

AgeUK Shropshire Telford and Wrekin ext.231	01743 233123
BINS - Waste Management <a href="mailto:customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk">customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk</a>	0345 6789007
CAXTON SURGERY <a href="https://www.caxtonsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx">https://www.caxtonsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx</a>	01691 654646
Citizens Advice Bureau, Castle View	03444 991100
CORBET SCHOOL <a href="http://www.corbetschool.net">www.corbetschool.net</a>	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: <a href="mailto:westfeltonpc@gmail.com">westfeltonpc@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk/">https://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk/</a>	
POLICE, West Mercia Non-Emergency number	101
Oswestry Police Station	0300 333 3000
Safer Neighbourhood team—email: <a href="mailto:oswestryc.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk">oswestryc.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk</a>	
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
Your Shrops Councillor: Steve Charmley email: <a href="mailto:steve.charmley@shropshire.gov.uk">steve.charmley@shropshire.gov.uk</a>	01691 587958
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH: Revd Suzan Williams	01691 674948
Church Warden: Dr Michael Davie	01691 610612
ST. CHAD'S: Chapel Warden: Mrs A Hampson	01691 610845
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Secretary	01691 610357
VILLAGE HALL Bookings	01691 610629
WASP Problems Emergency number	01691 831251 / 07772 006994
WATER - Severn Trent Water Authority	0800 783 4444
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: President: Rhian	07375 997 782

Year 32

MARCH 2025

# ROUND and ABOUT WEST FELTON

[www.westfeltonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.westfeltonmagazine.co.uk)

**West Felton Village Hall  
presents**

**CHILDREN'S MAGIC SHOW**  
**with Jack Dent ★ Friday 7th March**



**5:30 - 6:30pm**

*Details on page 13*

**LENT LUNCH** West Felton Village Hall  
**22nd March 12 noon.**



# WHAT'S ON

**Parish Council** Second Tues of the month, 7:30 **School Hall**

**West Felton Walkers** 10am Mondays, Punch Bowl **EXCEPT... see page 51**

**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** 8pm Meeting, **THE PUNCH BOWL** first Monday of the month except Bank holidays then second Monday.

27 Feb	<b>2 pm-7pm Green GEN event</b> - electricity connection consultation in Village Hall - find out more and tell them what you think. See page	27
6 March	<b>10-12noon COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING</b>	11
7 March	<b>5:30pm Jack Dent, CHILDREN'S MAGIC SHOW.</b>	13
22 March	<b>12 noon - LENT LUNCH the village hall ALL WELCOME</b>	15
9 April	<b>EASTER BINGO, Village Hall</b>	
20 May	<b>7:30pm - ANNAL PARISH MEETING at the School Hall</b>	
31 May	<b>10:30-2pm HALLMARKS</b> back in West Felton. Buying gold and silver.	

## Three new local services

- ◇ **SHROPSHIRE TURF +Soil+Bark+Compost** p28
- ◇ **NORTH SHROPSHIRE TIMBER special offer** p28
- ◇ **ONE STEP AHEAD Mobile foot health** p31

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&  
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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.

Opening time :  
Wednesdays only : 9am until 10:30am.

## 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 MARCH 2025

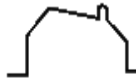
Editor: Colleen Hughes

Tel 01691 610300

[colleenhughes748@btinternet.com](mailto: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.**

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## Parish of Whittington and West Felton with Haughton

### Services in West Felton Parish:

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

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

### Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

Please arrange with The Churchwarden:  
**Dr Michael Davie 01691 610 612**

## Pradoe Church

*Services - at 10:30am unless otherwise stated*

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Biscuits served  
after service**  
  
**All enquiries to  
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07968 257452**

**2nd March : Family Service**  
**30th March : Mothers Day Service**  
**6th April : Family Service**  
**20th April : Easter Sunday Service  
with Communion**  
**4th May : Family Service**  
**1st June : Family Service**  
**6th July : Family Service**





## 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](mailto:westfeltonpc@gmail.com) Website: [www.westfeltonparish.co.uk](http://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 Kerry GROVE 01691 611 776  
Cllr Marian HESKETH 01691 610 441 (Rep for Village Hall).  
Cllr Chris JONES 01691 610 354  
Cllr Pat MABE 01691 610 400 (Rep SALC Area Committee).  
Cllr Ed NICHOLAS 01691 610 230 (Rep ABP committee)  
Cllr David WALKER 01691 897 117 (Rep Helicopter Noise Group)  
**Shropshire Councillor** Cllr Steve CHARMLEY 01691 650 488

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024-251

11 March 2025 8 April 2025 13 May 2025

## WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

To Contact the Parish Council

Clerk – Rosemary Wood – 01939 262881

Email: [westfeltonpc@googlemail.com](mailto: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.

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## Wilfred Owen Festival 2025

### The Fiddle

A talk by Author Natalie Cumming  
Thursday 20th March 2025 - 7pm  
The Parish Centre,  
St Oswald's Church, Church St,  
Oswestry, SY11 2SY



A true story, tracing a precious violin across landscapes devastated by war and terror, to safety and restoration in 21st century Britain.

Abraham and his family flee the Bolsheviks, from St. Petersburg to Odessa and safety in the UK. Abraham's skill on the violin earns them food and lodgings, as they struggle through the freezing Russian winter. The violin passes to Rosa, who is Abraham's daughter, violinist with a famous German orchestra. Arrested by the Nazis on Kristallnacht 1938 she is sent to Mauthausen Concentration Camp, and then to Auschwitz, where her musical talent sees her forced to join the Women's Orchestra and saves her life. She spends the last 5 months of the war in Belsen, before testifying at the Nuremberg Trials, exposing the horrors of the Nazi death camps. Rosa's brother Israel, inherits the violin. A celebrated musician, he joins ENSA during the war, entertaining the troops. Post war, he investigates the Nazis trying to escape trial. He forms several popular bands, well-known throughout the '60s & '70s. Finally, the violin comes to his daughter Natalie, who has written her family's extraordinary story, lest the world should ever forget global events, against which the journey of this beautiful instrument is told. In 2018 the violin was restored on the TV's Repair Shop programme.

For tickets sales (£3.00) or information go to [www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk](http://www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk)

or visit Oswestry TIC, Indoor Market, Bailey Head, Oswestry

Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday 10am - 3pm

## Wilfred Owen Festival 2025

### A Drama Double Bill

Strange Meetings and The Unknown Soldier  
Saturday 22nd March 2025 - 7pm  
Hermon Chapel, Chapel St, Oswestry SY11 1LF

Strange Meetings - Spike Rose Productions.

Written & performed by Shaun Higgins

Drawing on his history, his poetry and his letters, Strange Meetings documents the later life of Wilfred Owen, beginning with his admission to hospital with shell-shock, his auspicious meeting with Siegfried Sassoon and the resulting flourish of his poetry, his return to France, and the final and fatal battle in November 1918. Alive with the richness of his language and humour, this is the story of Oswestry poet and soldier Wilfred Owen, told in his own words.



The Unknown Soldier—Grist to the Mill Theatre Co

Written & performed by Ross Erickson

\*EDINBURGH FRINGE AWARD WINNER\*

Jack stayed on when the guns fell silent, to search the battlefields for the boys that could not go home - for the dead and the missing, for both enemy and friend. And amongst the rusty wire and unexploded bombs Jack is looking for something - looking for someone. He has a promise to keep and debt to repay, and now there is this strange request from the generals. This is a story tells of comradeship, betrayal and of promises both broken and kept following the carnage of World War One.



Tickets £12 available from [www.hermon-arts.org.uk](http://www.hermon-arts.org.uk)





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

# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

*Cllr John Thornhill, Chairman*

**Neighbourhood Plan.** Council agreed that it was still in favour of further investigating the publication of such a plan, but agreed to defer discussion until the March meeting in view of political uncertainties.

**Puffin Crossing on Holyhead Road.** A proposal for such a crossing on the main road was considered and the necessary criteria for an application were discussed. It was agreed that it was unlikely those criteria would be met. Concerns were expressed for pedestrian safety on Holyhead Road during closure and diversion of the A5 and it was agreed to approach the police for support and advice. They reported that if there was an incident resulting in the closure of the A5 with a diversion, the police would be fully involved in the incident and managing the flow of traffic at the scene.

**Football pitch.** The Clerk has contacted the agent who manages the land onto which it was proposed to lay a football pitch to enquire as to whether the land owner would be willing to let the Parish Council have some sort of control over the land. After three reminders we have received, very recently, a response stating, *"My clients are considering the proposal, and I will be back in touch in due course."*

**Conservation Area signs.** In response to the Council's request for the erection of signs identifying the Conservation area an on-line meeting was held with Shropshire Council's road manager. We have since been provided with a recommended supplier and the road manager also commented. *"Unfortunately, I'm still stumped for the best location for an entry sign at the western extents due to the lack of available verge/footways. May I suggest a site visit for this location to check on any potential locations."* Council discussed this matter and felt that such a sign could be placed on The Avenue at the end furthest away from the village. This will be conveyed to the road manager with a request for a site visit to also incorporate the erection of speed indication signs at various places in the village - a request made in July 2023 and not yet undertaken!

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

**Community Speed Watch.** We still need volunteers to enable this scheme to be fully effective. If you would be interest please let the Clerk know.

**Rednal Airfield Battery Energy Storage System.** There has been some concern expressed about the proposed plans presented by Elmya RPC to develop and deliver a 300MW BESS at Rednal Airfield. The Council did not receive any direct contact from the company and the consultation period for 14<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Jan was after the January meeting. Papers were sent to individual councillors for personal responses. In correspondence the company representative was informed that if it would like to speak at one of our council meetings prior to submission of the planning application they would be welcome to do so, but no one attended the February meeting. Once a planning application has been submitted then it will be sent to the Council for consideration, comment and our approval or otherwise. If anyone wishes to make representations then the March meeting will be held on Tues 11<sup>th</sup> March at West Felton Primary School.

**School parking** – There has been further correspondence re the parking at the School and the removal of the cardboard police officer. The school has purchased a replacement. We also approached the police who responded by saying *'We are aware of the parking issues in and around the West Felton Primary School, and we have been in attendance to the school and surrounding area several times, including today to help alleviate this. We have taken with us some of the attached leaflets to put on offending cars, as well as speaking to drivers about their parking.'* At our meeting the local police officer discussed the matter in detail with the Council. Elsewhere in this edition is an article from the police explaining the situation and actions that have and may be taken. We are grateful to the many parents who use the pub car park and walk the short distance to the school. Please be considerate when dropping off your children and remember that we should park at least 10 metres (32 feet) away from any junction, close to the kerb, and facing in the direction of the traffic flow.

**Public Spaces Protection Order** (dog fouling). 24 posters have been requested and Cllr Hesketh has now collected the posters from Shropshire Council. You will see these being put up around the village in the next few

(Continued on page 9)

## Wilfred Owen Festival 2025



**Classical Music Concert**  
Sunday 23rd March 2025 - 7.30pm  
Christ Church, Chapel Street,  
Oswestry. SY11 1JN

**A Concert for Peace & Reconciliation  
directed by Christopher Symons and  
featuring the Wilfred Owen String  
Quartet of instruments.**

The music has been specially chosen to reflect the Festival's general theme of Peace and Reconciliation, including Edward Elgar's glorious Piano Quintet of 1918, in which his deep longing for just such peace (as well as some of the anguish which preceded it) is so poignantly expressed. A similar desire can be felt in "The Lark Ascending" by Vaughan Williams (an ambulance driver on the Somme in WW1) as he turns to nature and its consoling beauty. Other short works in the same poignant mood will include the theme music from the film *Schindler's List* which will be played on another very special instrument - the "Auschwitz Violin" - as written about in the book "The Fiddle" by Natalie Cumming.

Tamsin Symons - violin Alison Loram - violin  
Richard Hewitt - viola Sylvie Reverdy - cello  
Samantha Lewis - Mezzo - soprano Christopher Symons - piano

For tickets sales (£15.00) or further information go to  
[www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk](http://www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk) or visit  
Oswestry TIC, Indoor Market, Bailey Head, Oswestry  
Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday 10am - 3pm

## Wilfred Owen Festival 2025



**Folk & Fiddles**  
Saturday 15th March 2025 - 7pm  
Oswestry Cricket Club, Morda Rd  
Oswestry SY11 2AY

**An evening of Folk Music** by local talented singers, songwriters and musicians and including performances with instruments from the Wilfred Owen String Quartet.

**Mair Thomas.** Mair is an Oswestry based guitar playing singer songwriter. A talented performer, Mair can sing in Welsh or English, favouring melodic, easy listening folk, her sound has been compared to that of Eva Cassidy, Carole King, and Janis Ian.

**Phoebe Rees.** A musician, singer and songwriter. An acclaimed fiddle and viola player she draws her inspiration from a diverse range of musical genres and cultures, predominantly combining elements of Celtic, English and American Folk traditions into her music making. Phoebe performs her own compositions along with interpretations of material by other artists close to her heart.

**Jock Tyldesley & Vera van Heeringen.** They play traditional Cajun music, Southern Appalachian tunes, songs, fiddle and banjo breakdowns as well as old-time country music, including original songs and tunes. They have toured internationally with US artists such as Dirk Powell, Eddie Lejeune and Balfa Toujours, and were members of The New Rope String Band, a long-standing comedy tour-de-force of the international folk scene.

For tickets sales (£12.00) or information go to  
[www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk](http://www.wilfredowenfestival.co.uk)  
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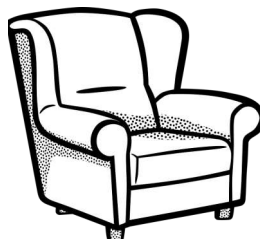


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(Continued from page 8)

weeks, weather permitting!

**Flooding in West Felton.** The Council wrote to John Bellis of Shropshire Council to express unease regarding continued flooding following the installation of a ditch to alleviate flooding at the Tedsmore Road development. The Council had previously raised concern with the developers that the proposed ditch might resolve the flooding on Ralph's Drive, but was likely to result in increased flood risk downstream. It was also made clear at the time that it did not support the proposal as a means of alleviating the flooding. We pointed out that with the recent inclement weather our playing field, adjacent to the development, which has not historically had any flooding issues, is now regularly flooded, as is The Smithy. When the flooding occurs, the owner of The Smithy is unable to get her car off the property or go to work. A response was received which stated '*Shropshire Council are aware of the flooding. Following the last event our tanker team jetted the highway drain under Holyhead Road which appeared to clear a blockage which then drained the flood. We are now looking to arrange a CCTV survey of this section of drain to see if there is a defect causing the issue. I believe this is programmed for next week. (12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Feb)*'

Council will wait until it receives the results of the survey before we respond any further.

**Footbridge over A5 at Fox Lane.** It has been reported that due to the bad weather access across the bridge has become more difficult. We have contacted Shropshire Council to ask them to implement the promise they gave five years ago to re-surface it.

**Annual Parish Meeting.** It is proposed to hold this meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7 30pm in the School. More details will be available nearer the date.

**Next Parish Council meeting** - 11 March, at 7.30 pm in the hall of West Felton CE Primary School. Each meeting has an Open Forum or Public Session at the start of the meeting in which members of the public may bring items of interest or concern to the attention of the Council. ♦

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Oswestry and Borders

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The successful candidate will need to be patient,  
understanding and have a positive outlook.

Some experience with disability would be an advantage.

Would need to be able to transport Felicity and her motorized wheelchair.

**Please apply to Caroline Chenery - 01691 610401**

**or [caroline\\_chenery@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:caroline_chenery@hotmail.co.uk)**





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**Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group**

**Please help with our Bird Survey,  
and Save our Curlews**



If you would like to do something to help stop Curlew and Lapwing disappearing from the local countryside, or you just enjoy going out to look for them, we would like your help, please.

Last year, we found 5 – 6 pairs of Curlew, and several pairs of Lapwing.

We are repeating our bird survey to look for them again, starting at the end of March. If you can recognise Lapwing and Curlew (and preferably their calls), you can make an important contribution. If possible, we'd also like you to record Kestrel, Cuckoo, and Red Kite, please, but that's an optional extra.

Our area extends from Oswestry in the north to Kinnerley in the south, and eastward from the Welsh border to Ruyton-XI-Towns.

The survey only involves three 3-hour visits, between the beginning of April and mid-June, simple instructions and a map to record your observations are provided, and there will be a training session if you want to come.

Our bird survey is the first stage of the Save our Curlews project, as it locates the pairs of Curlews to focus the efforts of the nest-finders. Surveyors are not expected to look for nests.

**Save our Curlews**

Together with the Three Parishes Community Wildlife Group (which covers Weston Rhyn, St Martin's and Gobowen), we will be working again with Shropshire Ornithological Society's Save our Curlews Campaign, which aims to find as many nests as possible, protect them from predation and trampling with an electric fence, then fix a radio tag to the chicks that hatch and track them to see how they use the landscape, and what happens to them. Finding out why breeding productivity is so poor is key to working out an effective conservation plan.

**Meeting** A meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm at Morda Social Club, Weston Road, Morda, SY10 9NS, to present the results of our work in previous years, and consider plans for 2025. All welcome!!! For more information, please see the Tanat to Perry pages on the Community Wildlife Groups website:

**<https://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/tanat-to-perry-wildlife-group/>**

If you want to help, please email me: **leo@leosmith.org.uk** Leo Smith



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Friday, 7th March, 5:30 - 6:30pm

Tickets Children £2.50 - Adults free

### PLEASE NOTE

- no unaccompanied children
- (or unaccompanied adults).
- Tickets will be available from the Shop,
- the School and Eileen (610629)



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## 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 desti-  
nation for the away day walk.

New members always welcome.

**Walk leaders:-**

**Mike Bossen 01691 610623**

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We are looking to cast a diverse range of people throughout the whole of the UK. Anyone can apply as long as they are aged 18 or over and are a resident of the UK (including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

As well as regular quizzers, we also want to encourage people who might not usually apply for quiz shows to get involved.

***How to apply*** - Please click the following link: CAST IT REACH -

<https://eu.castitreach.com/ag/hatrick/mastermind23/welcome.html>

Or email [mastermind.hth@hatrick.com](mailto:mastermind.hth@hatrick.com)

***How do you get on the show?***

After you have submitted your application, one of the casting team may get in touch to organise a Zoom audition with you. We'll do a short general knowledge quiz and learn more about why you've chosen your Specialist Subjects.

The audition will only take 15-20 minutes and is very relaxed and fun!

**Although applications close on the 9th of May 2025, we would encourage you to apply as soon as possible as casting is currently underway!**



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**Derwen  
College**

Derwen College specialist further education college in Gobowen, is asking runners, joggers and walkers to take on a 10km Challenge to raise money to support students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

### Get set for the Derwen College 10km Challenge! Saturday, 5 April

Students, staff and supporters are gearing up for Derwen College 10km Challenge, which sees the community come together, in Gobowen, for an inclusive event celebrating fitness and fundraising.

On Saturday, 5 April, the college will host the event which sees participants tackle 10km in their own way to raise money for Derwen Charity. Entrants can run, jog, walk, skip or wheel a scenic route which starts and finishes at the specialist college in north Shropshire, winding through local country roads along the way. The charity is urging local runners, walkers and supporters to make it their new year's resolution to sign up for this fun fundraiser.

Participants will start from Derwen College's Gobowen campus site at 10am. Entry is £10 and will include a medal and goodie bag. Derwen Charity sports t-shirts will be available to buy separately at sign-up and on the day.

Shorter distance options are available for those who can't complete 10km. Families and supporters who are unable to take part, have the opportunity to sponsor a student. All students will be encouraged to get involved on the day and in the week running up to the challenge. There will be options to complete 1km every day in a variety of ways, including swimming, rowing, cycling and running.

For those attending the main event on Saturday, check-in opens at 8.30am, with registration and sign-in closing at 9.45am. There will be a group warm-up led by sports staff before the countdown at 10am.

Dogs are welcome, and local running groups are encouraged to come along for a fun run. It's a friendly, no-pressure event, making it the perfect introduction to a 10km distance.

Money raised will go to Derwen Charity towards accessible sports equipment for Derwen College students and clients. There is plenty of free parking, and Derwen Marketplace will be open, offering refreshments, and shopping opportunities for participants and their families. Find out more or sign up today at [www.derwen.me/10kmChallenge2025](http://www.derwen.me/10kmChallenge2025).

[enquiries@derwen.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@derwen.ac.uk)

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## Acorn Class visit St. Michaels

As part of the RE Early Years curriculum, children are expected to identify parts of a church. We were fortunate enough to learn first-hand at our very own St. Michaels Church. Mrs. Hicks kindly led a guided tour and some of our youngest children really got to explore!





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Conducted by Tony Coupe  
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## West Felton School - new 'Policeman' on duty!

When the school was built, about 200 years ago, everyone walked to school. Now under the school's **"walk to school initiative"** the children are rewarded with badges if they walk/ride/scoot to school at least once a week. For those living in the outlying hamlets and villages, parents need to drive them to school; car sharing is suggested, and many park in the Punch Bowl carpark, walking the last quarter mile. This is all very much appreciated by the school and police authorities.

Inevitably, some busy parents, on their way to work, need to stop for a short time nearer the school to drop off their children.

**According to West Mercia Police, the majority of parents who are briefly parking along School Lane or Oak Farm Lane are doing so legally and fairly. There are no parking restrictions along those sections of road, and the very few that do park within the zigzag areas are spoken to and told to move.**

The school has now employed their very own 'policeman' to remind all drivers to be extra careful and considerate around the lanes, particularly for the very short periods of the day the pupils are entering and leaving school.

**The people of West Felton can be assured that West Mercia Police and the school authorities are doing all that is legally possible to ensure parents and carers are well informed as to the parking regulations, with the health and safety of the pupils and staff their top priority as always.**



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(Continued from page 33)

ganising the convivial get together.

February's creative afternoon event is looked forward to: Ally Browning from 'Ally Glass' visits to demonstrate her skills and to guide us in making our own glass creations. February's monthly meeting (13<sup>th</sup>) welcomes Claire Tatler, Head Gardener at Wollerton Old Hall, who will speak on 'Gardening in Historic Places'. **March's meeting (13<sup>th</sup>)** 'Hands of a Genius': an evening with micro-engraver Graham Short whose skilful work has been featured in exhibitions around the world. He is renowned for having inscribed the entire Lord's Prayer onto the head of a pin!

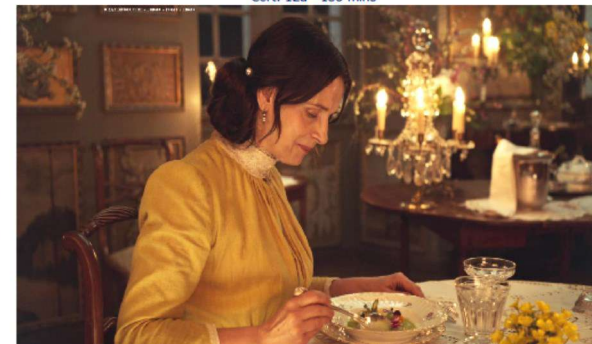
**Monthly meetings take place on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm in the Village Hall.** Visitors £5. Please contact us on 07375997782.

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**Film starts at 7:30 and there is an interval.**

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News from  
Sharon and  
the Carnival  
Committee

**Sunday 6th July**



What a great result! Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our community, sales of baubles for the village Christmas tree raised just short of £500. We have purchased equipment for our lovely village school.

### AND NOW FOR AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!

New members are invited to join our Committee and help with the good work we do in putting on events.

### ARE YOU UP FOR IT ?

A FEW HOURS EVERY MONTH TO PLAN EVENTS and lots of fun and excitement in July getting ready for the big day for the village families and friends. West Felton is proud of its reputation as one of very few villages still putting on a carnival. Community participation is what sets us apart. New ideas and new skills are always welcome, come and join us!

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**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.

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## WFWI: January's meeting and activities

Rhian as President welcomed members to 2025's first gathering. Information on how the WI came to adopt the anthem Jerusalem was shared. It was pleasing to see

over thirty members despite the challenging weather conditions. Brrr!

Certificates were presented to those who had reached membership milestones – three members clocking up seventy years between them! Trophies from Shropshire's WI day (held annually at Shrewsbury Abbey) were presented by Yvette on behalf of County to Gillian who was congratulated on being so talented at craft. Tributes were paid to Dorothy Thomas, a long-standing member and contributor to WI who passed away recently. A condolence card from WFWI has been sent to her family noting many of the fond memories which members shared with the group.

Oswestry and Borders Food Bank manager Liz Jermy had sent a thank you to our group of WIs at Oswestry North: £230 had been donated as a result of the retiring collection at December's carol service.

Thanks to Marian for organising contributions to the Shoebox Appeal ('Teams4U'); the thank you card with its photo of youngsters enjoying opening their presents has been gratefully received.

Members were advised that the programme for the forthcoming WI year (April 2025 onwards) was being finalised with speakers, visits and roles now largely sorted. Co-ordinator for our carnival float effort for 2025 is still being sought - a commendable second place gained in July 2024 with our chocolate-themed 'Quality Ladies' float! Votes for the Resolutions proposed by National are being collated by Sam as Secretary with a reminder of the Feb deadline.

Sue presented extremely useful information: the number '159' enables speedy help in contacting (most) British banks when a scam is suspected. '105' gives access to household utility companies; contact each utility separately first in order to be placed on their 'Priority Register' if you are of pensionable age/ have a long term condition. Both these numbers are free of charge and can be contacted via landline or mobile.

A pleasant evening was passed with a variety of games and competitions being enjoyed and, of course, tea and cake. Those with upcoming birthdays were presented with cards.

An excellent evening activity took place later in the month with those attending sampling a variety of mocktails and cocktails. The fruit garnishes surely counted towards our 'five a day'! Many thanks to Sally, Jo and June for their efforts in or-

(Continued on page 35)



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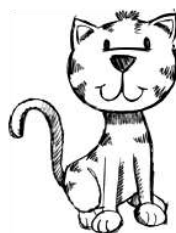
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## Up the Garden Path with Topiarius

### March means plants

March signals the approach of Spring plant buying time. We buy a few varieties of bedding as plug plants to lessen the work needed for raising from seed. They were ordered a long time back but I would expect at least some to be still available. We usually plan our nursery visits to be towards the end of March but just before Easter—when nurseries have stocked up in readiness for everybody getting spring fever over the holiday. Easter is very late this year so that means plants should be a bit more advanced.

Those who breed and sell plants have to do their best to make their products attractive to you—and they have the name, the description and the picture to play with. You probably first see the picture which I suspect is often enhanced to exaggerate colour and size. The description is highly likely to emphasise good points and perhaps not mention that the plant is borderline hardy or only flowers for a few days. If you are at home looking at a catalogue, you can check several sources using Google and the like (maybe ChatGPT these days). If you are at the nursery, it is much easier to be seduced.

Then the name. I bet we have all at some time bought plants simply because the name was irresistible. I certainly confess to getting the rose Tottering-by-Gently on the basis it must be as good as the cartoons. Roses generally do well in our garden and I suspect the

name helped when we got 'Absolutely Fabulous', 'Lady Marmalade', 'Tickled Pink' and 'For Your Eyes Only'. There was probably name influence for Continus 'Young Lady', Clematis 'Pink Flamingo' and Corokia 'Frosted Chocolate'. I had no good reason to buy Begonia 'Bertini' other than we have a Bertini car (you probably have never heard of it). To be fair to all these names, there have been no duds among our purchases.

March is the gardening start time in other respects. I sow the first seeds, starting with radish and carrots in a cold glasshouse, lettuce in tray inserts in a frost-free glasshouse and lobelia and ageratum in warmth. Outside, shallots are planted and the first attack on weeds with Roundup. As the month progresses, onion sets are planted and broad beans and spring onions sown outside, while more bedding is sown indoors. The first early potatoes are then planted and leeks sown in 40 cell tray inserts in a cold glasshouse. I do a few potatoes in a 15 l pot in the glasshouse for the first crop.

March also signals the start of the really busy garden season. In addition to the planting, there is weeding, root pruning bonsai, grooming and perhaps potting on container plants, pruning floribunda roses and checking shrubs and climbers, using moss killer on hard surfaces, checking blackcurrants for big bud and, a serious sign of work to come, the first cutting of grass. ♦





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(Continued from page 28) Electoral Roll

stated. The recent census suggests that this is not necessarily the case. Others however have to show that they are habitual attenders. The word 'habitual' has been considered in the courts in different scenarios and have usually decided in relation to other features in the case. Nevertheless the ER officer has a duty to strike off the list any non resident who does not habitually attend. Given the expense incurred by the Vicar and PCC in the 1932 case mentioned above, the officer is unlikely to be hasty. Should the Electoral roll officer be called upon to test an applicant's knowledge of the Holy Trinity, he would be well advised to seek the help of a higher authority. Explaining the doctrine of the Holy Trinity strikes dread into the hearts of the clergy: one told me that he always tried to get the Bishop or some similar worthy to preach on Trinity Sunday.

To be on the ER signifies support for the church. Possibly the right of burial is important. The graveyard at St Michael's is closed, although ashes

may be interred after a faculty has been obtained, and Haughton has limited space. It is not possible however to reserve a place. There is no cost to being on the Roll, although habitual attending generally assumes some contribution on the plate. It is generally assumed that the PCC should inform everyone on the previous roll that a new roll is being prepared and that if he or she wishes to have their name on the new roll they must apply for enrolment.

At the last enrolment, there were 51 names on the ER, a fraction of those on the roll in 1923. Even in the 1920's the number of names was declining, causing the secretary of the PCC, Rev Owen Jacson, to express his concern for the welfare of the church. This year a new ER has to be prepared. Applicants must be baptised, a lay person and over 16yrs. **Those on the ER will be getting letters and others who would like to be included should contact a member of the PCC or the churchwarden by the end of March 2025. ♦**

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**From the Editor:** Unfortunately this information about the event in West Felton was received too late for inclusion in the February magazine. However please note the dates for consultation which extend until 16 April. Materials explaining the updated proposals are published on the website –

**[www.greenenvyrnwyfrankton.com](http://www.greenenvyrnwyfrankton.com)**

A detailed map of the alignment is also available.

## GREEN GEN CYMRU VYRNWY FRANKTON

Have your say – statutory consultation  
19 February to 16 April 2025

Green GEN Cymru is developing a new electricity connection between the proposed Grug y Mynydd collector substation near Cefn Coch in Powys to a new National Grid substation at Lower Frankton in Shropshire. This would add needed local electricity capacity to unlock clean, renewable energy for communities and businesses.

We have updated our proposals in response to your feedback and further technical studies. These include:

- Updated route alignment including proposed pylon locations
- Proposed access routes and construction compounds
- Grug y Mynydd collector substation

We anticipate this will be our last route-wide consultation on the project so it's important to take part if there are factors you want us to consider.

Find out more and provide feedback online - [www.greenenvyrnwyfrankton.com](http://www.greenenvyrnwyfrankton.com)



View our  
route

### West Felton Village Hall

West Felton, Oswestry, SY11 4EH

Thurs 27 February 2pm - 7pm

### Hordley & Bagley Village Hall

Lower Hordley, Ellesmere, SY12 9BQ

Friday 28 February 2pm - 7pm

### Llanymynech Village Hall

Station Road, Llanymynech, SY22 6EE

Saturday 1 March 10am - 3pm

### Llanfair Caereinion Public Hall and Institute

Bridge Street, Llanfair Caereinion, SY21 0RY

Thursday 6 March 2pm - 7pm

### Llansantffraid Community Centre

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Friday 7 March 2pm - 7pm

### Meifod Village Hall Community Centre

Meifod, SY22 6DF

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## CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

*Michael Davie*

**On Thursday 18th April 1923**, 40 members, whose names were on the electoral roll of West Felton church, met in the Haslehurst memorial hall to discuss items on the agenda of the first meeting under the enabling bill for Parochial Church Councils (PCCs).

This event, together with other content tells us that Church Electoral rolls (ER) were in existence before 1923 and that members on the electoral roll were entitled to attend the meeting. There were 343 people on the church electoral roll on that date – almost one third of the village.

**What does it mean to be on the church electoral roll?** Strictly only those on the electoral roll can attend the Annual Parochial church meeting or be on church synodical bodies. Banns of marriage should be read in a church in which the person is on the electoral roll. Presence on the roll confers burial rights in the consecrated ground of that parish. Persons on the electoral roll may be non resident, although they still have to adhere to the regulations. This had importance in the past since it gave that person the right to petition for or object to a faculty application. Clergy and the PCC had divergent views about the number of people on the ER. The clergy liked to have large numbers as it impressed the Archdeacon and the Bishop. The PCC preferred fewer people since the par-

ish share was often proportional to the numbers of the ER. Such conditions no longer apply.

The right to be on an electoral roll has been contested. A famous case in Suffolk in 1932 involved nine persons being removed from the ER by the PCC on the basis that nine neither worshipped in or supported the church. The nine objected. The case was heard by the Bishop who told to PCC to reinstate them. The PCC objected and the case went to the High Court where the PCC were again told to reinstate them. Worse still for the PCC and vicar, they had to pay the appellants' costs.

At present the ER is updated every 6 years. To be on the ER a form has to be completed and returned to the ER officer of the Parish. The most up to date application form merely asks that the applicant has been baptised and is over 16 years of age. Applicants also have to be a member of the Church of England and resident in the parish. Non residents and members of other churches which subscribe to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and who are resident in the parish may also apply to be a on the ER of the parish if they have habitually attended worship in the parish in the last 6 months.

Residents of a parish who are members of the Church of England should have no problem since the Church of England rather condescendingly assumes everyone is C of E unless otherwise

*(Continued on page 31)*