

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	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: <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: Gillian Sturgess	01691 611811

Year 31

DECEMBER 2024

# ROUND and ABOUT WEST FELTON



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

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**Church of St Michael  
West Felton**

Sunday 1 December 4pm  
**LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE**

Sunday 8 December 3pm  
**WEST FELTON CAROL SERVICE**

24th December 10pm  
**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

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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

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

29 Nov	Fri 6pm CHRISTMAS TREE SWITCH-ON, Alma Close	15
30 Nov	Sat 1pm-3pm CHRISTMAS FAIR, Village Hall	
1 Dec	Sun 4pm ST MICHAEL'S LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE	39
1 Dec	Sun 4pm SEVERN HOSPICE, BICTON HEATH annual Lights of Love memorial event - a time to remember loved ones missed .	37
2 Dec **	Mon 4pm ROYAL BRITISH LEGION meeting Punch Bowl	
8 Dec	Sun 3pm WEST FELTON CAROL SERVICE St Michael's church Everyone Welcome.	39
11 Dec	Wed 7pm CHRISTMAS BINGO, Village Hall	19
14 Dec	Sat 5pm approx ILLUMINATED TRACTOR RUN West Felton	
18 Dec	Wednesday 7pm CAROL SERVICE, PRADOE CHURCH	39
19 Dec	Thursday 3pm - CHRISTINGLE in West Felton CofE School - all the community are welcome.	25
24 Dec	Tues 4pm CHRISTINGLE at WHITTINGTON CHURCH	25
24 Dec	Tues 10pm CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE St Michael's Parish Church	53
25 Dec	10am PRADOE CHURCH CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE	53
7 Mar25	5:30pm Jack Dent, CHILDREN'S MAGIC SHOW.	

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Saturday

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&  
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The Post Office is located in the entrance lobby  
of the village hall.

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

## Round and About West Felton

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

**Last day for submission of copy and  
Deadline for content changes 9TH DECEMBER 2024**

**Editor: Colleen Hughes**

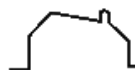
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**Monday to Friday: 7am - 8pm**

**Saturday: 7:30am - 8pm**

**Sunday: 10am - 7pm**

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*and*  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



## Parish of Whittington and West Felton with Haughton

### Services in West Felton Parish:

#### St Michael's, West Felton

9:30am every Sunday  
**10pm 24 December**  
Christmas Eve Service  
Carols - see page 37

#### St Chad's, Haughton

SERVICES TO BE ANNOUNCED

SERVICE ACCORDING TO THE  
BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

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Dr Michael Davie **01691 610 612**

## Pradoe Church

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

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Biscuits served  
after service

**10:30 am Sun 1 December**

**7pm Wed 18 Dec (Carol Service)**

**10am Wed 25 Dec Christmas Day**

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## WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to West Felton Parish Council: **Mrs Rosemary WOOD**

**Parish Office: 5 Newtown Gardens**

**Baschurch Shrewsbury SY4 2HF Tel 01939 262 881**

Email: [westfeltonpc@gmail.com](mailto:westfeltonpc@gmail.com) Website: [www.westfeltonparish.co.uk](http://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk)

<b>Chairman</b>	Cllr John THORNHILL	07714 759 466
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Cllr Ozcan OZAGIR	07955 232 199
Cllr David CURTIS	01691 610 665 (Rep WF Primary School & SALC Area Comm)	
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 Comm).	
Cllr Ed NICHOLAS	01691 610 230 (Rep ABP committee)	
Cllr David WALKER	01691 897 117 (Rep Helicopter Noise Group)	
<b>Shropshire Councillor</b>	Cllr Steve CHARMLEY	01691 650 488

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024-25

10 December 2024	11 March 2025
14 January 2025	8 April 2025
11 February 2025	13 May 2025

### Road Closure:

**Unnamed road Rednal Mill Rail Bridge, Queens Head**

**Start Date:** 12th February 2025, **End Date:** 13th February 2025

**Purpose:** Road Closure - Detail examination of underbridge. Working times 23:00 - 06:00. Works Promoter: Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd  
Works Promoter Ref: KL431WSJ18478120225MP-01

Enforcement pattern for Unnamed road Rednal Mill Rail Bridge, Queens Head: 23.00 - 06.00hrs.

You can view the closure and diversion route at

<https://one.network/?tm=140996181>

**Should you have any queries regarding this closure, please call Customer Services on 0345 6789006, or contact the Street Works Team on [streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk).**

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Email: [Karl.Bryant@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:Karl.Bryant@westmercia.police.uk).

PCSO 40373 Stuart Carroll | M: 07970 544372 | Direct Dial: 101 Ext. 7704043

PCSO Kurt Mabe M: 07870 219669

Team email: [oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk)

OSWESTRY RURAL SOUTH Safer Neighbourhood Team,

West Mercia Police, Oswestry Police Station, Park St, Oswestry, SY11 2HE.

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

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Twitter: @OsCops

Non emergency number : 101 web: [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)



## West Felton Walking Group

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

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

**Walk leaders:-**

**Mike Bossen 01691 610623**

**Hilary Iles 01691 610707**

**John & Eileen Hanmer  
01691 610629**

## MOBILE LIBRARY

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## WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

**Community Speed Watch** The October report stated that despite asking for volunteers Council had decided that as the minimum number had not been reached it was not viable to run such a scheme. I would like to thank those parishioners who have since volunteered and we now have just over the minimum number to ensure that the scheme can operate. Can I make another plea for others to join in so we have a good number to run it effectively. The Clerk is now co-ordinating those who have volunteered to pass the project over to the police to move forward.

**11th November Remembrance Day** The councillors who attended the Poppy Concert, the Church and Cenotaph services were pleased to see so many members of the parish supporting these important events. It was particularly encouraging that so many pupils from our Primary School were in attendance to honour the armed forces members who died in service of their country.

**Police Report** The report referred to a number of incidents of unacceptable behaviour by some young persons. It is gratifying to see that action was taken with the officers who apprehended the culprits, taking them to apologise for their actions to the upset victims. They then took them back to their parents, carers to whom they reported the nature of the misbehaviour. One youth who was not from the village was told in front of the parents not to return to the village until they learn to behave in an acceptable manner. Many thanks to the PCSOs who were on patrol and took swift and decisive action to protect our parishioners.

It also referred to issues of parking at the school and stated that officers will be making patrols and distributing leaflets to offenders and putting them on cars. Please use the Punch Bowl car park as it is just a short walk from the school.

**Shropshire Local Plan** Each County Council is required to have a **Local Plan** which is a document that outlines the planning policies and proposals for the development of an area. Shropshire Council was preparing a Local Plan for the region. Recently inspectors visited the Council to examine it and held a number of hearing sessions to gather evidence. They have since written to the Council as follows: *'We are writing now because we have significant concerns about the soundness of the Plan in respect of a number of areas. We will set these out in detail in a separate letter.'*

This means that the Local Plan has been rejected by the inspectors. There is now no possibility of a new plan being adopted before the May elections in 2025.

**Neighbourhood Plan** Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives us the power to produce a plan with real legal weight that directs development in your local area. It helps us:

(Continued on page 9)

## Wills, Property Protection, Powers of Attorney

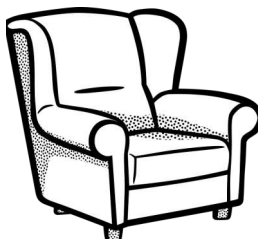


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## Oswestry Film Society (OFS)

*Keeping cinema alive in Oswestry.*

### Films showing in December

October sees start of showing four films a month. Oswestry Film Society are delighted to welcome on board our additional film programmers. We will still bring you the best films we can, but it means the range,

topics, themes and genres can grow. Forthcoming screenings are listed below. And of course, the best way to watch a film is on the big screen,

in company, and in a welcoming environment - and that's what the Oswestry Film Society will always provide in the absence of a full-time cinema in town.

#### Our new schedule up to Christmas:

Wed Dec 4 - A Royal Night Out (12A)

Wed Dec 11 - Thelma (12A)

Wed Dec 18 - Finding Your Feet (12A)

The background and trailers to all these films can be found on the OFS website.

Oswestry Film Society show their films at the **Hermon Arts Centre**. <https://www.oswestryfilmsociety.com/showing-now>. All films 7.30pm.

The Hermon is situated on Chapel Street, close to the Bailey Head market and the main market car park with its entrance off Chapel Street, just a few steps away from our venue. **Postcode-Satnav SY11 1LF. The venue is fully accessible, and has a licensed cafe-bar.** Tickets £8 on the door, or via [www.oswestryfilmsociety.com/buy-tickets](http://www.oswestryfilmsociety.com/buy-tickets) Email: [oswestryfilmsoc@gmail.com](mailto:oswestryfilmsoc@gmail.com)

#### AND PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS:

✿ **December 9-14 TREASURE ISLAND** by Robert Louis Stevenson.

The Attfield Theatre, The Guildhall, SY11 1PZ. [www.attfieldtheatre.co.uk](http://www.attfieldtheatre.co.uk)

✿ Our hosts, **Hermon Arts**, [www.hermon-arts.org.uk](http://www.hermon-arts.org.uk)

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-		+		-		
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### MATHS PUZZLE

Enter numbers in each row and column to arrive at the end totals. Only numbers from 1 to 9 are used, and each only once.

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(Continued from page 7)

- choose where we want new homes, shops and offices to be built;
- have our say on what any new buildings should look like;
- grant planning permission for the new buildings;
- direct the Local Plan.

The Council has decided to investigate this matter further particularly now the new government has double housing targets. If you have any comments please contact the Clerk

**Public Spaces Protection Order** We have had correspondence with Shropshire Council regarding the issue of Dog Fouling and have been offered a number of posters to support the provisions and implementation of the above order. Enforcement will be carried out by Shropshire Council, but there is only **one** warden for whole County. We expressed our concern that this was far from adequate, particularly as the officer will only work during office hours. Council has agreed to obtain a number of these posters to be displayed in the village.

**Conservation Area signs** Council has decided to erect signs identifying the area covered by the Conservation Order and is now liaising with Shropshire Council for permissions and support for them.

**Correspondence from residents** We have received a number of items regarding potholes and speeding on the Rednal road raising the issue of reducing the speed limit on the road. However whilst we agree with the concerns the two issues are matters for Shropshire Council, changes in the speed limit would require Shropshire Council to issue a Traffic Regulation Order. The Council would have to take into consideration factors such as collision history, recorded speeds, whether the road is primarily a through road or local access road, the number of bends & junctions, use of road by vulnerable people and roadside development, as well as carrying out a costs benefit analysis. The following government circular provides useful information on guidance for setting speed limits: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/setting-local-speed-limits/setting-local-speed-limits>. If anyone wishes a change in speed limit you can make the request directly to the Traffic Management team at [traffic.engineering@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:traffic.engineering@shropshire.gov.uk).

**Traffic Management Programme (CIL)** As I reported in the Oct edition we have been pursuing our traffic management proposals requiring support from Shropshire Council. I wrote to Chief Executive of Shropshire Council, Andrew Begley who replied 'Thank you for your email and for bringing these matters to my attention. I will request that Mark Barrow, Executive Director, Place, looks at this and ensures you are updated. May I take this opportunity to apologise.' I have now received an update from Mark Barrow with profound apologies that the relevant officer had not replied to our correspondence. On 21 Oct I received a reply from

(Continued on page 11)



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				>
	<	<		>

### Futoshiki

This is a number puzzle like sudoku. Fill in the 5 x 5 grid with the numbers from 1 to 5 once per row and column, while following the greater than/less than symbols shown. There is only one valid solution that can be reached through logic and clear thinking alone!  
*Answer next month.*





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References available

**John Richards, Pentre, Nesscliffe**  
Telephone: **07958 156054 / 01743 741503**

(Continued from page 9)

that officer also apologising and giving me the name of the new traffic manager whom he said 'will in touch in the next day or so to arrange a site meeting and will also address comments below whilst on site.' A step forward but still waiting to hear from him !! Copies of letters are on the website.

**No further Action Items** We are still awaiting responses to items raised regarding the Football Pitch, Shropshire Council Joint Energy Scheme (streetlight supplier), LED Streetlight on the Avenue.

**Community Engagement** As reported in Oct, the Chair and Deputy put a proposal for discussion to the Council that we should create a Community Engagement Plan. This was confirmed at our meeting and included in our Action Plan. Work will now be undertaken to propose a detailed plan for consideration at the December meeting. If you have any comments or suggestions about how you think the Parish Council can communicate more effectively with you please let me know through the Clerk.

**Action Plan** Council agreed its Action Plan for the next year which includes the following items:

- Adoption of a Community Engagement Programme;
- Protection of Trees in the Village by Securing Tree Protection Orders;
- Continuation of the Traffic Calming Programme;
- Erection of Conservation Area Signs;
- Forward details of Volunteers for Speed Watch Programme to Police.

**Grant Applications** The Parish Council offers funding to any Community group involved in specific community activities. If your group wishes to make an application for 2025/26 funding please note the closing date for grant applications is **31 December 2024**. You can find details under the heading Parish Grants on the opening page of the website <https://www.westfeltonparish.co.uk> with a link to the application form. Please use this method to make any applications.

**Parish Councillor** Recently a member of the Parish Council resigned so we have a vacancy. If anyone is interested in join the Council please contact the Clerk. Closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

*John Thornhill, Chairman, 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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College**

## Countdown to Derwen College Christmas Fayre

Get your Christmas shopping wrapped up early with a visit to Derwen College Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30 November.

The one-day seasonal extravaganza, from 10am–6pm, offers something for everyone, including our popular Christmas Market, an audience with Santa and an array of shopping and eating opportunities.

The Christmas Fayre will see more than 30 local artisan producers selling festive food, gifts, crafts and decorations. The market stalls will be offering unique hand-crafted present ideas alongside a tombola and Derwen College's own Garden Centre and Gift Shop merchandise.

Santa and Mrs Christmas will be joining us in The Orangery Restaurant, where they'll be reading festival tales and giving out gifts. Tickets for the magical event in the beautiful restaurant cost £12 each to include a gift bag. **Booking is essential at [www.derwen.ac.uk](http://www.derwen.ac.uk)**

There'll be entertainment from Porthywaen Silver Band, and also signed song and dance from our Performing Arts students in DOT (Derwen On Tour).

Shoppers can also order their locally-grown fresh cut or potted Christmas tree, delivered free within a five-mile radius. Order at the Garden Centre, call 01691 661234 ext 221, or email [will.lyon@derwen.ac.uk](mailto:will.lyon@derwen.ac.uk)

There will be festive food available to buy in the Walled Garden Café and pre-loved bargain-priced clothing, accessories and homeware in The Vintage Advantage charity shop.

Throughout December, the Garden Centre and Gift Shop promises a sparkly festive welcome, with the sale of Christmas trees, Derwen Charity Christmas cards, seasonal plants, wreaths, decorations, and unique gifts and hampers. The Vintage Advantage charity shop will be brimming with pre-loved yuletide treasures including Christmas fashions, gifts and homeware.

The Orangery Restaurant launches its Christmas Menu on Monday, 2 December, and then serves Monday to Friday until 19 December – one-course £14.95, two courses £20.95, three courses £26.95. Visit [www.derwen.ac.uk](http://www.derwen.ac.uk) for the menu. Telephone 01691 779213 to book.

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

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**daniel@danieljamesresidential.com**





## Important information for dog walkers



Bag your dog's poo, and place it in a bin or take it home.



Make sure your dog is on a lead on the public highway.



Ensure your dog is always under control.



Keep your dog out of fenced play or sports areas.

A public spaces protection order (PSPO) is now in place across the Shropshire Council area to help tackle the problem of dog fouling and bad behaviour.

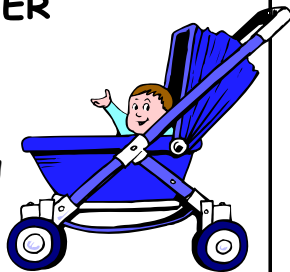
Under the PSPO the above can all be enforced and fixed penalty notices of £100 can be issued to dog walkers who allow a dog to foul pavements and public amenity spaces without clearing up afterwards.

For more information visit [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)



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### Keep it simple

I am a great believer in keeping the gardening as simple as possible. I have no time for complicated procedures simply because I don't have the time, or don't want to spend the time, if it can be avoided. It was demonstrated years ago that it doesn't make much difference whether you were fussy over rose pruning or just took a chain saw across the top. I don't actually use the chain saw but I don't think too carefully about where to make the cuts.

A cottage garden may have a multitude of plants but you can't call it complicated because it just happens without a lot of planning. A single en-masse planting is of course as simple as it gets, but is it worth meticulously designing a highly complicated mosaic of plants? I can't say that we have only single plantings or cottage garden confusion, and we do put some thought into our layouts, but they are largely made up as we go along.

No dig is a simplified procedure or perhaps should be called a short cut.

However, even with that we have to make a compromise. It is arguably not possible to be completely no dig if you grow potatoes as they can't be harvested without "digging" the soil. Hence, every three years one patch is dug, which has actually been beneficial in the period before we build up sufficient organic matter. We cut down the amount of grass we have several years

ago to reduce the labour of cutting, scarifying and aerating and have not regretted it.

Then there is the advice to not use weedkiller, to hand pick caterpillars from the brassica and build barriers for slugs and snails. These may have laudable aims and be feasible in a small space, but is simply not possible in a large garden without an army of gardeners, so we have to take more short cuts. Hand weeding becomes essential between vegetables so we do our best but even so we usually fail to keep up. Dead heading is another time consuming occupation so it is best to severely restrict the number of plants for which it is essential.

We are now into winter and can expect weather to restrict outdoor activities. However, one important job is the spreading of soil conditioner on the vegetable plots and some borders, and this can go ahead whenever the ground is not frozen. The other large job is pruning climbing roses, shrubs and trees. On the grounds of simplicity and reducing labour you could perhaps restrict your choice of shrubs to those that need no or minimal pruning. But that is taking simplicity too far and I for one have completely ignored that advice to the extent that winter pruning is a major occupation for us. However, having realised the error of our ways we are now completely removing some of the things that grow far too big for the available space. ♦



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## **WEST FELTON CARNIVAL COMMITTEE Christmas Tree Switch-On 6pm Friday 29th November at the entrance to Alma Close**



Join us for a fabulous family night out and start your festive season with help from the Porthywaen Band who will be leading the carols. There will be free mulled wine, mince pies, cakes and biscuits.

**Will you be able to spot your personalised baubles on the tree?!!**

Father Christmas has promised to visit again this year and will be at The Punch Bowl at 7:30pm.

There will also be a Fish and Chip van in the pub carpark, so you can order a bite to eat and grab a winter warmer from the bar. We look forward to seeing you all for a fun filled night on the 29th November!



## **Local charity, Community Resource Launches their 2024 Warmer Winter Appeal -**

### **Can You Help Local Households Stay Warm?**

As temperatures drop, local charity, Community Resource is once again reaching out to local residents to help protect Shropshire's most vulnerable households from the impact of fuel poverty. With energy costs rising sharply and the loss of the Winter Fuel Allowance for some, their 2024 Warmer Winter Appeal is more crucial than ever in preventing our community from being left in the cold. Community Resource provides emergency fuel grants, energy-saving materials, and essential support to help those in our county facing difficult "heat or eat" choices. This winter, the need is especially acute, with many rural and elderly residents struggling to heat older, uninsulated homes. Many households in Shropshire are also off the gas grid and rely on more expensive heating options, making the need for help even greater. **Every donation makes a difference:**

- ◇ £10 can provide an emergency energy top-up.
- ◇ £50 could fund draft-proofing kits and other essential materials.
- ◇ £100 could provide immediate relief to a household in crisis.

Together, we can make a lasting impact by ensuring that vulnerable neighbours stay warm, safe, and healthy through the winter. To donate, visit their JustGiving page, or for more information on how you can help, contact Community Resource at 01743 360641 or via email – [enquires@community-resource.org.uk](mailto:enquires@community-resource.org.uk) Let's make this winter a warmer one for everyone in Shropshire. Thank you.



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

**Local health champion publishes report into the experiences of living with cancer in Shropshire.**

In their latest report into healthcare the local health champion Healthwatch Shropshire has highlighted the experiences of people living with cancer in the county.

Healthwatch Shropshire has been visiting groups across Shropshire to speak to cancer patients, their families and those who support them about their experiences while also asking others to share their feedback through a survey. They heard from nearly 400 people who shared their views on what is working well, what is not working so well and their suggestions for improvements.

Many people shared their positive experiences of cancer services and the non-NHS support available from local and national organisations and community cancer support groups.

People also shared their views on what would support people to live with and beyond cancer, these included:

- More personalised support from medical professionals to help patients access information about their condition, treatment and support available.
- Need for improved communication with patients.
- Improved clinical support for patients after diagnosis, treatment / discharge.
- Improved access to additional emotional/wellbeing support.
- Need for a Shropshire Cancer Network, recognising the importance of community groups & their funding challenges.

The full report can be found here: <https://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/report/2024-10-10/living-well-cancer>

Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer of Healthwatch Shropshire, said, “Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin NHS are working to improve cancer care services for the local population through the implementation of their Integrated Cancer Strategy 2022 – 2027. We wanted to ensure that the voices

**healthwatch Shropshire**

of the patients and their families are at the centre of developments and I would like to thank everybody who took the time to share their views and experiences. We are very pleased to see the commitment from the NHS to work with the public and use our report as they develop the service.”

Vanessa Whatley, Chief Nursing Officer for NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, said: “On behalf of the NHS in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, I want to thank Healthwatch Shropshire and every individual who took the time to share their experience of living with cancer.

“Cancer will affect most of us at some point in our lives, either directly or through a loved one, and having this insight is so important to help further shape cancer care and support across the county to ensure we meet the needs of our population.

“It is encouraging to read the positive feedback which highlights what is working well. We also welcome the feedback which highlights areas where further improvements could be made.

“We will continue to work collaboratively with all our partners, taking on board the learning from this report, to improve people’s experiences of cancer care and support.”

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.

**Contact:** Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer  
Tel: 01743 237884  
E: [enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk)  
Website: [www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk)

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## CARNIVAL 2024 ACCOUNT

Carnival Budget Overview 2024	Income	Costs	Balance
Carnival Items	£7,790.32	-£2,380.29	£4,960.03
Entertainment & Prizes		-£1,745.00	-£1,745.00
Operational Costs		-£2,199.99	-£2,199.99
	<b>£7,790.32</b>	<b>-£6,325.28</b>	<b>£1,465.04</b>

Carnival Items	Income	Costs	Balance
Gate	£1,421.32		£1,421.32
Bar	£1,999.50	£1,250.29	£749.21
Bric Brac	£43.00		£43.00
Bottle Tombola	£230.00		£230.00
Tombola	£253.00		£253.00
Grand Draw	£1,585.50		£1,585.50
Number Board	£128.00		£128.00
Auction	£205.00		£205.00
Rides & Donkeys	£955.00	£1,130.00	-£175.00
Donations	£40.00		£40.00
Concessions	£200.00		£200.00
Stalls	£280.00		£280.00
Sponsorship	£450.00		£450.00
<b>Other Costs</b>			
Entertainment		£1,360.00	-£ 1,360.00
Prizes		£385.00	-£ 385.00
Operational Costs		£2,199.99	-£ 2,199.99
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£7,790.32</b>	<b>£6,325.28</b>	<b>£ 1,465.04</b>

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## From West Felton Village Hall committee

Thankyou all so much for supporting the Craft Fair on 12th October. We had a hall full of craft sales tables selling a wide range of products and produce and all at such a high standard.

Also thanks to all who helped set out the hall, those who provided the delicious cakes and the expert team manning the kitchen serving the cakes along with tea/coffee etc.

We had a steady flow of people throughout the day creating a lovely atmosphere with friends and family catching up whilst walking around the stalls, or whilst indulging in the refreshments. The craft fair is now in it's 3rd year and is a worthy fundraiser for our hall. Our next hall fundraising event is the Christmas bingo on 11th December - See you all there.



Finally, the hall committee would like to wish all users of the hall a very Merry Christmas.



**WEST FELTON VILLAGE HALL**  
**Wednesday 11th December**  
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(Continued from page 35) Antidissestablishment....  
cisms laid at the Francis report. Carers who have to look after disabled, dying or suffering patients themselves are affected and efforts to hasten death often descend into cruelty. Rotation of staff is important. For relatives there may be no escape and their needs also must be met.

Financial decisions may also affect a decision to hasten an end of life. It is possibly this area that gives the greatest concern since the well-being of the patient may become less significant. Relatives of patients may be anxious for the patient to die in order to inherit their fortune. More frequently relatives crave an end in order to relieve themselves of the burden of care. This may also be financial as care homes are expensive. Ways to deal with the needs of the dying, the care of exhausted relatives and carers, and the cost will form

a critical part of the debate. Another concern is what might be described as the "positive negative" approach. Essentially this means actively doing nothing. Doctors used to quote the verse: "Do not kill, but do not strive, officiously, to keep alive". Of greater trepidation to the politicians is the voting public. Voters may be in favour of hospice care or paid carer support until everyone is asked to pay an extra tax to support the model. The state has in effect put the "positive negative" approach into practice by introducing the concept of the Quality Adjusted life year (QALY). Essentially no patient can receive a new drug if the cost exceeds £30,000 per QALY. Whatever an individual's feelings are about Assisted Dying, the issue raises a host of questions. Ultimately public opinion will decide and moral questions may fade before the tide of finance. ♦

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*What's on this month?*

**DECEMBER**

**12-3pm Sunday Carvery 1st, 8th, 15th - No carvery on 22nd or 29th.**

**Booking is advised - for all reservations or tickets call**

**Sally 07543 040618**

- **Fri 29th November - Christmas Tree Switch-on at Alma Close, followed by Santa's visit to The Punch Bowl, and for your supper the Fish and Chip van will be on site.**
- **Weds Dec 4th - Ladies Darts 7pm**
- **Thurs 12th - Mobile Pizza box arrives 5pm**
- **Fri 20th - Xmas Bingo 7pm**
- **Sat 21st - Xmas Party - live Singer Jason Goddard 8pm**
- **Weds 25th - Xmas day opening 11-2**
- **Thurs 26th - Boxing Day opening 3pm to closing time.**



Sally, Paul and Mark wish  
all neighbours and friends  
a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

**West Felton Branch Chairman Jim Maxwell**

**Branch Sec: Amanda Wood 01691 610 357**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS IN THE PUNCH BOWL 8PM, FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH, EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS, THEN SECOND MONDAY.**

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGED TIME:**

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## ASSISTED DYING BILL

*Michael Davie*

A bill is due in parliament shortly seeking to legalise assisted dying. This will prove controversial, not only for moral reasons but also because of issues over whether assisted dying can be not only a positive action but also a positive inaction.

Sponsoring such a bill opens a minefield. Should assisted dying be confined to terminal cases or also include incurable cases? If terminal, then how long should that be? Doctors have enough of a problem trying to forecast how long someone is likely to live. To have to put that forecast into a positive action requires considerable fortitude as well as protection against being sued in the future. The hospice movement is also an interested party in that the movement believes that they are capable of minimising suffering. In bygone days a General Practitioner, often in association with the local vicar, would counsel the family with suffering being eased by increasing amounts of morphine. Unfortunately one or two unhappy episodes dating from Dr John Bodkin Adams in the 1950's and Dr Harold Shipman more recently have betrayed that trust.

The Church of England is entering into the debate carefully. The Archbishop of Canterbury has come out against any such measure: other senior clergy have expressed support. A position paper published some eight years ago emphasizes the rights of the individual and castigates use of quality of life ques-

tionnaires to identify those who qualify for assisted dying. In supporting the current law, the Church of England notes the importance of caring support for the dying and supports the hospice movement. In effect the Church is asking for a personalised treatment of every dying person, not a production line. The Church believes that life is too precious to let go. The Church also underlines the importance of taking into account the relatives and others, which may itself be contentious, as discussed later.

Apart from a debate about how long a patient might live, questions also arise about what kind of suffering should qualify for assisted dying. Someone in great pain may cry out to be relieved; often the condition is terminal and the loss of a few days may not be important. However others suffer not so much from pain but from an inability to conduct a day to day existence. Motor neurone disease is the classical example of this dilemma. Patients may have a long time to live but the quality of life is important.

Whilst the patient is the most important consideration in the argument, the effect on relatives, carers and others of a chronically suffering patient must not be overlooked. Looking after patients who have no hope of improvement requires special attention to the personality of the carer and the time over which the carer is asked to care. Both these aspects have not been properly studied and is one of the criti-

*(Continued on page 37)*

# The Punch Bowl Inn



Sally, Paul  
and Mark  
welcome you!

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## Christmas COFFEE MORNING

Welcome! Come and  
meet the neighbours

10-12noon, Thursday  
5th December

West Felton village hall

£1.50 entry includes tea/coffee, biscuits.

Bacon baps £1 extra.

Raffle, Sales Tables for cakes, produce,  
marmalade, greeting cards, and craft items.



## Oswestry Illuminated Tractor Run

**14 December 2024**

On 14 December the illuminated tractor run will be returning to Oswestry. Last year's event raised over £12,000 for the Lingen Davies cancer fund. The tractors will gather at Oswestry Livestock Market on Shrewsbury Road, open from 3pm to give people the chance to walk around and see the decorated vehicles. People will be able to walk around the tractors and talk to local farmers at the market, before and after the run.

Helen Morgan MP, the Lord Lieutenant Anna Turner and the Oswestry Mayor Mike Isherwood will judge the Best Illuminated Tractor and they will wave the convoy off at 5pm to go through West Felton, Ruyton XI Towns, Baschurch, Burlton, Cockshut, Ellesmere, Duddleston Heath, Ifton Heath, St Martins, Gobowen, Whittington, Oswestry, Morda to return to the Livestock Market around 8pm.

Be sure to pop your cash donations in the **Lingen Davies Cancer Fund** buckets only, collectors will be easily identifiable. There will be a tracker on the lead vehicle and we will publish the link online about 4.45pm on the day just before we leave so you will be able to track our progress to get out in time to wave at the tractors.



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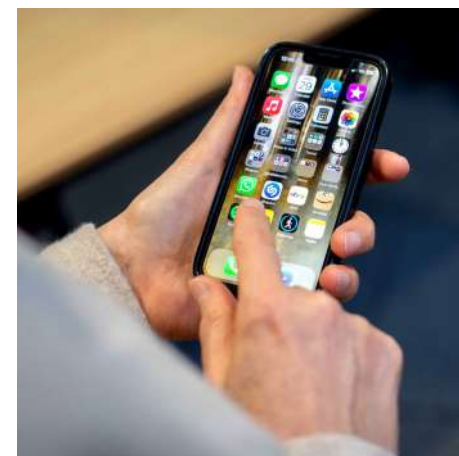
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## FREE Help to Get Online for Shropshire Residents



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- Need help using the internet?
- Do you feel nervous about using a computer or frustrated about being left behind as everything seems to be online these days?

Getting to grips with the internet means you can keep in touch with friends and family, get up-to-date information and see the latest news, have shopping delivered to your door and better manage your health and finances.

**Shropshire Council** is supporting residents to learn to use technology safely through The Digital Skills Programme. The service has 25 digital hubs across the area for people who need help to use their laptops, mobile phones or tablets. Learning slowly, taking small steps and having the time to practice are keys to success.

The programme is delivered by experienced, friendly digital volunteers based within Shropshire Libraries and local community organisations. Free data and devices are available for those in greatest need.

*"I felt left behind and knew I needed to do something to bring myself up to date," said Peter, who has benefitted from the programme. "My digital volunteer was so knowledgeable and patient. His kindness helped me to realise that I knew a lot more than I thought I did. Getting out of the house each week to learn something new gave me a boost and I thoroughly enjoyed my sessions."*

**For more information visit :**

**[www.shropshire.gov.uk/computer-skills-for-all](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/computer-skills-for-all)**

**Email: [Susie.Hancock@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Susie.Hancock@shropshire.gov.uk) or**

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**Oswestry Library 01743 250 351 - and other venues.**

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## St Michael's Parish Church, West Felton

St Michael's Parish Church is grateful for the gift of the altar table from West Felton Methodist Chapel donated by Chapel following its closure on 7th April 2024.

The church has welcomed members from the chapel to its congregation. Although as Christians we are all one in Christ, the church hopes that the altar will remind members of the chapel of their heritage.



# Christingle

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the world

RED TAPE  
God's love for the world

CANDLE  
Jesus - he shows us what God is like

4 COCKTAIL STICKS  
4 corners of the world

SWEETS  
the good gifts God gives us

**THURS 19 DECEMBER**  
**3pm - CHRISTINGLE service**  
**in West Felton CofE SCHOOL**  
**ALL THE COMMUNITY**  
**VERY WELCOME.**

**TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER**  
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## WEST FELTON WI (WFWI)

Gillian chaired the October meeting, welcoming members and visitors Karen and Charmaine.



**Members were reminded about :**

- **The WFWI annual Bursaries**, two available, £50 each towards an educational course. Applications invited.
- **Cocktail making**, Sat 18th January 7-9pm in the Village Hall.
- **The Longest Yarn**, the story of before and after the D Day Landings. Thanks to Sue Ozagir for telling us all about it. Many have now seen it. Eileen has been, and strongly recommends a visit.
- **Annual meeting** in November including the election of a new President and Committee. Members encouraged to consider joining.
- **Book sale.**
- **Trading table**: members can sell anything they like on the trading table, plants, shoes, cakes, produce, etc. 10% of proceeds to WI funds.
- **Christmas Fair** Saturday 30th Nov. 1-3pm. It is WFWI's turn this year. Now taking donations for: tombola, raffle, bottles, soft toys, rats (any medium), bric-a-brac/toys, books. Can also bring bric a brac-type items on the day. Cakes, produce and cookies will be needed on the day. Meeting at Gillian's house on Monday 18th Nov, 7pm to prepare hampers and tombola etc.

In September some members attended **WI Day at Shrewsbury Abbey** and said it was a lovely morning with a nice atmosphere. In the County Show competitions Gillian won two cups.

**Forthcoming WFWI Activities/Events :**

- Ladies' Lunch - Monday 11th Nov, The Highwayman Oswestry 1.15pm.
- Christmas meal. Wednesday 4th Dec. White Lion, Llyncys 12.30pm.
- Group Carol Service Monday 2nd December, St Martins Church 7pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM NATIONAL FEDERATION:**

**Constitution changes:** NFWI are in consultation with WIs about changes to the constitution. As a committee, WFWI has discussed the changes. There are two instances it was felt feedback is needed. Members emailed, invited to comment.

**October guest speaker** was Shrewsbury author Kate McLanachan, talking about the history of Shelton Hospital, built in 1845, a grand Victorian building, set in woodland, on what was then the outskirts of Shrewsbury (Bicton Heath). Kate worked there in the 1980s. She explained how mental health conditions were treated in the past compared to today. Shelton Hospital closed in 2012 when the services were moved to a purpose-built mental health village next door, the Redwoods Centre. The grand building has now been turned into apartments.

**NOVEMBER MEETING** - Annual Meeting followed by Musical entertainment by Clare Harrison. ♦





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## Round and About West Felton -

**Y**OUR village magazine, brought to your door FREE every month entirely  
by volunteers - your friends and neighbours.

Whether you have just moved into the village or have lived here since before  
its inception 32 years ago, I am sure everyone has found something im-  
portant, useful or just interesting in the magazine. The business people who  
advertise are happy to pay for the opportunity to reach more than 750 house-  
holds each month. That is how the magazine is funded: advertising and some  
very generous donations, gifts from happy readers.

We did not increase the advertising rates in 2024 but alas the cost of produc-  
tion has caught up with us and in order to cover our new printing costs, we  
must effect a new set of rates from January 2025. We keep a strict eye on  
costs and regularly seek quotes from other printers but have found none  
cheaper than the present firm who print the booklets and courier back to WF  
for just under £400 every month. Income in 2024 is expected to be approxi-  
mately £4,465 so you will see the need for an increase in income next year.

The operating costs of our web site [westfeltonmagazine.co.uk](http://westfeltonmagazine.co.uk) are marginal  
but have increased in 2024 by £36 pa. Otherwise, claimed expenses cover on-  
ly the most expensive consumables: most of the day-to-day expense, petrol  
etc. is absorbed by the volunteers.

Our new advertising rates commencing January 2025 will be:

**Full Page £150, half page £90 and quarter page £60 for 12 insertions.**

## NEW EDITOR REQUIRED!

**Well, not just yet** - BUT it would be really helpful if a new editor could be  
identified and ready, in the background, to pick up the magazine in case of  
illness, mortal or otherwise. Even if you have only been in the village for a few  
months - if you look at the booklet each month and think, "I would enjoy do-  
ing that", then please, contact me. West Felton community is famous for its  
volunteers, we have one of the biggest Women's Institutes, the biggest carni-  
val still running, the best, busiest village hall in the area; it would be a shame  
if the magazine were to cease for want of a new editor.

Think about it, then drop me a line at [colleenhughes748@btinternet.com](mailto:colleenhughes748@btinternet.com)

Colleen Hughes, Ed



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## **West Felton CofE Primary School And Sycamore Class**

Sycamore Class are the oldest children in our school  
(Year 6 and some Year 5s).

We have been busy learning about  
Charles Darwin and his  
theory of Evolution.

We visited Shrewsbury to complete the  
Darwin tour, allowing us to step into  
the life of the young scientist  
who lived in Shrewsbury,  
as well as admire monuments  
in his name.



Year 6 children took part in Bikeability, learning to keep themselves  
safe while out and about on their bikes.



**The session leaders  
commended the children  
on their politeness and  
kindness to the  
community and  
their friends.**

October 3rd 2024 hailed  
National Poetry Day, each class  
took part to learn a poem and  
perform it. The children then  
developed this further in  
writing their own poetry based  
on the one learnt.

Sycamore Class performed  
'Goal' by Steven Camden.

We supported Oswestry Food  
Bank with our Harvest Festival—  
St Michael's was packed for our  
service—thank you very much!

The **Community Champions**  
voted to support 'Just One Tree'  
and we dressed in green, for  
every £1 donated a tree will be  
planted.