,
Then out the branches burst.

The winds came, and the rain fell;
The gusty tempest blew;
All, all were friends to the Oak Tree
And stronger yet it grew.
The boy that saw the acorn fall,
He feeble grew, and grey;
But the Oak was still a thriving tree,
And strengthened every day!

Thinking of making a Will or Power of Attorney?

Wills £150
Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) £150
Sensibly priced and affordable Legal services
Call Paul Humphreys today

Tel: 01691 652233
www.Asset-Wealth-Preservation.co.uk

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



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

From the PCC Archives

from Michael Davie

In the years 1922 and 1923 Parochial church councils (PCC) were being established and West Felton was no exception. Rev Frank Taylor was the Rector and David Hesketh Richards and George B Kempster churchwardens for the parish of West Felton with Haughton.. Elected PCC members included Albert Shaw and Robert Lloyd Kenyon. Rev Owen Fitzherbert Jacson of Tedsmore was co-opted. Four committees oversaw matters. The fabric committee purchased a new boiler for the church for £42 and some lights for the church. The cleaner retired and a new one engaged at £10 per year (£770 in today's money). The finance committee complained about the parish share of £22, equivalent to £1500 today. Sunday collections came to £80 per year. The largest payment was for the choir and organ at £22. Donations were made to the poor, to the Salop Infirmary and to the Eye Ear and Throat hospital. The Waifs and Strays society was given £6. St Chad's kept separate accounts and is reported to have its own endowment, but this does not appear in the parish accounts. Income from St Chad's collections was £43/yr. Payments were made to the Oswestry Hospital and to Waifs and Strays. An interesting payment listed is carbide. When water is added to carbide, acetylene is produced. On ignition a flame is generated. Such a system was used in the headlights of bicycles and cars, and in lighthouses as

well as in miners' lamps and houses. Meanwhile the women's committee was busy with repairs to the altar cloths. The hassocks, of which there were 244, required considerable attention to keep them in repair. Alms bags were being acquired, and a green burse was in the process of being made. The burse is a case, made of fabric or leather, in which the pyx is carried. The pyx is a receptacle, often made of metal, in which the consecrated bread is stored. Usually kept in the church, it is placed in the burse when carried to those who are sick or otherwise unable to receive communion in church. The women's committee also took responsibility for the cassocks, 13 for men and 14 for boys. Out of this number only 9 were in good repair. One cassock was reported to have been eaten by mice, a situation that lead to an enquiry about whose remit it was for catching mice in church: was it a women's committee or a fabric committee responsibility? There are no further entries on the subject. The final committee looked after the library, though where this was housed is not stated. Possibly it was in the Haslehurst Hall. In 1922 and 1923 the PCC was much concerned about the inadequacy of the Haslehurst Hall as a place for recreation in the village and wished the hall to be enlarged. The hall was owned by the Lichfield Diocesan trust, which had no objection to its being enlarged. In order to do this, additional land would be

(Continued on page 39)

01691 655 655

AURA
HAIR, BEAUTY
& WELLNESS

24 SALOP ROAD
OSWESTRY
SY11 2NU



AURA.OSWESTRY@MAIL.COM



Shropshire Aggregates

A TOP QUALITY AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTING SERVICE.

We also supply: Hardcore, Playbark, Compost, Topsoil Rootzone, Garden Mulch.

VISIT www.shropshireaggregates.net & www.shropshirekilndriedfirewood.co.uk 07813847670

Shropshire Kiln Dried Firewood

Kiln Dried Softwood
Kiln Dried Hardwood
Kiln Dried 100% Oak
Nets of kindling
Available in builder bags or loose loads



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

DARREN TOWNSEND

Painter & Decorator

All aspects of interior or exterior decoration undertaken

Hanwood - Shropshire

01743 860241 mobile 07795 262629

darrentownsend18@hotmail.com



PJA

Plumbing & Heating

Installation Repairs
Maintenance

Friendly, Reliable, Local Service

Free no obligation estimates

High standard of work

No mess left behind!

enquiries@pja-plumbing.co.uk

Tel 07969 833 610



City & Guilds



WEST FELTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



The Shropshire Federation of WIs held their Annual Meeting at Theatre Severn. The keynote speaker was Chris Lubbe. He spoke about growing up in South Africa and his experiences of apartheid and becoming an activist for democracy. He later became a bodyguard to Nelson Mandela. Have a look at this website www.chrislubbe.co.uk.

WFWI member Yvette Openshaw has now finished her training to qualify as a WI Advisor, and was presented with her certificate at the meeting.

The West Felton June meeting is traditionally an outdoor meeting, at a stately home or in a lovely garden or other place of interest. The meeting this June was a little different as they visited Babbinswood Farm near Whittington on a lovely sunny, warm evening.

Casha who, like generations of her family before her now runs the farm with help from Lisa, talked about her goal to produce organic and natural meat and milk which is sold in the farm shop and on-line. The market garden provides the produce for the fruit and veg boxes. The Community Garden is very interesting, volunteers are welcome to grow healthy fruit and vegetables for themselves and their friends. **Have a look at ww.babbinswoodfarm.co.uk for more details.**

The guest speaker for the July meeting was Harry Thomas, 'Working with the Sea Turtles of Kefalonia.' Harry is from Shropshire, and has a BA in wildlife media and an MA in acting. He has been involved with Wildlife Sense since 2015 as a volunteer, field leader and field coordinator, his favourite shift has always been night survey observation and tagging of nesting females.

Twenty-five members recently enjoyed a visit to the gardens at Edge Villa, near Yockleton, which are part of the National Garden Scheme. Chris and Bill were knowledgeable hosts as they took guests on a guided tour of their two acre garden with panoramic views of the Stiperstones. A recent outing to The Sweeney Hotel featured the new spring saver early bird menu, definitely recommended.

The hard work of Carnival and teas and cakes stall behind them, members are off on their big legacy outing to Bordesley, Redditch on the 19th August. There is no formal meeting in the village in August but it's all back to a regular meeting on 14th September, when the guest speaker will be Victoria Graham - The Biscuit Club - intriguing?! What can that be about? Perhaps there is a surprise in store?

West Felton is a member of the Oswestry North group of Wis. It is their turn to host the Group Social Evening. It is planned for Wednesday 27 September at

(Continued on page 23)

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



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)

Thinking of selling your home? Problem solved!

Receive our Marketing Package when
selling your property with us:

- Professional photography
- Floor-plan
- Hybrid video-ette

CALL: 01691 680044

www.woodheadsalesandlettings.com



Providing a professional, honest, and trusted service
to our customers since 2004



WOODHEAD
OSWESTRY SALES & LETTINGS

Introducing:

E J AGRICULTURE | SHROPSHIRE AGGREGATES and SHROPSHIRE KILN DRIED FIREWOOD

The full package for agriculture, building, groundworks and landscaping.

As sister companies we run in close partnership, EJ Agriculture, Shropshire Aggregates and Shropshire Kiln Dried Firewood, allowing us to cover all aspects of agricultural services, forestry, groundwork, fencing, landscape, equestrian contracting; garden and building supplies; firewood supplies; specialist forestry and agricultural machinery supplies. We deliver a wide range of quality aggregates across Shropshire, Cheshire, parts of North Wales and parts of Staffordshire.

We can provide the full package, for all your agricultural, building, groundwork, landscaping and fencing supplies, forestry, tree surgery and plant hire services.

SHROPSHIRE AGGREGATES - We supply a wide range of aggregates for the agricultural, forestry, groundwork, gardening and landscaping industry. Our quality aggregates are supplied to a wide range of **domestic and trade customers, available in builder bags or loose, collected or delivered.** We also offer a wide range of forestry, tree surgery, groundwork, fencing, landscaping and equestrian services.

WE SUPPLY: HARDCORE - PLAYBARK - COMPOST - TOPSOIL - ROOTZONE.

SHROPSHIRE KILN DRIED FIREWOOD provides firewood that is all kiln dried wood of exceptional quality. We are quickly becoming one of the leading suppliers of logs in Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire due to the quality of our wood, and of our customer service. All our firewood is sourced from our own forestry jobs where possible. We also take great pride in sustainably kiln-drying our wood using the waste heat from the engine of an anaerobic digester. We can provide a range of different load sizes. All our wood is fully kiln dried wood (12.5-17.5% moisture) and ready to burn.

Please visit our website or social media pages for prices and latest offers!

www.shropshireaggregates.net

www.shropshirekilndriedfirewood.co.uk

Email: shropshireaggregates@outlook.com

shropshirelogs@outlook.com

Phone 07813 847670



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

Email: info@shropshirehousekeepers.co.uk

Tel: 07803 029928

KITCHEN AND BEDROOM
REVIVALS
THE HOME OF KITCHEN AND BEDROOM MAKEOVERS

LOOKING FOR YOUR
DREAM KITCHEN

With a low cost

Most cabinets are in good order so why rip them out with all the mess and cost. Here at Kitchen and Bedroom Revivals we can update your existing kitchen by supplying made to measure replacement doors and worktops.

Up to 50% less
than a complete new kitchen



Or visit our Showroom in Shrewsbury on
Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury SY1 3TG
(opposite the Recycling Centre)

Call 01743 588087

and arrange a free quote
www.kitchen-revival.co.uk

Patients accused of NHS fraud **healthwatch** Shropshire

Healthwatch Shropshire, the local health and social care champion, has heard from several patients that have been fined for fraud after unintentionally using their prescription prepayment certificate after its expiry date. The certificates are bought in advance from the NHS and can save money for those people who have a lot of regular prescriptions but are not eligible for free prescriptions. (Get a prescription prepayment certificate: Get a prescription prepayment certificate - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)).

The patients assumed that the staff at pharmacies check the certificate when they present it to collect their medication however this did not happen and the staff accepted out of date certificates. The patients were then fined by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHS BSA). The NHS BSA has told the patients that pharmacists are not required to check that certificates are valid and that it is the patient's responsibility.

Lynn Cawley, Healthwatch Shropshire Chief Officer, told us "The expiry date is printed on the certificate but most people assume in this day and age that there is a system behind the prepayment scheme that will flag up if the certificate is out of date and they don't check. The fines charged can run in to hundreds of pounds and so we advise everybody using the certificates to check the date before they use it each time.

We know that this has happened across the country and would ask people to contact us if they have had problems around the certificates so we can feed the information back to Healthwatch England. People can contact us online at

<http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk> or ring us on 01743 237884."

Healthwatch Shropshire is the independent health and social care champion in Shropshire. It gathers the views and experiences of patients, service users, carers, and the general public about services including hospitals, GPs, mental health services, community health services, pharmacists, opticians, residential care and children's services. It also has statutory powers that it can use to influence service provision by encouraging improvements."

(Continued from page 21)

West Felton village hall at 7pm for 7.30pm. The speaker for the evening will be Darren Edwards who is a local disabled adventurer who lives in West Felton. He has raised over £200,000 for charity and is an established and professional Motivational Speaker.

WFWI has invited other Wis and they are expecting a lot of visitors so members are requested to please car-share as much as possible and initially park on the same side of the road as the village hall, down Holyhead Road, and then use the Punch Bowl pub car park as an overspill - parking on the right hand side of the pub car park. ♦

GRIMPO

by Catherine Green (nee Kitty James)

When we came to live with you
What a busy place it seemed.
We had a shop, the Windsors lived there
Generous folk not mean.

We walked miles singing carols
By the hurricane lamps bright beams.
No matter how late we all came home
Shop was open to spend on our dreams.

Watches and mice and sweet sugar
things we hurried to put on the tree,
To see the sweet faces of the young
ones next day was always worth it for
me.

We all joined in when we had village day,
In Clarks field we ran a good race
With cakes and jam tarts for everyone,
And a prize for the funniest face.

You could buy good milk and butter from
Clarks, And down the lane
Where Granny Huxley lived,
Those days, they will never come again.

GRIMPO

The hamlet of Grimpo was called Grim-
pool up to the 19th century. Poole field
was the large field opposite the com-
mon, there was also a mosse (*wetland,
bog*) there, which may originally have
been a pool.

CHURCH - The Independents built a
chapel in Grimpo in 1832. In the 1830s
there were no nonconformist chapels in
this part of Shropshire but some ser-
vices were held in the open air at
Wootton Lane. A meeting was held at



Mrs Harding sold her flowers,
She carried them to the train,
For we had a station, a coal yard then
And a weighing machine.

Miss Seabury lived quite near us,
Our teacher at school was she,
Had an aunt Mrs Davies,
all the children went to see.

For she had a telegram from the King
A Hundred years old it said,
Congratulations to you Ma'am
A long life ahead.

We played on the common
with jolly good friends.
Our days were happy and glad,
Till we heard a whistle like an owl
Calling us, - it's our Dad.

It meant the day was over
And night was drawing nigh.
So Grimpo village of my youth
I'll wish you a fond goodbye. ♦

"The Wood" at Wootton, the home of
Mr John Jones, and a branch of the In-
dependent or Congregational Church
was founded. Because there was no
chapel, services were held at Mr Jones's
home or sometimes at a house in
Queens Head, later they were held at
the home of Ambrose Johnson at Grim-
po. Congregationalism gained consid-
erable support in Grimpo and district.
The services were so well attended that
it was time to consider building a
church. Ambrose Johnson presented a

(Continued on page 25)

BRITISH
IRONWORK CENTRE
& SCULPTURE PARK

MADE ON THE BORDERS
**HOMEMADE
FESTIVAL**
26TH AUGUST 2023

FREE FESTIVAL FOR CRAFTERS AND PRODUCERS.

If you bake, grow, stitch, knit, pickle, carve,
cook, weld, brew, or simply make?
We'd love to hear from you!

BOOK YOUR SPACE ONLINE:
www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk/whats-on
WHITEHALL, ASTON, OSWESTRY, SY11 4JH

OSWESTRY
CLASSIC & VINTAGE
TRANSPORT FESTIVAL
15TH JULY 2023

**GATES OPEN 7.30AM
FOR EXHIBITORS**
The most unusual & eccentric
car rally in the UK.

**FREE
FOR
EXHIBITORS**

REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE ONLINE:
www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk/whats-on
WHITEHALL, ASTON, OSWESTRY, SY11 4JH

(Continued from page 24)

piece of land to build a chapel; this was found to be unsuitable and was exchanged with Mr Mostyn-Owens for a better site. Grimpo chapel was built quickly, within a matter of months, and was opened on Easter Day 1832. The

chapel lasted about fifty years and in the 1880s it was replaced with a new and larger building which was opened for services in May 1885. It was demolished in 1975, and the gravestones moved to Weirbrook Chapel, a modern house now stands on the Grimpo site. ♦

Grimpo Chapel



In 1851 the chapel had seating for 200 worshippers. On Census Day 30 March 1851 there were 103 at their morning service and 89 at their evening service, together with 95 Sunday scholars. Due to structural decay the 1832 chapel was pulled down and replaced by a new chapel, built by Mr Griffiths of West Felton to a design by Mr Edward Bremner Smith of Oswestry and built of Ruabon red brick and stone from Shelvock quarry. The foundation stone was laid by Thomas Barnes of the Quinta and the chapel opened on 11 May 1885. The chapel had a hammerbeam roof and a small tower and spire and seated 200 worshippers. It cost £560. The chapel was licensed for the solemnization of marriages on 19th April 1888. This chapel closed in March 1970 & was de-registered as a place of religious worship on the 6th April 1971. It was demolished in 1975. ♦

GRIMPO COTTAGE 1920 - 30

by an ex-pat.

Today I came to see you, old home
I know I'll see you no more.
Over oceans & lands far away I did
room.
But you called me back to your door.

What have they done to you, dear old
place, No windows, railings, or floors?
They've taken them all away
To make way for new bungalows.
The gardens all wild, no clean paths
there, And where has the lilac all
gone?

The damson and nut trees, Of their

fruit sadly bare?

And why does no bird sing a song?

Once you were happy and full of life
Ten people you held to your heart.
So much to do, no trouble or strife.
On life we made a good start.
What did we learn, only the best,
Be honest thoughtful and kind.
Love one another sister and brother
Leave all the bad things behind.
To the Sandstone House that kept us
so warm when winter winds started to
blow,

You gave us so much, folk have en-
vied us, no wonder we loved you so. ♦

GRIMPO where formal education in West Felton started - Who'd have thought it?

We are fortunate to have access to a thesis on West Felton education written in 1971 by E K (Ned) Millington, son of former Rector Millington 1956-74. Ned says, "Of the earliest times there are no records of any kind of learning taking place within the parish, nor was any concern expressed over the lack of it. A strictly rural population would be unlikely ever to want to know more than the basics of "agricultural mathematics" – how many eggs in a dozen, how many gallons, acres, perches and roods; and the peasant farmer certainly would find reading no advantage. Even in church he knew the hymns and prayers by heart, and the psalms were the speciality of the choir ...The half-dozen families of gentry of the parish, apart from the Rector ... were able to afford any education that might be found in Oswestry, (Oswestry School was founded in the 14th century) or further afield. The church occupied the centre of the parish in more ways than one ...The Rector was always a learned man and a Latin scholar, which made him a figure of respect and awe to the illiterate parishioners."

Down the years, with improved transport and communications, it became apparent that sons were not restricted to following in their fathers' footsteps – a variety of occupations was available to those who were educated. Millington noted in the parish marriage registers that some signatures



were still seen as "J*** J****, his mark X", as late as the 1920s. Early in the nineteenth century the Church became aware of the need for formal education, "...if only to keep its people abreast of civilisation." It seems these concerns were shared in West Felton Church as well as the neighbouring villages as most founded their first church schools at around the same time. This was entirely a Church initiative. At the time of the first West Felton school there was no state legislation nor even promptings or incentives concerning education for all.

In 1810 a school was built, strangely at Grimpo, about two miles from the church and the main village. It was a single-roomed, probably no wider than 15 feet, stone building, cost £119, erected by subscriptions, with a house for the resident teacher. The site was given by William Mostyn Owen of Woodhouse. It was supported by a few benevolent individuals as trustees, and by a small quarterly charge from each scholar. The average attendance was about eighty scholars. A stove was initially fitted but proved inadequate, it was soon replaced by an open fireplace. Each scholar was expected to pay an additional sixpence annually at Michaelmas, " ...for Fireing in the win-

(Continued on page 27)

THE QUEEN'S MONUMENT in West Felton

The Government, having decided in 1870 to share in the education of the children, a task carried out solely by the Church up to that time, it was decided to build a new school in West Felton. The Grimpo school accommodated 80 pupils. The population of the parish was 1,067. It was calculated that schools must be provided for 180 pupils, therefore a school for 100 pupils was built in West Felton with Grimpo school remaining open.

West Felton School opened for its first class in September 1871. There were just two rooms, a smaller one about 12ft x 16ft, probably for the infants, and a larger one, about 46ft x 16ft for all the rest, up to and apparently including secondary school age group.

However, by 1883 it was found to be too expensive to run two schools and Grimpo was closed, with additions built onto West Felton School.

Now we have a school built for little more than 100 pupils, educating up to 200 at one stage.

No mention of 'conveniences' indoors or outside.

Twenty-six years later this happened ...

In January 1897 West Felton parish

council was directed, by the **Chairman of the Joint Committee for the Queen's Commemoration (Open Spaces)**, as follows:

"... The Committee earnestly hopes that your Council may find it possible to promote the adoption of one or more of their suggestions for commemorating the long Reign of the Queen, in a manner which they venture to think is appropriate, beneficial and permanent."

Ned Millington writes, "Not having money to freely throw around on flashy and decorative monuments, the Parish Council, in practical Victorian style, decided to incorporate their gesture of commemoration into something they could use".

A new lavatory at the school was dedicated to the Queen, and the school had Her Majesty to thank for something for which they had waited 26 years!

A stone commemorating HM's 60 year reign and the building of the school lavatory remains to this day.



✓ Approved

Care and Support
Built on Experience

Private
Care
In Your Own Home

We want to support
you and put your life
back in your hands.

13 Arthur Street, Oswestry, SY11 1JN – 01691 655999

Clwyd and Shropshire Heating

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



JIM PARKES

Tel 01978 722598

Mob: 07929 016814



ALISON'S HOMEMADE SWEET TREATS MADE TO ORDER.

Whether you're at home relaxing with a cup of your choice, or entertaining family or friends....

Say it with cake.

Free delivery in West Felton; a small charge for delivery out of the area.

You're always welcome to collect... 07943 104075

DEVILISHLY DELIGHTFUL

Follow me on Facebook
or contact me
07943104075 for more info



(Continued from page 26)

ter months". In 1827 a single room Sunday Schoolroom was added.

The main problem in the early years was absenteeism – pupils, some of whom were 18 or 21 years old, were still expected to work on the farm and at times up to 40% would be absent for hay-making, harvest, etc.

Can present day teachers imagine a single Teacher teaching up to 90 pupils from 5 to 21 years old in a single room not more than 15ft wide? We don't know how long the room was, but it must have been very snug indeed!

In 1840 this school was restored by the Rector Thomas Hunt 1817-60 (43 years!), John Morgan, Parish Clerk, was appointed schoolmaster.

In 1870 the State finally accepted its responsibility for educating children. The Elementary Education Act 1870 required elementary education to be provided for all children in the district. It was therefore decided to build a new school for 100 pupils nearer the centre

Grimpo school pupils 1870/80 with Schoolmaster John Morgan.

Do they look happy? Maybe they were told not to smile?



of the village on land given by Mr Bulkeley Owen. The Grimpo school remained for those living nearby. However, this proved to be too costly, so eventually Grimpo school was closed. Thereafter the Schoolroom was used only on Sundays and occasionally as a clubroom and for after-school classes.

A wooden shop was built onto the schoolhouse and was run for a number of years by the Windsor family. The Huxley family of Rose Cottage, Grimpo ran the shop in the 1940s. Private Harry Huxley is commemorated in Houghton churchyard by a War Memorial gravestone. Jack Huxley was a well-known butcher who would travel around the farms and cottages to kill the pigs. These would be salted down and cured to feed the families for months to come, nothing was wasted. As most country people were self-sufficient, they usually kept a pig, (everything but the squeal could be eaten!); the large gardens would supply the vegetables and the damsons were picked and sold to pay towards their rent. ♦

Angela Chalmers SAC Dip, RFHP

Ang's Foot Health
Mobile Foot Health Practitioner

Call Angela on 07730 795142

Email: info@angsfootthealth.co.uk

For specialist foot care in the
comfort your own home

- Nail trimming
- Nail treatment
- Calluses
- Cracked heels
- Corns, verrucae

Mobile
Footcare for
West Felton

Patios & all aspects of paving
Fencing and trellises
Driveways and paths
Garden walls, brickwork, rendering

Turf laying and
artificial grass

Decking
Indian stone
Natural stone paving

Shropshire Landscapes

Welcome to Shropshire Landscapes, a leading landscaping company with a reputation for creating truly magnificent and unique gardens throughout Shropshire. As true landscaping specialists, we take pride in what we do, and work closely with our clients to develop inspired concepts, creating exciting, practical garden design. Our philosophy is simple: reliability, combined with a professional service & value for money.

"Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works."

With us there are no 'hidden costs' – we set out the inclusive price.
Quotations are free of charge and made at a time to suit you.

01691 610461 - 07400 821581
or shropshire-landscapes@outlook.com

Call Jennifer Scott on

07866 472083

or 07791 655559

[www.facebook.com/
cleanandgleamovens](http://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

GRIMPO HEROES

It remarkable how many men on the
West Felton War Memorial had Grimpo connections:

Driver ALBERT SUDLOW - Died 22 February 1917 in the Balkans, buried in Greece. **Albert was the fourth of 9 sons** born to Thomas Sudlow, a carpenter and Sarah Ann (nee Thomas) of 10 Grimpo, West Felton. The also had a sister, **Violet Ellen**. Albert's brother **George** served with KSLI, from 13th Sept 1914 until demobilisation on 6th March 1919. His brother **Henry** served with the RAMC from 29th July 1915 until demobilisation on 4th July 1919. A third brother, **Herbert**, joined the KSLI on 9th June 1915, transferred to the Royal Engineers, he also survived.

Lance Serjeant VICTOR JOHN HERRIMAN, 1st Batt Grenadier Guards. He worked in West Felton and lodged at Grimpo with George and Annie Evans. Victor died of his wounds on 20 August 1917, aged 30, during 3rd Battle of Ypres, known as Passchendaele. His younger brother George was killed in action in France on 30 July 1916.

Private HARRY HUXLEY. King's Shropshire Light Infantry, Remembered with Honour, St Chad's Houghton Churchyard, son of James Huxley and Elizabeth Huxley, (nee Bailey) Rose Cottage, Grimpo. Killed in action 23 July 1918, age 19.

Sapper AUSTIN LEDWITH, Royal Engineers, died in Gallipoli 1915, age 35. Austin was married to Lydia Fardoe, daughter of **Charles & Eliza Fardoe** of Grimpo Cottage. They had two children, **Bernard and Kathleen**. Lydia and the children returned to live in Grimpo Cottage. Their son, **Bernard**, joined the Royal Corps of Signals at the start of World War 2 and died whilst serving in North Africa. He is buried at Medjez el Bab Cemetery, Tunisia.

Private FRED RALPHS, King's Shropshire Light Infantry. Died during the Battle of the Somme in France 16 September 1916. **His brothers Richard** joined the Veterinary Corps, and **Thomas** joined the Lancashire regiment, they both survived.

Many more Grimpo men joined in both World Wars
and lived to return home.