

The Cleobury Clarion

PUBLIC MEETING CALLED

AUGUST 2011

As the Clarion went to press, we learned that a public meeting has been called about the Medical Centre. It will be held in Lacon Childe School at 7.00pm on Thursday September 8th.

The object is to put all the facts before the community, so that they can understand all the options and give the Parish Council their view on what should be done. This is, after all, something that affects every one of us, from newborn baby to old age pensioner, from able bodied to disabled.

On Page 43 you'll find a report from the Medical Centre, detailing what they want and why. It's all about the need to give a better service to the community and simply lays out the facts.

If you wish to speak at the meeting, please contact Clerk to the Parish Council Matt Sheehan in the council office and add your name to the list. See Page 51 for contact details.

THE FRINGE GETS STRONGER

The Cleobury Country Fringe in September is looking stronger as it builds on the success of last year's debut and learns from a few mistakes. It will start with the Hobson's Beer and Brass on Saturday the 3rd and end on Saturday the 24th with a Fun Day and a Grand Draw for the raffle prizes. And to round the month of events off, there will be a firework display on the Love Lane sports field.

The idea of music in the pubs has caught on and The Bell will host a jazz duo in the evening after the Beer and Brass gathering. Next day it's the Hobson's Cricket Final, and probably some sore heads from the night before? Others offering music during the month are the King's Arms, the Social Club, the Talbot and the Old Lion.

The star of the month will be the race prepared Honda Civic that will carry the raffle prize




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Tickets are on sale now.

New events joining the celebration are John Carter the Antiques Roadman, at the Parish Hall on the 17th and Funky Funghi at The Novers on Clee Hill and a dinner with speaker Dr Richard Taylor on the 24th. It's all about encouraging people to come and see how much there is to enjoy here.

The Clarion on the Web: www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk





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The Cleobury Clarion. August 2011

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY W.I.

Our President welcomed a packed July meeting before introducing our speaker, Lynda Worthy. She had come to introduce the jewellery of Peter Lang, made in Austria to very high standards and popular on the continent. She had brought a glittering display of costume jewellery and many members made a purchase or two.

Jenny Vanderhook took the prize for a pretty piece of jewellery; she also won the flower of the month, second was Stella Willcox and third Angie Gregory. This month's meeting will be the Garden Party at the home of our President.

Liz Smurthwaite

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

First we would like to congratulate our Play Leader Sarah Hanson who gave birth to a lovely baby girl on 18th July - well done.

We said goodbye to 11 of our children at the end of the Summer Term. Most are moving up to Kinlet Church of England school, but wherever they are going we wish them all the best for their futures.

We look forward to welcoming some new faces in the new term. We are closed over the summer holidays but if you are interested

in your child attending in the new term, please email info@kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk or visit our website.

THE NIGHTINGALE FOOTBALL FUN DAY

The weather really was cruel, but it couldn't quell the spirit of the day. Derick Pearce says a big thank you:

On behalf of the Nightingale committee, I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this day a success. Despite the weather conditions, we raised £2356.

We have a great team of helpers and thanks must go to Carl Brookes and his team, Eddie Edwards and Cleobury Juniors, Wayne Whitbread and Coreley Juniors, plus the referees, who did a great job. Not to forget Bill and Barbara Evans and Robert Link, Brenda Weaver and her tombola stall and the Social Club for being so accommodating. And last but not least, the support and generosity of the sponsors.

Derick Pearce

US PATENT GRANTED TO A LOCAL PRODUCT

EquiAmi is a range of horse training aids developed by Dr Hilary Bentley. A year after the aids were granted a full UK patent, they've now had news of an American full patent as well.

"It's amazing that something initially made from baler twine, just to help a mare with back problems, has gone to this level," says Hilary. "I'm completely blown away."

The aids are used by therapists in the rehabilitation of horses and by competition and leisure riders. They have endorsements from a wide range of people, including the Equine Therapy Centre in Gloucestershire and Equine Management and Training in Lincolnshire. The responses from happy owners on the EquiAmi website is a very impressive list. See for yourself on www.equiami.com

This is another example of the world getting smaller through the reach of the internet. An idea developed to help a mare in Crumps Brook is acclaimed in America and granted a full patent there.

For more details, contact Dr Bentley on 01584 891049 or enquiries@equiami.com

SILLY BITS

"A good marriage would be between a blind wife and a deaf husband."

M. de Montaigne

"Women are like elephants to me. I like to look at them, but I wouldn't want to own one."

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Clarion Clippings -The Local News

FAREWELL, JENNY



Jenny Robinson carries out another movement of stock to give the library's shelves a fresh look. One of a professional's less obvious skills.

Five years after Jenny Robinson took over as the Cleobury librarian, she's moving on with a promotion to the Church Stretton branch of the county's service.

She's seen a lot of changes here. From the threat of closure that gave birth to the Friends of the Library to the move into the fine new premises in the Cleobury Country Centre just a year ago. It's a tribute to the library service that the promised funds for a doubling of the new book stock was kept, in these days of cut backs and cancellation of promises.

"I would like to say 'Thank You' to all the friendly folk of

Cleobury," she explained between taking books back in and helping to book them out, before carrying out one of the regular stock movements that mean you don't find the same books in one place month after month.

She's been very grateful for the support from the Friends, who look after the annual Mavis Cartwright writing competition that encourages younger children to test their skills. It's having an effect, along with the new location nearer both schools and she can see more interest from the primary school pupils. The students from Lacon Childe tend to use the bank of four computers.

There's been a happy cooperation between Jenny and the Cleobury Country reception staff, who give voluntary cover on the days she's not on duty. When the new library was planned, her experience could help with an informed local view on what was needed.

Jenny's successor has not been named at this early stage and we can expect temporary cover from Ludlow until a decision is made. One thing for sure, whoever takes over will find a well run library with a lot of support. Chair of the Friends of the Library, Marian Martin, said:

"We're very sad Jenny's going. She's been very supportive."

And she couldn't leave without reminding us that the library service will be hosting two special summer holiday events for children here on August 3rd and 17th, including Circus Fun, Storytime and Craft Sessions. Details from the library on CM 272301.

THE READING GROUP

Rose Tremain's 'The Colour' was unanimously liked by all who gathered in the library on July 18th. There were some minor criticisms of the plot, but everyone commented on the fine writing and careful attention to the characters and historic setting in this New Zealand based story of two people growing apart. It was unanimously recommended.

The current read is 'Corvus, A Life With Birds,' by Esther Woolfson. There is plenty of time for an in-depth study of the work, as the Group do not meet again until Monday, September 19th. In the Library, at the usual 7.30, when new readers can expect a warm welcome and a polite exchange of views. JR

SILLY BIT

Q: What do you call an intelligent, good looking, sensitive man?

A: A rumour.



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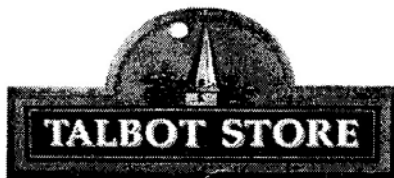
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

The June meeting was not as planned. Circumstances beyond our control meant that we did not have a speaker for the evening, so it was decided to have a 'Gardeners' Question Time'. The panel of three, Bob, Marion and Anne stepped up to the mark to be in the spotlight. Member's submitted questions from a variety of subjects it was a very good evening and a lovely atmosphere, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

It was also the club's Rose & Sweet Pea Show and some good specimens were entered. Many thanks to Anne for judging the show. The results were 1st Bob Marriott, 2nd Austin Fletcher and 3rd Dot Cowdell. Best Exhibit awarded to Marion Wilson.

Diary Dates. Saturday August 20th: CLOWS TOP SHOW
Wednesday August 24th: An Evening with Derek Walker of Little Larford.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER BOWLING NEWS

Every year we hold several competition events for members. On June 26th Captain's Day was held hosted by Roy Andrews, who welcomed 65 people. Dave Jones, our Club President,

formally dedicated buildings to members who have made a great contribution. The Club House to Bill and Edna Hodges, a firm backbone of the Club for many years, Bill as Chairman from 1985 to 1995 and President from 1995 to 2002 and Edna as Treasurer from 1984 to 2003 and Vice President from 2004 to the Present Day.

The Visitors' Pavilion honours Don Scotford, our former Chairman who unfortunately passed away in April this year. Don was involved in all aspects of the Club and did not leave everything for his Officers to do, but was always there to help. And finally the Covered Seating Corner was dedicated to our longest serving members, Gordon and Joyce Harris. They have served the club for approximately 50 years in various roles; in 1967 they, with other Members, kept the Club open by making a donation to pay the rates bill.

Fifty four bowlers in pairs, competed in groups and the top pairs went through to the next knockout stages. The finalists were Brian Sheldon and Dave Wilde versus Alan Sorrell and Tony Smith; the Winners over nine ends were Brian and Dave, 9-6.

A little history. The Ison Cup was presented by William Ison 60 years ago; he kept a jeweller's shop next to Lloyds Bank in High Street. At the first competition William was paired with the youngest member of the club, John Wakeman, 14 years old. They went on to win the first Ison Cup competition. Mr Ison lived to 102.

This year's Doubles Competition was held on July 2nd with ten teams. The winners were Pauline Sorrell & Roy Broome.

Dave Harley

THE BORDERS CLASSIC BIKE SHOW

Will take place over the weekend of September 10/11th. As well as the obvious attraction of the bikes, the renowned cooked breakfasts, home made cakes and fruit pies will be served by Parent Teacher Association volunteers. There's also a tombola, and any donations of prizes would be very much appreciated. As usual, the PTA will make a donation to charity from the weekend's profits and this year's chosen charity is The Air Ambulance in memory of Steve Shotton. If you can help with the event in any way, please contact Sally Howman on 270462 or Karen Dolphin on 270570.



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The Clarion Jobs Page

JOB VACANCIES IN THE AREA

Hooray! Leominster Job Centre is issuing local job lists again and The Clarion is happy to include them whenever they are available

Leominster Jobcentreplus

Selection of recent vacancies

Job title	Job Reference	Wage/Weekly Hours	Area of Work
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Store person	LEK 18830	Negotiable wage 40 hours per week	Ludlow
Breakfast/Afterschool Leader	LEK 18832	8.89 to 9.91 per hour 22.5 hours per week	Onibury
Care Workers	LEK 18846	6.73 to 10.10 ph 0 – 40 hours pw	Leominster, Hereford, Ludlow and surrounding areas
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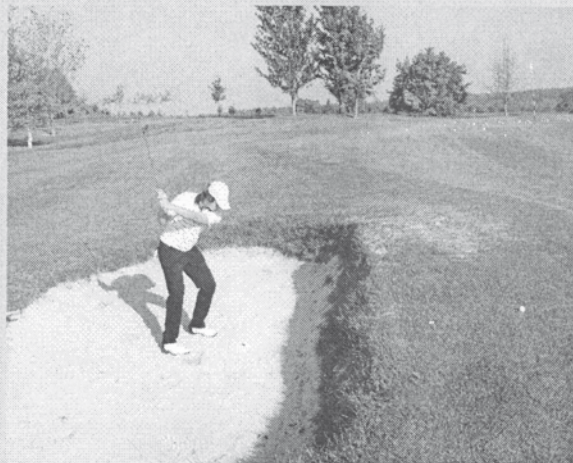
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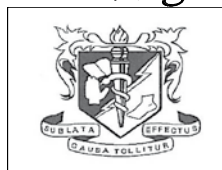
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CRUCIAL TO OUR COMMUNITY

Each month the Clarion interviews someone with a vital job to do for the Cleobury Country community.

This month: Gwilym Butler at the Post Office

20 years ago a young Shropshire man took over the Cleobury Post Office, then located in Lower Street, where you can still see the old letter box in the wall. Gwilym Butler, born and raised in Shrewsbury, had run a weekend market stall when he was at school and had an obvious flare for business. He saw a Post Office as a secure outlet that could support other services and the Cleobury Mortimer one had scope for development.

"The old Midland Bank was empty and I was offered a unit in there, but I had a mortgage already and turned it down. Six months later the bank building was on the market, right in the centre of town. I scraped together all that I could find, borrowed some money from the family, and bought it." In August 1992 the Post Office moved from the edge of town to the centre.

It hasn't been an easy ride and in the late 90s there was a serious threat of closure. "Governments don't see the community benefit of a place where people can meet and talk," says Gwilym. "My staff do a lot for people that you don't see. Like having the phone numbers of distant relatives of some of our pensioner customers, so we can report any obvious sign of their health not being good."

A number of services have been withdrawn from the Post Office, with a move to direct payment into bank accounts. "But people who were paid out at the counter would walk out and



The sign may be traditional in style, but the Post Office offers a wide range of modern services.

spend their money in the local shops. I had to change the business model to support the Post Office."

He's a member of the National Federation of Postmasters and has learned from campaigning work with them: "I realised I couldn't campaign for National change, but I could have an effect at local level." On a wider scale, he's become involved in local politics and is both a Unitary Councillor and a Parish Councillor, too.

The Post Office may have lost some services, but it's moved into other areas. "The original Post Office I took over was all manual and there was no facility for credit cards. Today you can come in here to send money anywhere in the world and it's there inside fifteen minutes."

So what's the future for this most famous brand name, this reminder of history that has to serve the 21st century public?

"We're the biggest UK provider of Foreign Exchange and we

don't charge the customer a commission. That's an area of future growth." And there's a huge range of services right in the town centre, as well as the obvious postal services.

You can call in to arrange your car and house insurance, mortgage, passport photo and application, or just take out some cash from an account with most of the major banks. You can tax your car or motorbike, or even pay money into your bank account, if you have any to spare. It's a big list of services, so it should come as no surprise that in 2007 Cleobury Mortimer was acclaimed Rural Post Office of the Year for building its sales.

It's come a long way in 20 years, just as the town itself has done. So is the man behind this success tempted to move on to another challenge? "I did think about it, but I can do more here, delivering what the community wants, even if it's not what the council member wants," he grins. He does have a good sense of humour and the ability to laugh at himself.

He's full of praise for the staff that his partner Jonny looks after, most of them long term employees who the regulars know and trust. There is a down side, the increase in verbal abuse when people don't get exactly what they expect: "We just stand our ground and try to explain that we have to comply with the law." Dealing with such a broad spectrum of the public is never going to be an easy job, but our Post Office does it and in a time of cutbacks and closures it's still there. Meeting the community's crucial needs.

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Philip Dunne's Letter from Westminster

Parliament went into the summer recess after an extraordinary two weeks in July. . Freedom of the press, to hold institutions of the State to account, has been one of the defining features of modern Britain. But there has always been a balance struck between the right to a private life and the public interest. This has allowed investigative journalism to uncover wrongdoing and kept this country more free from corruption than many others.

For years the press argued for self-regulation and the Press Complaints Commission was set up to provide redress for abuse; this has failed. The allegations last month of systematic criminal activity by a private investigator acting for News Of The World will, I hope, lead to a realignment of relationships between press, police and politicians.

For newspapers to pay people to hack into voicemail of families of murder victims, to bribe police for information on arrest of celebrities and members of the public was shocking. I fear this may be more widespread and by now other newspapers may have been implicated.

Politicians have courted the media; there is a role for the dissemination of information and policy. So politicians and the press need to work with each other. But there is no doubt that the political class have become too fearful of the power of endorsement by the press, or threat of its loss.

Of course I work with the press, in particular here in Shropshire, such as this publication. I am

aware how fragile newspapers are at present, as the power of the internet and technology undermines traditional business models. I do not want the press bludgeoned out of existence, but I do want greater responsibility and accountability for their actions. This is why I welcome the inquiries the Prime Minister has set up, one to look into what went wrong; and the other through a joint committee of both houses of Parliament to look at the future relationships between press, police and politicians.

The Human Rights Act has effectively brought in a right of privacy through the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights. This has led judges to grant super-injunctions to prevent newspapers from publishing details of the private lives of celebrities, but only the rich can afford to take advantage of this privacy law. I believe we need to set out a new code of conduct for the press which sets transparent tests about what is in the public interest and not merely prurient. This will allow investigative journalism to continue to reveal wrongdoing, but not to titillate. The other shocking revelation has been the extent of police involvement with the press. We are short on details which will emerge through these inquiries but I fear public confidence in particular in the Metropolitan Police is at stake. I hope that goodwill come from these revelations so that Britain will continue to enjoy a vibrant, diverse free press and restore trust in our police.

Philip Dunne

Heather Kidd's Local View

The low paid public sector in Shropshire.

When the coalition decided that public sector pay should be frozen but the low paid- those earning less than £21, 000 - should get a £250 rise, I thought that stood the fairness test in good stead. With fuel, heating and food costs rising, it is only right to protect those with a low income. In our part of Shropshire average pay stands at around £22,000. This puts many of those in South Shropshire on low incomes.

Unfortunately the Coalition did not bargain for Shropshire Council. They will be cutting up to 5.4% from every Council employee down to £13,400! Why did they stop there? Because after that the minimum wage is breached. Shropshire it seems does not want to protect those who are already struggling. They did not even think that those above £52,000 should take a cut. But that has

had to change and now at least senior staff will share the pain. The Council work force will not even be assured by their bosses that their jobs are safe if they agree to the cut in their wages.

Money is available to at least freeze wages under £21,000 but this has not been considered. Indeed, it was dismissed out of hand. In Liverpool and Sheffield the Labour administrations are giving the £250 rise to those on less than £21,000 - as are Conservative run Surrey and Conservative / Lib Dem Wirral Council.

These cuts will remove any disposable income our workers may have had and will further threaten our shops and other businesses. Just affording food and heating this winter will be a major problem for many of these people when we are all faced with energy cost rises hitting the heights of 18%.

Heather Kidd



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Clarion Clipping - The Local News

THE RETURN OF THE HUNTER GATHERER?

Roving Roy Townsend-Hübner takes a sideways look at life.

Recently I have noticed, being that sort of person, a phenomenon worthy a few years ago, of a sideways squint. Something quite puzzling. To put no finer point on it, I had witnessed a Shropshire man carrying a shopping bag amidst the bustling centre of our delightfully ancient market town, which had the effect of blowing my socks off.

I was brought up as a practising mother worshipper. We went shopping together and she carried the shopping bag, because in those days that's what women did. Up to that time and beyond I had seen neither hair nor hide of a male person similarly employed. During my childhood in the war I had seen women driving buses and army lorries, but never a man carrying a shopping bag. I think the men were too busy elsewhere. Typical!

Now that I regard it safe to come out, I must confess that I too have been known to hook the contraption known as a shopping bag over my arm. I have been joined, unashamedly, by other men, who have broken down and wept at reports of sightings of themselves taking part in such misdemeanours with said shopping bags.

This led me to think that there was some sort of conspiracy afoot, particularly when shopping bags began appearing with shops' names printed on them. I imagined something of a competitive force developing, akin to the anti-social attitudes and behaviour of some football

team supporters. My vision developed further, to encompass Police in riot gear, their vehicles heavily defended by metal grilles over their windows, in Cleobury's High Street and Church Street.

Ridiculous to contemplate, but how else could a man without the aid of a shopping bag take home essential supplies for a Saturday evening, such as three dozen cans of lager, several copies of top shelf magazines and a supply of tobacco?

Roy

CLOWS TOP SUMMER GARDEN SHOW

Saturday August 20th is the date for this year's annual Summer Show at Clows Top. The show is open to anyone who likes to grow their own vegetable or flowers, making jams, cakes, biscuits, or handicraft and floral art skills. There's a children's section too, so something for all the family.

It's in Clows Top Victory Hall with plenty of parking at the rear. Schedules are available from Clows Top Post Office, Forest Stores and Mawley Oak Garage. The Show opens at 2.00pm with an admission fee of £1.00. There will be Horticultural exhibits, refreshments, tombola, plant stall & other side shows. (Stall holders welcome pre-book with Marion for availability.) A raffle will be held on the day, proceeds going to the Air Ambulance.

All enquires to Marion Wilson on 01299 270475

TREVOR RETIRES

Some of you will know that it is my intention to retire from the funeral profession on August 12th, my 65th birthday.

From that date F J Burton Funeral Directors will cease business and will not be sold to any other funeral company.

I would like to thank everyone who over the last 25 years, whilst I have been in charge of the business, have put their trust in me to arrange and conduct the funerals of their loved ones. It has been a great honour to be able to serve the community in this way; I only regret that the family business which was started by my grandfather in 1911 is closing.

Elizabeth and I intend for the foreseeable future to continue to live in Cleobury and we will always be willing to help and support anyone who needs information in the event of a death. Please do not hesitate to ask; funeral directing has been much more than a job to me, more of a vocation.

Once again, many thanks.

Trevor G Burton

LACON CHILDE'S BAG2SCHOOL

The school are appealing for bags of quality second-hand clothing, bedding, curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags. The items are for re-use and are mostly shipped to Eastern Europe where a wholesaler sorts and sells them to market traders and boutiques at affordable prices. The school receives cash based on the weight of items donated. If you're having a clear out over the summer holidays, please bag up your donations which can be delivered to the Sports Centre on Friday 23rd September 3.30-4.30, Saturday 24th 10.00-12.00 and Monday 26th 8.30-10.00. Thank you.

Karen Dolphin

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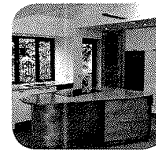
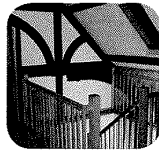
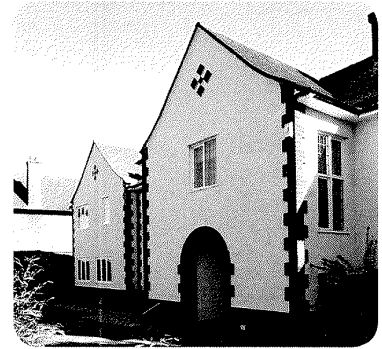
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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

IT'S SHOWTIME

Elayne has some tips on looking after your dog at local shows and some places where you can meet the Severn Edge staff in a relaxed atmosphere.

August is a busy time for the countryside shows and Burwarton on August 4th is one of the highlights of the agricultural year in this area. Not only are Severn Edge staff the on duty vets at the show but as usual we will be having a stand there. Both the "Old Pound" and "Hollybush" have taken care of horse and farm animals at the show for over 15 years, with Hollybush hosting a stand for eight years.

Come to our Severn Edge marquee – stand 179, which will be near the entrance to the cattle ring - and take the opportunity to meet and chat with some of the staff, both familiar faces and new. Hopefully, it will be an uneventful day and the on duty vet will also be there. We will have free refreshments for you, including Hobson's fantastic beer along with tea and coffee. Have a go at one of the competitions or just take the chance to sit in the sunshine (hopefully!) and rest your feet. If you have your dog with you there will be a bowl of water for him too.

Not content with busy Burwarton, this year we are also to be found at the Chorley and Far Forest Shows, both on Sunday August 14th. Vet Rachel Saunders will be a judge at the Chorley dog show and nurses Becky and Debbie will be on the stand. The Far Forest show is a new venture for us and I hope you will stop by and say hello to Ursula, Rhian and myself who will be there.

Both shows look like being a great family day out, with dog shows at both along with lots of different stalls and the choice of some fantastic refreshments. Which ever one you decide to attend, have a great day – let's hope for some good weather to go with it.

If you are taking your dog with you, please be a responsible owner and take poo bags with you to clean up any mess they may leave. There is nothing worse than stepping in dog mess when wearing sandals! Carry water for them and make sure they don't get overheated and under no circumstances leave them in a car.

Have you visited our new web site www.severnedgevets.co.uk yet? Take a look and put a face to the voice on the phone. We have a competition running there until the end of August; have a go and you have the chance to win a balloon ride, iPod or champagne. Easier still, fill out a form to be found at any of our surgeries and hand it in.

Elayne Jonas

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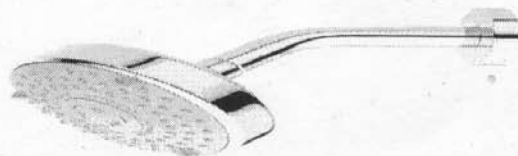
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News



Jack Martin, a young man with musical ambitions and a talent good enough for the National Schools Symphony Orchestra.

DESTINED FOR GOOD THINGS

Jack Martin had a week off from Lacon Childe School recently - with their blessing. His name was put forward by Head of Music Ben Craig for the National Schools Symphony Orchestra concerts at the Frome Festival in Somerset and at the Malvern Theatre.

It was no holiday, as young musicians who'd never met came together and worked hard to get their performance up to standard. Jack faced an extra challenge, as he normally plays the flugelhorn in both the town bands and the orchestra wanted him to play the

trumpet. How did he do it? "I just adapted," he says with typical modesty. "We did about 50 hours of rehearsals and on Friday we went down to Frome."

The Malvern programme tested the young players' skills, starting with Elgar's 'Prelude to the Dream of Gerontius', followed by Richard Strauss's 'Death and Transfiguration' and for a finale Ravel's ever popular 'Bolero.'

Jack has been playing since he was eight and from Lacon Childe will be moving on to Worcester Technical College to study for his A Level in Music. He's a very hard working young man, and we had to interrupt his after-school job at Talbot Store to take a quick photo, before he was back to unpacking and stacking.

FROM THE BANDROOM

Stella Wilcox reports a busy time for Cleobury Concert Brass:

Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass is having an extremely busy summer. Recently they have played at Pershore Midsummer Brass Festival, Ironbridge Gorge Festival and in Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge.

Their next venue is Himley Hall and Park, followed by concerts in Birmingham Botanical Gardens and West Park. Wolverhampton.

September 3rd will see the band in Cleobury when they are organising another Beer and

Brass Festival from 11a.m. onwards in the Vicarage field, as part of the Cleobury Fringe. Alcoholic refreshment will be in the capable hands of Hobson's Brewery and other refreshments will be available.

This event was very popular last year and again we will be welcoming visiting bands who will be playing. *Stella Wilcox*

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Recently the club travelled to Upton on Severn, where they explored the town before boarding MV Conway Castle, the largest vessel on the River Severn. They enjoyed tea, singing and dancing during the trip.

On August 23rd we will be visiting the Elan Valley, to lunch at the Visitor Centre and stop for fish and chips on the way home. For further details of our outings and membership, please ring me on CM 270353. *Janet Rolston*

PTA APPEAL

Do you have catering experience and hold a Food Hygiene Certificate? If you could spare some time to cook at our Classic Bike Show on September 11th and 12th, please get in touch with Karen on CM 270570.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

STOTTESDON W.I.

Sidbury Hall was the venue for our July meeting, kindly hosted by Mrs Claude Reed, whose profiteroles and strawberry cakes need a special mention.

Revd Colin Resch entertained us with his reminiscences, based around a collection of eclectic personal memorabilia. A Routemaster bus prompted stories of his London childhood, a whiskey toffee tin took us to a family holiday in the Highlands, with all the stress of a car down to its last drop of fuel, while a small ebony elephant represented foreign missions. Also highly prized was his signed Queen's Scout Award, a phenomenal achievement to this Girl Guide who never progressed beyond her Second Class award. We all knew a lot more of the real Colin after this very enjoyable evening.

Readers of this column will know our aim to recycle where possible, and with this in mind we have been making a collection of colourful tote bags from a donation of floral fabrics. These, along with jars of jams and chutneys, will be on sale at Chorley Show's WI Produce Tent on Sunday August 14th, where members will be stewarding all

day, and will be pleased to chat to you about our activities.

Wednesday August 17th is our Open Meeting, when we hope a free entry and plates of refreshments will encourage visitors to join us to hear RSPB's John Clewes talk about his life with birds. Farlow village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Marian Wootton

CLASHES

Some times you just can't avoid them, and with so many local shows at this time of year it had to happen. The Clarion's 1960 Norton motorcycle has been entered for the Far Forest Show at Callow Hill, where there will be the usual attractions to make it a good family day out.

And because of this commitment, we won't be able to report on one of our favourites, the Chorley Show. The response to the Clarion from that small community is amazing, a reflection of a very united community. That is most clearly shown in the annual Show, which this year offers The Knights of the Damned as the main ring feature, lots of activities to try, local singers and musicians on stage.

A special attraction will be the reconstruction of a medieval iron bloomery, where you can see

iron actually being made. If it's a hot day, that could be quite a warm experience.

Visit www.chorleyshow.co.uk for more details. Just ten days after the huge Warburton Show up the road, the local David will show that he can take on the Goliath in pleasing people. And this one raises funds for the community.

NO CLASH HERE

August 7th offers the Cleobury Mortimer Garden Trail, when local people welcome visitors to see what they've achieved with their own little corner of England. It's the Friends of St Mary's Church at work again, raising funds for both the Cleobury and Neen Savage Parish Churches as well as the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust.

Tickets are £3.50 each and on sale at Cleobury News, the pharmacy and Spire Hairdressing. On the day, you can buy yours at the church from 11.30. The gardens are open from 12.00 noon until 5.00

SILLY BIT

Q: What's the difference between a Boeing 747 and a director of a large bank?

A: When the Boeing gets to Florida, it stops whining.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

FOREST DOG RESCUE

After their recent windfall legacy from a supporter, that let them purchase the kennels they call home, Forest Dog Rescue have been very busy. On July 19th they told us they'd rehomed 15 dogs so far, the sort of figure they would normally achieve in a full month.

They're not getting complacent and sitting back. On Sunday the 7th this month they have one of the regular car boot sales at their Green Gap Kennels, opposite the old Horse and Jockey pub. Then on the 21st there's the Annual Summer Fete at the same site, with a range of attractions for all the family, including ferret racing. The mind boggles.

It doesn't stop there. On the 14th they'll be up the road at the Far Forest Annual Show, their volunteers spreading the message of caring for what some people don't see as man's best friend.

A COFFEE MORNING AT NEEN SAVAGE

Neen Savage W.I. have a coffee morning on Saturday the 13th, when Catherine Evans will be opening the hospitable doors of Broome Park Farm. It's all about raising funds for the branch, with coffee, cakes, bric a brac sale and a raffle to persuade purses open. Reserve your spot with Catherine on CM 270647



PC Tony Sewell with the winning team from Kinlet Church of England Primary School.

CLEOBURY IN BLOOM

Flo Hadley reports on another fine display of the community's flowering talent.

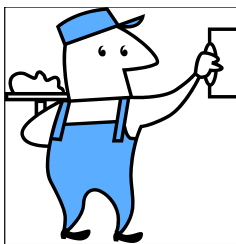
Building on the success of last year, the Horticultural Society organised a range of competitions, ending at the awards presentation in St Mary's Church. PC Tony Sewell kindly gave time to present the prizes.

In May we presented each competing primary school with a box of plants and seeds to grow on and to add to their existing garden, if they had one. The judges looked at the plants grown, and questioned the children to see what they had learned. First place went to

Kinlet Church of England Primary School, with Stottesdon CofE Primary second. Moffats School was highly commended. It was good to see children, parents and school staff showing the pleasure they are already taking in gardening.

Last year we were impressed by Lacon Childe School's students, who set up allotment plots in the School grounds. We offered to run a competition for them this year and were delighted with the outcome. Andrew Hardy and Nathaniel Evans won first prize, with Dan Link second and Bertie Greves third. To see so many young people getting into 'growing their own' is truly excellent.

In the allotment competition for the Society, Daphne and John Tuck won Full Plot and Roger Key the Half Plot. Members had sought gardens worthy of entry, from the smallest plots to havens for wildlife and plant lovers. Gill and Brian Davies were first, Stroma Lennox second and Roger Broome third. Mr and Mrs Lewis were highly commended for their containers, as were Elaine and Colin Broome who showed it is possible to have a garden overflowing with flower borders and vegetable beds. Local residents popped into the church; maybe it encouraged a few more to join us next year.



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The Clarion's Monthly Social Calendar - Part One

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 3	2.00pm	Thru the Door informal service for toddlers and parents at Cleobury's Parish Church	Gabrielle Eve	CM 270510
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington's village hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 4		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		It's the Burwarton Show, the biggest one-day show in the country. Too much to see in one day, such a wonderful range of things to enjoy.		
Sun 7	10.00am	Car Boot Sale at Green Gap Kennels, on the A4117 at Far Forest	Maureen	CM 266722
	12.00pm	To 5.00pm Cleobury Open Gardens Day		
	12.00pm	Art in the Novers. Walk through the mysterious woods and collect things to make a mosaic. It's free. SEE PAGE 42.		
Tue 9	7.30pm	Cleobury W.I. have their annual Garden Party		
Wed 10	1.00pm & 4.30pm	Two sessions for Blood Transfusion donors at Lacon Childe School		
	8.00pm	The Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thur 11		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	6.30pm	Clows Top Gardening Club leave to visit Astley Towne House	Marion	CM 270475
Fri 12	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall, proceeds to the hall.	Eula Rutter	01584 891200
Sat 13	10.30am	To 12 noon Coffee Morning at Broome Park Farm in aid of WI Funds	CatherineEvans	CM 270647
Sun 14	10.00am	Far Forest Annual Show at Callow Hill on the A456. Lovely family event with loads to see, try and even buy.		
	11.00am	One of the best small shows in the country is at Chorley today. It's signed from the B4363 – just follow the blue signs. Great family day.		

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The Monthly Social Calendar Continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Tue 16		Happy 50th Birthday to Sally Pugh (nee Skellern)		
Wed 17	12.30pm	The Ladies Luncheon Club meets at The Crown in Hopton Wafers	Allison Osborne	01584 890414
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington's village hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 18		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders have a walk starting from Rock Cross Inn	Allan	01299 400304
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports & Social Club, Love Lane	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 19	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 20		The Clows top Summer Show at the Victory Hall	Marion	CM 270745
	10.00am	Slipware Pottery Workshop, Clee Hill. SEE PAGE 42.		
Sun 21	10.00am	Annual Summer Fete at Green Gap Kennels on A4117 at Far Forest. SEE PAGE 25.		
Tue 23		The Friendship Club re off to the Elan Valley.	Janet	CM 270353
Wed 24	8.00pm	Clows Top Gardening Club gather at Victory Hall to hear speaker Derek Walker from Little Larford	Marion	CM 270475
Thu 25		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Neen Savage Village Hall	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 26	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
		AND LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER....		
Fri 2 nd		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 3		The Cleobury Fringe kicks off with the Beer and Brass Concert in the Vicarage Field. Eat, drink and listen.		
	11.00am	Autumn Fayre and High-Land Games at Clee Hill. SEE PAGE 42		
	8.30pm	Jazz Duo Silhouette entertain at The Bell in Lower Street		

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Neighbourhood Watch News

Flo Hadley reports progress:

The second meeting of the new Neighbourhood Watch took place on July 6th. Around 40 people gathered to hear PC Tony Sewell confirm that Cleobury Mortimer continues to have one of the lowest crime rates in the country; it has been low throughout the last few months. He thanked the community for being aware and reporting suspicious circumstances, all of which help him do his job.

Concerns raised included: potential vandalism at St Mary's Church, which could be nipped in the bud if everyone was vigilant; riding of mini motor bikes on public roads, which is illegal and which Tony will investigate; and people urinating in Eagle Lane because of the lack of public toilets, yet another unacceptable activity. Offenders beware – Tony vouched to investigate all of these concerns, and he encouraged members to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Members were shown how to mark their valuables using the SmartWater packs that over a third of them have purchased through NHW. It is invisible to the naked eye but glows yellow-green under UV light. Property marked with it can be traced back to the owner because the unique code is registered to

that person so the property is directly traceable. It provides forensic evidence that can be used in prosecution of criminals. NHW members are able to purchase it at a cost of around £18, a significant saving, together with a waiver of the annual £27 fee to remain on SmartWater's database. Yet another good reason to join the NHW! Another order will go off around the end of July, so call in at the police station if you'd like to become a member and take advantage of this special rate.

We were also told about Ringmaster, Shropshire's community messaging service. By signing up, it is possible to receive emails, texts and phone messages to alert you to matters of concern and local safety, such as car registrations of vehicles seen in suspicious circumstances. Anyone can subscribe through www.safershropshire.org or by completing a form obtainable from the police station.

Do you belong to the NHW? If not, call in at the police station for details. The next meeting is on Wednesday November 2nd at 7.00 in the Methodist Hall, where you can raise any local safety concerns, learn about Crimestoppers and hear more about the benefits of NHW membership. See you there.

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The next Flicks In The Sticks will be held on

Saturday 3rd September

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Saturday 17th September

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Saturday 8th October

Flicks in the Sticks will be back with

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News



STEVE SHOTTON

I've lived in Cleobury for close on 33 years. And I've never seen a funeral cortege as moving and simply expressive of sorrow as the parade of bikes that led the hearse down the High Street as we gathered in July to say goodbye to Steve Shotton.

This is no place to debate the circumstances of the accident that killed Steve; that's for the courts and the proper authorities. All I will say is that I've talked to people who know and it's clear to me that he was the innocent party.

This community has lost a quiet man, with a gently mischievous grin, who'd listen carefully before he spoke. And when he spoke you felt he knew what he was talking about. If he ever came to sort out your computer problem, he'd just listen until

you'd run out of words and frustration, then sit down and say little or nothing until it was sorted. He held my hand in getting to know my new AppleMac more than once.

He was only 52, an age when a man with his intelligence has acquired knowledge and experience and still has the energy and ambition to use them to best effect.

His many biking friends turned out, to rumble gently through the town, with two policemen to hold up the traffic as they passed by. PC Tony Sewell was on duty at the church to direct them to the reserved parking areas, then they and the family filled the front rows.

If there was a dry eye in church that day, I didn't see it. Bigger, much harder men than me were wiping their eyes. Many of us walked away afterwards with the simple thought "It could have been me."

To Judy, Dan and Abby goes our deepest sympathy; no words can console them in their loss. The Lacon Childe PTA have agreed to make a donation from the Classic Bike Show in Steve's name to the County Air Ambulance.

Jim Reynolds

THE PRIMARY SCHOOL - MORE LOCAL SUCCESS

Ofsted, whose job it is to check on schools and see that they're up to standard, visited Cleobury's Primary School recently and declared it "a good school". That's a big compliment to head teacher Bavita Williams, who has worked hard with her staff to improve the "satisfactory" rating given in 2007, a few weeks after she'd taken over. She was complimentary to others when the result was announced: "I'd like to thank our very special hard working staff, our fantastic pupils, governors and all our families. We are a very ambitious school and will continue to improve in the future."

Chair of governors was pretty pleased too: "The grades confirm our own assessments that the school is improving in all areas," he said. Ofsted praised, amongst many things in the school: "Highly committed leaders and managers, well supported by a strong team of staff and the governing body.....parents responding to the questionnaire are highly supportive."

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News



What a happy picture. Left to right in the back row: Ruth Hetherington, Elliot-May Smith, Claudia Halliwell, Emily Evans, and Jasmine Edge. Front row: Isobel Scott, Bethan Price, Ellis Wood, Flynn Summerby, Kira Hollis, Grave Harris, Hannah Williamson and Emma Home

CHORLEY GRADUATION

July 21st was Graduation Day at the Chorley Family Playgroup, based next door to Stottesdon's Primary School. 13 of the children in the group were moving on to the bigger world and were presented with certificates to mark the day, all dressed in hats and gowns for the big occasion.

After the formal ceremony and photo - our thanks to Claire Marsh for that - there was a farewell party to celebrate. Lots of games, face painting and a bouncy castle to round off the day.

From September the Playgroup will be adding a Friday session, to cover the whole working week. It's a comprehensive service, covering from 8.00am with the breakfast club through to 5.30 with after school club. Claire Marsh can tell you more if you call her on 07956 655260

IN PRAISE OF...

There's been some work done on the pavement outside Lloyds Bank in the High Street. It's not finished yet and a temporary repair has been made to the digging. But it stood out like a sore thumb in an area where we've very recently had a new surface laid.

So we were interested to see a man looking very closely and taking photographs of the work, and wondered if he was from the contractors. In fact he was from Shropshire Council and was taking photos for the record and would check to see that the work would be completed to the proper standard.

That sort of vigilance, just keeping an eye on a recently upgraded area, deserves praise. Good to know that our county authority takes such care to preserve the appearance of our town.



When the British Open Golf Championship was putting the pros to the test, Mark Shorter came back after a six years lay-off to contest the July 17th Men's Medal at Cleobury. Golf Club. Despite the awful weather, he kept his head down and got on with a nett 67 to win the Division 2 competition.



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Clive Davies' Westwood Farm Diary

WESTWOOD FARM, 16th July

Here's another edition of the 'Cleobury Clarion' but there is to be no more 'News Of The World'. This is due to some poor activity known as 'phone hacking. We aren't sure of all of the outcomes or repercussions but already, right or wrong, some are less a job and for better or worse Sunday's a newspaper less. Various politicians and members of the establishment will be getting more than their knuckles rapped. There is no certainty other titles will not be implicated but it all comes from a culture of today's media trying to make the news rather than just report on it. This is something of an annoyance and particularly for those with some 'Good News' stories to tell, as only the gloom and doom seems to make the headlines. There is a whole industry out there seeking out scandal and waywardness. Also, minority groups seem to have the ability of making their cause the theme to follow. With this in mind, countryside matters seem to have difficulty in being presented in a balanced way.

There is scope for, and good cause why, various matters should be moved up the agenda in an accurate way. A couple of items for a start are food security and the management of our rural areas. It's probable that the implications of the World's population reaching nine billion within the next twenty years or less has not hit home with many. Being the most probable scenario this will mean a massive improvement in the management of the human food supply. Basically, extra must be produced, distributed more fairly and used wisely. It would be good if the investigative journalists spent a bit of time on this matter. Then, we might encourage thoughts to be concentrated on

methods of research and development, government decision and consumer responsibility. Similar scenarios exist too with regard to the further 'greening' of our countryside. For those of us fortunate to live and work well away from urban areas, it's possible not to be aware of concern for its well being although the responsibility of its development will depend upon us. A great deal of policy relating to agriculture and the countryside is churned out from the EU. It is often a one size fits all solution. Therefore, if we take, for example providing better wildlife habitat around cereal fields, the methods applied in the great grain belts of Germany or East Anglia are the same as for us on the Shropshire-Worcestershire border. For us, within a few hundred yards of our cereal crops are grassland, hedgerows and woodland but our corn growers have to comply with a multitude of regulations, just the same as the rest. With regard to the media's contribution in this area, it only takes an enthused member of some Lesser Pink Spotted Woodpecker Society to snap a shot of a young farmer mowing off a couple of yards of buffer strip two days before the small print allows, and when the photo hits the newsstands, it's accompanied with headlines like that it's 'The end of the World'. We will soon need an input of common sense to prevail, which of course is not that common. There will need to be a larger element of trust and balance in these things before the whole thing topples over. And, it is imperative that actions become fairer in order that aims and objectives stand a chance of being met. It will all be much more possible without the hype. Read about it, with the news of our world!

Clive



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The Clarion Weekly Calendar - Part One

<i>day</i>	<i>time</i>		<i>contact</i>	<i>phone no</i>
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	Fr J Robinson	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	Miss 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	9.00	Hopton Pre-School, Hopton Village Hall (term only)	Kelly	01584 891185
Mon	10.00	-19.00 Library open at Cleobury Country Centre	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
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	9.30	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term only)	Ceri Little	07816 193933
Mon	10.00	Day Centre Meeting £3.60 2 courses etc.	Jenny Ferriday	CM 400773
Mon	10.00	Painting for Pleasure. Clee Hill Recreation Room	Pauline McCowan	CM 271329
Mon	17.30	Cubs meeting (term-time only)	Karen King	CM 270001
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	Tracey	CM 841210
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	9.00	Hopton Pre-School, Hopton Village Hall (term only)	Kelly	01584 891185
Tue	09.00	-17.00 Library open	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
Tue	9.30	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Ceri Little	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	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	Tracey	CM 841210
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

The Weekly Calendar continues on Page 39....

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 Roger Price

The Weekly Calendar - Continued

<i>Day</i>	<i>time</i>		<i>contact</i>	<i>phone no</i>
Wed	09.00	-17.00 Library open	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
Wed	9.00	Hopton Pre-School, Hopton Village Hall (term only)	Kelly	01584 891185
Wed	9.30	Rising Fives Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Ceri Little	07816 193933
Wed	10.00	Citizen's Advice Bureau, CM Library (appt only)		01584 876933
Wed	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Daddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
Wed	14.00	- 17.30 Library open, Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
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
THU	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School	Tracey	CM 841210
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	Hopton Pre-School, Hopton Village Hall (term only)	Kelly	01584 891185
Thu	9.00	-17.00 Library open	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
Thu	9.30	Little Tiddlers, birth onwards at demountable, Kinlet School	Sam	CM 271847
Thu	9.30	CM Playgroup, Market Hall. (term-time only)	Ceri Little	07816 193933
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	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	17.45	Cleobury Comets Netball at Sports & Social Club		CM 270317
Thu	19.00	Bell Inn Improvers rehearsal. Bell Inn, Lower Street		
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		
FRI	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School	Tracey	CM 841210
Fri	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Fri	9.00	Hopton Pre-School, Hopton Village Hall (term only)	Kelly	01584 891185
Fri	09.00	-17.00 Library open	Jenny Robinson	CM 272301
Fri	9.30	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term-time only)	Ceri Little	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
SAT	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	Jenny Robinson	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

Dial Up the Clarion on www.CleoburyClarion.co.uk

ATTENTION ALL EVENT ORGANISERS!

Are the details we give about your event accurate?

Has anything changed?

**If your entry needs to be updated, please advise the Editor
and he'll be happy to deal with it.**

See Page 51 for contact details

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

AUGUST IN THE FOREST

There is a story about Bewdley that deserves to be more widely known. Victorian artist, art critic and social commentator John Ruskin had planned to bring his collection of paintings, artefacts, books and minerals to Bewdley and had gone so far as to commission plans for a building in Ruskinland, the parcel of forest given to him by Mayor of Bewdley, George Baker. Although this never materialised, the social experiment of a small community of Ruskin-inspired families, working the land and nurturing craftsmanship and the appreciation of natural beauty, became part of our heritage, and Ruskin's "Guild of St. George" still owns 100 acres of forest and its smallholdings. Bewdley Museum has joined with Sheffield Museum to exhibit a part of the John Ruskin collection until 7th August, and I can recommend it.

The exhibition which follows at the Museum also expresses the link between local people and nature. Edgar Chance was a pioneer of ornithology and wildlife film making, whose study of cuckoos at Pound Green solved the mysteries of the bird's life cycle. His, and their, story is told at the Museum from 13th August to 25th September.

Back in the forest, there are all sorts of events for 5 to 11 year

olds and families in the big outdoors:

August 2nd Pond Dip with related games and activities.

5th Shadow Puppet Workshop A magical way of bringing images to life! Work with professional artists to make and use puppets to tell the stories of the lives of the forest animals. 10.00 to 12.00noon OR 1.00pm to 3.00. £5 per child, OR all day £10 per child Subsidised by Grow With Wyre, booking essential.

9th Miniature Forest Create your own forest – bring a large open seed tray.

12th Treasure Hunt Follow a trail to discover the forest's natural treasures. Turn up any time between 10.30 and 12.00 noon. £3 per child. No booking required.

16th Forest Playtime for Under 5s Join us for woodland games suitable for the very young. 10.00 to 11.30am

19th Mud Monsters! Create a muddy monster to live in Mud Monster Valley.

23rd Family Bushcraft evening. Learn how to make a fire and cook your tea together. Meat and vegetarian sausages plus all other food provided. Children aged 8 plus, £4 per person. 5.30 to 7.30pm. Booking essential.

August 26th Teddy Bear Trail Bring your teddy for an adventure! Make him a crown, take him on a forest trail and finish with a zip wire! Turn up any time between 10.30 and 12.00 £3 per child. No booking required.

30th Woodland Warriors A woodland adventure with camouflage and bows and arrows!

September 2nd Family Dusk Walk; all children must be 7 plus and accompanied by an adult. Wear warm clothes and bring a torch. 7.00 to 9.00pm.

Unless otherwise specified all activities are 10.30am to 12.00noon, £3.50 per child, and booking is required on 01299 266929.

Linda Iles

Forestry Commission

A VERY SIMPLE LESSON



Worcestershire Council are to be congratulated on this simple litter message pictured in one of their picnic places. Did you know that aluminium cans can last up to 100 years. Or glass for a cool million? As they say: "Please take your litter home with you." Leaving it at the roadside is doing long term damage to the place we live in.

The Clarion is available on the Web.

**The full newsletter is on our website from the
4th of the month:**

www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk

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EVENTS and WORKSHOPS:

Sunday 7th August ART IN THE NOVERS

Meet at the Novers Car Park and come with us for a Walk in the Woods, collecting things along the way to make a Natural Mosaic

**FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES
FROM 12PM TIL 4PM**

Saturday 20th August Slipware Pottery Workshop

Make and decorate your own plate or bowl in the Ancient Clee Hill style of pottery

**10am start Doddington Village Hall
£15 for the whole day,
inc materials**

**Limited places, please book
on 01299 270391**

Refreshments provided, please bring a packed lunch

Saturday 3rd Sept Titterstone Clee Hill Autumn Fayre and High-Land Games 11am to 5pm A FABULOUS FAMILY DAY OUT!!!

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Phone **01584 891130**
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for more information

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Saturday 17th September HIPS AND HAWS

**Foraging and Preserving the
Fruits of the Forest.**

Starts at **10 am at**

Knowbury Memorial Hall,
(Caynham Road, off the A4117)

**£15 for the whole day
Limited places, please book
on 01299 270391**

Refreshments provided, please bring a packed lunch

Friday 23rd September Magic of Moths

6pm in The Novers

An evening of Moth hunting,
followed by a camp fire supper
in the woods!

Donations to the Trust welcome.

Saturday 24th September Funky Fungi

Meet 10am at

The Novers Car Park

Join us for a walk and talk on the Fungi of the Novers with **Shropshire Wildlife Trust's**

John Hughes

Limited places, please book

On **01584 891130**

Donations to the Trust welcome

Dial Up the Clarion on www.CleoburyClarion.co.uk

MEDICAL MATTERS

Words from Cleobury Patients' Voice and the Medical Centre

WHY DO WE NEED A NEW MEDICAL CENTRE?

- We need to employ additional clinical staff and don't have any rooms available.
- We cannot extend the current building as we border the stream & the road and we do not own the car park across the road.
- The building does not comply with Disability Legislation and we would have to lose several rooms to make it comply. We do not comply with NHS building regulations.
- The upstairs office space is too small for the staff numbers we employ.
- We cannot accommodate PCT based services such as chiropody, physiotherapy, mums & toddler groups etc and we cannot develop services for care closer to home.
- We cannot develop services e.g. minor surgery, consultant clinics in general practice, district nurse clinics (continence and leg ulcer clinics).
- We have to register with the Quality Care Commission, Our building does not comply with their standards and we may face closure.
- This is why we are top of Shropshire County PCTs priority list for a medical centre.

WHY DO WE WANT THE MULLER LAND AND WHY CANT WE PAY RESIDENTIAL LAND PRICES?

- We want the medical centre to be easily accessible to everyone and Muller's is the ideal site as its in the town.
- The PCT (District Valuer) sets the level of rent reimbursement. If we had to pay residential land values the cost of the land, building the medical centre and internal fixtures and fittings would result in a rental value above which the PCT would be prepared to reimburse us.
- The Muller land was independently valued by Shropshire County Council based on public sector valuations at £170,000. This is the offer that Matrix are making to the Parish Council.
- Bovis are able to offer substantially more than we/our developer can as they are not governed by Public Finance.
- The alternative would be having a medical centre built on a green-field site well outside any area earmarked for future residential building as we cannot match these land values. This could be several miles outside the town.

WHY ARE WE NOT INTERESTED IN BLUE SQUARE?

- We have no information on Blue Square's credentials as a medical centre developer and we would not take the risk with any company that has no experience in building and renting healthcare buildings
- We appointed our developer in 2008 when we were made a priority for a new medical centre by Shropshire PCT. It is their business case that has been approved.
- Blue Square did not approach us in 2008 when a number of other Medical Developers did and they were not on our shortlist
- We appointed Matrix as they have a proven track record on building medical centres which comply with NHS regulations and they also have a good track record as responsible landlords.

The Parish Council are arranging a Public Meeting for 7.30pm on Thursday, September 8th in Lacon Childe School. The Doctors and Staff at the Medical Centre need public support for this as we are at real risk of losing the funding that has been earmarked for us by Shropshire County PCT if we do not secure land very shortly.

Statement Produced by Doctors and Staff at Cleobury Mortimer Medical Centre and Cleobury Patients Voice



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News



Philip Dunne MP presents Dr. Chris Dimond with the Social Enterprise Mark for Cleobury Country.

(Photo: Mark Gibson, Imagewatch)

CLEOBURY COUNTRY GETS ANOTHER AWARD

Cleobury Country Limited has been recognised as a business run for community benefit, with its profits ploughed back into the service and nobody's pockets.

Chairman Dr Chris Dimond collected the Social Enterprise Mark in June, when Philip Dunne MP opened the Inspire Shropshire social enterprise conference and fair at Craven Arms.

The strength of a Social Enterprise business is the ability to use their funds to assist business start-ups. Two good recent examples of this are Forest

Pig Charcuterie, who the Clarion has already featured, and Posh Potties. We'll report on them in a later issue.

Regular Clarion readers will know that the CCCentre runs a lot of training courses for local businesses, a great cost saver if it means not travelling to some distant town. It really is a great asset to the community, as this award confirms

AN ANCIENT TRADITION

There's a long standing tradition of a local fair on Clee Hill. Just what you'd expect from the home of "the largest and oldest prehistoric enclosure in Shropshire" as local archaeologist Glynn Barratt has it. This year it will be held on September 3rd, at the top of Caynham Road, just on the western edge of Clee Hill village. Opening time is 11.00am and they start chucking out at 5.00. But if the local Mahorall Cider's on sale, that may take a bit of time.

You can see a lot of country skills, like blacksmithing, basket making, archery, bee keeping, trug rugging...the list goes on and on.

As well as the traditional fair, new this year will be the High-Land Games, featuring a Tug of War, Two Man races, Round Bale racing, Sheaf tossing and Welly

Wanging. We're not sure how Welly Wanging got in there, because it's not an ancient craft and it's definitely not in the Domesday Book

It promises to be a great day's fun. If you want to enter a Tug of War team, call Darren Broome on 07815 126375. Or you can look in on the website at www.thecleehilltrust.co.uk

INVITATION TO AN OPEN DAY

We have an Open Day on Saturday August 20th from 2.00 to 5.00 pm

Ever After Day Nursery would like to invite parents/carers and children to our open day at Lower Street, Cleobury Mortimer, next to firestation.

The Nursery will be fully refurbished by then, ready to open in September providing full Nursery care, including before and after school care and holiday clubs.

You are free to look around the Nursery and meet our staff. Peppa Pig, who is opening the Nursery, looks forward to meeting you all.

If you have any enquiries, please telephone

07855477573 or 07907709577

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Clarion News - Happenings on High Street

NEW FACE, NEW PLACE TO EAT

What has been Raj@Mortimer is no more. Its fate looks much more secure with the news that Richard and Shadia Smith are backing their son Robert and his friend Leigh in a new English restaurant, offering top quality food.

The Smiths have a good track record in this business and are best known for taking the Horse and Jockey from closed pub to favourite eating place, before selling out to Punch Taverns. We won't go into the place's career after that, because the Clarion can't afford big time lawyers, but it didn't match what had gone before.

Now the family is coming into the centre of Cleobury, to add to the culinary choice we have. The expected opening date is early September - there's an advert for staff on the Jobs Page - in a move that will bring the building back to life. That's really good news.

ROB'S IN THE JOB

Rob Moore, the tall young man with a quiet and polite manner, has signed up for a year training with Steve Hems to learn the butchery trade. That includes Day Release time at Worcester College for the theory side, then back to Cleobury to acquire the physical skills that will mean he doesn't chop his fingers off.

Isn't that a good sign for High Street trade, with investment in the future by bringing on a new talent?

SPEAKING OF HEMS...

We were in that tiny shop recently and Jeanette Green was collecting a selection of fine cuts. She's moved across the road from the Cleobury Cafe to take over as chef at the Talbot Hotel, and there have been a number of very positive reports about the food now available there.

AND SPEAKING OF THE TALBOT

Louise, who previously graced that place with her presence, has

taken over the Royal Fountain, which was closed rather suddenly when Ted quit the tenancy. We wish Louise every success in a position where she's not tied to one brewery.

CLEOBURY COBBLERS ARE COMING

Due to open on September 3rd is the new business in Talbot Square - Cleobury Cobblers. Paul and Debbie Gilman are the names behind the business, and their arrival weeks after the signs went up was delayed only by the need to work out the tenancy on their shop in Kidderminster. Paul and Debbie, welcome to this Tesco Free Town, where we like local goods and services.

And they offer a lot more than mending shoes. Like replacing watch straps or batteries, or supplying a range of trophies and engraving work. It's good for Talbot Square to have another active business in there. We wish them every success.

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IN BUSINESS - Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty



The happy smiles tell you this is a welcoming place. Rear, left to right: Natalie, Leanne and Lisa. Front, Kim and Jill.

Kim Stanley has been in the beauty business, in this area, for over 20 years. From taking a little space in Shirley's hairdressing salon, through to running her own High Street place before quitting to start a family, she's been building a loyal client base. It was when she left to take up her career in parenthood that long time fellow specialist Leanne told her: "We'll work together again."

She smiles at the memory: "I just didn't expect to come back into this business; I'd left." But a lot of customers remembered her service and professional approach and kept on asking when she was going to come back. In July last year Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty salon responded to the call and opened its doors. In March this year, Leanne walked in and within a week moved in to add reflexology, hot stone therapy and sports and remedial massage to the range of services the salon offers.

She's one of a happy, smiling

group of ladies who offer a wide range of skills, based in the centre of Cleobury, where there are no parking charges.

Kim's own range of abilities reflects her 20 years experience, and the first lady to fancy a bit of independence and join her was chartered physiotherapist Jill Sharp, who can help clients with musculo-skeletal disorders or neurological conditions. She also practices acupuncture for pain relief.

Lisa offers spray tanning backed by seven years experience: "It looks like the real thing," she promises. And her eyelash extensions are almost a work of art, each lash treated individually. You can see why the first treatment will take about an hour and a half and if you treat them with care and come for an occasional check, they can last indefinitely.

Joining the salon this month is Natalie, who will be there every Monday. Specialist foot care is her area, operating in a treatment room. There's also a pedicure area behind a screen in the reception area, with a manicure area nearby. The rest of the week Natalie is out visiting her growing range of clients.

Leanne's specialist areas are reflexology, hot stone therapy and sports and remedial massage. The hot stones are basalt, used to massage an area of pain and relax the muscles. If the pain is very deep, the stone can be left on a towel to bring further relief before massage.

This is the current team in the welcoming Health and Beauty salon, with ready smiles and an atmosphere of cooperation that comes over to the clients. "People mainly comment on the

feeling of complete tranquility," explains Kim. You can see why; as well as the smiling people, the whole place was refurbished before she opened the doors to welcome old customers who know they can expect a thoroughly professional service and to show newcomers what this local salon can offer.

Not that all the clients are local people. Some come from Craven Arms, Droitwich and Kidderminster, and they come because the experience is good. "One lady told us she used to go somewhere else, but had to walk back to the car park without makeup on after a facial. She was embarrassed. Now she comes here, where there's no parking charge, and can walk straight out to her car and drive away."

The business is entirely Kim's own and she sets herself a high standard. "I love my job, and I hope I do it well," she says. "I'm always trying to learn new things." It's an attitude that reflects in the opening hours; 9.00 to 9.00 on the Wednesday and Friday late evenings. 6.00pm is the notional closing time on other weekdays, but flexibility is the key. On Saturdays the hours are 9.00 to 4.00.

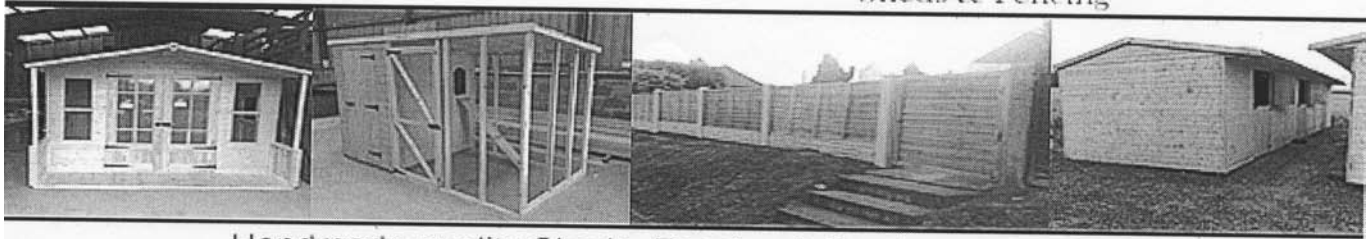
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CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE - 01299 272300 In the new building in Love Lane.. Open 09.00 to 5.00, Mon to Fri. You can also contact the new Shropshire Council free of charge.

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

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 Ciountry Centre.

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

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.

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

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - 0345 678 9000

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM - 01584 877782 www.myspace.com/cleoburyyouthforum or e-mail richard@ssyf.net.

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

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Barnfields • Cleobury Mortimer oiro £299,000

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Cramer Gutter • Oretton oiro £245,000

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