



BISHOP'S CASTLE NEWS



**APRIL &
MAY 2016
ISSUE 46**



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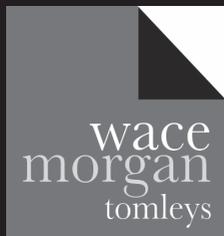
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Introduction

Cllr Karen Bavastock

Mayor of Bishop's Castle



Welcome to the March edition of the Town Council newsletter. I want to take this opportunity to thank the advertisers in the magazine. Their support means that we can increase the size of the newsletter and ensure that we communicate as well as we can to our residents.

It is YOUR newsletter and if you wish to write an article about something locally please do not hesitate to get in touch. I must also thank the clerk for all her hard work in pulling everything together every two months.

I would like to remind you that the Annual Town Meeting takes place on Monday 4th April at Bishops Castle Town Hall. This is YOUR meeting and all are welcome. In previous years the meeting has been poorly attended however this year we have a number of speakers and one of the biggest issues/threat facing our town is the possible threat to one of the valuable assets we have in Bishops Castle – the SPARC Leisure Centre. The centre provides a wide range of activities to a large cross section of people living in the area.

We must do everything in our power to ensure that this facility is retained and thrives and I know the SPARC management committee are working very hard to ensure that we do keep this very valued service. Come along to the meeting and you can speak to the committee and find out what we as a community to do to help. I would also urge you to go down to the Leisure Centre and theatre and take some time to look at all that is on offer – it is one of our jewels in the town.

It is also important to appeal to anyone interested in helping their town more to come along to the annual town meeting or indeed any of our town

council meetings and see how the council runs. We have three vacancies for councillors at present and I have produced some frequently asked questions which you will find in this newsletter. I would really appreciate it if people came and talked to us about becoming a councillor and if they are concerned about any issues please bring them to our attention and we can hopefully reassure anyone who would like to volunteer to help their community.

We also have the Queen's 90th birthday to celebrate on the 21st April and we intend to plant a rose bush in the Old Market Place and then have drinks back at the town hall. This year, as I have funded the Year 6's participation in Crucial Crew a valuable course that year 6 pupils will attend where they receive training in social awareness and safety training to teach them essential life skills. Crucial Crew helps around 1500 children from 40-60 Primary Schools in Shropshire and I am pleased to be able to fund this from my charity.

I decided that I would like to commemorate the Queen's birthday by presenting all pupils of Crowgate Children's Centre with commemorative coins. At the Diamond Jubilee in 2012 my predecessor presented coins to pupils of Bishops Castle Primary School. I am very much looking forward to meeting the children. The staff at Crowgate are brilliant and have given my nieces and nephew a great start and I very much value all the great work they do.

It leaves me to wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

Happy Reading!

Karen

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Have you recently been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes?

Do you want to help a friend or loved one to cope with their diagnosis?

You might be interested to know that a new support group is starting locally and the first meeting will be held at The Community Centre in Grange Road, Bishops Castle, Shropshire, SY9 5AW on Monday 18th April, starting at 6.00 p.m. Come and join us – all are welcome with or without diabetes.

A group of local people, some of whom have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and others who have lived with diabetes have attended a 6-week course called the Xpert course which has been invaluable for all those who participated in the course which was held at Stone House Hospital in the town. The group have the support of Diabetes UK and will tailor the support to everyone's individual needs. Please come along if you want more information or feel that you could contribute to the course in any way. It is important that you have your say in the types of things you would value from a group of this sort.

Karen Bavastock, course participant said "after a recent diagnosis of type 2 diabetes I was very confused about what on earth I had to do to get this disease sorted. This course has been absolutely invaluable to me and I would like to thank everyone for their support – the people I met on the course, the Medical Practice, the Diabetes Nurse Kerry and also my friends and family for all their help".

For further information, contact Charlotte on 01588 638330 or email karenbavastock@btinternet.com

Supported by Diabetes UK

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

The Town Council meets on the
3rd Tuesday of every month
7.30pm:

Tuesday 19th April
Tuesday 17th May
Tuesday 21st June
Tuesday 19th July
Tuesday 16th August
Tuesday 20th September
Tuesday 18th October
Tuesday 15th November
Tuesday 20th December

*MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND*

BISHOP'S CASTLE CIVIC AWARDS 2016

Bishops Castle Town Council will be launching their civic awards in the coming months. They were very well received at the first event of its kind in the town last year with some extremely worthy people being given awards for the work they do to make our community the lovely place it is for us all to live in.

Please get your thinking caps on if you know someone who is an unsung hero and deserves to be nominated for a civic award. It is a thank you from the town council and indeed the town for the work they do – it can be an individual or a group of people but they must do something to have a positive impact on the lives of people living in Bishops Castle. Nomination forms will be available very soon.

BISHOPS CASTLE COLLECTION POINT ENTERPRISE HOUSE



CRAFT - CREATIVE ARTS - EDUCATION

With a store in Church Stretton, we are the only Scrapstore in Shropshire. We collect clean safe surplus products from environmentally friendly businesses, shops, and factories. We also accept donations from the public. Donated materials are sorted and displayed in our store before being made available to customers for their creative projects. Scrappies is open to ALL, but you can also become a member which means you get a 20% discount. We are always sourcing new and interesting stock- so if you or your business has surplus products you think might be of interest please get in touch or leave them in the donation box located in the IT centre at Enterprise House

YES PLEASE

Examples of things we like:

CARD - Boxes, Circles, Coloured/Textured, Shapes, Corrugated, Mount board, Tubes

PAPER - Brown, Construction, Graph, Sugar, Patterned, Tissue, Tracing, Wallpaper, Watercolour, Wrapping

HOUSEHOLD- Corks, Cotton reels, Egg cartons, Water containers, Yoghurt pots, Small individual jam pots, Various plastic containers, Crayons, Pens, Pencils.

FABRIC - **Any Clean Fabric off-cuts/pieces/Rolls**-Carpet webbing, Calico, Dralon, Dressmaking Fabric Felt, Fleece, Foam-backed, Fake fur, Leather, Ripstop plastic, Upholstery material & samples, Velvet, Vinyl.

HABERDASHERY - Beads, Braid, Buttons, Cord, Cotton, Edging, Elastic, Interfacing, Needles, Ribbon, Wadding, Wool, Zips

WOOD - Small pieces only please- spindles, offcuts,

MISCELLANEOUS - Art materials, Acetate, Bubble wrap, Bookbinding Fabric, CD's & Cases, Cellophane, Correx, Cotton cones, Calenders, Craft equipment, Dried/silk/fake flowers, Film pots, Foam, Gift bags, Hand Tools, Lids, Overalls, Padded Envelopes, Full Tins of Paint, Perspex, Photographs, Plastic rings, Postcards, Sponge, String, Wadding, Wire.

BOOKS : ART /CRAFT /MAKING/ ONLY PLEASE

NO THANKS

Clothes, Shoes, Electrical items, Newspaper, Tin cans, Milk bottles, Wine bottles, Batteries, Light bulbs, Food packaging

ANYTHING THAT IS TOO BIG TO FIT IN THIS BOX!

IF YOU HAVE LARGER ITEMS OR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US ON:

T: 01694 328508

E :info@scrappies.org



www.scrappies.org



ASK YOUR COUNCILLORS

We currently have 3 vacancies for town councillors. We have been asked by a number of potential candidates what being a councillor entails and hope that this gives anyone interested an insight into being a councillor but feel free to come along to one of our meetings or speak to any of our current councillors about their thoughts. Our annual town meeting on Monday 4th April is the perfect time to come and see what the council does – the meeting is organised for the town and is not as formal as an official town council meeting. More details from the clerk.



I don't have much time to be a councillor so think it's best not to commit to it

The minimum time per month to allocate is 2 hours on a Tuesday evening where at meeting is held at the Town Hall from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m... Sometimes there are meetings before the 7.30 start and it is always best to get to the meeting earlier to look at any plans that might be up for discussion in the meeting. It is always important to read through the agenda before the meeting and be sure that you understand what is being discussed – I remember going to one of my first meetings and not having a clue – it was really embarrassing and I felt that I couldn't be involved in the discussion. Afterwards I was told that I should have spoken to the town clerk or one of the councillors to get the information I needed to understand what was being discussed. Be sure that if you don't know something one of the councillors will be able to help you.

I am worried about speaking in meetings

I was concerned in the beginning but I found it easy to always look at the Chairperson/mayor and just speak only to him or her. I also wrote down notes of things I wanted to say on my agenda and I still do this. As I say them I tick them off. You need to raise your hand so the chairperson/mayor knows you want to speak and when you speak you stand up. I thought this was silly at my first meeting but now realise that when you are stood up it really does stop other people from speaking and lets you have your say.

What is something comes up that I am involved in like a planning application

If you are unsure about an item on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting all councillors declare what we call prejudicial and personal interests. If you think you have one you can always ask the clerk for advice – examples are a planning application which might affect your property or possibly a close relation applying for planning permission. If it is a prejudicial interest you just leave the meeting and sit outside until that item has been debated. It makes life so much easier as friends may feel peeved if you have been a part of the discussion. Always protect yourself and if in doubt ask.

What's the point – the town council don't have a say anyway!!

I used to think this was the case but after being on the council a number of years now I realise how important the role of the councillor is. Now more than ever with the cuts we are facing do we need a strong town council to ensure we have a voice at Shirehall. It is an exciting time to be part of this as we are looking at all the services and facing taking on some things ourselves and this can be very rewarding. We are currently working on a project linked to the business park and also keeping a very close eye on the situation with SPARC. In addition the library is in the hands of our very own Enterprise South West Shropshire and the town council has taken on the auction yard toilets.

Why become a councillor!

Why indeed – I think that if you care for your town and the future of the town and the services which are on offer and want to make life better for everyone it can be a very rewarding thing to do. You get to meet many people locally who you may not otherwise have met or talked to. In addition you can join committees and groups as the town council representative and these can be on areas of the town that interest you. I get a lot of pleasure out of my involvement and have done a number of things I never thought I would – and in addition I am able to fundraise for local charities which I also find rewarding.

I am really proud to represent my town

I would love to be a councillor but think I will be out of my depth!

It fair to say we all feel like that from time to time but you will be supported by other councillors and the clerks Mary and Meg. In addition you will have the opportunity to attend courses. It is important to remember not to worry if you don't understand something or need to ask questions – you may well find that even experienced councillors are asking the same thing and you can either ask a Councillor or one of our clerks and they will be only too happy to help.

Do I get paid?

I am afraid not – this is a voluntary role. You will however get travelling expenses if you have to attend training or meetings which involve travelling.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK ON 01588 638141 or
email the office: townclerk@bishopscastle.co.uk**

INTERESTED?

Why not come along to the Annual Town Meeting on Monday 4th April and have an informal chat to councillors at the end of the meeting over a cup of tea or coffee?

Mayor, Cllr Karen Bavastock shares her experience of being a councillor:

I really didn't think I would ever join the Town Council but following my involvement in the biomass campaign as Chairman of the Bishops Castle Group I was told by Michael Dawes that I was doomed to be on the council.

I love Bishops Castle – it is a wonderful place to live and to that end the council actually seemed the perfect place – I wanted to help my town and with the resignation at that time of Jim Gaffney I was successfully voted in.

It can be frustrating especially when the powers that be don't listen to us but if we didn't give a voice how much worse would problems like funding, planning, etc be.

I have been on a number of committees with various town councillors in the time I have been on the council and by running my own business (with a very understanding business partner) I am able to engage with the community and try and help where I can.

I became Deputy Mayor in 2013 and Mayor in 2014 so this is my third term. I have been the town council's representative on many committees including SpArc at one time, Bishops Castle Town Hall Trust which I had to give up because it was very time consuming as the whole trust was being set up but now it is running really well I have rejoined the trust as it is something I really believe in and I am currently the representative on PACT which is all about communities working together, Bishops Castle Patients Group, and lots of other working parties and committees that make Bishop's Castle the place it is.

Cllr Ruth Houghton shares her experience of being a new councillor:

As a local government officer I have always had an interest in local democracy. The opportunity to be co-opted onto Bishop's Castle Town Council came about late last Summer, it was very timely as sorting through my Mum's old papers I found her election campaign notes for when she was elected to the town council in 1973 as the first woman town councillor in Bishop's Castle. Mum's campaign notes referred to housing, employment and local services all of which are still as critical today some 40 plus years later so I thought I would get involved too.

Having completed the form and following an interview at the town hall I was co-opted onto the council in October. This was very straightforward, I attended the meeting, sat as a member of the public and early on in the agenda the Councillors voted to accept me as a co-opted member so I then had to sign some papers and was invited to join the meeting.

It was a bit strange at first getting used to the protocol of standing up to speak or ask a question but I soon got the hang of it and found I had something to contribute to help inform decision making. As with anything the more effort you put in the more you get out of it, so a monthly meeting commitment of 2 hours needs some preparation to read all the papers so perhaps another hour, if there are planning applications I try to walk or drive past the site to see what is being planned and look them up on the web site so perhaps another hour or so. As a councillor I probably commit 4 to 5 hours per month to general

council duties, but of course this depends what is on the agenda.

In addition I am a council representative on the Public Hall committee which is one meeting a month and some work in between and I am on the audit and finance committee so again about 2 to 3 hours per month for that. But these are extras and I have agreed to do these as I am interested in them.

Since becoming a councillor in October I have attended all but one of the meetings, delivered the town council magazine twice,(about an hour each time), joined in with the Mayors fundraising Quiz night, attended the Civic awards evening, and taken part in the Remembrance Sunday parade, (the last time I did this was over 40 years ago as a Brownie!).

Looking forward to the full year ahead there will be a civic ceremony, the Queen's Birthday celebrations, regular Council meetings, newsletter deliveries, public hall committee meetings, friends of the library meetings, audit meetings and probably lots more.

Becoming a Councillor has meant that I have met lots of new, committed and interesting people, who all work really hard for Bishop's Castle, be that as Councillors or as volunteers on the many activities and events in Bishop's Castle. It's great to be contributing to decisions and hopefully making a difference to the community. As more and more is asked of local communities this is a really exciting but challenging time if we are to keep the services and facilities in Bishop's Castle that we all value and enjoy.

*Introducing a new idea to the newsletter:
Do you have any old photographs you can share?*

Do you remember?





Bishop's Castle Town Hall is an 18th Century Grade II* Listed Building open to the public, providing an information service for local people and visitors to the town; a location for local markets, local crafts and products; a community facility for meetings, and events; a licenced wedding venue and the home of the Town Council.

OPENING TIMES

The Town Hall is open
Monday – Saturday
from 10.00am to 4.00pm
Contact us for more information:
Tel: 01588 630023

email:
info@bishopscastlethorhall.co.uk

The Town Hall is a venue for a variety of community activities and events. It's a great location for exhibitions, music, talks and presentations, workshops, markets and specialist sales. With both the Market Hall and the Council Chamber in use throughout the year there is something for everyone going on at the Town Hall.

You are invited to join us to celebrate Her Majesty's
90th Birthday



on
Thursday 21st April



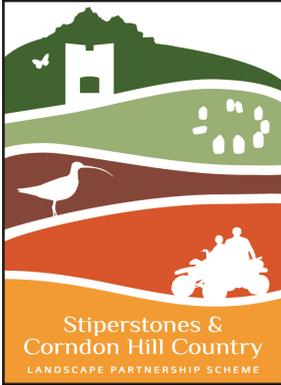
**11am The Town Council will be planting a special celebratory rose
in the Old Market Place**

Followed by tea and coffee in Bishop's Castle Town Hall

All the community are very welcome to join us

Small Grants for Local Communities

The Stiperstones & Corndon Landscape Partnership Scheme is all about



conserving and enhancing local heritage, raising awareness and encouraging communities to get involved.

Through the Scheme grants and advice are available

to community groups wanting to learn more about, care for or celebrate local landscape features or traditions.

These can be anything from milestones and ancient holy wells, to distinct field patterns and old track-ways, or exploring local history, myths and legends.

The grant supports heritage restoration, the management of sites, research and celebration events. If you have ideas for a project and community support please contact us with your ideas and we can help you apply for a grant.

Community projects are up and running in Churchstoke and Hyssington, focusing on churchyard improvements and researching local history. The Friends of Pontesford Hill have also used a grant to support their plans for preserving Pontesford and Earl's Hill Reserve.

We are keen to help set up projects in

other areas such as around Minsterley, Chirbury and Pulverbatch. For more information or to get in touch with your project idea, please contact Community Officer, Joe Penfold, on 01938 561741 or email joe.penfold@shropshire.gov.uk.

Bishop's Castle & District Carers Group

All meetings are held 2-4 pm at Boars Head Hotel, Church Street, Bishops Castle SY9 5AE

Monday 18th April – Stefanie from Wiltshire Farm Foods will be talking to us about their service in your area, meals provided, such as, puréed mini meals, free from range, low salt etc.

All welcome. Drinks available.

For more information Tel:
Jenny Englefield (Carers Adviser)
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together with

Ralph Jandrell's pottery

PLUS:

Farmer's Market every third Saturday of the month:

An array of fresh produce just for you

NEW FRIDAY MARKET STARTING ON 25th MARCH

1st April

8th April

15th April

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION

Road to be closed: High Street, Bishops Castle

(from Junction of Market Square to the junction of New Street)

Date: 22/05/2016 to 12/06/2016 (07:00-19:00) Sunday working only

(x4 Sundays – 22/05/16, 29/05/16, 05/06/2016 and 12/06/2016)

Purpose: To install apparatus on behalf of BT

Applicant: S & R Construction Ltd

If you require any further information please contact the Street Works team:

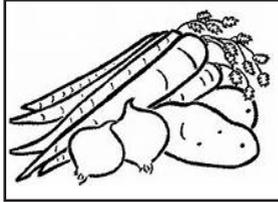
streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk

Current and forthcoming road works can be found at: <http://roadworks.org/>

New Allotments available at Bishop's Castle!

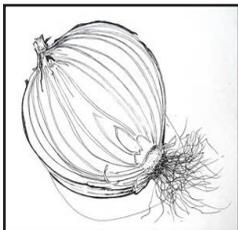
The Town Council is delighted to announce that the allotment area is being expanded, and new plots will be available to let shortly!

The area set to become new organic allotments was formerly the bike track.



The Town Council has a waiting list of people wanting to garden an allotment, and it is hoped that by providing more plots, more local people will benefit from fresh, home grown produce, healthy exercise, the fellowship and camaraderie of other allotment holders, as well as the joy of being out in our pure Shropshire air!

Allotment holders have an annual tenancy agreement for their plot with the Town Council, and also have an Allotment Society formed from and by the tenants. There are mains water taps at various point on site, and under their tenancy agreement allotment holders can erect a shed for the safe keeping of their tools and equipment.



It's hard work but immensely rewarding, and you can feel justifiably proud when you have a wonderful crop of produce of a

bunch or magnificent blooms to show for your efforts!

If you are interested in becoming an allotment gardener with us, please contact the Town Council so that your name can be added to the waiting list. You will be asked for your full address including your post code, email if you have it, and a contact phone number. The first few people to come forward may well be lucky enough not to have to wait for a plot at all!

So please ring 01588 638141, or email assistantclerk@bishopscastle.co.uk now!

We look forward to hearing from you!

STOP PRESS!

We are pleased to announce that there may be some immediate availability, so if you act fast you may not have to go onto a waiting list!

Full plots are £50 per annum and half plots are £30 per annum payable in advance.

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THREE BISHOP'S CASTLE ROUND & ABOUT WALKS

SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2016

RAMBLE - This beautiful 22.5 mile circular walk rambles over the rolling Shropshire hills starting and finishing at Bishop's Castle, via Offa's Dyke, Shropshire Way, the Walcot Estate and Bury Ditches, with a welcome hot vegetarian lunch provided at Clun.



SCRAMBLE - The first 13 miles of the Ramble from Bishop's Castle climb up to Offa's Dyke then enjoy the views along the Cefns before dropping down past Clun castle to the Memorial Hall for lunch and transport back to Bishop's Castle.

AMBLE - Transport is provided from Bishop's Castle to Clun for lunch, before a 9.5 mile undulating stroll to Bury Ditches, then through the normally private Walcot Estate, and Oakeley Mynd, to Bishop's Castle.



The route crosses quite remote countryside some of which is not normally open to the public. But don't worry about getting lost! We provide clear signage, written instructions and helpful marshals.

Local hostelries offer discounts to walkers.

ONLINE ENTRY HAS OPENED. The entrance fee for ALL walkers applying electronically is £16, which includes instructions, refreshments, lunch, transport and a certificate. All proceeds go to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

For details, and to apply electronically or request an application form, please sign up at www.bloodwise.org.uk/round-and-about-walks

The closing date for applications is MONDAY APRIL 25.

Contributed by Jean Shirley



SIX SUNDAY AFTERNOONS
at the
TOWN HALL in 2016



No.1

Sunday 17th April

2.30pm to 4.30pm

**The Clocks and
Clockmakers of
Bishop's Castle**

An illustrated talk by
Chris Robinson

And launch of his new *Insight Guide** which tells the Story of Clockmaking,
Timekeeping and Public Clocks in a small Shropshire Market Town

Tickets £5.00 from the **Town Hall**
Includes *tea and cake* & local Dial-a-Ride pick up, if eligible
Dial-a-Ride places must be booked separately – phone 638 350



*Four Insight Guides on local heritage topics have been created by
BCHRC with extra volunteer help and printed as part of the HLF
funded Town Hall renovation project



SMOKE ALARMS

SAVE LIVES

**Request a
Free Home
Fire Safety
Visit**
book now on
01743 260 260

Fit a smoke alarm

The best way for you to protect yourself, your family and your home from fire is to buy a smoke alarm. They cost from as little as £5 and you can get them from supermarkets and in DIY stores.

Make sure you test the battery every week. If you need help or advice on which is the most suitable alarm for you or where you should install it, contact Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service on 01743 260 260. We will be happy to give you advice.

**DO YOU HAVE A WORKING
SMOKE ALARM AT HOME?**

**IF NOT YOU ARE FOUR
TIMES AS LIKELY TO
DIE IN A FIRE**



Plan a safe escape

If your smoke alarm went off in the night, would you know what to do?

- Plan an escape route and make sure everyone knows how to escape.
- Make sure all exits are kept clear.
- The best route is the normal way in and out of your home.
- Think of a second route in case the first one is blocked.
- Take a few minutes to practice your escape plan.
- Review your plan if the layout of your home changes.



Shropshire
Fire and Rescue Service



**Putting Shropshire's
Safety First**

What's on

in Bishops Castle Town Hall

in April

14 th March/11 th	Brian Fletcher Art Exhibition
2 nd	Flea & Antiques Market
1 st 8 th 15 th 22 nd	New for Fridays! Produce Market
16 th	Farmer's Market
17 th	Illustrated Talk: The Clocks and Clockmakers of Bishop's Castle
18 th	Talk: From Ice to Iron: Prehistoric Shropshire
23 rd	Table Top Sale Sue Grimley Art Exhibition Opens
26 th	Wildlife Talk: Wilderland, Wildlife and Wonder
28 th	Primary School Cafe

Every Thursday - Produce Market

www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk



Heritage Resource Centre (BCHRC) as part of the Town Hall renovation project. The other dates are May 15th, when Peter Broxholme will speak about the Bishop's Castle Railway, then June 12th, July 10th, September 25th and October 16th covering a diverse range of subjects to be publicised later.

Six Monday evenings (the third in the month) will be devoted to an exploration of the Shropshire landscape through a series of talks by the archaeologist Mike Greene. The talks will be based on the landscape surrounding Bishop's Castle and the relationship of communities within it and how that shaped their culture and society as interpreted from the archaeological record. This series will begin on Monday 18th April, doors open at 7.30, for 8.00pm, with a talk entitled From Ice to Iron: Prehistoric Shropshire. The other dates in this series are 16th May, 20th June, 19th September, 17th October and 21st November, which will track the archaeological record up to the emergence of Modern Shropshire.

Tickets for all these events include refreshments, and cost £5 from Bishop's Castle Town Hall tel: 01588 630 023, email info@bishopscastletownhall.co.uk A series ticket for all six Monday evening Archaeology talks is offered at £25.

More information about all these dates/events is available from BCHRC, tel: 01588 630 556, or email mail@bchrc.co.uk

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www.bishopscastle.co.uk

Immerse yourself in local heritage at Bishop's Castle Town Hall

Starting in April there will be two monthly series in which audiences will learn about some of the distinctive features and characters which have made this area so special.

Six Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm will feature a talk or film or musical entertainment, followed by tea and cake. The first of these, on Sunday 17th April is an illustrated talk by Chris Robinson about The Clocks and Clockmakers of Bishop's Castle. He will tell the story of clockmaking, timekeeping and public clocks in this small Shropshire market town. This talk will also mark the launch of an Insight Guide of the same title, written by Chris, produced by Bishop's Castle

THE MARCHES CHOIR

MOZART REQUIEM

REGINA COELI
FLUTE CONCERTO IN G
INSANAE ET VANAE CURAE - HAYDN

Katerina Mina - Soprano Kathryn Hannah - Contralto
Clifford Lister - Tenor Robert Evans - Baritone
Chris Lacey - Flute

with
THE MARCHES SINFONIA

Anne Tupling - Leader

Alistair Auld - Conductor

SATURDAY 16 APRIL, 7.30pm
St John's Church, Bishop's Castle

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Karen Bavastock (Mayor)
01588 638168

Jane Carroll (Deputy Mayor)
01588 638467

Keith Bance 01588 638455

Josh Dickin 07530 691106

Jim Gaffney 01588 638712

Simon Harris 07973 301097

Ruth Houghton 01588 638352

Julie Magill 01588 638305

Anne-Marie Jackon 01588 638566

**DEADLINE FOR THE
JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER:**

15th May

bishopscastlenewsletter@gmail.com



Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:

PC 3233 Anne Gutteridge
PCSO 6160 Shaun Cullies
PCSO 40002 Julia St John Martin
SO 5012 Sandra Garland

You can contact us in the following ways:

Police contact numbers

Emergency: 999

Non Emergency: 101

Local Police Team 01743 264777
(Not to be used for reporting crime or emergencies)

Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Web site: www.westmercia.police.uk

Twitter: @SouthShropCops

Contact Email address: bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

To receive the daily Neighbourhood watch newsletters, please visit the link below and register your details:

www.westmercia.police.uk/register-to-receive-watch-messages.html

Talk in BC Town Hall

hosted by Bishop's Castle Heritage Resource Centre

Monday 18th April
7.30pm for 8pm start

**From Ice to Iron:
Prehistoric
Shropshire**

Speaker: Mike Greene
MA (Res), MA, PCIFA
Community Archaeologist

Mike will explore what the landscape reveals about how people lived here thousands of years ago

Tickets £5.00 from the **Town Hall**
includes refreshments

The first in a series of 6 talks. Tickets for the whole series: £25
Other Dates: 16th May; 20th June; 19th Sept; 17th Oct; 21st Nov

For more information contact BCHRC on 01588 630556
or email mail@bchrc.co.uk

BCHRC



THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT
7.00 PM
MONDAY 4TH APRIL 2016
In the COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT THE TOWN HALL

**CHAired BY THE MAYOR,
COUNCILLOR KAREN BAVASTOCK**

**IT IS AN OPEN AGENDA TO SPEAK ABOUT
ANYTHING YOU WISH OR TELL OTHERS
ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION**

Confirmed speakers include:

SpArC

Enterprise House

The Police and SmartWater

BC Carers Group

Town Plan and more

ALL WELCOME – IT'S YOUR MEETING!

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for more information**



BISHOPS CASTLE PUBLIC HALL

Charity Number 513572

Hire Fees

Full Day 8am - 5pm Hall Only £70 Hall/Kitchen £90 Extras: Equipment(staging) £20	Half Day 8am - 12pm 12pm - 5pm Hall Only £40 Hall/Kitchen £60 Extras: Equipment(staging) £20
Hourly Rate (up to 3 hours) <i>Before 5pm unless evening meetings</i> £7 per hour A surcharge will apply for kitchen hire Evening Meetings (inc speech, talks) From 5pm £10 per hour A surcharge will apply for kitchen hire	Block Bookings (up to 3 hours) <i>Monday - Tuesday, every other</i> <i>Wednesday and Thursday: please</i> <i>contact the Booking Manager for further</i> <i>information</i> £18 per session if block booking 6 weeks or more A surcharge will apply for kitchen hire <i>Note: e.g. Yoga / Dance / Weight Watchers / Slimming World etc</i>

For other fees including evening events, please contact the Booking Manager on 07984 852579 or email: bcpublichall@gmail.com.

Hours for telephone bookings:
Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 6.00pm
Saturday 10.00am - 6.00pm
Sunday 11.00am - 4.00pm

Bishop's Castle News: Produced by Bishop's Castle Town Council and printed at Enterprise House, Station Street, Bishop's Castle



Don't let the SpArC go out!

-Drastic funding cuts threaten future of centre-

The future of Shropshire's sport, arts and leisure facilities are seriously under threat of closure. Shropshire County Council announced in January that the £1.8 million annual budget would be reduced to zero by 2017/18.

This immediately places several centres under threat of closure at that time – and no more so than at Bishops Castle where the SpArC centre faces potential closure if funds are not raised to support short and long term costs.

Richard Whately who is helping to co-ordinate the “Don't let the SpArC go out” fund raising campaign says, “This is very serious for Bishops Castle and the surrounding communities who use the centre. It is a real threat but if we can raise the right level of funds and everyone pulls together there is a reasonable chance that we can keep it open”.

It means that potentially the centre will be lost to townspeople and those of the surrounding villages and hamlets. Music and theatre lovers; primary and secondary school pupils; users of fitness classes and the Gymnasium; GP referrals for heart disease and obesity; retired people and those with special needs would all suffer. In other words, virtually every level and age group in the local community could be adversely affected.

Early estimates indicate that £250,000 needs to be raised in order that in the short term urgent remedial work is undertaken at the centre and that longer term there is sufficient funding to keep SpArC functioning.

Short term £50,000 is required immediately to refurbish the female changing rooms together with other facilities (insulation and re-roofing) on the pool side of the swimming area. The reason this work must be undertaken urgently is that the swimming area is the most costly part to keep operating and therefore likely to be the most vulnerable area to closure.

It will also mean local schools can conveniently continue to meet their minimum National Curriculum obligations of teaching children up to the age of 11 years to swim competently. Longer term it is estimated that a further £200,000 will be needed to help reduce running costs (e.g.more efficient heating systems) and to ensure that the centre as a whole can continue to function in an environmentally sustainable way.

All donations will be appreciated. Please visit www.savethesparc.org to see how you can help and to make donations online. Or visit our crowdfunding site at www.podiumpartners.org (search: sparc). Cheques/cash can be sent or given into Enterprise House, Station Street, Bishops Castle, SY9 5AQ. (Please make cheques payable to “Enterprise House— Sparc Fund”)