



BISHOP'S CASTLE NEWS

POOR TURNOUT PUTS HALL'S FUTURE IN JEOPARDY



See full story inside!

APRIL 2023

To

MAY 2023

Issue No. 86





The Mayor Josh Dickin

Hello from your Mayor!

Welcome to this spring edition of the Town's newsletter. Spring is well and truly here and we are gearing up for another big summer season here in the Town. Please take five minutes to catch up with what's going on and being planned. At the end of this article is info re the events planned for His Majesty the King's Coronation in May, the weekend of May 6th and 7th.

During February half term, the **Bishop's Castle Arts Festival** was held. There

was quite a buzz around town with many events – exhibitions, workshops, concerts, even a play at the Three Tuns depicting a despotic mayor of Bishop's Castle - happening across the week. I'd like to thank all involved for organising such a great event, and especially Sue Willmer, who I know worked tirelessly to put it all together. Thank you once again.

Tying in with the arts festival, the town council held a **design a flag competition**. We had some brilliant masterpieces created, with two worthy winners. Kira was the winner of the Under 16s Category, and Teale Howells winner of the Under 11s Category. These winning designs will now be taken and graphically designed, and made into a proper flag, ready to fly on the Town Hall on the main day of the 450th Charter Celebrations in July.

The planning of the **Charter celebrations** is all coming together rather nicely. It looks as if it will be a historic week for our very remarkable Town. All details, dates and times will be ready in time for the next newsletter. It is going to be a special occasion for us all; one which I am thoroughly looking forward to!

This year's **Carnival** preparation is well underway, and we are looking forward to being able to put on a great spectacle for you all to enjoy on the first Saturday in July (July 1st). It will be great to be hopefully sunning ourselves in the summer sunshine!

On a personal note, I recently went away with my work at The Community College on the **College ski trip** to Andalo, Italy, along with four other members of staff and 40 students. We had an absolutely amazing time. The students were not only a credit to our school but also, to our community as a whole! It was rather refreshing to have a week away from my mayoral duties. I have now sort of recharged and, with the bit between my teeth, am ready for the wonderfully busy calendar for the Town this year.

Keeping along the sporting line, **Bishop's Castle Bowling Club** will be holding an open afternoon on Saturday 29th April, 2PM - 5 PM. Come on up and have a try at crown green bowls at a club rich in history. It is probably one of the best views from a bowling club in the land!

In May, The Town Crier, The Clerk and myself have been invited to our **Twin Town, St Marcel** in Normandy, France. As they celebrate their 25th Year Anniversary with their German twin town, Nudlingen, Bavaria, Germany. I am really hoping that this visit can be the catalyst to revitalising the partnership between our two towns, and give us an opportunity to discuss ideas of how we can move the twinning partnership forward.

By mentioning the rather busy calendar that faces the town this Spring/Summer, I am urging anybody who would like to help with any of the numerous events that are happening, to come forward. **Help is always needed** especially in areas such as stewarding, manning gates or displaying posters. These events will not happen without YOUR help. This town really relies on all these events to bring people into the town. Some are also being held for the first time since covid, so please do get stuck in!!

In June, I am organising a **Big Town Tidy Up**, no date has been confirmed, but will definitely be at a weekend. My thoughts are early June, as the end of June and the whole of July are so chock-a-blocked with events. Hopefully many tourists will visit our Town during this time. It would be good to make the Town look as smart as ever and a thorough litter pick and hopefully some sign washing and weeding will help do that. We need to showcase our Town, and there is no better time than this Summer! So please keep your eyes peeled to see how you can be involved.

See the next page for Coronation events details!

HM THE KING'S CORONATION!

EVENTS OVER THE WEEKEND OF 6TH & 7TH MAY

Saturday 6th May

No exact timings have yet been announced for The Coronation, but the service is expected to start at around 11am.

From 10 am – to be confirmed - there will be a live stream of the Coronation Service and Processions in St John the Baptist Church. Please bring a picnic to enjoy and share to help make it a really enjoyable community event. Please see sign outside Church for details.

Sunday 7th May

There will be a special commemorative Service of Thanksgiving for the Coronation of King Charles at 11am in St John the Baptist Church.

There will be an open "Mayor's afternoon tea and street party" in the public hall from 1PM UNTIL 5PM. Wendy Oakley will be providing the refreshments. Tables and chairs will be provided on Station Street and also in the hall. I hope as many people as possible will come along so we can all get together as a community.

The Town is very fortunate to be hosting Wynns Fun Fair the Coronation weekend. Wynns has kindly agreed to stay in town for another day, SUNDAY 7TH. Also, with agreement from the fair and in conjunction with the town council, a half price ticket is available for rides for the children of the Town. These can be redeemed on the Sunday only. Before that weekend I will go to Bishop's Castle Primary School to personally hand out the tickets to the children. There will also be a limited number of half price tickets for under 16s for the fair available at the tea party on the Sunday, on a first come first served basis.

The fair and tea and street party will provide a special opportunity for the town to celebrate together.

There will hopefully be many people around that weekend and it would be wonderful if as many people as possible could put something red, white and blue in their windows – even dust off the Christmas lights – to help make a truly Royal show!

Best wishes, *Josh*

Traffic update

We would like to thank those who have submitted comments on the traffic update in last Town newsletter. There was broad consensus on the overall proposal. The Council will now move forward on the various action points.

Specific areas on which comments were received, and where further action may be needed:

- a) 'to clarify whether the objective of the Access Only area was to stop or to deter HGVs and through traffic from coming into the narrow streets of the town'. Traffic will not be stopped as deliveries will have to be made – and it is recognised that through travellers often only visit when they see the delights of Bishop's Castle. The objective is to encourage those who have no intention of stopping to keep to the wider roads and by having a designated area, to stop satnavs from bringing vehicles through the town;
- b) 'to emphasise that it is not acceptable for cars to park on the pavements in Salop Street or Welsh Street or outside the Spar'. The Council recognises that the town does have a parking issue, that car parks and other parking areas need to be better signposted and that room is left for emergency vehicles to get through. In the areas mentioned above, more education is needed to ensure space is left on pavements for mums with buggies and the less able to get through.
- c) 'the junction at the bottom of Kerry Lane is dangerous for pedestrians . At the very least there needs to be some traffic 'calming' or other action to make it safer people to cross there'. This is under review. It is an increasingly busy junction and various options are being considered.

Action points

1. The introduction of 'Access only' signs. These signs will be positioned at Castle Street, Welsh Street, Salop Street, New Street, Union Street at the Harley Jenkins street junction and at the Church

Street/High Street/Station Street/Union Street cross roads. Underway.

2. A 20 mph speed limit for the town. Currently waiting to see if costs will be covered by central government.
3. A review of signs on the outskirts of the town to stop heavy vehicles (HGVs) from coming through the town. Underway.
4. A review of parking spaces for the disabled. Underway
5. Better signage to and for the car parks. Underway.
6. A plan for more electric charge points. Underway.
7. A review to be undertaken on whether traffic calming measures are needed at Kerry Lane/Six Bells/Brampton Road and Castle Green junctions and in areas where pedestrians have to walk in the roadway.
8. Action to promote more considerate parking.

Note : Shropshire Council has confirmed that resurfacing of Market Square, High Street and the top end of Church Street is still in the Capital Programme for 2023/24. Assurances regarding 'access' have been received.

THIS AND THAT

Herefordshire Motor Club is running a Classic Car Tour—the Colin Ellis Memorial Tour - on Sunday 23rd April, starting at Shobden, and the cars will pass through Bishop's Castle from approx. 10am.

For more info please email Les Forsbrook: lforsbrook@btinternet.com

LOCAL NEWS

NHS Community Engagement Event – On Wednesday March 1st two sessions were held at the Methodist Hall, Bishop's Castle to discuss ambulance services, mental health service and the wider health needs of our community generally. Because of concerns about the future of the local hospital many more people than expected turned up with sadly a few having to be turned away. A larger venue will be found for any future meetings. The event provided an opportunity to show the NHS Director and Chief executive the hospital and drive home the point that the hospital was fit for purpose subject to staff being available and that the extreme rurality of the area means that local services are needed.

Other topics discussed included access to dentistry services, mental health services, services for young people, early years services including breastfeeding advice and ante natal services, local in patient community beds, out patient services, the distance involved in travelling to centralised services, poor ambulance response time, services for people with a learning disability and more. Many people attended from outside the town including Mainstone, Lydham, Norbury, Chirbury, Edgton, Clun, Lydbury North and Marton.

Bishop's Castle Food Bank – at the Church Barn Tuesday 10-11.30 and Thursday 2.30 – 4pm. No referral required. Donations (dried and tinned food, breakfast cereal, pasta sauces and long life milk) are always welcome .

Bishop's Castle Charter Celebrations – to mark 450 years of the granting of the Charter to the town a celebratory day will be held on July 16th. Further details to follow. Anyone with photographs or memorabilia of the 400 year celebrations held in 1973 is invited to get in touch with Bishop's Castle Heritage Resource Centre which is looking for material for an exhibition.

The Stars, A new life: The Community Land Trust is pressing ahead with the Stars development as a Community space to be made available on short term lets to local organisations and businesses, with two 'housing needs' flats above. Work on underpinning part of the

front of the building has started and the joinery for a new shop front has already been delivered; it is all stacked up safe inside to be installed as soon as possible. With two reclaimed cast iron columns, it will be much more in keeping with other shops in the town centre. In the meantime the front part will be available as a pop up venue – usually for a week at a time. 'The Equinox on 20th of March marked the beginning of Spring, so this feels like a good time to mark a new chapter in the story of 68-70 Church Street' said Jonathan Brown, secretary to the Trust. 'After six years of lying empty, it's really exciting to see that progress is being made at last'

The Bishop's Castle 2023 Arts Festival - Reports from everyone involved in the 2023 Bishop's Castle Arts Festival are very positive. It was a great success. Over six days the town shone in the winter sunshine as local residents and visitors took in the workshops, performances, talks, displays, open studios and other exhibitions. Well over 400 people visited the display in the Public Hall with sales in excess of £2,000 recorded. The atmosphere was wonderful. Hostelryes, coffee shops, cafes and art sellers did a brisk trade. The event would not have been such a success without the hard work of Sue Willmer and her team at the Town Hall and of the Bishop's Castle Arts Society . The participation of so many people demonstrated the talent of musicians, artists, lecturers who live in this small town. It is extraordinary. Huge thanks go to everyone involved including those who visited and supported the various venues and events .

Bishop's Castle Carnival – Saturday 1st July: The closing date for entries for the Handicraft and Produce Tent is Wednesday 28th June. So, if you are planning to submit for one of the categories of Flowers, Handicraft, Photography, Cookery, Store Cupboard or Garden Produce – you might need to be planting now!! Enquiries and entry forms (50p adult/children free) from Jane's Petals or Mike Plunkett on 01588 630018.

NEWSLETTER!

A gentle revamp of this newsletter is underway. It is a good publica-

tion but it could contain more information of relevance to the town. The newsletter goes to every household – if you are aware of any people who do not receive it please let us know.

If you have any positive news item (20 words) about people, activities, or achievements that you believe would be of interest to readers – such as winning a medal, a business expansion, award or contract, a team doing well in the league, developments in a local organisation - or other items that you would like considered for publication, please email them to the Town Clerk and also the Assistant Clerk, marked 'Newsletter'. Note: if an individual is mentioned you must have that person's permission.

There is now a small editorial board which will consider items submitted; it has editorial control. The objective is for the newsletter to focus on factual stories and not to include any items which could be deemed to be of a political nature.

As well as SpArC, The Town Hall and Enterprise House, there are a large number of sports clubs, special interest and community groups in Bishop's Castle. Please submit details, including a point of contact and cost for any events that are open to the public within the four months following publication. We may establish a grid of events, dates, times, and venues.

We would like to profile one such organisation – 400 words - in each issue. If you would like to take part, please advise. We also hope to include a regular one page 400 word article on the environment/ climate change, community activities, and the history of the town. The magazine will continue to be published every two months with the date for submission of copy being the 15th of the prior month ie 15th May for the next - June/July issue.

The newsletter can also now accessed through the Bishop's Castle town website : www.bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk If you have any ideas on how to improve the newsletter or would like to be involved please advise. It is work in progress!

The newsletter relies on volunteers for much of the copy, delivery – so a big thank you is due to all of them.

Email details to: townclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

AND assistantclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

FUND-RAISING EXHIBITION FOR
BISHOP'S CASTLE SCOUT GROUP



THIS EXHIBITION IS RUNNING AT SpArc FOR THE WHOLE OF MAY
AND ALL MONEY RAISED, LESS COSTS, WILL BE DONATED TO

THE BISHOP'S CASTLE SCOUT GROUP



ALL THE WORKS ARE ORIGINALS BY THE LATE ROBERT LUCKHURST, A MIXTURE OF OIL PAINTINGS AND WATERCOLOURS, WHICH CAPTURE THE SOFT RICHNESS AND VARIETY OF THE ENGLISH LANDSCAPE. HE ALSO PAINTED SEASCAPES, BOATS RIVERS AND ARCHITECTURE WITH EQUAL SKILL.

ALTHOUGH LIVING MOSTLY IN THE S.E., HE TRAVELLED THE UK TO PAINT, AND HIS WORKS HAVE GONE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

PRIOR TO RETIRING, AND PAINTING FULL-TIME, HE TAUGHT ART AND ARCHITECTURE, AND THE HISTORY OF ART, FOR OVER 30 YEARS AT GRAVESEND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, AS WELL AS RUNNING THE 23rd GRAVESEND SCOUT GROUP, A DYNAMIC AND ADVENTUROUS TROOP WHICH CAMPED, CANOED, LEARNT BACKWOODS SKILLS AND BUILT BRIDGES IN THE WILDERNESS OF SCOTLAND!

HE HAD A PASSION FOR TEACHING AND FOR SCOUTING AND WOULD BE VERY PROUD AND PLEASED TO KNOW HIS PAINTINGS WOULD BE BOTH ENJOYED AGAIN AND BE SUPPORTING LOCAL SCOUTING.

David Luckhurst 01568 680250

Some pictures are framed, others unframed. Prices are much reduced and are based on 'Offers'.



Key Town Events in Bishop's Castle in 2023

Coronation of HM The King – Events over the weekend of 6th/7th May

Bishop's Castle Walking Festival - 11th - 14th May

Mayor Making – Tuesday 16th May

Mayors Sunday – Sunday 11th June

Mid Summer Rejoicing – Sunday 25th June.

Carnival – Events from 23rd June, main day Saturday 1st July

Beer Festival 6th and 7th July and weekend 8th/9th

Charter Celebrations – Events throughout week commencing 10th July. Main day – Sunday 16th July

Party in the Park – Saturday 22nd July

Michaelmas Fair – Saturday 16th September

Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 12th November.

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THE SHROPSHIRE GOOD FOOD PARTNERSHIP



Shropshire Good Food Partnership(SGFP) has been established to create a local food system which is good for people, place and planet. We bring people together from across the County representing all aspects of the food system, from growers to retailers, those involved with food banks and food festivals, community organisations, academic institutions, and the local Councils. Our six working groups represent our scope of action: Sustainable Food Economy; Healthy Food for All; Wise Land Stewardship; Grow Local; Nature Connection and Reducing Food Waste.

Our objectives are to:

- Ensure everyone has access to sufficient nutritious affordable food
- Build community, connecting people through food to each other and the land
- Create livelihood opportunities, forging a strong local food economy
- Enable environmental regeneration and a shift to net zero carbon in food and farming

SGFP supports the work of organisations across the county, catalyses new initiatives and collaborations, and enables joined-up innovative thinking to improve access to Good Food. We provide a go-to place for individuals and groups to access support and engage in networking on all aspects of healthy eating from setting up and managing community-based food growing, to cooking and food sharing initiatives. This involves facilitating exchange of knowledge, building evidence and nurturing organisations and businesses. We play a convening function, bringing together a range of stakeholder from across the county to engage on policy and planning and to work in partnership with to deliver goods and services.

SGFP is part of the national Sustainable Food Places movement which brings together pioneering food partnerships from towns, cities, boroughs, districts and counties across the UK. These initiatives are driving innovation and best practice on all aspects of healthy and sustainable food. In addition to organising national campaigns, SFP emphasises the importance of working in partnership across sectors to create positive and lasting food system change.

As a core group, our directors have domestic and international experience in business development, food systems planning and routes to market, food poverty and distribution in the charitable sector, as well as farming and food policy.

Legal Issues?

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For the full range of services check out:
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Become a Friend of SpArC Theatre

Become a **Friend of SpArC Theatre** and help sustain the future of your Theatre in these difficult times. Individual membership is £15 a year and membership for a couple is £25. If you are a UK taxpayer you can gift aid your subscription and increase its value by 25%. Current membership stands at 115 ; with your support we would like to increase this to 200 which would contribute £5k per annum to funding your Theatre's running costs.

Membership will enable you to :

Receive advance notice via email of the upcoming season

Priority book for National Theatre Live screenings

Reserve a table for cabaret-style events subject to availability

Receive an Invitation to gallery private viewings when arranged by the artist

Receive an Annual Newsletter via email

Access our DVD and Blu Ray Library

Receive an Invitation to the Friends Christmas Film- (enjoy a complimentary film and a glass of something nice to celebrate the year)

To join, simply call Liz at the Box Office on 01588 630321 / 638038 or email Graham at gshemmings@hotmail.com . Alternatively you can pick up details from the SpArC Theatre or Enterprise House.

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CASTLE DOG GROOMERS

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WWW.castledoggroomers.co.uk



Saturday 6th May

**Live Stream of the
Coronation Service and the Processions**
in
St John the Baptist Church, Bishops Castle
(Bring a picnic– enjoy sharing the events together)

Sunday 7th May

11am
A Special Commemorative Service
of
Thanksgiving for the Coronation of King Charles.
in
St John the Baptist Church, Bishops Castle





CORONATION REJOICING!

Marches Choir

Alistair Auld - Conductor

Featuring

Handel - Coronation Anthems

(including Zadok the Priest)

Parry - I Was Glad

Sunday June 4th

7.30 pm

Walcot Hall, Lydbury North

Tickets £15 on 01588 650315

and from TicketSource

Children and Students FREE

www.marcheschoir.org.uk



Voter ID –

A reminder that photograph ID will be required for future voting at Polling Stations. This is not required for postal votes. No elections are planned in the Shropshire Council area this year. From February 2023 onwards anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID such as a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport; a UK, EEA or Commonwealth drivers' licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass.



The advertisement features the company logo at the top, which consists of a house icon with a plug inside, followed by the text "Dave Taylor Electrical Services" in a stylized font. Below the logo is a paragraph of text describing the company's services and location. This is followed by a bulleted list of services. At the bottom of the advertisement is a photograph of a person's hands working on electrical wiring, with a sign for "STROMA CERTIFICATION" and "TRUST MARK" visible in the background. The contact information "dave Taylorelectrical@gmail.com | 07814 707 100" is printed at the very bottom.

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Voters will also be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo. Voters will also be able to apply for free ID – known as a Voter Authority Certificate at www.voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/ or by completing a paper form.

If anyone is not registered to vote and wishes to do so you can register online www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

You can find out more about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on a polling day at electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

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CAR SHARE CLUB FOR BISHOP'S CASTLE?

DO YOU:

- HAVE NO CAR AND RELY ON SCARCE BUSES? or
- WORRY ABOUT THE COST OF FUEL, INSURANCE, MOT'S, SERVICING, TYRES, BREAKDOWNS, DEPRECIATION and TAX?
- THINK ABOUT GETTING RID OF YOUR CAR AND SAVING MONEY?
- WANT TO HELP THE PLANET?

WE COULD SOLVE SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS BY FORMING A

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WE NEED ABOUT 20, OR MORE, PEOPLE.

THE PLAN WOULD BE FOR AN ELECTRIC, or HYBRID, CAR WITH A GOOD RANGE.

THREE POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

1. FORM OUR OWN CAR SHARE CLUB FOR BC
2. FORM A BISHOP'S CASTLE BRANCH OF THE 'TRIP TO' CAR SHARE CLUB. 4 ARE ALREADY BASED IN LLANIDLOES, NEWTOWN, WELSHPOOL AND MACHYNLLETH
3. FORM A BISHOP'S CASTLE BRANCH OF 'CO-WHEELS' CAR SHARE CLUB www.co-wheels.org.uk

IF WE CAN FIND ENOUGH PEOPLE, THE SOONER WE CAN ALL START TO SAVE A LOT OF MONEY AND REDUCE OUR IMPACT ON THE PLANET!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, OR JUST WANT TO KNOW MORE, CONTACT:

climateaction@lightfootenterprises.org or ring

Charlie Grafton, on 07581404825 or Dave Luckhurst on 01588 680250

Notes: There are now 4, active, 22kW, electric vehicle charge points in Harley Jenkins Street. You need the 'Connected Kerb' app and a Type 2 'Mennekes'

lead. More are planned for Corporation Street and the business park.

If there is sufficient interest in forming a car share club

we will plan for a meeting early in 2023 to explore our options.

Please Note: All contact details will be stored following strict GDPR rules under the Lightfoot Enterprises policy.



BISHOP'S CASTLE
CLIMATE ACTION GROUP
lightfoot

Age UK Dementia Support Group
Starting Monday 27th February
Grange Road Community Centre
Bishop's Castle
10.30am – 12.30pm

Every 4th Monday thereafter

£12 for two people (including light refreshments)

Age UK Dementia Support Groups support people with dementia and memory difficulties, their families, carers and friends, providing emotional support and information in a safe and welcoming environment.



You can expect a friendly welcome on arrival and an opportunity to get to know others and share experiences in a relaxed atmosphere. Age UK offers you the chance to learn more about dementia and to ask questions, while providing fun and interesting activities.

Following on from the very popular group in Pontesbury, Age UK Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, (Age UK STW) are setting up a similar group in Bishop's Castle to cater for people further south in Shropshire. This new group will be supported by the Bishop's Castle Dementia Community Team, (a volunteer group).

Age UK STW will handle all the registration and fees, **so to book your places**, please contact

Age UK STW: 01743 233 123 or enquiries@ageukstw.org

Places are limited to 6 couples.

Coffee and Chat - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10.15am – noon in St John's Church. come and join us for a chat over a cup of coffee or tea. We'd love to see you.

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Support for Mental Health in the Community

If you need urgent or non-urgent support for your mental health please read:

As part of an ongoing project to support community mental health and wellbeing, the Community Partnership has been working with a team of local mental health professionals from the Bishop's Castle Medical Practice, Community College, The Samaritans, Shropshire Rural Support, Shropshire Public Health Development Officer and local mental health counsellors amongst others.

We have published an online list of **Urgent** and **Non-Urgent contacts** for anyone with a mental health crisis or need.

The list is at <https://bit.ly/3qbQQTE> For further information please contact Keith: keith.whiddon@btinternet.com

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YOGA & MEDITATION TEACHER

Hello everyone, I'd like to introduce myself, I am Jess and live just outside Bishops Castle. I have been teaching yoga & meditation for 7 years in London at several of the top studios. I teach a spectrum of styles including vinyasa, yin, pregnancy, meditation and kirtan at my home (image below). I am currently teaching **1 FREE** yoga class per week.



Get in touch if you're interested in a session!

JESSICA WOOD
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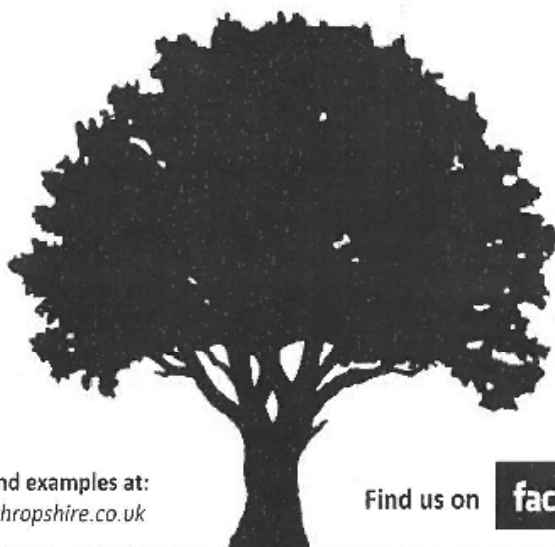


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How to contact your Town Councillors:

Councillor Jane Carroll

Tel: 01588 638467

Email: jane.carrol@gmail.com

Councillor Ruth Houghton

Tel: 01588 638352

Email: Ruth.Houghton@shropshire.gov.uk

Councillor Andy Stelman

Tel 07773006413

Email andystelman@icloud.com

Councillor Josh Dickin

Tel 07530691106

Email bcbc97@outlook.com

Councillor Grant Perry

Tel: 01588 638233

Email: grantperry24@icloud.com

Councillor Stuart Morris

Tel: 01588 630114

Email: stuartmorrisstfc@btinternet.com

Councillor Rachel Bromley

Tel No.: 07966829888

Email : rachel.bromley@LIVE.CO.UK

Councillor Lloyd Payne

Tel No: 01588630230

Email: paynelloyd@live.co.uk

Councillor Tim Halford

Tel: 01588 638333

Email: timhalford@yahoo.com

Town Clerk: 01588 638141

townclerk@bishopscaletowncouncil.gov.uk

assistantclerk@bishopscaletowncouncil.gov.uk

Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12.30pm

For allotment enquiries, Contact:

townclerk@bishopscaletowncouncil.gov.uk

Bishop's Castle News is published by Bishop's Castle Town Council. The Council maintains the right to edit all submissions.

Please send any contributions to be considered for the next issue by May 15th 2023 to the Town Clerk and the Assistant Clerk..

Jilly Evans - Heather

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Listings for April and May 2023

For Further information on all our events look on our website
www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk or contact us 01588 630023

**Due to work in our Council Chamber room there will be no
Art Exhibition until 27th May**

1st April Antiques and Flea Market 9am to 4pm. 1st Saturday of each month. Lift available. Free entry.

3rd April to 12th April - Book, CD and DVD Sale – A large selection of second hand books, CD's and DVD's to suit all ages at low prices. Open 10.00am to 16.00pm daily.

13th April Going Wild in Bishops Castle Winter Talks – Doors open 7.30pm. Bar refreshments available. No pre booking required. Donations box at the entrance.

15th April Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm
3rd Saturday of each month. Stalls include Meat, Poultry, Specialist Teas, Cakes & Pastries, Bread, Preserves, Honey, Chocolates. All produced locally.

20th April Knight and Spiers Concert Spring Tour - Peter Knight and John Spiers return to the Town Hall for a great evening of lively music.

Tickets £18 can be purchased on the door or online from Ticket source www.ticketsource.co.uk/bcth

22nd April to 20th May Art Exhibition by Catherine Jones

Open from 10am to 4pm Monday-Saturday. If you are travelling always phone 01588 630023 to check the exhibition is open as occasionally we have to close for weddings.

www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

May 2023

To 20th May Art Exhibition by Catherine Jones

Open from 10am to 4pm Monday-Saturday. If you are travelling always phone 01588 630023 to check the exhibition is open as occasionally we have to close for weddings.

www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

6th May Antiques and Flea Market 9am to 4pm

1st Saturday of the month. Lift available. Free entry.

11th May Going Wild in Bishops Castle Winter Talks –

Doors open 7.00pm. Bar refreshments available. No pre booking required. Donations box at the entrance.

18th May First in The Summer Series BCHRC Talks – Bishops Castle Then and Now. An illustrated talk by John Rimmer. A journey round Bishop's Castle from the 1880's to present day. See what's changed – and what hasn't.

Tickets £5.00 can be purchased at The Town Hall or online

www.ticketsource.co.uk/bcth

Doors open 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Refreshments available.

20th May Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm

3rd Saturday of each month. Stalls include Meat, Poultry, Specialist Teas, Cakes & Pastries, Bread, Preserves, Honey, Chocolates. All produced locally.

27th May to 24th June Art Exhibition by Alan Jefferies

Open from 10am to 4pm Monday-Saturday. If you are travelling always phone 01588 630023 to check the exhibition is open as occasionally we have to close for weddings.

Early June 2023

To 24th June Art Exhibition by Alan Jefferies

Open from 10am to 4pm Monday-Saturday. If you are travelling always phone 01588 630023 to check the exhibition is open as occasionally we have to close for weddings.

www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

3rd June Antiques and Flea Market 9am to 4pm. 1st Saturday of each month. Lift available. Free entry.

10th June Craft Fair

Two floors of stalls with a large selection of locally made crafts.
10am – 4pm.

House on Crutches Museum

The town's lovely little museum, on the cobbles, next to the Town Hall, opens for the 2023 season on **Friday 7 April from 2.00 to 5.00 pm**. We are open every weekend until the end of September plus the Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays around bank holiday weekends.

Do come and visit us. Admission is free.



In the last issue, the **Friends of the Wintles Hillside** contact email was incorrect.


Please note that the correct email address is:

andrewgbwood@gmail.com

Thank you!

Bishop's Castle
Round & About Walks 2023
 16th to 29th May 2023
'Beautiful walks with great maps and instructions'

Raising money for  Blood Cancer UK and  TO SUCCEED TO CARE TO INSPIRE



This circular **Ramble (23 miles)** runs between Bishops Castle and Clun, taking in Bury Ditches, the Walcot Estate and bits of the Shropshire Way and Offa's Dyke. It divides into a fairly gentle **Amble (10 miles)**, more challenging **Scramble (13 miles)** and shorter distances if you choose.

“the best marked route, by far, we have ever been on”.

How to Take Part

- **The cost to enter is £10 per person.**
- **A family entry is £20 for 2 related adults and up to 4 children**
- **Under 16s are free with an accompanying adult**

For full information and to apply, follow the following link:

<https://ccbcshropshire.com/ccbc-friends-roundandabout/>

You will receive detailed maps with full directions in roughly 3-mile sections to your email address. The routes will be marked thoroughly with arrows during the period that the walk runs.

Entry is open between March 1 and May 16. You decide when to walk between May 16 – 29, on which route or routes and with whom.

You provide your own refreshments and, most importantly, are responsible for your own safety.

Our Aims:

Our first aim is for you to enjoy the walking and the scenery. Our second aim is to support our two chosen charities: Blood Cancer UK and The Community College Bishop's Castle.

If you feel able to get sponsorship or make a larger donation, you will sustain vital life-saving work, give our students the support they deserve, and make us very happy.

Please give your friends the link.

Bus timetable for bus routes 552 / 553 Bishop's Castle to Shrewsbury

Monday to Friday times (school days)				Saturday			
	Leaves		Arrives		Leaves		Arrives
Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head all go via the Hospital	7.30		8.30		7.30		8.30
	9.40		10.40		9.30		10.30
	12.20		13.20		12.15		13.15
	13.30		14.30		15.50		16.50
	15.40		16.40				
Shrewsbury Stand all go via the Hospital	7.35		8.35		8.00		9.00
	10.05		11.05		10.05		11.05
	12.00		13.00		14.45		15.45
	14.00		15.00		17.40		18.40
	16.25		17.25				
	17.40		18.40				

Bus timetable for bus route 745 Bishop's Castle to Ludlow

Monday and Friday only	Leaves		Arrives		Leaves		Arrives
					Ludlow		
Bishop's Castle	9.15		10.25		13.15		14.50

Bus timetable for bus route Bishop's Castle to Pontesbury 775

Bishop's Castle	14.40		15.10			09.30		10.00
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Poor Turnout Puts Hall's future in Jeopardy

Efforts to form a new management committee for Bishop's Castle Public Hall have faltered following a low turnout at a recent public meeting. Last year a small group, mainly made up of town councillors, was set up to investigate the condition of the current hall and to propose a strategy or strategies to move the hall forward. The development of the strategy, once agreed, would be under the management of a 'new' committee, not the Town Council who act merely as Custodian Trustees.

Cllr Grant Perry presented a paper on the future of the hall for discussion at the recent meeting. However as, with the low turnout at the meeting, it did not prove viable to form a new committee it was proposed that the six options outlined for the hall and site be circulated to the community at large so that everyone could vote for their preferred option.

The outcome will establish a strategy in which the majority are in favour. It is believed having more clarity will aid the formation of a new committee to progress the vision and raise the funds required. As The Town Council as Custodian Trustee is not able to progress the project, the scheme can only progress if a new committee steps forward.

1. Bring the current building up to the required Standards. This would be very difficult and costly.
2. Replace the current building with a new one on the existing footprint with particular emphasis on maintaining the Underground as a separate entity. Costly.

3. Replace the current building with a new one on a reduced footprint with particular emphasis on maintaining the Underground as a separate entity. This would allow the possible disposal on some of the land to produce funds for the new building.
4. Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on the development of a new Hall on a new site.
5. Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on a development to augment an existing hall in the locality. Subject to agreement of the appropriate bodies concerned.
6. Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on the development of other projects in the town such as a Youth Club/Building (the old crowgate site has been suggested), Fitness trail (in the town centre playing fields) or Sports Provision (on the school Sports Field)

On the back page you will be able to take part in the consultation by indicating your preferences for the Public Hall by ticking the appropriate box and returning that page.

In the meantime, anyone wishing to become involved with the project is asked to email :

publichallsy9@gmail.com or contact the

Town Clerk on 01588 638141.

PUBLIC HALL SURVEY

Please tick your preferences

	Details	Yes	No
A	Bring the current building up to the required Standards. Very difficult and also costly.		
B	Replace the current building with a new one on the existing footprint with particular emphasis on maintaining the Underground as a separate entity		
C	Replace the current building with a new one on a reduced footprint with particular emphasis on maintaining the Underground as a separate entity. This would allow the possible disposal of some of the land to produce funds for the new building.		
D	Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on the development of a new Hall on a new site.		
E	Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on the development of a Bar and Kitchen on the Community College site to augment the existing hall. Subject to agreement of the College and Shropshire Council.		
F	Dispose of the site and use the proceeds with Charity Commission's agreement on the development of other projects in the town such as a Youth Club/Building (the old Crowgate site has been suggested), Fitness trail (in the town centre playing fields) or Sports Provision (on the school Sports Field)		

Please tear off and return to the Town Hall: