

**Serving Cleobury Country, on the First of Every Month. FREE**

# The Cleobury Clarion

## **Severn Hospice Craft Success**



*Catherine Evans with the quilted bedspreads converted from discard material at the Tuesday evening Severn Craft workshops.*

The Severn Hospice Shop on Cleobury's High Street took another step forward with its Severn Craft Sale on March 13th. It was the first opportunity for members of the Craft Club to show off their skills in converting what most of us would see as discards into desirable pieces of craft.

One of the stars of the evening was the pair of quilted bedspreads that Catherine Evans fabricated. One from pieces of men's shirts due to go into the scrap box, the other from pieces of felted woolly jumpers. Not exactly top notch materials to most people, but with a canny eye and an even more canny needle, they became two very attractive bedspreads.

So attractive that by the time the Clarion arrived, Marian Martin had already snapped them up for her grandchildren. But she refused to be photographed with her bargains and modestly let the maker take the stand.

It was a very successful hour or so, with over 100 samples of Severn Craft's skill on sale and a profit of over £300 made for the Hospice. All by a force of volunteers under the far sighted guidance of manager Gayna Woodland

## **APRIL 2012**

### **OUR BIRTHDAY**

It's the Clarion's birthday today - eight years old. And from that first thin 20 page product it has grown to this, the biggest version ever with 60 pages. Back then we printed 550 copies, today it's 800. It can't get any bigger, as the collator at printers Glint Print won't take more than 60, and we wouldn't dream of going elsewhere.

Our thanks go to every reader, distributor and advertiser, for making it such a success.

### **THE NEEN SOLLARS COMMUNITY HYDRO**

There's still time to invest a little money in this very special venture, as the deadline has been moved to the end of April. It's rather like spending a little on your grandchildren's future.

If you want more details, talk to Sharenergy at 01584 875881 or try [www.sharenergy.coop/neen-sollars](http://www.sharenergy.coop/neen-sollars).

**The Clarion is on the web from April 4th:  
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# The Cleobury Clarion. April 2012

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**You don't have to fight for a copy.  
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on the fourth of every month.**

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News



Landlord Aaron Jeffs hands over the prize and medal to big winner Jim Williams.

## GREAT DARTS AT THE GOLDEN CROSS

Fay Vass was there and reports:

44 people took part in a Darts Tournament held at the Golden Cross, Clee Hill on March 10th. Landlord Aaron Jeffs said "We were pleased with the turnout – it meant we could increase the first place prize from £180 to £200! I would like to thank all who attended and made it such a great tournament, especially Malcolm George and Anne Cleeton who dealt with registrations and game schedules."

### RESULTS

Quarter finalists (£20 each): Ben Amos, Mick James, Duncan Pressley and Paul Gittins.

Semi Finalists (£40 each): Jared Reid and Shaun Barnett.

The "Furthest Lady" (£30): Anne Cleeton.

Runner up (£100): Luke Woodhouse.

First place (£200): Jim Williams - who finished his final game in style with 4 x 100 and 101 shot out!

## BIG WARBLERS EVENT

The Reid Warblers' are holding a Jubilee Concert in Cleobury Parish Hall on May 18th. It starts at 8.00 and is in aid of the Royal Defence Medicine Fund at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. That's the very special facility where badly wounded troops are treated after they've been flown back from Afghanistan or whatever theatre of conflict they may be in. It's no surprise that Judy Reid wants to raise a good sum for this cause.

Tickets will be a mere £3.00 and that includes tea, coffee and biscuits. If you want something stronger, the bar will be open. The evening will feature the usual Warblers entertaining mix of singalong, choruses, solos and even the Coronation Waltz that actually came out in 1952. Tickets from Pat Smith on CM 270833 and from Cleobury News on the High Street.

## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

### The Chairman Reports

Last year was busy with nine events and we raised over £9000. The calendar included Snowdrop Walks at Mawley Hall, Mad Potters Tea Party, Mawley Hall and Gardens Open Day, organised jointly with The Shropshire Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), Midsummer Wine Walk, a fashion parade for ladies and gentlemen at Edinburgh Woollen Mills in Ludlow, Cleobury Gardens open day, when there were eight gardens for people, our Equinoctial Supper and finally the Christmas Market.

We are grateful to all who have opened their garden and home for events during the year. We hope you were able to enjoy some of our events and will continue to support us.

We are raising money to maintain the fabric of Saint Mary's Church and currently, due to the old wiring being condemned, to help with the cost to rewire and replace or improve the lighting in the church.

As chairman I offer my thanks to the committee for all their hard work, support and enthusiasm.

*Alec Osbaldiston*

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## CLEOBURY COUNTRY'S A.G.M.

Changes are coming at Cleobury Country, with Dr Chris Dimond stepping down from the board and planning to move away to a quieter life. He certainly deserves it, and could sign off his time in office with a report of progress continuing. A modest profit was shown and Shropshire Council had agreed to an investment grant of £20,000 in the Neen Sollars Hydro Cooperative because of faith in Cleobury Country's ability to oversee its use.

First guest speaker was Paul Steadman of training service Cognex in Billingsley. He gave some sobering figures on Health and Safety with and without proper training and left you strongly preferring the proper option.

Philip Dunne then spoke and took questions on the Coalition Government's plans for the rural economy, which produces £85bn of the country's total Gross Domestic Product of about £600bn. He explained that the Rural Policy Statement expected from DEFRA in May will outline future emphasis on diversification in the agribusiness (horrible word!), the development of a Broadband service by 2016 that will be the

fastest in Europe with 25 mbg in some areas and developing rural groups rather in the style of Cleobury Country. There will be some investment available to develop new enterprises, such as a timber based energy scheme in this area. A questioner pointed out that in Estonia they are developing a Broadband scheme with a 100mbg rating, so there's plenty of competition out there.

Mr Dunne rounded off the evening with a tribute to Dr Dimond and the work he has put in to both get Cleobury Country started and put it on a very sound footing; a long ovation from the 50 or more people present spoke volumes. His successor will be elected from within the committee, which now includes new members Graham Kelly, Errol Dyer, Simon Hector, William Henry and Val Smith.

Rather sadly, for the second year running a buoyant AGM ended with a minor matter interrupting what should have been the final high note. Whoever takes over as chair will have to look at this in future and apply a little firm discipline; the event does not deserve a Mickey Mouse ending. *Jim Reynolds*

## CONCERT COMING

The Stottesdon and Cleobury Mortimer Support Group for the

Severn Hospice are delighted to welcome the Severn Singers to Cleobury Mortimer again. This popular Group with their wide repertoire to suit all tastes, will create a very welcome evening's entertainment on Friday April 20<sup>th</sup> at Cleobury Mortimer Parish Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10 each which include a 'Posh Ploughman's'. There will be a bar and tables of six will be available to book. Tickets from the Severn Hospice Shop. *Madge Shineton*

## WARHORSE IS COMING

Flicks in the Sticks have a special treat coming in May. On Saturday the 5th their feature film will be the highly acclaimed The War Horse.

A sell-out is expected, so this will be a ticket-only evening. Book yours with Val Breakwell on CM 270830.

## SUPPORT THE AIR AMBULANCE

Did you realise that the Air Ambulance service is charged duty on the fuel it uses for its mercy flights? The Lifeboats don't - quite right too - so why Air Ambulance.

There's a petition you can sign to persuade the government to think about this anomaly. Look in at <http://petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/29349>.



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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## PLEASE THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT THIS

I'd like two minutes to tell you a personal story. I have recently had radiotherapy treatment for prostate cancer. It took eight weeks of daily visits to Wolverhampton, it was entirely painless but did leave me very tired and weak.

But two months after the end of the treatment, a blood test showed me clear of infection and a big black cloud of doubt that had been hanging over my head was removed. I was lucky, because my cancer was discovered early, thanks to a blood test, and the disease has been removed.

The next session of free blood tests in this area will be in Kidderminster Town Hall, starting at 6.00 on Monday the 16th of this month. It takes very little time, though the queue can be very long, and if the disease is discovered early treatment is straightforward. Every man over 50 who cares about his long term health should think about it. Having lost friends to prostate cancer I can assure you that early detection and treatment is much the best option. Not to mention the grief you could save your loved ones. Don't put it off, just have the check.

*Jim Reynolds*

## DUCKS TO TAKE OVER THE RIVER REA

**Jayne Brown explains:**

St Mary's Church is organising an Easter Duck Race, a fun event for all the family. It will be held on the river between Papermill Cottages and Newbridge on Saturday April 14th. The first race will be off at twelve noon.

For the small sum of £2.00 a duck can be purchased or six for £10.00. Two races will be held – one for children and one for adults - with prizes for the winners and certificates for all children who enter a duck. Ducks may be purchased on the day or tickets are available in advance from Carrot Tops, Cleobury News, or the Kings Arms.

As well as the racing there will be a barbeque, soft drinks, a raffle and a sweets and chocolate stall. Please come along and enjoy the fun with your family and friends. For further details ring me on 271880.

*Jayne Brown*

## THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

Once again the poor weather resulted in a low turnout on March 4th, only four waterproofed souls and two

soggy dogs braving the elements. Fortunately the rain eased off as we headed towards the golf course and by the time we were in sight of the Wyre Forest, the sun was forcing its way through the clouds. Don, our leader, recalled his knowledge of the area and provided us with some very interesting points regarding the landmarks around us. We walked back through Neen Savage and along the river, returning to the church a little drier and knowing a little more about our town's history. Fantastic!

Our work parties will be starting this month. If you would like to help in any way please contact: [susan@eaglelane.co.uk](mailto:susan@eaglelane.co.uk).

Our next Parish Walk will be on Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10.00 am.

## THE HISTORY SOCIETY

The Clock Tower at Abberley Hall School is a local landmark that can be seen from six counties. At the History Society's next open evening, Jo Roche will talk about the history of Abberley Hall and the Tower.

Come along to Neen Savage Parish Hall on Wednesday April 18th for 7.30pm and hear Jo's interesting story. Admission is £3.00 for non-members and includes refreshments.



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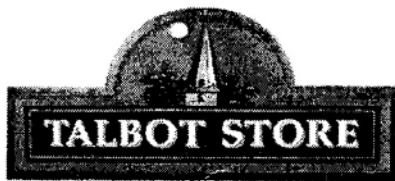
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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## THE READING GROUP

READ THIS BOOK! "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" by Jean-Dominique Bauby. The unusual title becomes clear during the narrative of the true story, a small but amazing book, humorous, sad, inspirational and above all a triumph of human spirit. Recommended by all group members.

How will "Adventures on the High Teas" by Stuart Maconie measure up? Pick up a copy from Cleobury Library then meet us there on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm for our verdict.

Deana Kimber 271754.

## SAD LOSSES

Cleobury Mortimer has lost two notable characters recently. The first was Frank Pain, one of the well known farming family working from Saddler's Barn Farm on the Bayton Road. He served as a warden of the parish church, a quiet man who let his efforts speak on his behalf. Our sympathies go to Josie, Mick, Gillian and grandchildren Tom and Amy.

George Terry died, at the age of 93, in March. He moved to Cleobury Mortimer from London during the 1939-45 World War and settled happily. A lively presence with an ever

ready smile, he would greet friends who asked after his health with "So long as I've got a couple of bob in my pocket, I'm OK."

Our sympathies go to Joan and to his son, Sir Colin Terry.

## DEADLINE FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The Cleobury Rural Local Joint Committee have a deadline of April 25<sup>th</sup> for funding applications from voluntary groups in the area. They have recently agreed funding for projects with the Bell Inn Brass Band, First Responders, Nightingale Nursing Fund and local soccer clubs, Cleobury Patients' Voice and the Stottysshop.

The contact for application forms and more details is Tracy Johnson on 01746 713111, mobile 0758 200 2005 or [tracy.johnson@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.johnson@shropshire.gov.uk)

The applications will be considered at the Joint Committee's next meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

## THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The March meeting heard a fascinating presentation by Jim Almond on 'Wildlife in the Garden'. He shared a number of tips for encouraging useful plants and insects whilst

discouraging the harmful without recourse to chemicals if possible. This was accompanied by a superb selection of photographs which illustrated the various points and culminated in a slideshow of stunning wildlife pictures with a stirring musical background.

The competition, an arrangement of Spring flowers, was won by Marion Wilson.

The next meeting is on April 16<sup>th</sup> in the Methodist Hall at 8.00, when we will have a presentation on 'Tulips' by Derek Walker. Non members are welcome (admission £1 to include tea and biscuits).

Steve Todd

## CHARITY CHAMPIONS QUALIFIERS

The Fighting Cocks Charity in Stottesdon is the first contender for the 2012 Charity Champions Cup with a superb £1,000 cheque handed over to the Alzheimer's Society on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Our thanks to Bob Kelsey for advising us of that.

This year the Fighting Cocks Charity's chosen cause is Riding for the Disabled. Look out for more news from Stotty as they get into their stride. And let's hear more from you people out there working for other good causes.



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## Clarion Clippings -The Local News

### CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

At the February meeting, speaker Philip Aubury talked about House Plants, which are good value for your money. With the correct watering, feeding and position they give years of enjoyment. Now is the time to give your plants some attention to maintain healthy growth through the year.

The evening was a great success with everyone enjoying the talk and propagation demonstration. Diary Date: Wednesday April 25th. Speaker Jill Franklin on 'Bishop's Wood Centre'

### CLEOBURY RUGBY CLUB CHARITY RAMPAGE

**There's no holding them back. The Rugby Club are off on the fund raising once more:**

We're on a mission to raise money again, this time for the Severn Hospice and the Nightingale Trust. At The Bell Inn in Lower Street we are collecting promises from local companies to auction off. So far we have pledges from meals to cushion covers, logs to window cleaning and a whole host of others.

Not only do we want promises from people I have yet to find, but also buyers to come along to the event. Andy Gould from the Rugby Club is to be auctioneer ,

the event will be on April 21st and will kick off at about 7.30pm.

Can we also remind everybody that we are holding an Under 11's Easter Egg Hunt at The Bell on April 7th. £1.50 per child and a 5 egg limit per child.

*Katie Beddows*

### BRITISH LEGION OUTING TO RAF COSFORD

**Dr Mark Baldwin reports:**

The Royal British Legion will be mounting its first outing this year on April 18th. This will be an all-day coach trip to the museum at RAF Cosford. Tickets cost £6 each, which includes a guided tour of the museum. Bookings are now being taken at the Bookshop (phone 01299 270110).

The Branch held its Annual Luncheon at the Sports & Social Club on Sunday March 11th. An excellent three-course lunch was provided by The Clock House, after which the Guest Speaker, Mrs Ellie Targett, spoke about the work her father, a Norwegian, had done with the Resistance in Norway in WW2, and how he was eventually arrested while photographing a German U-Boat base in 1944. As a spy, he faced certain death, but managed to escape, and spent three weeks walking through the mountains to reach the safety of

the Swedish border. Sixty years later, Ellie and her sister retraced his route through the mountains, on foot, and met many of the people who had helped her father during his escape. One of them had even kept the shoes which her father had exchanged for a pair of walking boots, and gave these to Ellie. This prompted her to adopt the title 'Another Man's Shoes' for her talk, and for the book she wrote about it.

The Branch always welcomes new members - please ring 01299 270110 for a membership form.

### CONGRATULATIONS

To Cleobury Mortimer born and raised David Bishop, an old boy of Lacon Childe School, who has been appointed head teacher at the Beaufort School in Gloucester. With 1200 pupils on the roll, it's a big job he's taking on

His mum Elizabeth remembers his determination to become a teacher when he was a lad at Lacon Childe, and even then his eventual ambition was a headship. Until this move south he was working as deputy head at King Charles School in Kidderminster. Always a keen sportsman, David keeps in trim today with a combination of cycling and running. We wish him every success.



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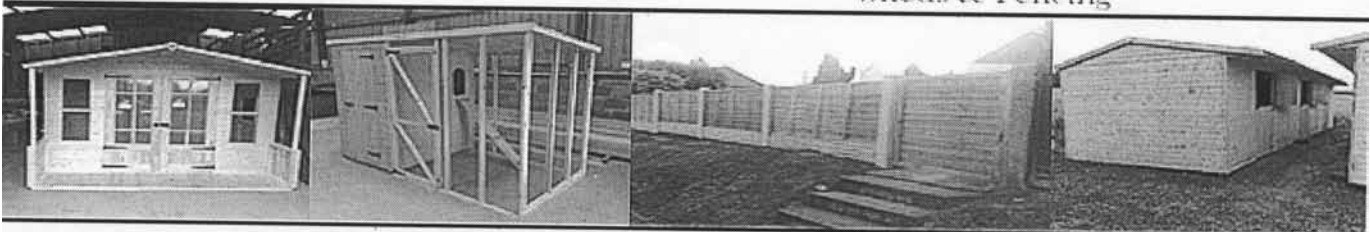
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# Philip Dunne MP - Letter from Westminster

Her Majesty the Queen visited Parliament last month to address both Commons and Lords as part of her 60th Anniversary tour around the country.

What an occasion it was; we British do pageantry well. Two thousand of us assembled, seated by the Parliamentary door-keepers with their gold badges of office, the Prime Minister and former Prime Ministers at the front, other Members of Parliament and Peers, their wives, husbands and office staff spread out behind. I sat amongst junior Ministers near the back.

While we waited, the band of the Scots Guards played, the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard marched in with their pikestaves, followed by Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Corps of Gentlemen in their white plumed helmets, the State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry, the Lord's Speaker with her be-wigged clerks processed in followed by the Speaker of the Commons. We could tell Her Majesty was arriving when we heard the BBC and Sky helicopters hovering overhead.

Her Majesty arrived as Big Ben struck and walked slowly up the long aisle, the Duke of Edinburgh at her side, both smiling. Westminster Hall is the most imposing building within the Parliamentary estate. It was constructed by William II in 1097 and is all that survives from the Palace of Westminster originally built by Edward the Confessor. It has the largest medieval timber hammer-beam roof in Northern Europe, with magnificent carving, added by Richard II.

When a bomb landed on the House of Commons in 1941, the main Chamber caught fire. Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the Chief Fire Officer to let the Chamber burn, but to do all he could to save Westminster Hall. The firemen

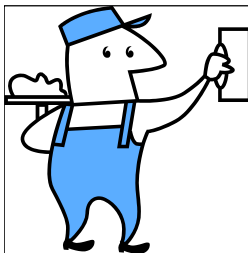
saved the roof. But the glass in the north window over the main entrance was damaged and replaced with clear glass. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee was the inspiration for a new set of windows, with stained glass image of her royal coat of arms, unveiled by Her Majesty. The windows were commissioned by MPs and Peers through personal donations.

The Queen celebrates the 60th year of her reign, only the second monarch to do so. She has been a constant unifying influence throughout this time. She carries the greatest respect of any Head of State around the globe. During her reign she has developed the Commonwealth, now comprising 54 countries covering one third of the world's population, with more countries seeking to join. She remains Head of State herself of 16 countries. She has been served by 12 Prime Ministers and 8 Archbishops of Canterbury. She has reigned during a period of immense change, presided over a people mostly at peace and with generally rising prosperity.

The Queen re-dedicated herself to continued public service. She has been a shining example to all who devote themselves to the service of others. Later in June we will all have the opportunity to celebrate her Jubilee through the extended public holidays. Across the country celebrations will take place, including in Shropshire, where beacons will be lit, street parties held and trees planted in commemoration.

I hope readers will join in and join me in celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, a once in a life-time event for us all.

*Philip Dunne*



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## The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

**Jeremy Hall, with tales of a sick fish, Bubbles the kitten frustrated and parasites in our pets, with advice on the treatment:**

I join you this month having had a terrible time with my fish tank. I can't blame Bubbles my kitten; try as he might, he has still not managed to catch anything through the 8mm safety glass. I think, in the end that something has disrupted the 'ecosystem' of my tank, and caused a build up of Nitrate in the water. My poor fish have been stressed and ill with a disease called WhiteSpot.

Luckily for them, the prescribed treatment from my preferred aquatics shop seems to have helped the situation. WhiteSpot is a parasitic disease of fish. The parasite lives in the water, but part of the normal lifecycle involves multiplication on the surface of scales and fins – showing these little tiny white spots on nearly every fish in the tank. These are itchy, and damaging to the protective layer that keeps them swimming so elegantly. Normally – the fish will fight this parasite off with their own immune system, but in stressful conditions – for example if the filter fails – toxins buildup in the water and the fish are just too sick to fight off the parasite.

So, as well as treating the parasite I have had to complete several large scale water changes in the tank to freshen up their supply. I have since found that the filter was not working efficiently, fixed it, and everything is returning to normal.

If you are worried about your fish tank's water quality, have a chat with your local aquatics retailer, and maybe pick up a home water test kit to check everything is OK. I cannot claim to be a fish vet, I only have a small tank with coldwater fish, so questions would be best directed to the professionals in the aquatics shops.

Parasites do not only affect fish. Dogs and cats can catch a whole host of things. We are fortunate to have reliable control strategies in place for these. April at Severn Edge is Worming Awareness Month and we will be offering 10% off worming treatment for dogs and cats.

Worms don't only cause a problem to the dog or cat that is harbouring them, but can also pose a public health risk. For example dogs can carry a worm called *Toxacara canis*, a parasite that can lead to blindness in humans, particularly young children who pick it up from the environment when dog mess has not been cleaned up properly. Our recommended worming protocol

for dogs from two months old is worming every month until six months, then every two to three months after that. A tablet wormer will usually be sufficient. Cats follow the same strategy from two months onwards, but may need worming more frequently in adult life depending on their hunting habits. Puppies and kittens younger than two months old still need worming, but I will not discuss the requirements in this article.

April will also see the recurrence of a television advertising campaign to raise awareness of lungworm in dogs. This parasite is being seen and diagnosed more frequently by vets around the UK. It spreads when an unlucky dog eats, or inadvertently swallows an infected slug or snail. If you are worried that your pet may be at risk, pop in for a chat; there are ways of treating and preventing the problem.

We look forward to welcoming you into the surgery to pick up worming treatments. Please feel free to bring your pet with you. It is always nice to make a fuss of them, weigh them, and it provides a 'good' experience of the vets for them. We do need an up to date weight to be able to dispense the correct dose of worming treatment to you.

As always, thank you for reading, and I look forward to reporting a fully recovered fish next month.

*Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS*

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What lovely weather we've had recently! This has enabled us to get out in our large garden and play in the sun. The garden is split into several areas so the children can choose to go in the digging pit, climb and balance on the climbing frame, play in the wendy house, sit quietly on the logs or of course there's ride on's, scooters, balls, hoops, bats.....the list goes on! Outdoor learning is an important aspect of nursery life as we recognise that some children prefer to learn outside rather than be sat at a table. During the warmer weather we take a lot of our activities outside so the children can experience them in different environments. We offer Forest Schools to the older children on a Monday morning which is child-initiated so the children are learning through their play, this then continues when they go to school.

Phoenix found some magic beans at home and that has inspired the children into wanting to plant beans in the soil to see if they can

grow a beanstalk; they have now been planted and we are awaiting the results! This is called child-initiated planning and it forms the starting point of our planning system. We don't follow topics or themes as we believe that the children will learn more if they start their learning process for us and we then enhance it through activities linked around their interests, known as the 'next steps'. This is then evidenced through observations and photographs and is put into each child's 'special book' which documents their learning journey with us. This is shared with parents whenever they wish to look at them although it is most popular at parents evening, which is soon, and then passed onto school so reception teachers are able to see a child's progress before parents get to keep it!

Why not try.....giving your child a paintbrush and a pot of water outside. They will love painting anything from the wall to the floor!

*Stacey*

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learning; children learn through play, learn boundaries of behaviour; establish and grow in confidence and become self-motivated.

This half term our year one children have been using willow (as pictured) to weave into head-dresses and to make shelters.

Due to families relocating, we currently have places in our Reception and Year 2 classes. For further information about our school and to learn more about our Forest School visit our website [www.baytonpri.worsc.sch.uk](http://www.baytonpri.worsc.sch.uk) or telephone (01299) 832393.

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## Happenings on High Street

### REIKI AT KIM'S



*A new face at Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty salon is Kate Jones, who will be bringing the gentle comfort of Reiki to Cleobury.*

From April 5th, Kate Jones will be adding the Japanese Reiki treatment to the range available at Kim Stanley's High Street salon. She will be there on April 5th and every other Thursday from then on. That's convenient for people working out of town, as the salon is open until 7.00 that day.

Kate has been practising since 1989, when a friend recommended the treatment to help her deal with the loss of her dad. She was impressed enough to learn the art herself, and now teaches others.

"In English it means 'Universal Life Energy,'" she explained. "It's a gentle laying-on of hands that

makes this energy available to help your body heal naturally."

"It helps you relax and if you have an injury it can heal more quickly. It's a great help for some people with depression or anxiety. There's no faith element in it, people of any religious belief or none at all can benefit."

I had to take up her offer of a brief trial, just sitting and talking while Kate laid her hands on me. I could feel the warmth of her touch through my sweater and a wheezy asthmatic chest certainly felt better after ten minutes or so.

With age you come to realise that there are curative practices from the East that do have an effect, even though there is no medicine involved. From April 5th you can try this one yourself.

### THE EXCHANGE BRASSERIE

Sadly, this promising addition to the town's eateries closed its doors on March 19th. A brief word with Rob Smith confirmed that it was simply a lack of trade that made the decision inevitable. A pity, because it offered good cooking and service with an imaginative menu, which would have been a winning formula in more prosperous times. But if the money isn't flowing, the overheads remain and you have to face up to a tough decision.

### FROM THE BANDROOM

The Bell Inn Brass has had wonderful success in their debutante year as a contesting Band. Under the leadership of Mike Amplett they are the current Wychavon Champions and entered the 2012 Midlands Regional Championships. Twenty four bands competed and we came in fourth.

This means we have qualified to take part on the National Brass Band Championships at Cheltenham in September. We feel very proud that we are one of the four bands representing the Midlands area and have managed to bring this honour to Cleobury Mortimer.

This will incur considerable expense and the band invites a limited number of local businesses to sponsor them on a first come first served basis.

In addition, the Band will be organising the local Beer and Brass Festival in September and fulfilling other engagements.

A training band is being organised for beginners and improvers of any age and instruments will be available. For further details contact me on CM 270560. *Stella Wilcox*

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## 4400 FEET ABSEIL IN CLEOBURY MORTIMER!

St Mary's Youth Project never seems to stop in its search for new fund raising ideas. Is the best one yet?

On April 21st 15 members of the project will be abseiling down the fire tower at Cleobury's Fire Station, aiming to cover 4408 feet in the day. That's the height of Ben Nevis, the UK's tallest mountain, so it's a really big task they're taking on. As the fire tower is just 30 feet (9.1 metres, if you prefer) that means a lot of trips down from the top to the tarmac of the car park, 147 of them in fact.

It will take the whole day and probably on into evening, so there will be other things going on, including a barbecue to keep the entrants' energies up. 30 feet. It starts at 8.00, so you have all day to go along to give the youngsters a cheer, maybe sample the barbecue and make a donation that will help this very active group keep up the good work.

If you're a youngster - that's between 11 and 19 - and can persuade your folks to come as well, you can also try the abseil for yourself. And don't knock the fact that it's 'only' 30 feet until you've stood at the top and looked over the edge.

## STOTTESDON W.I.

We were delighted to welcome a large group of visitors to meet our Highley based presenter Nikki Brown. Nikki's 'Dog Whisperer' business provides consultations on the premise that a sound and natural diet underlies good management of dog behaviour and well-being. Her own rescue greyhound was certainly a tribute to her philosophy, and we were convinced by the simple truth that dogs, like humans, will thrive on natural products instead of

processed items, costly to health and pocket.

This month local expert and enthusiast Alf Jenkins, will talk on 'Clee Hill: an industrial history'. Our Open Meeting, promises to reveal the secrets of this prominent feature of our fascinating landscape. Join us on Wednesday April 18th at Chorley Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Talk commences at 8.00 followed by refreshments. Free admission.

*Marian Wootton*

## CLEOBURY MORTIMER FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We continue to enjoy happy Tuesday afternoon meetings and recently celebrated Barbara Smith's 80th birthday with cake and wine.

Plans are going ahead for our Easter celebration, followed by St George's Day and the Queen's Jubilee.

All Senior Citizens are welcome to join us. Come along to the Parish Hall on Tuesday afternoon between 2.00 and 4.00 and you will be given a warm welcome. Local transport can be arranged if necessary. For further information contact me on CM 270353.

*Janet Rolston*

## THE BOWLING CLUB Dave Harley's getting all worked up - the 2012 season is under way:

The Bowling Green was reopened on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The Club is open to new members, just call at the Green in Ron Hill and ask for one of the Officers.

Some of the most important Members in the Club are our groundsman, Phil Pack and his assistants Ron Reed and Gordon Griffiths, who ensure all year round that our Green is in perfect condition. Pensioners Bowl on Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons from 2.00pm.

Club Captain is Chris Cowdell. We have five teams in local leagues; two at Ludlow, captained by Jim Roberts and Sheila Kitchen; two in the Highley and District League, led by Ron Reed and Christine Lloyd. The fifth is our Ladies Team captained by Christine Lloyd.

We have very few Junior Members, but this year Shropshire Crown Green Bowling Association are promoting Festival Days and Competitions for Junior Teams. They are assisted by the knowledgeable Kristien Wood, Schools Game Organiser South Shropshire at Lacon Childe School, who has agreed to assist in encouraging youngsters to join the club to enter teams in Junior Competitions..

We have four charity based Bowling Days this year, two to raise funds for the Air Ambulance in conjunction with Highley Bowling Club. Two in association with four Royal British Union Branches to raise money for the Poppy Day.

New Members always welcome, please come and see us and join in the Game.

*Dave Harley*

## THE MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF FUND

We would like to thank everyone who supported our quiz evening by coming along and by giving prizes and refreshments. We had a very enjoyable evening and raised £327

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th April at 2pm in the Market Hall. Please come along and hear what happens to the money we raise.

*Sue Henderson*

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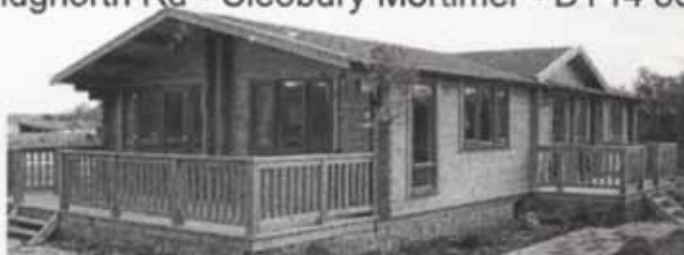
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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News



*This is the team who now run the MacCartneys and Phipps and Pritchard Cleobury office, moving between this and other offices in the area. From left: Zoe Herbert, Chris Rees, Michelle Dean, Chris Smith and Kate Collins.*

### HERE TO SERVE

Cleobury Mortimer gets an immediate benefit from the merger of local estate giants McCartneys and Phipps and Pritchard. The office at 38 High Street now opens five and a half days a week to dispense advice and wisdom, as well as selling quite a few houses. It's an interesting place to visit, because there's none of the gloom and doom you can find elsewhere.

When the Clarion called, Zoe Herbert and Chris Rees from the P & P Kidderminster office were there, getting a feel for the friendly rural atmosphere. Zoe moved from the travel business to houses when the internet took over the holiday trade, and clearly enjoys working where expertise is still valued. "The creative side is interesting, putting together bespoke packages that suit particular customers." Does she have a view on the property shows that dominate every day's TV

schedules? "Too much - it's just overkill," she says.

Chris Rees has spent most of his working life in the business and knows how valuable a good agent can be: "You give professional advice when you tell a customer what a property is actually worth. When you're preparing valuations for professionals like builders, realism is essential." That ability to temper dreams of fortune with what is actually achievable can save a lot of heartache in the long run.

What do these two companies bring to the new whole, with a 21 branch network that spreads from Mid Wales to the M5/6 corridor? "They do land and we do chimneypots," is Chris's response. And it covers most things.

Chris Smith is a well known face in the area, where he's sold a lot of property for Phipps and Pritchard. He lives on the border of Cleobury Country and knows the area like his

own back garden. And Kate Collins moved into Cleobury two years ago, to be near her mum and dad, who ran the Talbot Hotel for ten years; firm local roots there.

Michelle Dean completes this team of many talents, who've already had positive responses to the branch being open more days a week. And the members tasting rural estate agency after the higher pressure that prevails to the east are learning fast. "I had a lady come in one day, just as we were about to close," Chris Rees recalls. "She didn't want anything, she was just tired and needed to sit down for five minutes. So I waited until she felt better." Smiles all round - it's part of a winning formula.

### NEWS FROM THE HOLE

This year's Hole In The Wall Festival will be a stand-alone weekend running from July 13th to 15th. No other event will be involved in that time.

Instead, the ShiFest will have its own spot at the Hopton Court venue on May 5th. So no confusion and two chances to get out there and enjoy.

Look in at [www.holeinthewall.co.uk](http://www.holeinthewall.co.uk) for more details and the acts who will be performing.

### THE HISTORY SOCIETY

The Clock Tower at Abberley Hall School is a distinctive local landmark that can be seen from six counties. At the next of the History Society's open evenings, Jo Roche will talk about the history of the Hall and the Tower.

These evenings are very popular. Come along to Neen Savage Parish Hall (where there is ample parking) on Wednesday April 18th for 7.30pm and hear Jo's interesting story. Admission is £3.00 for non-members and includes refreshments. *Robert Hodge*

## The Clarion Monthly Social Calendar - Part One

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sun 1	10.00am	The Footpath Association welcome you on their social walk, starting from the Parish Church. Stout footwear recommended.		
	11.00am	Bewdley Local Produce Market is in Load Street - produce and crafts.		
Tue 3	1.30pm	Doddington Friendship Club meets at the village hall for skittles.	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
Wed 4	10.00am	Short Social Walk starts from the Fitness Centre in Love Lane.	Ian Pearmain	01694 722077
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 5		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders social walk starts from the View Point on A4117 outside Clee Hill village. OS ref: 594759	Alan	01299 400304
Fri 6	10.00am	Cadbury's Easter Trail for the family at Berrington Hall, A49 near Leominster. EVERY DAY UNTIL THE 9TH.		01568 61572
Sat 7		Easter Egg Hunt at The Bell Inn, Lower Street. SEE PAGE 15.		
Tue 10	7.30am	St Mary's Breakfast Club gather at the KA to hear "What to do When Someone Dies."	Gill Chapman	CM 270575
	7.30pm	Cleobury W.I. meet in the Parish Hall. Subject: 'Love Food, Hate Waste.'		
Wed 11	12.30pm	The Ladies Luncheon Club meet at The Crown Hotel in Hopton Wafers, with a fine menu to choose from	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	8.00pm	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	Ron	CM 270830
Fri 13		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY - NOTE CHANGE OF DAY		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall		
Sat 14	12 noon	The Duck Race takes over the River Rea from Papermill Cottages to Newbridge. Invest a little - you could win. SEE PAGE 9.		
Mon 16	6.00pm	Free PSA testing for men a Kidderminster Town Hall. Please think seriously about checking your own condition. SEE PAGE 9		
	7.30pm	The Reading Group meet in the Library, Love Lane. SEE PAGE 13.		
	8.00pm	The Horticultural Society, Methodist Hall, Church Street. Derek Walker on 'Tulips'		
Tue 17	2.00pm	Friendship Club, Doddington Village Hall. Malcolm Whittall - cartoonist. See 3rd above.	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
Wed 18	10.00am	Short Social Walk again. See 4th above	Ian Pearmain	01694 722077
	c. 9.30am	Royal British Legion outing to RAF Cosford. Tickets just £6.00.		
	7.00pm	The Parish Council's Annual Meeting, when they report on the past year and you can ask questions. In the Market Hall.		
	7.30pm	Stottesdon W.I. meet at Chorley Village Hall to hear Alf Jenkins talk about 'Clee Hill, an Industrial History.' Should be a really good evening. SEE PAGE 23		

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## The Clarion Monthly Social Calendar - Part Two

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	7.30pm	The History Society host a talk on Abberley Hall and the Clock Tower by Jo Roche. Neen Savage village hall. SEE PAGE 9.		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 19		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders walk out from the Sun and Slipper in Mamble village	Alan	01299 400304
	7.30pm	AGM of the Breakfast Club at St Mary's Church Hall, Lower Street.		
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at Sports & Social Club, Love Lane	Alan	CM 270114
Fri 20		Severn Singers in concert at the Parish Hall, raising funds for the Hospice. SEE PAGE 7.		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 21	8.00am	St Mary's Youth Project have a sponsored abseil at the Fire Station to raise funds for their cause. SEE PAGE 25	Mark Greaves	07828 116810
	3.00pm	Cleobury Mortimer Beer Festival at the Golf Club, with full supporting range of beers, ciders and live music. BBQ, great atmosphere		
	9.00am	Mamble Car Boot Sale, in the village, signed from the A456. No traders, all private people. To book a boot, call Sandra	Sandra	01299 832796
	7.30pm	The Rugby Club have a Charity Auction at The Bell Inn, in aid of Severn Hospice and Nightingale Trust. SEE PAGE 15		
Sun 22	10.30am	British Red Cross present the Great Spring Garden Event at Berrington Hall, on the A49 near Leominster.	Info	01432 373020
	12 noon	Day Two of the Beer festival at the Golf Club. Admission of £5.00 covers a souvenir glass and the first pint. Top value! Wed 25th Deadline for applications for Local Joint Committee grants. If you haven't sent it already, it's too late! SEE PAGE 13		
	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall. Jill Franklin talks about 'Bishop's Wood Centre.'	Marion Wilson	CM 270475
Thu 26		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Neen Savage Village Hall.	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 27	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 89074
Mon 30	7.30pm	Cleobury Mortimer Chamber of Trade meet at Hobson's Brewery	Lesley Burnside	CM 270279
		<b>AND LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY:</b>		
Tue 1	2.00pm	Doddington Friendship Club, in Village Hall. 'Scattergories.'	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
Wed 2	10.00am	Short Social Walk starts from Fitness Centre, Love Lane.	Ian Pearmain	01584 890874
Thu 3		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 5	7.30pm	"Flicks in the Sticks" presents "The War Horse" Admission by Ticket only. Book with	Val Breakwell	CM 270830

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## Clarion Coppers - PC Tony Sewell reports

As each month changes with the seasons, so does the work. While there has again been very little crime in both Cleobury and Clee Hill, there has been a small amount of anti social behaviour with a group of young girls in the town. Their parents have been made aware and if there is not a significant change they will enter the Criminal Justice system. Thank you to all who have challenged their behaviour on both the street and Facebook. If you are a parent you have a responsibility to know where your child is and what they are doing. A child in the eyes of the law is someone under the age of 18, it is down to you to set the example. When I speak to the children at school I tell them 'If you hang round with idiots, then you become an idiot.' If your child's behaviour changes then look at who they are hanging round with and what games or films they are watching. Are they age appropriate? If not you are allowed to stop it. There have been arrests for disorder in the town, for a specific Sunday last month. One

male is appearing before Telford Magistrates for assault and disorder. I will update shortly.

As you are aware, the Olympic Torch is coming through Cleobury on 24th May. I will be on duty but I am not in charge of the policing over this period, as other officers will be drafted in. You can contact Shropshire Council, Shire Hall if you want to attend with a group.

Neighbourhood Watch meeting went well with visits from St John Ambulance and a local locksmiths. For further information, contact Flo at the station, on Saturday and Thursday mornings.

Again the volunteers, at the station, Flo, Dan and Charlotte have been busy working behind the scenes; the station is open every morning except Sunday. Pop in if you want a chat or have any problems that you want to discuss.

See you around town and have a great Easter  
PC 3977 Sewell

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# Clive Davies' Westwood Farm Diary

WESTWOOD FARM DIARY March 21st

It is said that things often come in threes. So they do, GKN, Three Counties Agricultural Society and Crosby Stills and Nash to mention, well, three. It also seems like this at Westwood just now. We are into lambing currently and trios seem to be cropping up all over the place. There are three main issues, lamb crop, malpresentation and the patience of the shepherd. Firstly, when the ewes were pregnancy scanned, it revealed that two of the twenty ewes put with the rams were barren. This was unfortunate because not only did this represent an obviously high percentage and the disappointment of these two not being able to produce young but also for the first time since introducing the Shropshires, we had not bred from all our ewe flock. Thus, over the four lambing times, at least this demonstrated it was our time for some misfortune. What the scanning also showed was that one ewe was expecting triplets and sure enough she has produced and all three are looking happy enough with life at the moment. The lambing period didn't get off to the best of starts, in fact, most likely the worst run of success when compared with recent past lambings. The first ewe to lamb had a 'Ringwomb' which is the name often given to the situation of an undilated cervix. However, with time and some patience, she produced a couple of lambs and went onto a three day course of antibiotics. Another early offering was a ewe lambing during the night but without the lamb's front legs being presented. Unfortunately, as can often be the case in these circumstances, the lamb was dead when eventually delivered. The ewe went onto a three day course of antibiotics. The third issue is with a lamb that has been very slow to decide whether or not to bother living. It

appears that he is choosing to stay on this Earth for a while longer just yet but has required just about every remedy, other than a three day course of antibiotics, various feeding methods and some of the time consuming forms of encouragement best known to man, or at least this shepherd. Anyway, everything is settling down quite well now, the lambs are strong, by and large, the ewes milking well and the weather just great. Ewes and lambs are going out to grass now and into three different locations. With sun on their backs, grass under their feet and no more set-backs the 2012 crop, if not numerous should hopefully be successful and rewarding for this developing enterprise. Three other groups of sheep have received some attention just lately. The ewes approaching their first birthday were shorn about a month ago and have now been turned-out onto The Furlongs, behind the Sun & Slipper. This early shearing is so that the sheep will grow-on better and be in a presentable state for the breeding sheep sales in summertime. The rams have also been shorn for the same reason. The three rising yearlings have settled OK. Well, they had until we attempted to put our Champion yearling ram from last year in with them. He of course is nearly two years old, or two shear as some will call him and for fairly obvious reasons. The difficulty is though that when mixing rams strange to one another, they need to develop a pecking-order and get fairly aggressive in the process. We have them in a relatively small pen so that they cannot damage each other too much. It is hoped that after about a three week period they can be turned out. However, a well experienced friend has indicated that peace can take about twelve months! Time, we haven't got, just The Good, The Bad and The Ugly!

Clive



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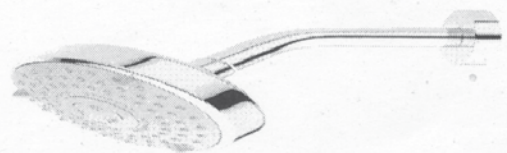
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# The Clarion Weekly Calendar - Part One

day	time		contact	phone no
SUN	8.30	Holy Communion )at the Parish Church of St Mary		CM 270264
Sun	9.45	Parish Communion ) the Virgin, Church Street		
Sun	9.00	Mass at St Elizabeth's Church, Lower Street	Cn Christopher Walsh	01584 872906
Sun	09.00	Cleobury Country Archers, Sports Centre	Lesley Burnside	CM 271374
Sun	10.30	New Life Church, for venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
Sun	10.30	Health Walk in the Wyre Forest, Visitor Centre A456	Visitor Centre	CM 266929
Sun	11.00	Morning Service at the Methodist Church	Rev H Roberts	01584 819649
MON	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe (term only)	April Rogers	CM 271418
Mon	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School	Tracey	CM 841210
Mon	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Mon	09.00	-19.00 Library open		CM 272301
Mon	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Mon	9.30	Morning workout in the Sports Hall £2.00	Deena Edwards	01299 271217
Mon	9.30	Belly Dancing Class at Victory Hall, Clows Top		
Mon	10.00	Monday Club, St Mary's Place £5.00 for day incl 2 course meal	Jenny Ferriday	CM 400773
Mon	18.30	Karate Club, Lacon Childe School	John Nelson	CM 879210
Mon	19.00	Tai Chi Class, Lacon Childe School	Rose Jacks	01584 875544
Mon	19.00	Cleobury Mortimer Ladies Rugby Team Training	Sarah Cound	07977 120272
Mon	19.15	Yoga Class, Bayton Village Hall	Linda Thomas	CM 832998
Mon	19.30	Rangers Meeting (term-time only)	Judy Ellis	01584 890759
Mon	19.45	Bingo, CM Sports & Social Club (exc. Bank Hols)	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Mon	20.00	Prize Bingo, Sports & Social Club, Love Lane		
TUE	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Tue	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Tue	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Tue	09.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Tue	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Tue	10.00	Nippers (Mothers & Tots), Methodist Hall,	Emma Greenaway	CM 272959
Tue	10.30	Health Walk in the Wyre Forest, Visitor Centre A456	Visitor Centre	CM 266929
Tue	14.00	Friendship Club, Parish Hall	Janet Rolston	CM 270353
Tue	17.00	Sports Roundabout, CM sports Hall. £1 per hour		CM 271317
Tue	17.30	Beavers meeting (term-time only)	Becky Keeley	CM 271416
Tue	17.30	- 19.30 Youth Forum meets at 8 Talbot Square	Sandra	07964902549
Tue	18.45	Bridge Club, Hopton Wafers Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
Tue	18.45	Yoga, Victory Hall, Clows Top	Linda Thomas	CM 832998
Tue	19.00	Bellringers' practice night. St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808
Tue	19.00	Dog ringcraft class, Clee Hill Village Hall	01584 890999 or 890478	
Tue	19.00	Zumba Fitness, Lacon Childe School	Faith Thompson	07517 753375
Tue	19.30	Peak Physique, Lacon Childe School	Kim Bills	01384 877702
Tue	20.00	Charles Beale Modern Dance Sequence Club, Lacon Childe	E Wrigglesworth	01562 822291
Tue	20.30	Aerobics, Lacon Childe School. £2.00	Ms K Bills	01384 877702
WED	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Wed	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Wed	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe (see Mon)	April Rogers	CM 271418
Wed	9.00	Open Doors in the Market Hall. Parents & toddlers 1 <sup>st</sup> monthly	Rachel	CM 272920

**The Weekly Calendar continues on Page 39....**

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## The Weekly Calendar - Continued

<i>Day</i>	<i>time</i>		<i>contact</i>	<i>phone no</i>
Wed	9.00	Rising Fives Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Wed	9.00	- 17.00 Library open, Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane		CM 272301
Wed	10.00	Citizen's Advice Bureau, CM Library (appt only)		01584 876933
Wed	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
Wed	17.15	Brownies meeting (term time only)	Jadwiga Borns	CM 270215
Wed	16.30	Gym Club for ages 6 and over £3 (booking essential)	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.00	Guides meeting (term time only)	Bev Pearce	CM
Wed	19.00	Heartbeat Fitness, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.00	Yoga Class, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.30	Rugby Club Training, Lacon Childe		CM 271317
Wed	19.30	Band practice, Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass	Stella Wilcox	CM 270560
Wed	19.30	New Life Church Prayer meeting. For venue, please ring	Derek Morris	CM 270787
Wed	19.30	Choir Practice, St Mary's Church	Philip Englehart	CM 270627
<b>THU</b>	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Thu	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Thu	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Thu	9.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Thu	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall. (term-time only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Thu	9.30	Little Tiddlers, birth onwards at demountable, Kinlet School	Sam	CM 271847
Thu	11.00	Sale of second-hand goods, Knowle Sports Club,	Mrs A Taylor	01584 890644
Thu	13.30	Cards and Scrabble, St Mary's Place, Love Lane	Jo Booton	CM 270792
Thu	14.00	Scrabble Club, St Mary's Place, £1 non residents	Jo Booton	07969 104808
Thu	15.45	Cleobury Comets Netball at Sports & Social Club		CM 270317
Thu	17.30	- 19.30 Youth Forum meets at 8 Talbot Square	Sandra	0796 4902549
Thu	17.30	Brownies meeting (term-time only)	Jadwiga Borns	CM 270215
Thu	19.00	Bell Inn Improvers rehearsal. Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thurs	19.15	Cubs meeting (term-time only)	Kate Pearce	
Thu	19.30	Tums & Bums, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Thu	19.30	Adult 5-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre	Dave Hives	CM 271317
Thu	20.00	11-16 Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Thu	21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Thu	20.00	Bell Inn Band rehearsal. Bell Inn, Lower Street		
<b>FRI</b>	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Fri	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Fri	09.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Fri	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term-time only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Fri	10.00	Tiny Tots, Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Fri	10.00	Tiny Tots, Parish Hall £2.00 per family	Bettina Poole	CM 271868
Fri	17.00	Junior 5-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Fri	17.30	Rainbows Meeting girls 5-7 years (term-time only)	Jean Basham	07792813774
Fri	20.00	Badminton, CM Sports Centre. Adults £2.50,		01584 881359
<b>SAT</b>	8.30	Sale of second-hand goods, Knowle Sports Club	Mrs A Taylor	01584 890644
Sat	10.00	-13.00 Library at Cleobury Country Centre		CM 272301
Sat	10.00	Telephone advice line to Citizens' Advice Bureau		01584 810860
Sat	11.00	Junior Golf Coaching for boys and girls, CM Golf Club	John Jones	CM 271628

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### CLEOBURY W.I.

In March we were visited by a member of the Constabulary, Paul Jennings. He recounted his training and life in the Force, a choice of career influenced by the television programmes Dixon of Dock Green and The Sweeney. His talk was humorous and had members laughing as he regaled us with some of the many incidents that he attended. His police career began in Dudley, later at West Bromwich and finally as a traffic policeman in Coventry. He concluded with a description of how a caution is given nowadays compared with years ago.

Flower of the month was won by Anji, second was Jill and third Betty. The competition for a pretty teaplate was won by Stella.

Our next meeting will be 12th April in the Parish Hall, when our topic will be "Love food--- Hate Waste".  
Liz Smurthwaite

### ESPECIALLY FOR CARERS

There will be a Carers Drop in Surgery on Wednesday May 16th from 11.0 until 1.00 at Cleobury Mortimer Library.

A second event is Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Sheltered Housing on the 19th June 2.00-4.00pm, which is during Carer's Week

This will be for anyone who would like to pop along for tea, cakes and a chat, but particularly for Carers. There will be a talk by Nicola Pierce from Wace Morgan Solicitors about Continuing Health Care and the Power of Attorney. This provides valuable information for all carers and really should not be missed. It is hoped we will be able to start a Carers Group within Cleobury Mortimer which will provide help, support, outings and the like and importantly a chance for carers to get together. Please come along.

If you need any more information for either event, please contact Dice Buchanan

or Jenny Englefield at Mayfair Community Centre, Church Stretton 01694 722024.

Wendy Duley

### A NEW CHRONICLE

The History Society has just published the ninth edition of Cleobury Chronicles. It is devoted to Tom's Story. A local resident found an 84 page hand written notebook in the attic, which flowed with the memories of this man. Covering eighty years from 1903, Tom recalls his personal history and gives an insight into rural life in the early part of the 20th century.

The story was written anonymously and we have published it as a faithful transcription, an example of a personal history that relates to our local area. *Robert Hodge Ed's Note: I bought a copy of this fascinating record and recommend it to all who are curious about rural history. From Baldwin's Book Shop, priced at £4.50, it is a unique personal story and well worth the read. JR.*

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## Star of the Small Ads - Kas Rowley at Masquerade



*"Did somebody mention Sanderson fabrics?" Kas has a long experience of quality materials from traditional companies.*

Kas is about to celebrate seven years in business on the High Street, where her Masquerade shop deals in quality. It's a habit that shines through from her youth in Northern Germany, where she trained as a hand weaver, learned to make her own clothes and made mini roomsets with her father. The graduation to making curtains

and loose covers followed naturally and after working in Kidderminster she decided to go self-employed.

"I'd been shopping here since 1977 and loved to visit Joy Garbett's shop with its fabrics and woollens," she recalls. The shop was on the rental market; she moved in, and has always kept Joy's products on sale. "Where else could you ask for eyes and a nose, and come out spending less than a pound?" she asks. That's the teddy bear decoration stock that's long been a feature.

The emphasis is on top names, headed by fabrics from Arthur Sanderson and William Morris, with wallpapers from the same companies. Paints to match? She offers the Little Green Paint Company, which covers the Sanderson range as well. She's also learned to upholster and a late 19th century Bergere chair was in restoration when we called. The narrow shop front gives no clue to its depth, with racks of fabric samples to catch the eye before you get near the

inner sanctum, her making-up room where curtains and covers are laid out and assembled on a huge table called Derek. She smiles: "Derek Garbett made it."

The amazing selection of fabrics gives no hint of the commitment needed to have such names on display. None of these display materials come free, but at prices ranging from 30 to £160. So she can offer a huge range and the delivery service from the makers is normally just a couple of days.

There's almost nothing in fabric that Kas can't make, and with a lifetime in the business she has a great fund of ideas, offered in her gentle, unpushy style. She has no plans to move to bigger premises, she'll keep on with special offers from the big names - including 20 percent off both Sanderson and William Morris ranges through until Easter - and she'll do the job well. You won't find more knowledge than Kas has.

**Masquerade: 01299 271 680**

## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

Happy Easter to all of our families and to readers! The children worked hard making Easter gifts and cards for their families in the last couple of weeks and also enjoyed a special Easter Egg hunt at the end of term. There was great support from our families and local businesses for our Easter Raffle too - the total and names of sponsors are to come next time.

The children return from their Easter break on Monday April 16th. We currently have spaces

but sessions are filling up fast so please contact us if you would like information on the Playgroup, or to arrange a visit. We take children from two years, have a well qualified professional staff and provide a stimulating environment for our children. As we are closed until April 16th, please contact [info@kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk](mailto:info@kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk) until we reopen, or check our website for information. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Zoe Pearson*

**SPECIAL OPEN EVENING**  
Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty is having an Open

Evening on Monday the 23rd, from 6.00 to 8.00. Demonstrations of Reiki, Hot Stone Facials and other ways to spoil yourself. Light refreshments and nibbles - nothing fattening, of course - will be served.

### CLEOBURY COUNTRY FRINGE

Once more scheduled for September, with Beer and Brass and the Classic Bike Show major features. Expect it to be more Cleobury focussed and over a shorter period, possibly in cooperation with the old Cleobury Festival organisers.

## STARTERS

Warm Crusty Bread with Olive Oil and Balsamic Vinegar £2.95 (v)  
 Warm Crusty Bread with Marinated Olives and Balsamic Vinegar £3.95 (v)

Soup of the day served with local Crusty Bread £4.50

Our own Chicken Liver Pate, made with Red Wine and Cognac and served with homemade Chutney and Warm Toast £4.95

Chef's Crab Fish Cake & Thai Spices served with a Sweet Chilli Sauce and Dressed Leaves £5.95/£11.95

Chicken Caesar Salad £5.50/£10.95

Smoked Salmon and Cold Water Prawns served with Salad and Marie Rose Sauce £6.95

Seafood Pasta Bake with Salad £4.95/£9.50

Whitebait served with Tartare Sauce & Salad £5.50/£10.50

King Prawns with Lime and Smoked Paprika on a Mango Salsa £6.95

Smoked Duck Breast on a Vine Tomato and Roasted Pepper Chutney £6.25

Flat Mushroom topped with Goats Cheese grilled and finished with a Herb Oil and a Balsamic Reduction £5.95 (v)

Three Bean Curry with Rice or Salad £4.95/£9.50 (v)

## MAINS

Chicken Breast in a Creamy Leek & Bacon and Button Mushroom Sauce with New Potatoes and Vegetables £12.95

Open Mediterranean Vine Tomato Sauce Lasagne topped with Goats Cheese served with New Potatoes or Chunky Chips and Salad £11.95

Crown's delicious Curry of the day or Vegetable Curry with Jasmine Rice, Poppadoms and Chutney £10.95 (v)

Cajun Fillet of Salmon with New Potatoes, Lemon Dressing and Salad £12.50

Braised Shank of local Lamb with Red Wine, Rosemary and Redcurrant served on a Creamy Buttered Mash and Vegetables £13.95

Fillets of Seabass served with a Roasted Peppers stuffed with Lemon & Coriander Cous Cous, Tomato Salsa and Vegetables £14.95

Medallions of Fillet of Beef in a Stroganoff Sauce served with Jasmine Rice and Vegetables £15.95

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## STEAKS FROM THE GRILL

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2 COURSES  
MONDAY - FRIDAY

12.00pm - 2.00pm AND 6.00pm - 7.30pm

Soup of the day

Garlic Mushrooms with a Herb Crust (v)

Chicken Liver Pate served with Warm Toast & Cumberland Sauce

Potato Skins with Cheese and Bacon

\*\*\*\*\*

Chef's Pie of the day served with New Potatoes or Chunky Chips and Vegetables

Gammon Steak, Fried Egg, Chunky Chips and Peas

Breaded Scampi, Chunky Chips and Salad

Chef's Curry of the day or Vegetables Curry served with Rice (v)

\*\*\*\*\*

Crème Brulée

Cheesecake of the day

Chocolate Shortbread Strawberry & Cream Tower

Lunch Time Light Bites

MONDAY - SATURDAY 12.00pm - 2.00pm

Scampi, Chips and Salad £4.99

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Sunday Lunch

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## APRIL IN THE FOREST

The three years of Grow With Wyre have finally come to an end. The partnership between the Forestry Commission, Natural England, local authorities, conservation charities, local organisations and landowners has achieved a great deal for the landscape, wildlife and communities of the area. Here are some examples:

Wildflower meadows have been brought back into grazing

New orchards and hedgerows have been planted

Butterfly numbers have increased due to targeted management

New walking routes have been developed, publicised and signposted and there is better access to the countryside for those with limited mobility

Wood fuelled heating systems have been installed in 6 community facilities

Equipment has been provided to start fruit-juicing enterprises

Bewdley local produce market has got off to a flying start

An adder monitoring and breeding programme has been started

Historic Cooper's Mill and Knowles Mill have been restored

Training courses have offered new skills to local people

Thanks to the LIDAR survey and further investigations by trained volunteers we now know much more about the

historic features formerly hidden in the forest

The Community Discovery Centre offers a first class, environmentally sympathetic facility for education and community events.

More detail on the website [www.growwithwyre.org](http://www.growwithwyre.org).

This month we will be finishing the Sensory Trail around the Discovery Centre. Using native plants and sculptures inspired by Wyre's wildlife, people can enjoy the natural world. There is a story telling circle, a giant xylophone, a squirrel assault course and a clearing where you make an Andy Goldsworthy-style "Celtic Circle". All easily accessible, these can really enhance the value of a visit for anybody with a sensory or mobility impairment.

**This month's events include:**

**Easter Holidays**

**Tuesday April 3rd- Free Open Day**

Come and explore the Community Discovery Centre anytime between 11.00 and 3.00. Follow different trails around the centre, and enjoy the art works both inside and out. The new **Wildside of Wyre Museum** will also be open. Children's activity available, for a small charge.

**Good Friday April 6th - Easter Egg Hunt**

Follow a trail to earn a chocolate reward! There will be two trails, for younger and older children. Start anytime

between 10.00 and 2.00. £3.50 per child.

**Tuesday April 10th - Mud Monsters!**

10.30 to 12.00 noon.

Enjoy creating your own monster with mud from the stream. Wear wellies and be prepared to get dirty! **Booking required on 01299 266929.** Cost £5 per child.

**Friday April 13th- Free Open Day see 3<sup>rd</sup> above**

*Linda Iles*

Forestry Commission

## A PRICKLY PINT

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society and Hobsons Brewery hosted a special event to launch "Old Prickly" at the Golden Cross on Clee Hill on March 22nd. The pale ale has been brewed to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of BHPS. For every pint and bottle sold Hobsons will donate 5p to the charity.

In honour of the charity the landlord re-named the pub for the evening, installing an impressive new pub sign announcing itself as "The Cross Hedgehog."

John Nicholas and Terry Tandler had the crowd singing along to many traditional folk songs, conjuring up a variety of instruments and puppets! Baker John Swift donated an array of hedgehog bread for the buffet – ALMOST too cute to eat.

*Fay Vass*

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## Community Cooperation

**The Cleobury Clarion gives our Parish Council space to keep you up to date with their work and plans.**

### Clerk's Progress Report for March 2012

Plans for the new toilet block are being reviewed and we are pushing ahead.

After a call from the public last year, the Parking Review is producing some useful comments, which are put in a folder in Clerks office to be reviewed. Please keep them coming.

Some people are still parking on the Zig Zags outside the Talbot which is causing problems.

Problems in the Play Area and Memorial Gardens in the evenings, with broken glass and dog mess so we are working with Police to address the issues. These facilities may have to be closed after a certain time at night. Alsdog mess by the Market Hall is a major problem for children at playgroup, and there is risk of it causing blindness.

A complete review of Parish Council assets has highlighted some issues; letters have gone out to Solicitors and Banks to see if they hold documents.

The CCTV installation is moving on with power supplies being connected.

The Tarmac that was put down in Church Street instead of a slab is continually chased to put it right. Contractors are now waiting for same slabs.

Letters for your Parish AGM on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm in the Market Hall, have gone out to different organisations in Cleobury Mortimer, including Police, Schools, Parish Hall, Paying Fields etc. Also we have secured Cllr Keith Barrow, the leader of Shropshire Council, as Guest Speaker, all are welcome.

After a concern about the missing Welcome to Shropshire Sign on the road to Clows Top, it will be replaced in due course.

Big Tidy Up litter picks. We need areas where litter is bad so please let me know.

As a result of meetings with Highways and Western Power, the streetlights in Church Walk and Steeple close will be done on 28<sup>th</sup> March. Western Power have pencilled in the earliest date of April 2<sup>nd</sup> to connect them. Please be aware that Church walk will be having the underground cables put in, so the path may be closed for a couple of days.

## THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**This will be held in the Market Hall, starting at 7.00pm, on Wednesday April 18th.**

**The Guest Speaker will be Keith Barrow, leader of Shropshire Council.**

**This is your Parish Council's annual report on their work and your opportunity to raise matters of concern and ask questions of the councillors. The meeting is open to all residents in the Parish of Cleobury Mortimer.**



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# Cleobury Patients' Voice and the Medical Centre

## Talk from Cllr Gwilyn Butler

At the group's March meeting, Cllr Butler gave the group a talk on the relationship between a person's social and environmental situation and their health status. He had statistics for our local area on the incidence of various health conditions and areas of deprivation. It was a very interesting talk, but unfortunately there were not many people there to hear it for which we apologise, but thank him for his time and effort talking on such a relevant and interesting subject.

## Next CPV Group Meeting

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012, 7pm Market Hall, Cleobury Mortimer. We would like to see as many members there as possible. Talk to be arranged.

Following a meeting with Dice, Wendy Duley, CPV, Jo Booton, CPV & South Shropshire Housing and Jackie Willetts, Age UK, a meeting is being arranged in Carer's Week:

**Afternoon Tea, Cakes & Chat, St Mary's Place,  
Community Room, Cleobury Mortimer  
June 19th, 2.00-4.00pm**

With talk by Nicola Pierce from Wace Morgan Solicitors who will be talking about Continuing Health Care and Power of Attorney. This talk provides valuable information for all carers and

really should not be missed.

## Healthy Friendships - Shropshire

Healthy Friendships is a registered charity with experience delivering a befriending scheme including small, medium and large group work, trips out and events assisting people with mental distress.

Their recent grant from the 'Big Lottery Fund' means they have paid co-ordinators covering areas of South Shropshire. For more information contact Barbara on 01628 626221.

## Cleobury Patients' Voice: Help for individuals

To discuss or for help with your own concerns, comments & ideas about the Health or Social Care you receive. **All information is confidential.**

Please contact us by:

Completing Comments Cards found in: Cleobury Medical Centre, Pharmacy, Library, Market Hall & Severn Hospice Charity Shop. Completed cards to red Comments Box, in the Medical Centre lobby.

Or call, Jenny: 01299 271383, Jacqui: 01299 270019 or Sarah: 07729480201.

Or Email: [cleoburypatientsvoice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cleoburypatientsvoice@hotmail.co.uk)

## 'Live the Adventure' Open Day

Sunday 13 May 2012

At the **Old Vicarage Adventure Centre**, Ginny Hole, **Stottesdon**, raising money for Riding for the Disabled Association

Events taking place include **free taster activity sessions** such as climbing, pony riding, leap of faith, archery, jousting, **playboat demos** (gymnastics in canoes!), **talks** illustrating recent and future trips that we have organised to some **amazing places like Bhutan and the Grand Canyon**, **slacklining demos** and, a talk and **display by a Riding for the Disabled (RDA) rider**, who has worked through the ranks of RDA and is able to showcase their skills having overcome disability - this will be an amazing display! All are welcome to this family friendly day out.

The event is free but to ensure the day runs smoothly we are asking people to **register interest** via our website [www.ovac.co.uk](http://www.ovac.co.uk) click on OVAC Adventure Centre and follow links to Open Day or, alternatively, contact us by phone on **01746 718 436**.

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News



*30 years running the same local pub and still they look lively and happy.  
L to R: Steve and Sue Painter, Philip Dunne MP and Ian and Chris  
Ferguson at the Live and Let Live in Neen Sollars.*

### A LESSON IN SERVICE AND SURVIVAL

The Live and Let Live in Neen Sollars is one of those pubs so far removed from the noisy lager-peddling palaces that dominate modern town centres it could be on a different planet. But it's not, it's on the hill above Neen Sollars, staffed by people who smile at you and listen to what you have to say, and tell you what they've bought in that day to cook up for that evening's dinner.

This place doesn't survive on passing trade, you go there because you know how good it is, or because a friend has let you in on the local knowledge. In Philip Dunne's case, he called in to congratulate publicans Ian and Chris Ferguson and Steve Painter on 30 years running the place, which they celebrated last summer. That was acknowledged by the community in presenting a collage of pictures of last year's birthday bash, compiled by photographer Rob Wall.

"This is a unique local institution, a thriving example of how to make a pub work as a business and as a centre of the community. It's known for its local beers and good fare, and it was good to see the work of Ian, Chris and Steve so well supported by their community," said Mr Dunne.

Judi Knight organised the event: "We wanted to show our appreciation for all that Ian and Chris and Steve and Sue have done over the past 30 years. It was a splendid evening, a fitting 'Thank You' for keeping the pub at the heart of the community," she said.

Ian Ferguson spoke for both families: "One of the main reasons we've stayed so long is down to the support we've had from the people of Neen Sollars and Milson. A big 'Thank You' to everyone who organised the event last year and to Philip Dunne for taking the time to come and present us with the picture collage."

Long may the Live continue, a pub that stands out from the boring ordinary.

### BETTER SECURITY FOR AGRICULTURAL PLANT

Dave Thomas at the new Shropshire Quads business in Detton is now a registered Cesar Datatag technician. Datatag has been around a long time and has a good reputation; it is now the agricultural industry standard for registration and security.

The Construction Equipment Security And Registration (CESAR to you) is available for anything from a combine harvester to a quad, generator or trailer. It's approved by the Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers, as well as the insurance industry's Thatcham. Manufacturers like John Deere are installing CESAR as standard in the fight against farming theft.

Dave will be happy to talk to you about it. Call in at Shunesley in Detton, call him on 07904 484 492 or [dave@shropshirequads.co.uk](mailto:dave@shropshirequads.co.uk)

### WORLD BOOK DAY

The children of Chorley Family Playgroup took part in World Book Day on March 1st. This is the biggest annual celebration of books and reading in the UK, Ireland and Europe, where children are encouraged to read more and are helped by some of the world's greatest children's authors.

To mark this wonderful day, the children of the playgroup dressed up as characters from some of the most popular children's books and spent the day enjoying some of their favourite stories.

*Claire Burton*

### DID YOU KNOW?

Man years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented and it was ruled: "Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden."

And so the word GOLF entered the English language.

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KINLET PLAYGROUP - half page 21/2/11 11:07 Page 1

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### MATT'S IN THE LONDON MARATHON



*We photographed Matt when he was just back from an easy six-mile training run. Next weekend it would be 20 miles.*

IT consultant Matt Yarranton has a novel approach to getting away from the demands of travelling all over Europe and spending hours staring at a computer screen. He goes running. Serious running. Like marathons.

"About seven years ago I needed to lose some weight and get fit," he recalls. "A mate was doing half marathons and I did the Great North Run with him. I wanted to keep on and did half marathons until there was a chance to do the real thing - the Berlin Marathon in 2009." He did other big runs, like the Three Peaks and Lyke's Wakes, then in 2010 took on the Dublin Marathon. He had try to get in the Virgin London Marathon, the big one with about 50,000 entries and regularly oversubscribed. His best chance would be raising money for charity. Matt's choice was Get Kids Going, which funds wheelchairs for disabled

youngsters to take part in these events. He was accepted - "It's the one to go for, in Olympic Year," he reasons and has been in training for months.

His basic circuit is from Cleobury through Bayton, Clows Top, Buckeridge, Far Forest, Furnace Mill, Kinlet, Bagginswood, Neen Savage and back home. According to the schedule's demands, he drops sections out or adds more to hit his target. When we talked on March 24th it was a resting weekend with just six miles to do; on the 31st the target was 20 and from then on it reduced as he built up strength and "carbed up" his reserves before the big day on April 22nd.

He'll need those physical reserves, and reckons he'll burn about 3,000 calories and lose half a stone. In training he carries a two litre water backpack; in the event he'll use roadside supplies.

Matt's minimum target is £1500 for the charity, and he's already taken in £600 from a Quiz and Curry Night at Neen Sollars. You can support him, as the Clarion has done. Call him on 07870 655587 to pledge, up to the end of the month. That way you can become part of the biggest fund raising event in the world - £557 million so far!

And we have two other local lads in training for The Big One. Wayne Smith of Hobson's is raising funds for Tommy's, a child death research charity and Rob Cooper of Gecko Carpentry runs for Monty's Corner, which helps parents whose children are suffering from cancer. The Clarion wishes them all success in running and raising money.

### A GLIMPSE OF THE 70S

The Methodist Church Hall was certainly busy on March 16th, with a selection of local films now put on video and on show to the public for the first time. We have Catherine Evans to thank for this glimpse back 40 or so years of the town at play.

The films were bequeathed to Catherine by the late Grace Bielli, whose husband took them. It was Catherine's idea to adapt them to modern technology and put on the show.

What an active place this was, though many of us didn't recognise even the High Street and Childe Road from those undeveloped days. The annual Cleobury Show was a very big event, with lots of floats laden with enthusiasts of all ages. Who won the wards? We don't know and it didn't matter, it was just a big day.

Where did they go camping? Another mystery to most, but some very young faces were identified, including the late Tom Pain and Jack Castle. Those were the days when a Ford Consul was regarded as a pretty posh car and the upmarket Range Rover hadn't been invented.

An evening of pleasant nostalgia for those who lived here 40 years ago and some surprises for newer comers who thought that not much happened. All those years ago the place had a buzz of its own.

### DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1400s a law was passed that a man could not beat his wife with a stick thicker than his thumb. Hence the saying "The rule of thumb."

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## Tim and Rob's Breakthrough Design



*Rob Gittens with Tim Preece, on the rear half of an Isabella accommodation unit, part of a 20-cabin contract.*



*Folded up for transport, two units will fit on a trailer that a pickup can tow to the customer.*



*And this is the complete unit, which can sleep up to four people and comes complete with toilet, shower and washing facilities. All wired up and ready to plug into the site electrical system. Easy camping.*

Tim Preece's Timber Buildings business on the Old Station Business Park has got another success on the expanding order books. A festival promoter liked the look of Tim's new Isabella portable unit, but needed to carry eight on one flat-bed truck.

Tim got together with Rob Gittens, a relative newcomer to the company, and they worked out how to build the 16' x 8' unit with the floor in two parts. The back half contains the shower, washroom and toilet, with all the electrics built into the walls. The front half folds down and bolts into place and the walls, bunks, door and whatever extras the customer orders fit into place. It takes just six bolts to put the main structure together, which means the unit can be put up for the event, and then dismantled and moved on to the next location.

Tim gives full credit to Rob for his thinking and input on the

design, and after less than a year with the company, Rob is now in charge of Small Unit Assembly. An ex pupil of Lacon Child School, he's the classic Local Boy Makes Good.

The first order is for 20 units and there's strong interest from Glastonbury, where an alternative to tents in their traditional quagmire will command good rentals. And it all comes from an attitude of 'what the customer wants, here in Cleobury Mortimer they can make it'.

There's a more traditional version, complete with cast iron wheels, on the stocks and if the customer wants the Isabella to use as a cook house or a shower block, they'll do that too.

This is a company that doubled its sales last year, just when some people were talking gloom, doom and the end of life as we know it. Good old Shropshire common sense and skill rules.

### JAZZ AT KINLET HALL

For one night in March, Moffats School turned its home in 18<sup>th</sup> century Kinlet Hall into a cool and sophisticated jazz club.

Led by Head of Music Paul Engleheart on saxophone and school bursar Julian Engleheart on piano, the polished jazz band delivered virtuoso performances of standards from 'Misty' to 'Summertime'.

This was no ordinary jazz band. Singers Abi Kelsey and Harriet Whiting and drummer Harry Gemmill are former pupils of the school, solo singer on French classic 'La Mer', Robin McCarthy, is Deputy Headteacher, and the choral finale 'Cry Me a River' was by the school choir, conducted by Paul Engleheart.

Dave Brubeck's 'Take Five' was delivered with subtlety and rhythm. Harriet Whiting created goosebumps with her despairing pleading in 'I loves you Porgy'.

If Moffats does this again make sure you don't miss it!

*Ian Baxter, Moffats Parent*



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# IN BUSINESS

## Dan Jones Plumbing



*Dan puts the finishing touches to a typical bathroom refurbishment. He can handle everything, from planning water and heating systems, tiling and installing the hardware and flooring, and even the painting.*

### HAPPY IN HIS WORK

Eight years ago Dan Jones left Worcester College with a GNVQ in Advanced Engineering. "It gave me a wide knowledge, but not much practical experience," he admits with the grin of a man who's learned the hands-on stuff since.

"I asked people where I should be looking for work and a lot of them said they wouldn't go into engineering. My dad was

building houses and he gave me lots of experience. I seemed to fit in better with the plumbing side." He signed up for a course in Birmingham, where he gained practical experience and had no problems with the theory as a trained engineer. With support from the Gateway Token Course via the Job Centre and a grant from the Prince's Trust to finance buying tools, Dan Jones Plumbing was born.

He's learned a lot since then and has kept his skills up to date, like getting the Part P Certificate that shows he's approved to handle electrical work related to his plumbing. That way he can get an installation done without waiting for a sparks to fit in with his needs.

At first he took on a lot of sub-contract work on building projects, to pay the bills until his own reputation could be established. Today his work is mostly domestic, with contacts via his Clarion advert and personal recommendations. Let's be straight about this: Clarion adverts are a good way of reaching people, but in a personal business that involves having a tradesman in your

house for several days, personal recommendation is always the best.

As his name has spread, so the work has become more varied, like the complete refurbishment of a house he's just booked. For that he can call on other local tradesmen, in this case Wade Davies to handle the flooring and help with painting. "Some of the refurbishment work is like stepping into a time capsule," he explains. "I've taken the side off a bath and found a newspaper, lunch wrappings and all sorts of bits, just left there by whoever did the original job."

Does he still enjoy the work? "Yes," he says without hesitation. "There's a lot of satisfaction in doing the job, then standing back and seeing how it looks. It's like a reward at the end of the day." Being happy in his work makes life easier, with four children to care for and feed. He's a very proud dad.

So was that decision to become a plumber eight years ago the right one? "I like living in a rural community. I'd be better off working in a city, but I grew up here, I like working here and it's a good place to bring up children."



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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News



*Lacon Childe PTA recently handed over a cheque for £500 to Midland Air Ambulance, part of the profits earned at last year's Borders Classic Bike Show. The donation was made in memory of Steve Shotton, who was tragically killed in a bike accident last year and his widow Judy did the honours. L to R: Alan Gilhooley, Head of Lacon Childe, PTA Chairman John Haywood, Judy Shotton and Maurice Evans of the Air Ambulance. Pity about that corrected spelling mistake on the word 'ambulance'.....*

### 'OUR DAY' WAS GREAT

When the pupils of Lacon Childe School put on their annual school play, you know it's going to be a treat. And if Willy Russell's 'Our Day Out' seemed to be a challenge for pupils ranging from 11 to 16, they met that challenge head on and came out on top.

It's about a group of Liverpool school kids, not exactly A Level stars, on a trip to Wales, Conwy Castle and a zoo. They all sat in coach order and moved about convincingly, including the rude signs to following traffic and some pretty ripe language. Quite unlike Lacon Childe kids.

The teaching staff ranged from the shy young master who the more advanced girls made advances to and a mistress who eventually stood her ground against a bumptious twit who thought shouting was all. I met the type several times in my long ago days at school.

After noise, laughs and animal noises when they tried to relieve the zoo of some stock, some of the kids' problems and unhappy backgrounds began to emerge and an understanding grew between the different groups. The cast were great, on stage a long time with no prompt to help them along, good at both dialogue and singing. Music master Ben Craig led the band sympathetically and let his pupils have their head.

To single out individuals would be unjust to the rest of the cast. Once again the talent that Head of Drama Arthur Short nurtures and then works hard shone through. The curtain call at the end of the first night said it all about another success from young people we should be proud of. You got the feeling they were grateful they hadn't been saddled with a school like the one they portrayed. JR

### NOT QUITE WHAT IT SEEMS TO BE



*The plate says it's a 1928 Singer Sports, but it's actually quite a bit more than that.*

This lovely old Singer Sports from 1928 was attracting a lot of attention at the recent Classic Motorcycle Show at Wistanstow Village Hall. It started life as one of the rare four door tourers, the sort of quaint old car you admire as it chuffs along at 40 or so mph.

Not this one. Gerald Evans bought it as an original example and even had the owner's handbook with the local dealer's stamp in it - Hemmings Motors of Bishops Castle.

Gerald is a very handy man with the spanners and decided to give his Singer a new lease of life. The original engine, three speed gearbox and rear axle were removed and sold. Instead it has a Morris Minor 1100cc engine with four-speed gearbox and an Eton super charger - like BMW fit today. The brakes have been converted to discs, the wheels carry bigger tyres, all in the interests of safety. Because Gerald told us that the car is now capable of 100mph and climbs Shropshire hills with ease.

# **The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page**

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**THE DEADLINE FOR EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND  
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**The Cleobury Clarion is proud to be member of the  
Cleobury Mortimer Chamber of Trade**

### **Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers**

**CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE** - 01299 272300 In Love Lane.. Open 09.00 to 5.00, Mon to Fri.

**CHAMBER OF TRADE** - 01299 270279. Mrs Lesley Burnside is the Chair.

**CITIZENS ADVICE** - 08444 991100. Or through the Wednesday link at the Cleobury Centre.

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER POLICE STATION** - 0300 333 3000. The Station is not manned full time; you can contact PC **Tony Sewell** direct at: [anthony.sewell@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:anthony.sewell@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS AND GUIDES** - 01299 270215. Robin Borns is the contact.

**CRIMESTOPPERS** - 0800 555 111. Free Police contact. You can talk in confidence, to report any crime. You do not have to give your name.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE** - Women's Aid, 24 Hour support: 0800 783 1359

**HOME FROM HOSPITAL** - 01584 878046. For help over the first few weeks back home.

**JOB VACANCIES** - 01299 272300..See the local list in Cleobury Country Centre.

**MARKET HALL**- Dorothy on CM270324, 07761 976650 mobile or [mcbriideneenpc@aol.com](mailto:mcbriideneenpc@aol.com)

**MEDICAL CENTRE** - 01299 270209. At weekends, the Shrop Doc Service.

**THE PHARMACY** - 01299 270219. Closes for half day on Saturday. Delivers prescriptions.

**NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND** - 01746 718210. Rosemary Abbiss is the contact.

**PARISH COUNCIL** -Clerk Matthew Sheehan is in the Market Hall from 9.00 'til 2.00, Monday to Friday. The number there is 01299 271154. The Council meets in the Market Hall on the first Monday of the month; meetings are open to the public, who may address the Council in an open session before the business meeting starts.

**POST OFFICE** - 01299 270201. Many services in Cleobury: car tax, foreign currency cash point

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL** - 0345 678 9000

**SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM** - E-mail [richard@ssyf.net](mailto:richard@ssyf.net).

**VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME** - 01299 270833. Mrs Pat Smith is the coordinator.

**WASTE DISPOSAL** - 0345 678 9007. Contractor Veolia

**WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCIES** - 0800 783 444. 24 Hour helpline if you have a serious problem.



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**Woodside Hopton Wafers OIRO £299,999**

Beautifully restored stone barn conversion sitting in approximately 2/3 acre. Single storey accommodation includes kitchen, utility, lounge, dining room, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom and en-suite. Detached stone double garage with storage space above.



**The Old police House, Stoddeston £349,999**

This is an excellent recently renovated and extended four bedroom family house. If you are seeking a modern, spacious family house within a traditional Shropshire village location, then we are sure you will not be disappointed with The Old Police House in Stottesdon.



**Silvington Hill Asking price £399,950**

Rare opportunity to acquire two detached properties 'Rose Cottage' and 'The Oak Barn'. Rose Cottage is a three-bedroom cottage full of character and charm. The Oak Barn is a quaint one bedroom property. Sitting in approx 1 acre to include a paddock and out buildings.



**Betjamin Way OIRO £175,745**

An impressive modern three storey town house situated on the brand new development of Cleobury Park, offering versatile living space finished to a high specification. Outside the property has a garage and driveway & garden mainly laid to lawn with a useful garden shed at the rear.

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