

i n T O U C H

Issue 20 | Spring 2010 | For Retired Members of the Shropshire County Pension Fund



Features in the Spring Issue

Planning for the Future

Pensions News

Bogus Callers

Clive of India

Welcome to the spring 2010 edition of Intouch.

Spring was late arriving this year after what seems like a very long winter. I hope you were not too inconvenienced by the snow. Here in the Shrewsbury office thankfully we did not get to see the worst of it and suffered little disruption to our working day.



In this edition Tony Gibbons invites you to consider crown green bowling. It is good to hear he is still keeping himself busy. I first met Tony 20 years ago when I spent the day poll-clerking for him. I would love to hear from more of you. Let me know how you spend your time. Ron Pugh is keeping himself busy as your pensioner representative, and updates you on recent Fund activities. At this time of year I would usually be updating you on your annual pensions increase. This year however there will be no increase and the article below explains why.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and I look forward to seeing you on June 15th, at the Theatre Severn.

Debbie Sharp

Pensions Increase 2010

As you are no doubt aware your LGPS and State Retirement pensions are increased each April to protect them from the effects of inflation. The amount of the increase is set by the Government to keep pace with increases in the cost of living, as measured by the RPI. RPI is taken from the September of the previous year. RPI in September 2009 was in a negative position.

Fortunately this does not mean that the pension you receive from us will be reduced. It does mean that there will be no increase on your pension for this year. We have been informed by the government that there will be a 2.5% increase on your basic state pension but there will be no increase on the top up part (SERPS/S2P) of your state pension, if you are eligible. The state pension help line number is 0845 606 0265.

You will have received in your envelope together with your copy of this magazine, your April payslip and your P60. If you have any questions on these or the non pensions increase for this year please contact our help desk on 01743 252130 or e-mail pensions@shropshire.gov.uk

Ron Pugh, your Pensioner Representative updates you on Fund Activities.



The Shropshire County Pension Fund takes corporate governance and social responsibility seriously. Whilst the Pensions Committee has an overriding duty to consider financial returns above all other considerations it remains committed to these important issues. The Shropshire County Pension Fund uses a third party to actively vote at the company meetings of the UK and US companies in which it invests. The Shropshire Fund has been voting at company meetings on the remuneration packages of senior executives for over 10 years and well before the current debate on bonuses in the banking sector.

It is now widely believed that remuneration policies at banks contributed to excessive risk taking and the banking crisis. The Shropshire County Pension Fund actively votes against the excessive pay contracts of senior bank executives where pay does not reflect performance.

The Fund is also a member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum which exists to maximise the influence that local authority pension funds have on companies. Fifty local authorities are members of the Forum which gives it real bargaining power when it comes to talking to companies. In the last year the Forum has been actively engaging with the HM Treasury, Financial Services Authority and the UK listed banks to change remuneration policies in the banking sector.

The Shropshire Fund is also committed to encouraging social responsibility and does this by influencing companies from the inside as a shareholder. In the last year the Fund has also been encouraging companies to use sustainable sources of raw materials, minimise greenhouse gas emissions and maintain appropriate health, safety and labour standards.

It is an important role of the Pensions Committee to influence the companies in which the Fund invests to act in a responsible way and we will continue to do everything we can to influence corporate behaviour in this way. As your Pensioner Representative on the Committee I am pleased to represent your interests on these important issues.

If you have any issues that you would like me to address on your behalf please do not hesitate to contact me via the Pension team (Tel:01743 252130) or e-mail: [email: pensions@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:pensions@shropshire.gov.uk)

Ron Pugh

Pensioner Representative

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Tax Enquiry Centres

We are aware that from time to time you have a need to contact the tax office with queries about your tax code. You can contact them in the usual manner by telephone on 0845 3667815.

They also have Enquiry Centres in various places throughout the county. These are open every weekday, generally from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm and the details are as follows.

- 1 Shrewsbury**, New Mayfield House, Oxon Business Park, Bicton Heath, Shrewsbury, SY3 5HJ.
 - 2 Telford**, Abbey House, Whitechapel Way, Priorslee, Telford, TF2 9RG.
 - 3 Oswestry**, 12-14 Middleton Road, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 2PW.
 - 4 Welshpool**, New Dolanog House, Severn Road, Welshpool, SY21 7DA.
 - 5 Ludlow**, Riddings Road, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1TF.
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Paying Pensions Overseas

You will remember in the last issue of this magazine that we told you about a change to our Transcontinental Automated Payment Service (TAPS). Our previous provider of the TAPS service was The Bank of Scotland who told us part way through last year they could no longer provide that service. We looked into several alternatives and the decision was made to go with Citi Bank. Their service is provided by Xafinity Paymaster.

If you are thinking of moving abroad you could have your monthly pension paid into a bank account where you live and converted into the local currency paid. Please be aware that Xafinity direct credit payments abroad take a little longer to process than payments to a UK bank account and your pension will arrive a few days after your usual payment date. The current fee for this service is a flat administrative processing charge of £2.74 which they will collect from each payment.

If you decide to have your money transferred into an over-seas account please note that the current method of payment would continue until your completed application form has been processed. We would tell you when we are to make the first payment to your account abroad. Your bank statement would show subsequent payments, the value of which will vary because of fluctuation in exchange rates. If you have any questions regarding this pay method please email us for more information at pensions@shropshire.gov.uk or call 01743 252130.

If you have an interesting recipe or secret ingredient for making a special meal and would like to share it with all the Intouch readers, please contact us.

Shrewsbury sauce

A sauce flavoured with port and red current jelly, made to accompany lamb, mutton and venison. For 8 helpings (but any surplus keeps well in the fridge)



30gr/1oz Butter

1 medium garlic clove, peeled and chopped / 1 teaspoon of flour

150ml / 5floz port / 150ml / 5floz strong red wine

1 sprig of fresh rosemary, or a big pinch of dried rosemary

1 tablespoon (15ml) red current jelly

1 tablespoon tomato puree

450ml / 1 pint brown stock

1 medium sized onion

In stainless steel saucepan, melt the butter and 'sweat' the onion and garlic until soft, but not brown (about 5 minutes) Add the flour and mix well in, rubbing out any lumps with a wooden spoon slowly add the port and red wine, stirring until the mixture is smooth.

Cook for 5 minutes. Add the brown stock, rosemary, tomato puree and red current jelly. Mix well again. Bring to the boil, then reduce to a simmer and cook for about 30 minutes.

Add salt and pepper to taste.

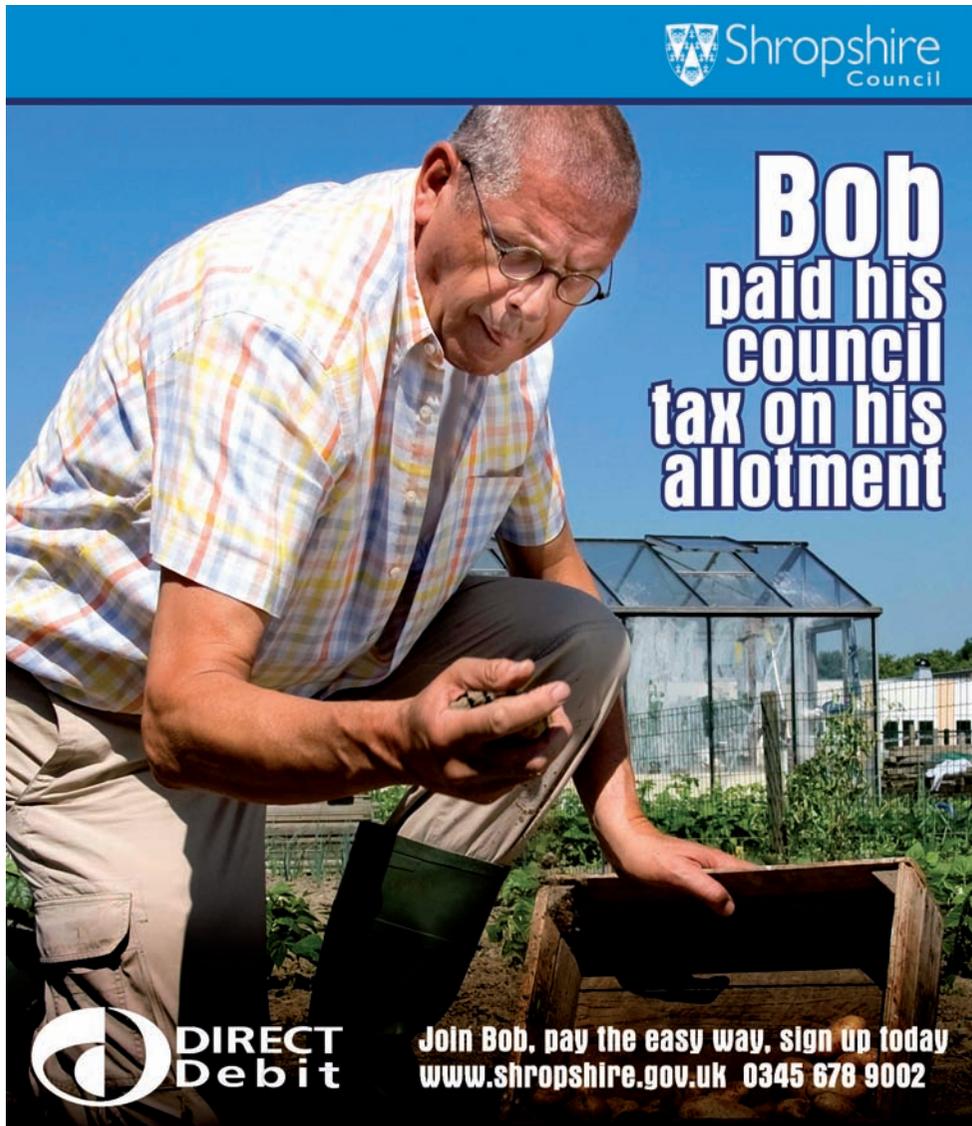
stir occasionally while the sauce cools to stop a skin forming. Keep in the fridge until needed.

Do you know how easy it is to pay your council tax via direct debit?

If you pay your council tax to Shropshire Council are you aware that making your payments via direct debit not only saves you time but also saves the council money that it can use to fund services to the public.



**Bob
paid his
council
tax on his
allotment**



Join Bob, pay the easy way, sign up today
www.shropshire.gov.uk 0345 678 9002

Article written By Lucy Proctor

Community Fund-raising Manager,
Severn Hospice

At Severn Hospice the importance of our work is the difference it makes to local people and those who love them. Andy Woodman described his family's experience in these terms:

'I first came to know about the work of the Severn Hospice after my mother was diagnosed with cancer a few years ago. On leaving hospital she was to spend the last few weeks of her life at home with myself, my sister and my father. The day my mother came home we were visited by the Severn Hospice who provided us with every little thing we needed, including compassion. The work undertaken by the Hospice in my mother's last few weeks was immense and this was a key link in ensuring both my mother's pain and the pain for us as a family was softened.'

The special care and support we offer to families like Andy's is only possible with the support of the community. Our services are provided free of charge, but we rely on fundraising for over two thirds of our income. As Andy says: 'I get frustrated that people drive past the Hospice without even a second thought. It is only when it touches your family or friends that you realise the work that they do. I want to change the way people see this local cause. All my family and friends now know the work that the Hospice does through me; it is such a fantastic charity because for every £1 you give 92p goes directly on the patients. At a time when these illnesses are not always curable, the priority should be to care for the patients coping with it right now.'



Dragon Boat Race Fund-raising Event



The Great Big Bike Ride Fund-raising Event

A great way to have fun supporting Severn Hospice is to take part in one of our fundraising events. Our calendar for 2010 includes opportunities from walking at Midnight to racing in a longboat on the River Severn. Our key events are outlined on the next page or more information is available on our website, www.severnospice.org.uk, or by calling the Appeals team on 01743 354 450 or 01952 221 351. You can also email us at appeals@severnospice.org.uk

Drag Race Sunday 16 May - A brand new event for 2010 – men dressing up in drag to compete in a 3.5 mile race around Telford Town Park.



Midnight Walk Telford 5 June – Join hundreds of women as they walk a 10km circular route starting and finishing at Telford College of Arts and Technology.

Dragon Boat Race 27 June – Put together a team of up to 20 people and race down the River Severn in Shrewsbury in a long boat – equipment and training provided, fancy dress essential!

Midnight Walk Shrewsbury 3 July – A second chance to take part in our very popular Midnight Walk, this time walking 10km around Shrewsbury, starting and finishing at Shrewsbury Town Football Club.

Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival 10/11 July – Two days of free concerts from 18 talented bands, performing in the open air. Also features a Last Night of Proms concert at Enginuity.

Cambrian Crusade 31 July – A night ride from the Iron Bridge to Barmouth, arriving on the beach for breakfast as the sun rises.

The Great Big Bike Ride 5 September – Chose between the 100km or 50km route, both starting and finishing at Blists Hill Victorian Town and following rural routes.

London to Paris Bike Ride 10-13 September – Join our team of 30 riders cycling from London to the Eiffel Tower.

Lights of Love 5 December – Remembering those we love with the lighting of our Christmas tree.

Any support you can offer, whether you come to an event yourself or simply help to spread the word, will help to provide loving care to our patients.

This article has been written for Shropshire County Pension Fund. If you would like to tell us about the charity work you do or to promote a charity close to you, please send us details including any pictures to be included in the a future issue of intouch.



I was full of admiration, on reading a previous issue of 'intouch', over Phil Guy's cycle trip to China. I suspect, however, that the great majority of pensioners prefer something less strenuous and less expensive! Anyone looking for a rewarding and relaxing activity might, if they are not already playing, consider the sport of crown green bowls.



Bowls is a sport which can be played on equal terms, disabilities accepted, between players of all ages and sexes. Nearly five and a half thousand are currently registered with the Shropshire Association playing in clubs located all over the county.

Some clubs are to be found on interesting sites such as that in the grounds of the castle in Bishop's Castle or on the island at Bylet in Bridgnorth. Most bowling greens are maintained by private clubs but new members are always welcome. Some operate on public greens such as at Castlefields and Frankwell. Clubs vary considerably. Some, such as Unison and Meole Brace, offer sporting as well as all year round social activities, while others concentrate purely on bowling.

The game itself is simple – the leader sends the 'jack' at least 19 metres across the green and each player sends his two bowls (or woods) alternately. Whoever finishes closest to the jack scores one or two if both his bowls are nearest. Games are usually 21 and up. That said, to play the game is by no means easy. Every green, and there are a great many of them, is different and home players have a distinct advantage in knowing the tricks the crown of the green offers. The pace of the greens is very much affected by the prevailing weather conditions.

As with all sports, there are players who become highly proficient and for them many competitions are on offer, usually taking place at weekends, some with attractive high cash prizes. For those who prefer more relaxing team game there are leagues organised with matches taking place on most week-day evenings. For the over 65's or (60 in the Whitchurch area) leagues are organised for afternoon matches. These are very popular - (the Severnside green shines on Thursday afternoons) and over a cup of tea at half-time friendships are renewed. It gives a break from sitting down at the computer on the internet!

A word of warning though smoking on the green and the use of mobile phones is not allowed during matches. Another bonus of the game for some!

Tony Gibbons, President of the Shropshire League for Crown Green Bowling.



Blists Hill Victorian Town in Shropshire's Ironbridge Gorge has benefited from a massive redevelopment, which includes a new landmark Visitor Centre and Victorian street plus an Artisans' Corner, Incline Lift and Clay Mine Railway.

The Visitor Centre now acts as a dramatic gateway to Blists Hill, the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site and the wider West Midlands region. As visitors enter the main exhibition hall they are greeted with nine separate projectors creating massive images on the nine metre high walls, telling the harsh reality of the evolution of the mining and hot metal industries and why Ironbridge was so important to the development of industry.

As they leave Blists Hill they can find out more about the remarkable Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site with the help of a giant interactive three dimensional map. Behind this stunning exhibition, visitors can look out over a balcony containing flywheels, boilers and other large scale remnants of the area's industrial past.

New Victorian Street and Artisans' Quarter

Visitors to Blists Hill can also now explore the magnificent new Canal Street, which is lined both sides with a wonderful parade of shops, including a Drapers and Outfitters, Post Office, Photographers, Sweetshop and Fried Fish Dealers while the artisans' corner includes plumbers, tinsmiths and decorative plasterers.

Everyone can admire the hats and gowns in the Outfitters and Drapers, have their portraits taken in the Photographers, mail their letters and post-cards in the Post Office, select from a massive range of Victorian treats in the Sweet Shop and enjoy a delicious portion of traditionally prepared fish and chips in the Fried Fish Dealers. What's more visitors can watch traditional skills in action in the plumbers, decorative plasters and tinsmiths.

The shops along Canal Street have been designed and built with the greatest of care to ensure that they are authentic copies of buildings from the locality. Existing buildings have either been copied or archive materials, such as old photographs and postcards, have been studied to ensure that all the architectural details are correct.

The new Incline Lift is reminiscent of the historic incline lifts that once hauled goods up and down the sides of the Severn Gorge. The Incline Lift innovatively transports visitors between the top of the recreated Victorian Town down the steep slope to The Green below. As the carriage glides up and down, visitors can look at the spectacular views across the Gorge. The Clay Mine Railway takes visitors on a short journey into a blacked out 'clay-mine', where they can experience a fantastic audio-visual show depicting the 'explosive' story of a father and son team of clay miners. There is an additional fee to ride the Mine Railway.

Together they remind visitors of the hard working conditions experienced by the thousands of miners, who played such an important role in Ironbridge's industrial past.

One of the ten Ironbridge Gorge Museums, Blists Hill is open 10am-5pm daily. A Passport to all ten valid for 12 months and multiple return visits costs £21.95 per adult, £17.60 for 60 plus, £14.25 for students and children, and £59.95 for a family of two adults and three children aged up to 18 years in full time education, under fives go free. Single admission tickets are also available from each of the museums.

The new developments at Blists Hill have been funded by Advantage West Midlands and the European Regional Development Fund.

For further information, contact the Ironbridge Tourist Information Centre on Tel: 01952 884 391 or visit www.ironbridge.org.uk. The Gorge is easily reached via the M6 and M54 motorways exiting at Telford (M54 junction 4 or 6).



The Ironbridge Gorge Museums, Ironbridge, Telford, Shropshire, TF8 7DQ.





Robert Clive was born on 29th September 1723 at Styche Manor near Market Drayton.

Clive was a difficult child and quickly earned a formidable reputation as head of a gang of bullies who taunted teachers and pupils alike. He went to four schools in quick succession.

In later years Clive's admirers would relish in stories of daring escapades perhaps the most famous of which is the one where Clive is supposed to have climbed to the top of Saint Mary's church tower in Market Drayton.

Roberts parents must have been relieved when he eventually found work as a writer for the East India Company, albeit on a modest salary of £5 per year, with very little prospects.

When Robert arrived in Madras, he was feeling very depressed. The voyage was beset with storms and the work was dull. The exotic nature of the location was very quickly wearing off. Clive attempted to commit suicide twice, but the pistol failed to go off.

When Clive arrived, there was not one European authority in the region, with the area shared by British, French and Dutch companies occupying trading stations near the coast. However a year after Robert had arrived, the French captured Madras. Robert escaped and found himself in the nearest English settlement. There he enlisted in the army and quickly built a reputation as a formidable skilled soldier in the field. He was quickly promoted through the ranks and in 1751 he was ordered to capture Arcot, a coastal garrison of prime strategic importance.

With little more than 500 poorly trained and educated troops, Clive surprised 1,200 sleeping native occupants and took the fort. The news of this victory travelled fast and so the infuriated French backed Prince surrounded the town. Clive and his soldiers saw off their attempts to capture the fort for several weeks before the attacking forces finally withdrew.

Clive had given Britain the prestige that was so definitely needed at the time. Clive returned home for a brief period before returning to India in 1756 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. It was there that he married Margaret Maskelyne, sister of an East India Company colleague. In 1760 Clive returned home victorious from a decisive victory in India and became interested in politics. He was elected member for Shrewsbury and received an Irish peerage (although allegedly Clive was furious at not having received an English title).

Corruption in Bengal's administration forced Clive to return and restore order. There were rumours of widespread bribery and corruption of officials by merchants. The newly established colony was fast getting a poor reputation. In Britain, Clive's political enemies were gaining momentum. They had gathered ample ammunition with which to attack him. Clive's main weakness was that despite his humble background, he had come home with a fortune larger than anyone else's.

At Clive's final homecoming in 1767 the town echoed to cries of 'traitor'. The press which had lauded Clive's achievements were now bringing jealous attention to his wealth. During a session in the Houses of Parliament, a young MP named Charles James Fox demanded a public enquiry in Clive's finances. Clive was accused of acquiring personal wealth of £234,000 to the dishonour and detriment of the state.

Less than a year later, Clive died on 22nd November 1774 a broken man at his house in Berkeley Square. (Clive owned two other mansions at Walcot Hall, near Craven Arms and Claremont near Surrey). The cause of his death remains a mystery although popular rumour at the time was that he slit his throat or shot himself. Clive's family maintained that he overdosed on opium which he took regularly to relieve the pain he was in due to a bowel disorder. Whatever the truth of this, it was an unfortunate end to such a great life.



The fear of crime should not stop us enjoying life to the full. Overall, older people are less likely than other age groups to be victims of crime. However, one type of criminal may try to target older people. Bogus callers, also known as distraction burglars, try to trick their way into our homes so that they can steal money and valuables. Age Concern have a leaflet that can be obtained via their website www.ageconcern.org.uk or calling their information line on 0800 00 99 66 (free call)

Here are some of the following areas:

Safety and security in your home

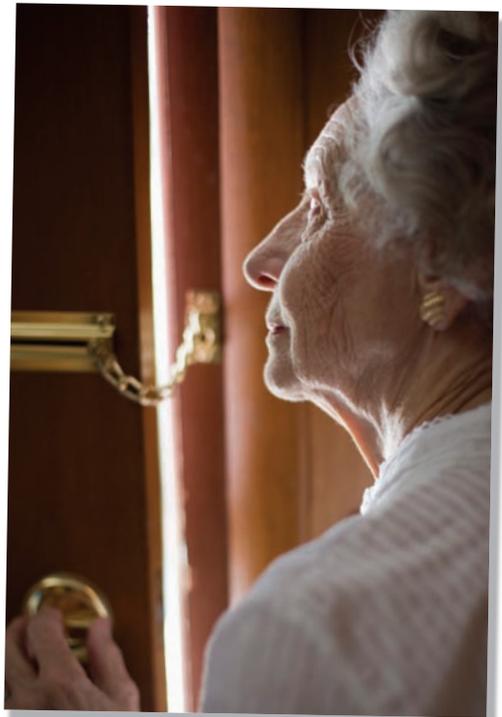
- Fit a door chain (and, where you can, a spy hole). This makes it easier for you to identify who is at the door without opening it.
- Do not keep large amounts of money in the house.
- Do not leave valuables in view or where they can be easily found.

Before you go to the door

- Bogus callers often work in pairs, so close and lock the back door and any accessible windows – before you go to the front door.
- Take your time – don't be forced to make a decision, it is your home and you can decide who comes in.

Safety and security at your door

- Look through your spy hole or window.
- Think- safety first, sometimes bogus callers pose as someone needing help – perhaps a glass of water or access to a telephone.



Rogue Traders

- Do not agree to any cold callers doing any work for you.
- Never accept an offer to drive you to withdraw money.
- If you think you may need to have work done on your house or driveway, ask for quotes from two or three reputable companies. Friends and relatives may be able to recommend companies or trades people they have been pleased with.

Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) – how to choose someone to make decisions for you when you can no longer make them for yourself.

What's an LPA?

It's a legal document that lets you (the donor) choose someone (called the attorney) to make decisions on your behalf when you no longer wish to, or when you may lack the mental capacity to decide for yourself.

LPAs replace the previous system of Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA), which only allowed people to appoint an attorney to make property and financial decisions.



(An EPA made before October 2007 is still valid and must be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) if the donor 'loses capacity' in the future)

There are two types of LPA you can make:

- A property and affairs LPA – your attorney can make decisions about the management of your finances and property, e.g paying bills or selling property on your behalf.
- A personal welfare LPA – your attorney can make decisions about your personal welfare, including healthcare and medical treatment.

When can an LPA be used?

A property and affairs LPA can be used even when you are still able to make your own decisions, but a Personal Welfare LPA can only be used if you have 'lost capacity'.

What if you don't plan ahead?

You may feel that an LPA is not for you. If this is the case and you lose the capacity to make important decisions in the future, a relative, friend or professional may need to apply to the court of protection to be given authority to make these decisions on your behalf.

Where do I go for more information?

- Visit the OPG website at www.publicguardian.gov.uk
- Call the OPG on 0845 330 2900 (9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday). Their textphone is available on 0207 664 7755.
- Email: customerservices@publicguardian.gsi.gov.uk

This years' retired members meeting will be held on the 15th June in the Walker Theatre at Theatre Severn.

An invitation to this event has been enclosed within the envelope. I do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us.

Although the exact agenda for the meeting will be confirmed for you on the day we already have several speakers lined up for you.

After a welcome from Debbie Sharp our Pensions Manager, Steve Morgan from the Shropshire Photographic Society will talk about their organisation and Eric Smith from Radio Shropshire will talk about his career.

Refreshments will be served during the afternoon and you will have a chance to catch up with former colleagues.

Staff from Pension Services and the DWP will be on hand as well as stands from a number of organisations.

I'm sure you'll agree it sounds like a good event, so please book early using the invitation or by calling 01743 252130. I look forward to seeing you on the day.

Mark Betts

Senior Help Desk Officer.



BBC SHROPSHIRE

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Eric Smith, BBC Radio Shropshire presenter

W	P	J	C	H	C	C	F	L	B	D	X	D	B	P	K	S	S	H	J
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G	S	U	O	S	B	W	P	R	A	B	Z	Z	M	E	W	Z	U	W	Z

1: Garden 2: Dirt 3: Fertilizer 4: Flower 5: Grass 6: Hose 7: Lawnmower
 8: Mulch 9: Pot 10: Stem 11: Wood.

King Arthur in Shropshire

It is believed by some that the man history knows as King Arthur, was in fact Owain Ddantgwyn, a 5th Century ruler of the kingdom of Powys, (an area which then covered the Shropshire and Mid Wales of today). He was a fierce and successful warrior, who defeated the Anglo-Saxons at the battle of Badon in 493AD.

There are many historical references to Owain Ddantgwyn by his Battle Name, which was 'The Bear'. In old English (and in modern day Welsh) the word for Bear is Arth.

Owain's father was named Enniaun Girt; he had the Battle Name 'Terrible Head Dragon'. This, in Welsh, is 'Uthr Pen Dragon', very close to the name given to Arthur's father in the legends - Uther Pendragon. Owain Ddantgwyn ruled from the city of Wroxeter, which at the time was the fourth largest city in Britain. It is now thought that Wroxeter could be the location of the 'real' Camelot.

Close to Oswestry in North Shropshire are the remains of the Old Oswestry Hill Fort, known as Caer Ogyrfan. One translation of this is City of Gogyrfan. In the legends, Gogyrfan was the name of Guinevere's father.

Following Arthur's death, Guinevere retired to a priory. The name Guinevere derives from the Welsh Gwenhwyfar, otherwise known as the 'White Lady'. The ruins of White Ladies Priory can be found to the east of Telford.

Mitchell's Fold Stone Circle

Mitchell's Fold, near Chirbury, is an ancient Stone circle monument, 1000 feet above sea. It was erected in approximately 2000-1400BC by local Bronze Age communities. Mitchell's Fold was originally 27 metres in diameter and consisted of thirty stones. Today only fourteen survive.

Legend has it that an evil witch who was punished for milking a magic cow through a sieve was turned into a one of the stones. The good people of Shropshire then set a circle of other stone's around her to prevent her from escaping.

Local folklore also suggests that King Arthur drew Excalibur from one of the stones here to become king.

Nesscliffe Hill & Humphrey Kynaston's Cave

Nesscliffe Hill, located between Shrewsbury and Oswestry was home to legendary highwayman Humphrey Kynaston - Shropshire's answer to Robin Hood. After being outlawed in 1491, he hid in a cave on Nesscliffe Hill. He evaded the law with help from his horse, named Beelzebub, which performed great feats such as jumping the gap between Montford Bridge.

Lump sum life cover

If you die whilst receiving your pension, we may only pay out a lump sum if you die before your 75th birthday, and before you have drawn a certain amount of pension. The guarantee differs depending on when you retired.

Lump sum life cover for members who retired before 1 April 2008

If you die before your 75th birthday, we will pay out a lump sum if you die before you have drawn a full five years' pension (in other words your pension before any reductions).

Lump sum life cover for members who retired on or after 1 April 2008

If you die on pension before your 75th birthday, we will pay out a lump sum if you die before you have drawn ten years' full pension (in other words your pension before any reductions).

Who we will pay the lump sum to

We have the final discretion to decide who to pay to, but we will always take your wishes into account.

You can let us know your wishes by filling in an 'Expression of Wish Form'. If you would like one, please contact Pension Services or visit our website.

What if you die on pension with dependants?

When you die, we may pay a pension to your husband/wife or your civil partner or your nominated cohabiting partner* and any dependant children. For further information please visit our website.



* (only for those who retired since the 1 April 2008)

If you can read this but know someone who cannot, please contact us on (01743) 252130 so we can provide this information in a more suitable format. If you wish to contact us on any of the issues in this magazine or have a query regarding your pension, please contact Pension Services. Office hours are Monday to Thursday 8.45am to 5pm and Friday 8.45am to 4pm. If you would prefer to discuss your pension in person, you are welcome to come in and see us.

Pension Services, Shropshire Council, Shirehall,
Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND.

Email: pensions@shropshire.gov.uk

Web: www.shropshirecountypensionfund.co.uk

Tel: 01743 252130 | **Fax:** 01743 252197



Other useful contacts

Tax Office Tel: 0845 3667815

Department for Work and Pensions Tel: 0845 6060265

Pension Credit Tel: 0800 991234

Pension Credit Website: www.thepensionservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit

Future pay dates

Below are the dates when you can expect your money to be in your bank account or building society over the coming months.

29	April	2010
28	May	2010
29	June	2010
29	July	2010
27	August	2010
29	September	2010

