

The Cleobury Clarion

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AUGUST 2019

FAREWELL, SIMPLY FRESH

The slow decline of what used to be the thriving, lively business of Simply Fresh in Talbot Square, to the point of closure was sad to watch. On Sunday July 14th what stock was left was carried out and the place locked up. with no notice of explanation. There is a planning application for conversion to two flats in process.

William Henry took over a struggling grocery store and gave it new life with his polite manner and careful investment. When the deli on the High Street closed, he opened up a department that met the demand. When Lesley Burnside closed her paper shop, he took over and continued the delivery service. When he sold the business it was a really busy, friendly place.

Clary was the new face, in at the deep end and struggling with so much to learn. Auntie came in and reportedly decided that paper boys and girls were expensive, and got rid of them.

She was then out delivering papers in her big Mercedes Benz; the economics of that never did make any sort of sense. I gave up shopping there when she attacked a new cheese with a carving knife, ignoring the cutting wire there on the counter.

The place was always a good outlet for the Clarion, 100 copies going very quickly. We will try to fill that gap with extra copies in Butler's Store, Select and Save and the Fruit and Veg shop.

Through all this sad episode, the one smiling constant was Bridget Webb, as reliable as sunrise and always helpful. If only they'd listened to her. JR

INTERNATIONAL CIDER SUCCESS

The 2019 International Cider Challenge has grown out of the global popularity of the drink. At one time we dismissed it as a small time country product with Bulmers the only big operator. In this year's competition the judges had to choose from no less than 180 entries, with the South African Sxollie Pink Lady voted Overall Champion.

Local good news is that our Oldfield's brand won three medals, quite an achievement for a family business

In the 'New World Dry' class they took the Gold Medal with their Applefresco, a 6% sparkling brew that should make a warm summer day taste better.

Oldfield's Medium Dry took the Silver Medal in the 'New World Medium' category and finally Oldfield's Berry, a 4% blackberry cider that's only been on the market since March this year, won the Bronze Medal in the 'Flavoured Cider with Fruits and Flowers' category.

When you consider that the company only have five ciders in their range and they claimed three awards against international competition, there's a strong message about their quality and fine flavoured thinking.

Congratulations to all involved in both the production and entry in the competition. It must have seemed a big ask to take on international brewers, but they came out with their reputation even higher.

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The Cleobury Clarion, August 2019

Volume Fourteen - Edition Five



Five Days in Dresden, the Clarion on tour. And someone's luggage lost. See Page 19.



The Town's Festival and a window dressing prize winner. See Page 51.



In Business - Sally at Luxure Aesthetics. See Page 61.

And On Other Pages....

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 5 - Heroines High in the Sky | 33 - The Social Calendar - Part Two |
| 7 - Doddington Friendship Club | 35 - Cheaper LPG |
| 9 - New Patron for Romany Wood | 37 - Read Easy |
| 11 - Mary's Page - All About Cats | 39 - August in the Wyre Forest |
| 15 - The Clarion Jobs Page | 41 - Here Comes Kimi. |
| 17 - Farming Families - Kit Smith | 45 - Shedfest 2019 |
| 21 - Cleobury Mortimer Benefice | 47 - Far Forest Show |
| 23 - Sip and Savour | 49 - Steve Todd - More on Buses |
| 25 - The Record Breaking 10 Km Run | 53 - The Cleobury Mortimer Lectures |
| 27 - Met at The Market | 55 - Carpet Days - Looking Back |
| 29 - Letter from Westminster | 57 - The Sports and Social Club |
| 31 - NEW! Clee Hill to Cleobury. | 59 - The Town Council Report |
| 32 - The Social Calendar - Part One | 63 - Local Information. |



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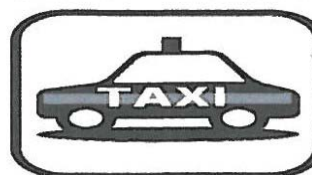
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HIGH FLYING HEROINES



Back in February we were sat in the tea room at the Co-op on our break and Sonia said to me "Kemp Hospice are doing a sky dive for their 50th anniversary and they want 50 people to sky dive, I would like to do it but I'm scared of heights and I would like someone to do it with me,." Me being the big mouth I am said I would do it straight away.

Once we signed up and paid our deposit we started our fundraising. Our initial target was £800 which was a minimum requirement from Kemp Hospice. We got to our target very quickly with the kind generosity of our family and friends, I then said to Sonia "Let's go for a £1000." Again, after selling football cards and bucket collections in the Co-op we made it and much more.

In-between all this I got called up for surgery on my knee, time was against us and I didn't think I was going to make it, but with sheer determination I managed to get myself fit for the big jump. The day approached and we did it.

On the 9th June we arrived at Hinton airfield at 7.00am. The sun was shining and we were the first to arrive, signed in and filled out our risk assessment forms, then into the hangar for our training. The training would only be five minutes

and then the realisation hit home we were actually doing this. We met with the instructors, and got harnessed up and off to the plane we went, ready for take off, climbing up into the clouds. We got to 6000feet and Sonia thought we were there - lol! We had another 7000ft to climb before jumping. Finally reaching 13000ft I shuffled forward and was first out of the plane followed by Sonia. What a view, we got a chance to guide the parachute as well. Very quickly, before we knew it we were landing. Adrenaline was definitely pumping. Yes we did it, one very proud moment, a massive challenge accomplished jumping from 13000ft at 120mph."

Would we do it again? Sonia's answer: "Yes, definitely.", My answer: "No, an enjoyable experience but No!"

Finally we would both like to thank our family, friends and colleagues for all the support and help in raising an amazing amount of money for the charity Kemp Hospice. We have raised £2200 and donations are still coming in.

It's a day that neither of us will forget in a hurry, Thank you everybody for the support; it's gratefully appreciated.

Karen and Sonia

TRIBUTE TO PAT WILLIAMS



Pat was a keen Girl Guide Leader, very much loved by the other leaders and the girls. So much they organised an 11 mile walk from Clee Hill back to Cleobury that Victoria and I accompanied them on. This was to raise money for The Severn Hospice in Shrewsbury, and took place on July 14th. There were around 22 people including Guides, Brownies & Rainbows and some friends and parents who together raised in excess of £500 for the Hospice. Monies raised by The KA, the Church and my Justgiving page and others, is expected to be in excess of £1500. *Peter Williams.*



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THE WRITERS' GROUP

The group was again well attended, and all of those who presented went with the suggested theme, 'Technology'.

Simon's extract, featuring Fran and Tom, employed technology as a metaphor for love. Love online it appears is simpler to initiate than the real stuff, but ultimately less successful. Very effective use of language.

Eddie's story covered a more mature – stone age – technology. It features Gar and his strong, but none-too-bright minder, Drew. A mammoth hunt involving a sharp axe, results in Drew's demise when he is gored by a mammoth. A riveting story, as ever, from Eddie.

Mariah provided a glance into a potential futuristic nightmare. The Mirror Mirror on the Wall online app advises on optimal appearance, comparing the user with an ideal in terms of attractiveness. The realisation that such an 'ideal' is simply unachievable leads to an awfully violent conclusion. Another clever sting in the tail tale from Mariah.

Doris is working on a story featuring early technology – an abacus. We look forward to hearing more.

Gill wrote a factual piece detailing her early use of computing technology. She recalls an enormous machine in the basement of her workplace, along with equipment processing punched cards, magnetic tape and folded lengths of green paper. The 'beast in the basement' linked Gill and the other office 'nerds' in an early form of network, well before she encountered PCs and Tim Berners-Lee's internet. Fascinating history.

Peter also wrote a factual piece, focusing on the potential benefits of technology to a growing ageing population. The use of dictation software and staying safe online were just two of the issues covered.

The theme for the next meeting on Monday 12th August is 'Moon'.

Peter Hill

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

August, is all about relaxing and enjoying the summer. Schools have broken up, the holidays are here and there's no better time to have a barbecue, play garden games and splash about in the paddling pool. Our gardens are looking great with late summer perennials putting on a show-stopping display and the veg

patches sending produce in abundance. Relax and soak the magic of summer. If you're going away make sure that the garden can cope with the summer heat. If you can, ask a neighbour or friend to call in to water the plants outdoors, not forgetting the indoor plants too.

Our next meeting will be on August 28th, when the speaker will be Philip Aubury on Garden Ponds and Water Features.

Pauline Bowen

DODDINGTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Another fun packed month for our club, starting with Trevor Wood, who gave us a great afternoon with his music and quiz with lots of laughter included. A trip to the Brecon Railway to an era of a much more relaxed time, and to finish July off a strawberry tea with entertainment included. There is only one meeting in August which will be on the 6th, due to the holiday season. Meetings will resume in September on the 3rd, 11th and 17th. Why not come along to Doddington Village Hall and give us a try? 2.00 is our starting time.

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NEW PATRON FOR ROMANY WOOD CHARITABLE TRUST



Nicola Benedetti has agreed to be the new Patron of the Romany Wood Charitable Trust. Our first two Patrons were Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Master of the Queen's Music and John Sentamu, Archbishop of York.

Nicola liked the charity's aim of connecting young children with classical music, which accords with her work with disadvantaged children in her native Ayrshire. If time allows she is offering hands on help, too.

At the age of 16, Nicola won the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in May 2004 and has since played with major orchestras and toured extensively. In May 2017, she was presented with the Queen's Medal for Music, the youngest of the twelve people to receive the award since it was established in 2005.

David Gaukroger

CLOWS TOP SUMMER GARDEN SHOW

The show is on Saturday August 17th and is open to anyone who likes to grow their own vegetables or flowers, prepare jams, cakes, biscuits, or handicraft and floral art skills. There's even a children's section 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 Shop, Colliers Farm Shop and Forest Stores. Or email: clowstopdistrictgardeningclub@hotmail.co.uk

The Show opens at 2.00pm, £1.00 admission. Horticultural exhibits, refreshments, tombola, plant stall & other side shows.

Stall holders welcome; pre-book with Marion. A raffle will be held on the day. The cups will be presented at 4.00pm followed by the raffle draw. All enquires to Marion Wilson 01299 270475.

Pauline Bowen

THE SOROPTIMISTS

Our conference in June about Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) was very informative. Two hundred million women and girls worldwide have been affected, including 137,000 in the UK. Our keynote speaker,

Gillian Squires, said that prevention is the key, as punishment for acts already committed can be counterproductive as girls generally do not wish to have their parents prosecuted and communities are silent as they feel FGM is part of their culture. Rose Morimbo Simbo shared her personal experience. Rose is committed to speaking out about what happened to her so that other girls do not have to suffer the same fate. Through her charity in Sierra Leone she strives to make a difference to their lives. By winning their trust she hopes to change their culture away from cutting girls. Alison Byrne, a specialist midwife saw her first case of FGM 17 years ago when a young woman was about to give birth. She now runs a specialist clinic in the UK and sees patients from all over the country.

Janice Bell, President of Soroptimist Kidderminster and District said, 'This is an uncomfortable topic and for many may seem to be irrelevant to us here in Worcestershire but hearing the women's stories and trying to understand why this practice is still so prevalent may help to bring pressure to eradicate it.'



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Mary's Page - On Cats

Much has been said about Cleobury and its dogs but what about Cleobury cats? Just like dogs, the cats have a many and varied personae.

There's Nogood Boyo stalker cat who lurks behind the school railings eyeballing dogs in the secure knowledge that they just can't get even their heads through to reach him. When owners pull their dogs away he silently slips through the bars and pads softly behind. Now it is dog's turn to feel menaced. Tugged along on the lead, feeling distinctly puzzled, dog keeps looking anxiously behind. Is this cat really following me? This cat is like the mummy in the horror movie plodding behind at a steady pace even though dog has begun to trot. Cat just keeps on coming.

"Every move you make, every step you take, I'll be watching you."

One road in Cleobury might almost be renamed Cat Alley there are so many cats resident here. It's pussy galore. Three of them often sit together. They just sit and watch. They watch everyone and everything. Neighbourhood Watch with attitude. They, too, are undeterred by dog. Dog struggles to understand such effrontery. Fat cat lounges here sedately basking in the sunshine, undisturbed, because for some reason those who encounter him walk carefully round him. It seems all are loathe to disrupt this dignified feline repose.

"Slow down, you move too fast. You've got to make the morning last."

Where we live, there is Gary. Gary is a ginger cat. Gary is loving and affectionate. Gary is inscrutable. Gary has adventures but Gary doesn't kiss and tell so only Gary knows what Gary knows. And so, Gary just goes on being Gary and doing Gary things in his own particular inimitable Gary way.

Tabby is the queen of cats. Tabby is very aware of how good Tabby looks. With her exquisite

markings she saunters past epitomising all that is royalty. Tabby glides along so gracefully, every bit a Lady. As she graces our presence she turns her head slightly as if to say: "Isn't it so lovely to see me?" By stealth, Tabby is a bin raider scoffing the remains in dog food packets. So classy!

Whiskers' owner has her homecoming regularly heralded by Whiskers skipping down the road tail up in salute. Whiskers then escorts her owner safely back to the house. I am only surprised that she does not relieve her owner of the shopping. Maybe one day she will surprise us all.

Little black cat has shiny eyes which she closes in agreement when you talk to her. She kept me company when I walked back and forth to get my new hip working. Normally she never bothers with me but she seemed to know somehow that her gentle encouragement was much appreciated as she generously padded alongside while I stomped on crutches. So sweet!

Up at the top end of Cleobury lives Peter, the Black Panther. Peter is a consummate hunter. Peter terrorises his locality. Enter Peter's garden at your own risk. No mouse in this house. Peter culls the squirrel population. This efficient mortician proudly lays out his trophies as gifts for the family. But, something gets lost in translation. Sadly, the humans that share Peter's life are just not into corpses.

Sammy the Siamese sits on a chair emitting unearthly sounds that give a whole new meaning to caterwauling. Like a cobra, this cat fascinates. Who will be the first to break eye contact? No wonder T.S. Eliot managed to compose a whole book of poems about these creatures. Did he visit Cleobury?

Mary



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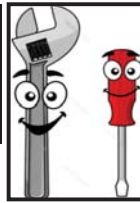


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Ever After Nursery Nursery practitioner	Ever After are looking for level 2 or level 3 nursery practitioner to join the well established and busy nursery. Full and part time working hours available.	Contact Details: Tel: 01299 272777 Email: everafternursery@hotmail.co.uk



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Fire and Rescue Service

**On-Call Firefighters Cleobury Mortimer
(Retained Duty System)**

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is currently looking to recruit on-call firefighters at Cleobury Mortimer Fire Station. On-call firefighters agree to be available for a certain number of hours per week; they carry a pager and must be able to get to the fire station within five minutes. For this they are paid between £1,587 - £2,116 per annum (dependent on contract) as a Retaining Fee plus payments for attending incidents and drill evenings at Cleobury Mortimer fire station.

TO APPLY YOU MUST LIVE OR WORK WITHIN 5 MINUTES OF CLEOBURY MORTIMER FIRE STATION

To be a Firefighter requires special skills and qualities, not only do you need to be able to work under pressure as part of a team at operational incidents you need effective communication skills to deal with the public at fire safety events and in their homes. You will work within your local community to support our aim of preventing fire related incidents and road traffic collisions. The Service is looking for people aged 18 or more on their start date who can demonstrate a high level of physical fitness

For an information pack please contact us on 01743 260220, or email HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk, stating your name, address and quoting Cleobury Mortimer

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is committed to equality and diversity at work. We positively welcome applications from disabled people and minority groups who are under-represented in our Service.



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FARMING FAMILIES

84% of those who responded to the Cleobury Neighbourhood Plan Survey a year ago said that the countryside and its environment was important or very important to them. They effectively charged the working group of the Plan to ensure that despite 138 new homes to be built in the next 10 years or so, their countryside and environment should remain sustainable and where possible, be improved. The big question to be answered was "What is it about the countryside that makes it so important to so many local people?". To help answer that, a sample survey of farming families and landowners was carried out in the first part of this year and reports published monthly in the Clarion as Farming Families.

The survey covered over 1,000 hectares (approx. 20%) of the total CNP non wooded countryside. The landowners and farmers are the guardians/custodians of our countryside, yet we knew little about who they are, what they do and how they help to make the countryside so important to us all. The 20% sampled, showed up some interesting information. There were 3,300 sheep and lambs, 800 head of beef and 300 cows. There are many more sheep, cattle and cows than there are people in the area. Grass for grazing, hay and silage was the predominant crop. Almost all of the arable crops of wheat, barley, oats, rye and maize for silage went to feed the stock. Energy conservation was important for all, especially electricity production from methane, solar power and wind. Within our whole CNP area there is nearly enough electricity generated on farms, to

supply the total power needs of the area including Cleobury town. We are over 90% self sufficient for electricity power from our farms. Our perception of our countryside appears to be made up of trees, hedges, green fields, livestock, and our ability to access it with care. Our wildlife is sustained by our wildlife corridors and our woodlands, augmented by over four hectares of sown wild plants for pollinators and for seed eating birds. Hedge cutting is only done out of the bird nesting season. Those in the sample have planted an impressive 20,000 trees and 12Kms of hedges over the past two decades. This does compensate to some degree for the tree and hedge grubbing in the past fifty years as fields were made larger. However, it is vital to keep planting trees and hedges as a tree planted now will become mature in 100-200 years, for our grandchildren, their grandchildren and for a sustainable biodiversity.

There were two farmers who have taken the long term view and have planted trees in the middle of fields to partially restore the feel of parkland, which had been lost over the past century. Thanks to our farmers and landowners, there are few scruffy corners in our countryside - they shame some of our urban front gardens.

Farming is hard work, for long hours, in all weathers and at any time of the year. They do have to earn a living, yet they care deeply about their bit of countryside and its environment.

So, a big thank you to our farmers and landowners for looking after and improving our countryside – keep up the good work!

Kit Smith

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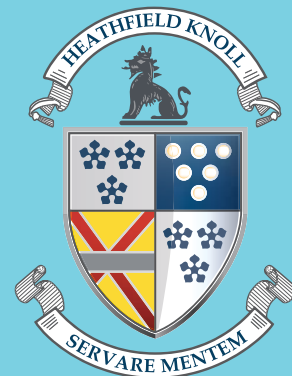
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FIVE DAYS IN DRESDEN

A brief break, based upon a visit to the German Moto GP at the Sachsenring, but with a couple of days added on for a little sightseeing. My friend Geoff Hainsworth came along and my son Iain flew in from Hong Kong.

This is not a report on the Grand Prix, well covered by the real professionals elsewhere. But Dresden is an interesting place, once part of East Germany and worth a visitor's report. We were booked into one of the three Ibis hotels in the city centre, clean and quiet rooms at a reasonable price. We were also booked onto a train to reach the race track, ten minutes walk from Hohenstein-Ernstthal station. On time, clean and smooth in operation. What a national railway should be like.

Dresden was badly damaged during the 1939-45 World War bombings and has been largely rebuilt, both as restorations of old buildings in the historic centre and as new structures further out. What did strike as we walked around was the cleanliness and the pedestrians-only space. In a city of more than half a million people there was never a feeling of crowding.

The city is on the River Elbe, with pleasure craft moving gently along and large cruising craft moored up and working as restaurants along the proud Terrassenufer where historic buildings dominate and in the distance you can see tower cranes continuing the business of improvement.

We walked a lot in the later days, directed by curiosity and discovering beautiful buildings in areas like the walled enclosure of Zwinger.



One of the impressive gates into the Zwinger area, the tower glowing in its restored red and gold in the evening sun.

Lots of restaurants to choose from and a sad experience when Iain wanted an Italian and having found one we waited over an hour for two pizzas, my pasta only ten minutes quicker. Protests that the kitchen was very busy by the waiting staff did not impress when other people arrived, ordered and finished their meals before ours arrived. Black mark, Ristorante Da Miri.

Much better luck with good Mexican cooking and service at Enchiladas. So good we went back the next evening. Eating was not expensive and the variety on offer was wide. Late nightcaps at the hotel only looked expensive when one of the bar staff served a single measure and charged for a double, realised too late to protest. Hardened travellers will tell you that it's not an uncommon habit. Naughty.

Curiosity about a railway around the Grosser Garten took us to a model station staffed almost entirely by school age children. including blowing the guard's whistle and signalling the train's departure. The journey was a gentle cruise through a very large park, where traffic gave way at level crossings and passengers used the service to commute. All for just six euros - excellent value.

Signposted nearby was the Glaserne Manufaktur; could that be a glassware factory? Far from it, this was a Volkswagen factory where the E Golf is built in a place looking far too small. Even better, there were examples of concept cars, including the ID that UK dealers know about but apparently don't have pictures of it.

So here, dear readers, we offer you a photo of this possible future car, courtesy of Geoff Hainsworth's telephone:



We occasionally get a scoop shot to offer you and it seems this is another. Thank you, Geoff.

An enjoyable stay and if I ever get the chance to go again, I will. The only down note was KLM sending Geoff's case somewhere else when it was due to arrive at Brum. It turned up next day, but you do wonder if KLM's merging with Air France was the reason? The French are pretty good at that.



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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice

Services, Events and Activities throughout the Benefice-August

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Cleobury Mortimer.

Services: 4th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 11.00am The Eleven O Clock Service.

11th- 8.30am Said Eucharist.

18th, 25th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 9.45am Parish Eucharist.

Events/Activities:

Coffee & Chat-Tuesday 6th. All welcome at Oakwood, Tenbury Road, all welcome from 10.30am.

Farmers Market-Saturday 17th. In and around St Mary's Church, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Flower Festival-23-26 "Floral Britain". All welcome, please come and view the displays.

Messy Church-Sunday 25th. All welcome at the Hub at 3.00pm for crafts, stories, games & meal.

St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kinlet.

Services: 4th-10.00am Eucharist, 11th-No service, 18th-10.00am Matins, 25th-6.30pm Evensong.

St Mary's Parish Church, Neen Savage.

Services: 4th-6.30pm Evensong, 11th-No service, 18th-6.30pm Evensong, 25th-9.00am Eucharist.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Hopton Wafers.

Services: 4th -10.00am Eucharist, 11th-No service, 18th-10.00am Family service,

25th-10.00am Eucharist.

Saint John the Baptist Parish Church, Doddington.

Services: 4th-No service, 11th-No service, 18th-No service, 25th-3.00pm Evening Prayer.

Events/Activities:

Skittles Evening at Doddington Village Hall with Ploughman's Supper. Bring your own drinks.

Tickets available from Church members for £7.00.

All Saints Parish Church, Neen Sollars.

Services: 4th-No service, 11th-Benefice Service, 18th-No service, 25th-11.00am Village Worship.

St George's Parish Church, Milson.

Services: 4th-6.30pm Evensong, 11th-No service, 18th-11.00 Eucharist, 25th-No service.

The Church Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings from 9.00am-12.30pm

Contact details: Sam Adams, cleoburychurch@hotmail.com, Tel: 01299 272916

Benefice Website: www.cmbenefice.com

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ROCK PATHFINDERS

The August walks for this active group will be:

Thursday the 1st. 10.30 start from Back Lane Car Park, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire GL54 5PZ or SO reference 023285. Emphasis on the need to bring a packed lunch.

Thursday the 15th. 10.30 start from The Bulls Head in Chelmarsh, near Bridgnorth, WV16 6BA or SO reference 722874. If you follow the Pathfinders, please note their new website: www.rockpathfinders.uk

SIP AND SAVOUR

CoCo and the Nightingale Nursing Fund are getting together to raise much needed funds and holding 'Sip and Savour', a special cheese and wine celebration with live acoustic music. To be held at Kinlet Hall, the home of the Engleheart family, who have kindly allowed the use of their home for the evening on September 20th at 7.30 p.m.

Music will range from contemporary to jazz and there will be a choice of wines, with the first glass included in the ticket price. A superb spread of cheeses and accompaniments is also included and will be

provided by local favourite 'Plates and Platters'.

There will be a lucky ticket draw and a room raffle. We are hoping for a pleasant evening as the views are terrific from the Hall.

Tickets will be on sale from mid August at £12 each, from Cleobury Pharmacy, The Hospice shop, CoCo coffee mornings and Katja Jones on 07966 080 111, cleoburycoco@hotmail.com. We are sure this will be a popular evening in a unique setting so please support these two local charities.

FLORAL BRITAIN

The Parish Church will be hosting a special flower festival this month, under the title 'Floral Britain.' It will last four days, from Friday the 23rd until Monday the 26th and will feature arrangements depicting a city, town or village.

Opening hours are 9.30 to 5.00 on Friday and Saturday, 11.30 to 5.00 on Sunday and 9.30 to 4.30 on Monday. Refreshments including cakes and cream scones will be available for all who feel they deserve a little Bank Holiday weekend spoiling.

Admission is free, with donations in the box by the entrance appreciated.

HAPPY PARTY AT HOPTON WAFERS

What a fantastic time we had at the Barbecue at Sproseley on July 13th.

Sincere gratitude to Nigel and Nicky Poyner for inviting us to hold the Barbecue at Sproseley. The grounds and gardens looked magnificent and I have received some very complimentary feedback from several people attending. They worked so hard to organise this event.

The weather was perfect and we had over 100 friends, neighbours and newcomers attending which kept the chefs and bar staff very busy during the evening.

Many thanks to Dave and Helen Morris for providing the meat, The Hopton Crown for providing the lager and cooling system, Ashley's Bakery for all the bread rolls and Cooks Florist for the gazebo. And Rector Ashley and Brian Perry for acting as M.C. and auctioneer on the night, and to the Hopton Wafers PCC Committee and friends for donating prizes for the Raffle and the scrumptious puddings.

Marilyn Wood

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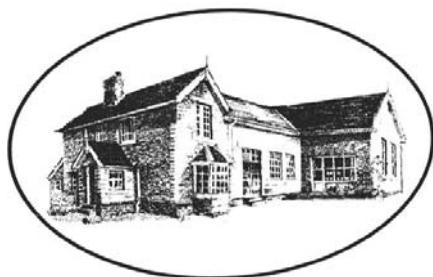
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THE CLEOBURY 10KM RUN RECORDS SMASHED



They're off! A record entry from all over the Midlands made an impressive sight as they got away.

Cleobury Mortimer Running Club held their second annual 10k race on July 7th bringing many runners to the town to tackle the now infamous Ron Hill.

250 runners signed up to master the undulating route through the Shropshire countryside but this year no-one could match the speed of Will Richardson of Birchfield Harriers. He smashed last year's record held by Jamie Shingler by completing it over 6 minutes quicker, flying through the line in 31 minutes and 23 seconds.

Second mens place was taken by Todd Quiney in 36:38 and third was Jamie Shingler of Ludlow Runners.

The ladies race was won by Sarah Benson of Telford AC in 40:30 beating the record for last year. Second position was taken by Amanda Wright-Smith of Birchfield Harriers in 40:41 and third was Claire Thomas of Ludlow Runners.

Ian Steele, Race Director, commented: "This was our second year with more runners than last year

participating and it's great to see so many people from different clubs and areas coming to Cleobury.

"It was a fantastic day for our club with such a huge amount of our members helping us organise it and without them we couldn't have put on such an event. We have had so many compliments from runners about how much they enjoyed the race and particularly about the support of the club members who marshalled around the course".

All the runners received a premium goody bag with a finisher's medal which reflected the club's choice to support the Dementia Friends programme as part of the town's initiative to become a Dementia Friendly town.

The Club would like to thank all the locals that supported the race and for embracing this event by cheering on the runners and being patient during the road closures which were kept to a minimum.

Lisa Bailey

TOMATO CHAMPIONS



Happy faces at Ever After Day Nursery, where the children won the Cleobury in Bloom tomato growing competition.

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MET AT THE MARKET



The Reverend Sue and John Barratt, living the good life at Little Detton.

The Becketts, Sue and John, were showing off their range of home bred chicken products at July's market. Free range, please note, reared on the Little Detton farm where they share space with a range of animals.

Sue is a member of Cleobury Benefice and part of the family home is given over as a retreat for people looking for a place of quiet and understanding. There is also a bed and breakfast unit, but the retreat is the principal operation. All that on top of her work for the church.

John runs the farm side, away from the family business that their sons run at Hanbury in Warwickshire. He is an engineer by training and a farmer by inclination.

They love where they live and the co-operation they find with their neighbours. Detton is a much quieter place than their previous home near Stratford-on-Avon and makes life very good. They'll be regulars at the Farmers' Market and it's well worth looking at their range of chicken goodies and their ability to supply a whole bird if you need it.

THE KITE FESTIVAL

Our annual visit by a field of kite flyers happened at the end of July, but work and family pressures meant that Paul and Helene Morgan did not give us the usual notice. So local interest was down to people spotting colourful shapes in the sky.

Pete and Helene run Skybums, a kite specialist based in Wem. They are very much part of the international kite scene and were invited guests at the American rally last year.



A colourful display camped along one side of the school sports field

Helene explained they had fliers from as far as Kent, Dorset and Blackpool, all happy with the venue and the facilities provided. This is not an expensive hobby - we spotted small kite kits in the Skybums stall from as little as £7.50.

Out on the fields members were flying a variety of colours, sizes and shapes and in the next field there was a Rukakiri contest, with fliers trying to tip their rivals over and down. Low aggression and they were all smiling, which confirms what a happy bunch of people they are.

AMY MILLWARD



Great smile, great coaching skill, great player. She's got the lot. Amy is one of the go-ahead people who make our golf club so successful. In member Bob Westwood's words: "You writing about Amy? She's great, really good."

She's certainly a worker, with three years of study to achieve her degree and be recognised as a PGA Professional. 30 hours or more a week working in the club, plus the academic work to reach a degree standard, and about 15 hours of teaching every week. And she's popular, with about 50 clients from as far away as Hereford in the south and the Black Country to the east, ages from 5 to 70.

She been playing golf since she was five, played for the Worcester County team at the age of ten and today is a scratch handicap player.

Her secret for successful coaching is "Keep it simple". Like the lady she'd been coaching before we talked. Amy identified a simple fault in her style and showed the way out. The lady was delighted. The coach is quite a star.

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I am sure most readers would expect my Letter from Westminster for August to cover the fact we have a new Prime Minister. But I write before the result is known, so think it better not to make much comment.

We do, however, know the new Prime Minister will have the monumental task of delivering Brexit and managing a minority government with the skills needed to deliver for people across the country.

The leadership election has brought appropriate focus to some issues where the government needs to act. And one issue that has arisen recently is the growing concern about the treatment of veterans, in particular those who served in Northern Ireland, who have been subject to allegations of historic wrongdoing. This has been championed by some national newspapers and concerned MPs.

As a former Defence Minister, proper treatment of our veterans is important to me, though it was never directly part of my ministerial responsibilities. I firmly believe that those who volunteered to join our Armed Forces must be treated fairly during their time in service, and once their service is done.

While not the only issue facing veterans, the impact of historical allegations has brought this issue to the forefront of public debate. I know that it is affecting veterans across the country, including here in Shropshire. I have spoken to some who served in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, who are deeply concerned that they may face lengthy legal procedures, decades after the event, despite the fact they may have been previously cleared, even if no new information may have come forward.

I sincerely hope that whoever becomes the next Prime Minister will take forward recent suggestions how to resolve these cases as a matter of priority. It is vital service personnel and veterans feel the government will back them, just as they backed us when serving their country. The House of Commons does not normally sit in August, allowing MPs to spend more time in our constituencies and possibly fit in a family holiday. I am taking my family to Ireland this year – barring any recall of Parliament.

I expect and hope the new PM and Brexit Secretary, with a fresh negotiating team, will be working tirelessly throughout August to ensure that we do everything possible to prepare for leaving. This means preparing as best we can to mitigate the potential impact of leaving without a deal, while doing everything we can to secure a deal that can pass through the House of Commons.

We know some elements of the economy are particularly vulnerable to tariffs should a No Deal situation occur – like agriculture and the automotive industry, both of which are large primary or secondary employers in the Ludlow Constituency. So I shall be doing everything I can to ensure the new Prime Minister takes these concerns seriously, and plans appropriately.

As ever, I and my team stand ready to help with any issues you would like to raise, so please get in touch via philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk or 01584 872187.

Philip Dunne



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Clee Hill to Cleobury

The memoirs of Cyril Breakwell, born in 1924 on Clee Hill then moving to Cleobury.

Granny was becoming very frail and Mum and Dad decided we would have to move in with her to provide the care she needed. So we moved from Silvington Hill to a little two up two down crofter's cottage at Hill House, a hamlet about half a mile off the road to Farlow. I was probably about four at the time and remember Granny had a bed downstairs.

The open fire fuelled with wood blazed in the kitchen, we couldn't afford coal. One of the jobs for my brothers and I as we grew older was to go and collect wood from Rabbit House 'copy', bring it home, and saw it up for the fire. The fire not only kept us warm but was also used for all our cooking. The cottage was rented from Hopton Court Estate, to whom we went every six weeks to pay the rent. These were hard times. Mum, who managed the finances, struggled to get the rent together. Every penny counted. It was made worse by the fact that the mines where Dad worked did not always provide regular work if the demand was not there for the coal. Some weeks, not a penny came in from the mine so Dad worked on local farms.

Life was tough. It was a struggle. Materially, we didn't have much but our home had an abundance of love and laughter with a large family and a Mum and Dad who were wonderful. Mum and Dad met at Bewdley where Mum was in service and Dad was working in the mines. Prior to that, Dad had served in the army. He joined at seventeen and was responsible for taking ammunitions to the front line on the backs of mules. Clee Hill lads and lasses knew a thing or two about our four legged friends.

Back to Hill House. We had a piece of land where we grew all the vegetables we needed,

boiled them on the open fire with water we brought back from a spring on Silvington Common, half a mile away. My brother and I took it in turns to bring back the water with yokes across our backs. This was how we transported two buckets. Milk came from our cow and eggs from home reared chickens. Rabbits were our main source of meat as we couldn't afford meat from the butchers who came up to the hill from Cleobury each Saturday. The rabbits were caught by watching where a rabbit went into a gorse bush, putting a net over that opening and going round to the other side to make it run into the net. My Mum had a multitude of recipes for rabbits. The skins were collected and taken on the once weekly bus service to Kidderminster to the tanning factory to be turned into gloves and other clothes.

Our hill was our playground. Sometimes we went up to Magpie Quarry and pushed one another in quarry trucks until we were spotted and had to run off. We whittled wood with a borrowed penknife making the toys we couldn't afford: cricket bats, whistles, animal sculptures. They may not have been very good but we loved them.

We tamed magpies by taking a young bird from the nest, feeding it until it became our friend. One family on holiday from the Black Country were so impressed they gave me half a crown for the bird. Riches in those days. On another occasion a girl lost her deceased mother's wedding ring and was very upset. We found them in our magpie's box. They love bright, shiny objects and must have stolen it; just like Clee Hill steals a piece of your heart and it never leaves you. Happy but hard days!

Cyril was talking to Paul Bland

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Thurs 1 st	10.30	Rock Pathfinders step out in Winchcombe, Gloucestershire. PAGE 19		
		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 3 rd	8.00am	Sale of Household Goods at Knowle Sports club	Audrey	01584 890 644
		Severn Valley Railway have a Day of Dance, with Morris Dancers in action		
Sun 4 th	10.00	The Parish Walk start from St Mary's Church. All walkers welcome. PAGE 35		
	6.00	Open Mic Night at the King's Arms, Church St. Acoustic only		
Tues 6 th	2.00	Doddington Friendship Club meet at the Village Hall. PAGE 7		
Wed 7 th	9.00am	Pensax Thrift Shop in the Village Hall, on B4204 Worcester road.		
	10.00	NHS Hearing Aid Drop-In Clinic at St Mary's Place, Love Lane. Free service & advice		
	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Good parking facility		
Thurs 8 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat/Sun 10/11		Far Forest Countryside Show. A really good family event. PAGE 47		
		And Severn Valley Railway are highlighting Steam on the Road, & of course, Rail		
Mon 12 th	6.30	The Writers Group meet at the Library on Love Lane. PAGE 7		
Wed 14 th	10.00	Walking for Health start out from the Market Hall, Church Street	Alan	01299 271754
	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall, Church Street. Super Cakes!		
	6.00	Evening Sale of Household Goods, Knowle Sports Club		
	8.00	The Royal British legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	Mike Hermolle	01299 271384
Thurs 15 th		GREEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	1.30	Rock Pathfinders start their day at The Bull's Head, Chelmarsh. PAGE 19		
Fri 16 th	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall		
Sat 17 th		Coach outing to Porthcawl		01584 891464
	9.30/12.30	Cleobury Country Farmers Market in & around St Marys Church		
	9.30	Craft Fair in the Market Hall, Church Street		

**The Sports and Social Club's premier summer event is
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Saturday the 10th features the Gin and Real Ale Festival, starting 12.00 noon with five Real Ales on tap and lots of gins and gin cocktails to try. There's also a raffle for a Wheelbarrow of Booze - problems pushing that home? Sunday the 11th is Family Fun Day, with another start at 12.00 noon and loads of attractions for the youngsters as they play in the safe surroundings of the club's big garden.



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Sat 17 th	2.00	Clows Top Summer Garden Show, Victory Hall. PAGE 9		
	7.30	Neen Savage WI Summer Social with a garden party		
Mon 19 th	7.00	Skittles at Doddington Village Hall		
Wed 21 st	7.30	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall		
Thurs 22 nd		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri/Mon 23/26 th		"Floral Britain" flower festival at the Parish Church. PAGE 23		
Tues 27 th	7.30	The Nearly Dead Poets Society meet in the library, Love Lane		
Wed 28 th		Walking for Health meet in the Sports Centre car park for an Away Day Walk. Transport provided	Alan	01299 271754
	10.00	Coco coffee Morning in the Market Hall, Church Street		
	7.30	Clows Top Garden Club, Victory Hall. PAGE 7		
Fri 30 th		GREEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 31 st		Severn Valley Railway Classic Vehicle Day. Loads of vehicles at stations		
	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER.....		
Sun 1 st		Severn Valley Railway will have a collection of vintage buses at Bewdley Station		
	7.00	Nightingale Nurses Fund AGM, Sports & Social Club, Love Lane. PAGE 35		
Wed 4 th	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall		
Thurs 5 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		

W.I. Summer Fete

Saturday, 17th August

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THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

The Parish Walk last month, starting from Milson, attracted a few walkers from that area and was well appreciated. This month we are back in Cleobury with a 10.00 o'clock start from outside St Mary's Church on Sunday August 4th.

One way in which we look after our footpaths, is our "adopt-a-path" scheme. This is where one person undertakes to look after a single path or route. This generally means keeping it clear of bramble, nettles and hedge growth at stiles and usually requires a visit to the path once or twice a year and not more than about two hours work, sometimes a lot less.

We are in need of someone to look after two paths. The first is the short stretch from the entrance to the Glen caravan park, across the bridge to the field. This would not take very long at all.

The other is a stretch of path at Neen Savage near the ford, with three stiles and a length of nettles. If anyone would like to help us with either, please get in touch: footpaths@cmfa.co.uk

Graham Simpson

NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND

The AGM of the Fund is being held on Sunday 1st September at 7.00 p.m. in the Sports and Social Club in Love Lane.

The audited accounts will be discussed as well as past and future ideas for fund raising. Members of the public will be most welcome to attend.

Rosemary Abbiss

THE READING GROUP

Our meeting on July 16th was delightful, as each armed with a glass of white wine, we discussed the merits of 'Zorro' by Isabel Allende. Although a cracking yarn with Spanish history, it didn't please many. Members commented that it lacked more than it promised and the level of detail detracted from the main character. An often voiced complaint was that better editing would have helped. The social history was interesting, we chatted about the difficulty of communication in the 16th century and the hundreds of miles travelled by people in the story. May be a good holiday read but not generally recommended.

We do not meet in August so have extra time to read Private

Life by Jane Smiley. Set in America it follows a dysfunctional marriage from 1880s to 1940s. September 16th will be our next get together at Cleobury Library.

Deana Kimber 271754

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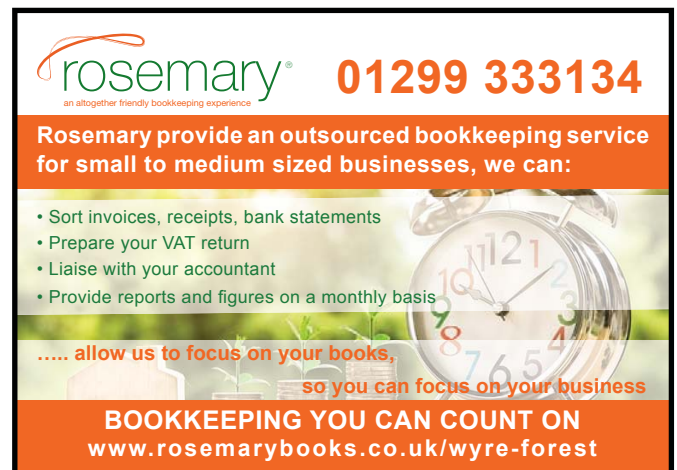
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Clebury Clarion - Page 36 - August 2019

READ EASY

Steve Peckham reports on the launch of a new service that will help a lot of adults advance.

Some time ago, I wrote a couple of articles for the Clarion about my attempts to get a group going in the area to help adults who struggle with their reading.

Most people are amazed to learn that the reading they do every day, can be such a stumbling block for some adults. In fact, the last Skills for Life Survey in 2011, found that around 5% of adults can barely read and another 2% have reading skills no better than those of a seven year old. Remarkably, one in five adults would not be able to use the index to find a plumber in the Yellow Pages. This means that there will be approximately 8,000 adults in the Wyre Forest and Cleobury area who either don't read at all or who have very low level reading skills.

Things have not improved. In 2013, England's 16-24 year olds were ranked 22nd for literacy out of 24 developed countries by the OECD. And it seems England is the only country in the developed world where the younger generation has been found to have poorer literacy

skills than those approaching retirement.

Against that sad backcloth, I am pleased to tell you that Read Easy Wyre Forest and Cleobury Mortimer recently held its launch event at Kidderminster College. The not-for-profit group recruits and trains volunteer reading coaches. Those coaches then give one-to-one tuition to local adults who either don't read at all or who struggle with their reading.

Read Easy offers a free and flexible approach to helping adults who struggle with literacy. The group prides itself on giving people the chance to learn at their own pace and build their reading skills as well as their self-esteem.

Steve Peckham, Chairman and management team leader said: "Anyone needing help with reading or interested in becoming a reading coach can pick up a leaflet at the Library at Cleobury Country Centre or contact the Read Easy scheme coordinator, Liz, for more information on 07895 847728 or email her at liz3@readeasy.org.uk

THE PIONEER CENTRE

A great day at the Cleobury Festival. Good to be able to chat and a lot of children had fun

trying our nightline and war paint area;the paint was particularly popular. We look forward to next year.

The Centre has been busy and up until the Summer holidays we were fully booked. The start of the holidays have been as busy, with a couple of groups that occupied the entire Centre. At this time of year we say goodbye to most of our Activity team. We wish them all the best in their new adventures. On a positive note, we welcome around 20 new instructors into our Pioneer family. More on them next month.

Naomi Thompson

DONATION PAID

The Borders Classic Bike Club, that meets every month at The Blount Arms, holds a raffle and at the end of their year pays the proceeds over to the Midland Air Ambulance funds.

It's a small gathering and the members agree to round the total up each year. In July treasurer Steve Todd handed over a cheque for £250 to Annie Roper at the Cleobury Country Centre.

SILLY BIT

"She looks like shoe combs her hair with an egg-beater."

Loella Parsons on Joan Collins' bouffante coiffure.



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Thanks to some fine, settled weather and invaluable help from the Wyre Community Land Trust volunteers, the hay was cut, baled and brought in with no problems last month. You'll be pleased to hear that the old-fashioned sisal baler twine worked well and will become the twine of choice here at Uncllys.

The garden bird feeders are almost knee deep in baby Blue and Great Tits, forced aside regularly by the Great Spotted Woodpecker family. The woodpeckers are rather wary of our presence and veer off with a loud squawk if they see us nearby. They are a species that has benefited greatly from garden peanut feeders but still rely on old trees, mainly in the forest and old orchards, in which to bore a nest hole. The British Trust for Ornithology's Nestbox Guide gives instructions how to try and attract Great Spotted Woodpeckers to use medium-sized birdboxes by stuffing them with rotten wood, which the birds can then excavate. It seems a lot of trouble when there is plenty of old wood round here.

Our efforts in putting up bird boxes are beginning to bring results with the smaller birds. An increasing and vociferous gang of House Sparrows use some boxes near the house and a gap in the masonry of the north-facing wall (we've no idea how many are in there!). Redstarts have made fleeting appearances in past years but this year our friend Elaine pointed out that a pair were nesting in a box fixed to one of our young apple trees. As it was fairly near the house we were able to keep an eye on progress and latterly to hear the parents and fledgling(s?) calling to each other as feeding was carried out. The birdbox they used was shaded by the lower branches of the tree and a lower twig was used by the adults to land and check that the coast was clear – both factors that probably contributed to

its attractiveness to the birds. Thanks again to Mick Farmer, who managed to take some fantastic pictures of the parent birds, in this case the male.



Another way in which we try to help wildlife is to put out small sections of corrugated iron on the ground to provide reptiles with safe places to bask (safe, that is, from buzzards). We lift them regularly and are rewarded with sightings of Slow-worms, Grass Snakes and Common Lizards, in declining order of frequency. Grass Snakes like compost heaps and grass piles for breeding and the eggs generally hatch in August, as do those of Slow-worms, although I'm wondering if they are earlier this year judging from the tiny individual I've already seen under one of the tins.

Linda Iles

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PLASTIC - NOT SO FANTASTIC

We were pleased to see so many of you at the Cleobury Festival. The Plastic Reduction Group stall was based on the sports field, near Lucy Shier's Bee Biotic stall. Our aim was to get the people of Cleobury to pledge to reduce their single use plastic. The pledges were:

1. Reuse carrier bags and carry reusable ones
2. Find "water on the go" for your water bottle www.refill.org.uk
3. Buy loose leaf tea or check that teabags are plastic free
4. Cook from scratch and avoid packaged food
5. Buy loose food products and take your own containers
6. Instead of wipes and disposable cloths use washable cloths and scrubbers
7. Swap to paper wrapped or unwrapped soap instead of liquid soap
8. Buy washing-up and laundry liquid in refillable bottles
9. Swap to washing powder and dishwasher powder in cardboard boxes
10. Take a reusable cup when you travel and to the coffee shop
11. Try beeswax coated cloth wraps instead of cling film

12. Switch to biodegradable toothbrushes, zero-waste floss and toothpaste in jar

Over the course of the day 84 pledges were made by local people to reduce plastic. What a great effort.

On the stall we had a display of everyday items you can use to help with your pledges to reduce the plastic you bring into your home. These included bamboo toothbrushes, a bar of soap, loose leaf tea, a teapot with infuser, washing powder in a plastic free box, beeswax wraps to wrap your food in, a reusable cup for takeaway drinks, a refillable water bottle.... By making one or more pledges to reduce their own plastic use, people had the chance of winning this fantastic single use plastic-free hamper.

The winner of the raffle at the end of the day was Andrea Forrester. Andrea was ecstatic to have won the hamper of plastic free goodies and said winning this would really help her and her family think about these and other ways to reduce plastic in the home. As Andrea said, "It is everybody doing the little things that will make a big difference in the end." Well done Andrea and we hope you enjoy and make good use of all the items.

Louise Francis

HERE COMES KIMI



This is Kimi the Owl, owned by Guy and Bev Taylor and looking like becoming something of a star as he helps the work of fund raising with Bev and friend Kathy. They are grafting away, raising money for Nineveh Ridge Care Farm and Newbridge Cat Rescue and Kimi will be appearing with them soon. Quite a change from the eagle that Kathy was showing off at their charity stalls earlier this year.

The dynamic pair had a big bonus recently, when Tesco gave them all their 2018 Halloween costumes. They'll be outside the Parish Church at the next Farmers' Market on the 17th with some real bargains for the coming witching night. Don't miss out - be there.

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FROM THE BANDROOM

We had a great time at Pershore Midsummer Brass at the beginning of July, always a highlight of the year. We put on two good performances in the Abbey and at The Star, then we enjoyed a lazy afternoon of lunch, socialising and listening to some great bands. We are looking forward to next year already.

The annual Ironbridge Brass Festival took place on 13th and 14th of July. Another event that we enjoy taking part in and have done for many years. It is well organised, attracts a lot of people and also raises a significant amount for The Severn Hospice.

We also played at Malvern bandstand on 21st July, we do seem to attract both sunshine and audience here each year and this makes it another favourite venue for the band.

Moving into August we will be at Shrewsbury Quarry on Sunday 4th and also at the local Rock Show on Saturday 31st.

World number one band Cory will be performing in St Laurences Church Ludlow on Saturday 24th August, even if you aren't a brass band

enthusiast, I cannot stress enough how impressive this band are and we are so lucky to have them performing so locally two years on the trot – make it a date in your diary !

Our website lists all contact details www.CMCB.org.uk, please also find us on Facebook
Katie Griffiths

SHEDFEST 2019

If you're interested in the Cleobury Mens' Shed and the remarkable progress it's making, you might like to know about Shedfest. It's the annual show for people in the Mens' Sheds movement, both active members and just the simply curious who want to know more.

It will be held in Worcester on September 3rd, from 9.00 through to 4.00. The location is the University of Worcester Arena, Severn Campus, Hylton Road, Worcester WR2 5JN and admission is £5.00

They have an interesting main speaker. Paul Selly is a renowned woodworker, whose programme on You Tube is the most subscribed woodworking channel. Enquiries about booking tickets to 0300 772 9626.

Interest in the town's Mens' Shed is growing, with work on its construction due to start soon

and the shed to be up and complete, apart from internal detailed layout and fitting completed, by the end of the year.

It's on the Newhouse Farm industrial area on Tenbury Road, opposite the Cleobury Seafood and Freezer Centre. Watch out for announcements in the Clarion about its progress and then the official opening.

ROAD CLOSURES

Two road closures in the Cleobury area in August and possibly beyond.

The first is the temporary closure of Common Lane at Hollywaste between August 9th and 14th, for a cable overlay to a new substation. Customer Services on 0345 6789006 can tell you more.

The second covers the road from Lower Woodend Junction to the Six Ashes junction with the B4363 Bridgnorth Road. Severn Trent will be replacing two kilometres of water main in a job scheduled to run from August 26th through to October 18th, working a section at a time. Diversions will be signposted.

Again, Customer Services on 0345 6789006 can tell you more. Reference number is LB501A6W/12220016A.

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For 2019 our theme is The Wizard of Oz. There is story telling in the Tipi with **On The Floor Theatre** and a treasure hunt around the ground for children of all ages.

The **Welsh Axe Men** will be with us for a thrilling main arena display.

- Live music all day and into Saturday evening.
- Horticulture Show - competitions open to everyone!
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 - New for 2019 a covered **Family Fun Area**
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IT'S FAR FOREST SHOW TIME

The Show is a great local event as John Guy can tell you:

With the Wizard of Oz theme there will be a children's treasure hunt and a scarecrow competition. Other entertainment for children will include storytelling by On The Floor Theatre, fairground rides, pony and tractor rides, zorbs and a children's fun zone.

Headlining in the main arena are The Welsh Axe Men, a lumberjack sports team who will demonstrate amazing skills with axes and chainsaws. And new to the show this year will be Gamegoer Kennels with their gun dog demonstrations, and old favourites the Falconry centre and Zennors Dance and Musical Theatre Academy.

In the lower field arena will be dog agility shows and a fun to enter dog competition.

Eating and drinking play a vital role in making the weekend special and two food courts have been fully booked offering cuisine. There is a food marquee where local producers will be showing and selling their produce and two bars

serving throughout the weekend including Saturday evening when there will be live entertainment on the music stage. Cream teas will be served in the pavilion and on the terrace.

No country show would be complete without animals and in addition to dog shows and pony rides there will be chances to meet the pigs and to walk with alpacas. Sheep and poultry will also be displayed.

The show will provide a wonderful shopping experience. Hand produced art and crafts in the craft marquee, a variety of traders around the showground, food producers in the food marquee and a plant sale from the Home and Garden Theatre stage. Local artists will be displaying and selling their work from the pavilion gallery.

For a trip down memory lane visitors can enjoy the classic vehicle and classic caravan displays on the lower field.

THE CLARION HAS A NEW PRINTER

Life doesn't stand still for long, even in such a stable place as the Clarion.

Not long ago Linda Fowler, who had guided me and the old fashioned product that was the Clarion into the 20th century and production on a computer, sold her Glint Print business to her partner's daughter Imogen Spencer. She has also done a great job, but with a successful tea rooms to run the workload was getting to be too much.

So Imogen has in turn sold the business, to Badger Print and Design of Shifnal, where I've been to meet the crew and look at what they do. Chris and wife Teya Taylor run the place, which is in the rural grounds of Sutton Hall and very smart and spotless. They operate modern machinery and the quality of what they turn out - like the recent Clarions with the squared back - shows what they can do. And one of the staff was the designer behind a magazine I once produced for a motorcycle dealer that was described by the sales manager of one company as "an industry standard."

The company is Badger Print and the future looks very bright for the Clarion. JR

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I attended the FIT (Foundation for Integrated Transport) launch in Shrewsbury on 29th June. The meeting was attended by around 30 individuals representing a cross section of interested parties including Town and Parish Councils, bus user groups and various members of the public including those opposed to the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road project. There was also a representative of Shropshire Council who left part way through the event (which may have been a blessing given some of the opinions expressed on the Council's performance in this area).

The keynote presentation was by Professor John Whitelegg, the project co-ordinator who gave the background to the study and explained the methodology. He set out the three objectives of the study which are, 1: Make sure all Councillors, MP's and decision makers are aware of the multiple benefits of high quality bus services. 2: To identify improvements in bus services to meet the needs of all users. 3: To work with other organisations to argue that central government should fund high quality rural bus services to a level found in other countries.

He said that the response from local Councils to the consultation document circulated in 2017 had been very disappointing. (Cleobury Town Council did respond although Cleobury does not even merit a mention anywhere in the report).

He pointed out that there are air quality problems in a number of towns within the County including Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth and Ludlow and that prioritising public transport would contribute to addressing this. He added that Shropshire Council's track record in this area was poor, citing the example of Cornwall Council who have introduced a single timetable for all bus services within the County and a ticketing system that was accepted by all operators (cross ticketing). There are similar bus partnerships in

operation in Brighton and York. He also mentioned Nottingham where a workplace parking levy had raised £9 Million in a year which had been used to improve public transport including the introduction of electric buses.

He then described case studies of rural towns in Germany, Sweden and Switzerland where all forms of public transport are integrated and co-ordinated, resulting in a much higher level of use. This contrasted with the UK which is the only nation in the world where it is illegal for different transport operators to co-operate(!). There also appeared to be a difference in attitude by politicians in say, Germany, where they compete to do better than each other, and the UK, where they seem to do the opposite....

The other problem within Shropshire is the sources of funding. Our Council will not use capital funding to support rural bus travel, preferring to class such support as a subsidy. Contrast this with road building where the Department for Transport funding for the Shrewsbury north west relief road is £17 million short. As a result, Shropshire Council have found this sum (which is some 10 times the bus support budget) and have called it investment funding. At the same time, they have attempted to slash rural transport funding by £405,000, calling it a subsidy. This has now been reduced to £180,000 after a public outcry but it seems that spending on road schemes is investment, which is good but supporting public transport is a subsidy, which is bad. This approach is not supported by evidence from studies of many road improvement schemes which did not remove congestion but merely postponed the problem for a time until the inevitable increase in traffic filled the extra space.

A brave initiative, but unless attitudes from both central and local politicians change, progress will be difficult.

Steve Todd



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CMCC v Kempsey

1pm



Monday 5 August
Bingo

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Quoits

Social v Burway

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1pm



Friday 23 August

8pm



Quoits

Social v Wanderers

Saturday 24 August

1pm



CMCC v Avoncroft

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The Town Festival

Another great success, for which the Town Council and all involved in the organisation deserve our thanks. This was the community on display and looking very well.

An early duty was joining Mrs Bunn from St Mary's Close and David Webb of Cleobury Country to judge the window dressing competition and its 'Summer' theme. A walk up both sides of the High Street revealed a variety of novel ideas and great detail, but in the end all three of us agreed that the beach party with teddy bears and other cuddly animals in Cleobury Wash House was the best.



'On the Beach' at the Wash House on High Street.

One of the nicest aspects of this display was that owner Sharon Wakeman stood back at the prize presentation and let the shop staff be in the limelight. A good, gentle touch.



Beth from The Wash House gets the Best Dressed Window trophy from judge Frances Bunn.

The hall at Lacon Childe School was home to a variety of services for both mental and physical health. Part of all that reflected the town council's stated intention to make Cleobury a Dementia Friendly town that will tolerate and listen to people with something to say and maybe no-one to listen. Full credit to the Primary School for signing up as a dementia friendly place. Think

how much their pupils will learn by simply listening to their grandparents.

Out on the sports field there was a huge range of activities on display, by enthusiastic people happy to talk about their hobby or business. The Fire and Rescue team are always favourites and with a chance to use their powerful hoses, there was a constant queue waiting to have a squirt. Ideal for such a hot day.



Picture by Colin Barnett (pictureviz@gmail.com) that captures the thrill of using a real fire hose.

It was a good day, the result of hard work by both town councillors and a long list of volunteers. Once again, people were surprised to see how much goes on in this small town and how many support services are available. The only problem was finding enough time to take it all in. Our thanks who all who contributed.



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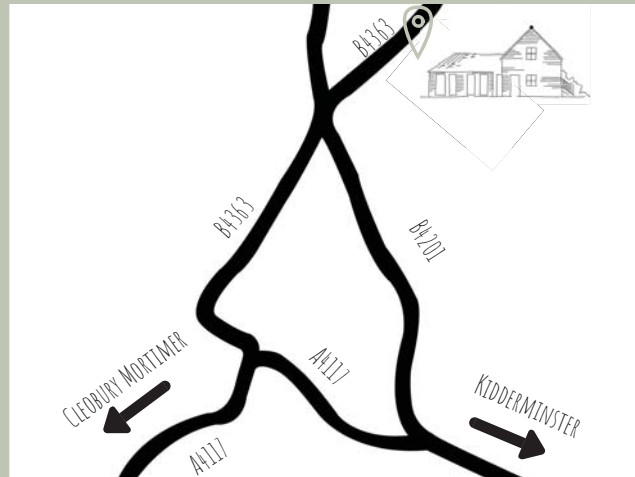
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THE CLEOBURY

MORTIMER LECTURES

We are catching up here, as there was not room in the July issue for this report. At the June 6th lecture Robert Hodge told the story of Bessie Blount of Kinlet, mistress to King Henry VIIIth who bore him the son he wanted so much. But the boy never did reach the throne as his heir, thanks to all sorts of politics and power play.

June 20th saw the History Society tell about the story of the trial and execution of William Handley of Bayton. He was out poaching with his brother and they came across the gamekeeper, who Handley shot but did not kill.

The story was told by a succession of narrators, quoting from trial reports and local records, with Robert Hodge as link man explaining the process of law in the early 19th century, when being poor meant precious little justice. Handley was found guilty and hanged at Shrewsbury Jail.

In the open discussion that followed, the audience could offer opinions and ask questions; the consensus seemed to be that the man should not have been hanged. The Society had produced a detailed leaflet with contemporary reports that was handed out as a souvenir and probably to provoke further debate about the rough justice William Handley suffered. When another man who committed a similar crime was judged at the same court by the same judge and the case presented by the same lawyers, he was not hung, but on appeal was banished to Australia.

ALL ABOUT ART

Artist Chris Smith, whose work adorns Hobson's fine Kitchen Tap, is organising a Beginners' Drawing and Pastels session on September 8th. It will be in the Methodist Church Hall on Barkers Lane and run from 1.00 until 4.00. The charge is £20 a place and you can book with Chris on 07977 296 335

CLEOBURY W.I.

I am pleased to look back at my first year as a WI member. I have been able to take part in a monthly program which has been fun, interesting and challenging and I have valued being made to feel welcome and the laughter and friendship, Cleobury Mortimer WI – So Much More Than Jam And Cake Making!

Rosemary Winnall came to talk about "The Nature of Wyre – Natural History of the Wyre Forest". It was amazing to learn about this treasure on our doorstep and the dedicated work that the group of expert naturalists filmed showed us the beauty and variety in the Forest.

We are looking forward to our Summer Social on August 13th and to September 10th, when Swifts of Clee Hill introduce "The Victorian Bakers", as seen on television. You are invited to join us at the Market Hall as a visitor or better still, come and join the WI.

You can also follow us on our Facebook page. *Gabby Franklin*

A GOOD DEATH?

Healthwatch Shropshire is asking if people would be willing to share their experiences of End of Life Care in the county. Did they feel that

the care their loved one received was what they wanted? Were they treated with dignity, feel listened to and their wishes respected?

It is really important that those providing the care are open and honest with both the patient and relatives. Being better informed can reduce stress and anxiety and help people understand what to expect. Healthwatch Shropshire would like to know whether the language used by those giving the care was appropriate and did it prepare people for what was to happen?

Lynn Cawley, Chief Officer of Healthwatch Shropshire, said: "We are keen to build up a picture of how well End of Life Care is working across Shropshire and whether people feel that they received the right support for them. We want to find out whether care for the dying is equitable across the county and if there is a joined up approach between different services to End of Life Care, including out of hours services. People can let us know about their experiences by phone on 01743 237884, by email at enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk or online at www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk. The more comments received the more influence Healthwatch Shropshire has to improve services for local people."

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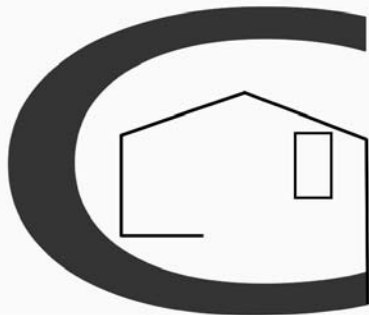
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Carpet Days - Unhappy Memories

I used to work in the carpet manufacturing industry, at first selling Lamtex fireside rugs and then moving on to bigger things, like rolls of 12'0" wide axminster. I realised I hadn't joined the best organised company in the business on my first day as a rep, April 5th, 1965. I walked into the first call at 9.15, gripped the shop manager with a firm handshake and told him: "My name is Reynolds, I'm the new rep for Lamtex Rugs."

The man looked at me for 20 seconds without speaking, then asked: "Where the ——— — is my Christmas order?" Welcome to the world of selling Lamtex, where you survived by graft, luck and some very patient customers. I stuck it out for two years, by which time I was the longest serving rep in the south of the country, reasoning that if I was no good and they sacked me, few would notice. If I survived, I could look for a better job. Which I did.

In 1967 I joined Goodacre Carpets of Kendal, who sent a car to the Lamtex factory in Bradford to collect me after I'd returned my company car. What a contrast in treatment, working for the Kendal company was a joy, with really good quality pure wool axminsters and people at the factory who would make a promise and keep it. I liked the

company so much that I forgave them presenting me with a run down Vauxhall Victor that was replaced with another of the same uncomfortable breed. The driving position was an ergonomic nightmare and after 100,000 miles in there anything was better.

There was a subsidiary company, Bolton Carpets, that made cheap stuff and supplied mail order companies in the UK and the bottom end of the Middle East market; they would take orders for hundreds of rolls of 12'0" wide tat. Their Midland rep was due to retire and they had me trying to sell some of their stuff.

I learned a lesson when I took an order for three rolls and the buyer asked for a discount. No discount on this product, it was all nett price. He insisted, I tried my established trick of calling the Sales Office Manager and asking what we could do, after explaining the situation. The fool in the Bolton Carpets office trimmed the price and then wrote to me saying that he'd helped me out of a tricky situation and I was not to ask for that again. A complete lie! I had made it clear that I had refused to give a lower price, and he had cut my feet from under me. Not a man to trust.

Just by hard work I built up the quality business until a decision from On High was made to have a proper sales force for the poor little Bolton Carpets. And I was asked if I'd take the position. After some negotiation over the salary with the Carpet Group chairman, whose lack of sobriety did not help his case, I agreed.

We were living in the Midlands and every Monday morning I was up and off by 7.00 to stay the week in Bolton. I had to recruit reps from within the established force and as there was not even an order pad, I designed the new company stationery as well.

The bone-headed approach of some senior people had to be seen to be believed. Like a new lightweight fluffy range that included what they had called Pearl White; it looked slightly dirty. Who would buy a dirty looking carpet? Very few people. And the handle of the cloth was harsh, which killed its appeal. The board wanted to drop the range, I argued for different and better colours. More colours? they asked in horror. No, better colours and a softer handle for what was basically a bedroom carpet. I was an awkward young so-and-so and got my way. That became the top selling range and proof that common sense works. There were more frustrations to come in the months ahead. JR

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THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

July saw some sunny weather bringing families out to enjoy the Club's outside facilities. We're keeping our fingers crossed for more good weather through August, especially for our Big Weekend on the 10th and 11th.

The Big Weekend starts at 12.00 noon on Saturday with a Gin and Real Ale Festival. There will be five Real Ales on tap and 20 varieties of gin, plus gin cocktails concocted by Tony. Raffle tickets are on sale at the Club to win a Wheelbarrow of Booze, with the winner being drawn on the day. To end the day, the band Radio Rumours will be playing from 9pm.

Sunday is Family Fun Day starting at 12.00. Lots of stalls to enjoy including Punch and Judy, balloon modelling, a Magician, tombola, hook-a-duck, coconut shy, Mr Tee's ice cream, Pig Roast and much more!

CM Cricket Club have home games on 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th August, all matches starting at 1pm. See our outside notice boards for more details.

On Tuesday, 27th August, the Stroke Support Group will be having a Pamper Afternoon between 2-4pm. If you're interested in attending, please

contact Katja Jones at the Medical Centre.

As usual, for more information please contact our Bar Manager, Tony Barker-Newton on 01299 271448 or via our Facebook Page *Glenys Turpin*

NEEN SAVAGE W.I.

In June we held a 70th Anniversary Celebration with 28 past and present members meeting at the Larch Barn. It was wonderful to reminisce with long serving members and as a token of our appreciation to these members posies were given to six wonderful ladies who have kept the WI in Neen Savage alive. Our thanks to Larch Barn, Vintage Chefs from Bridgnorth who prepared the food and our Secretary, Anji Felstead who made the birthday cake.

At our committee meeting in June we chose our charity to support this year- Lipoedemia UK. This is a small charity determined to raise awareness of a little known condition that affects mainly women.

In July, locals Alf and Ann Jenkins gave an entertaining talk on the development of the Clee Hill dialect. Alf has lived in the Clee Hill area most of his life. They read an excerpt from the Clee Hill Nativity that was

written for and performed by children from Clee Hill school in the 1980s.

We had a Cake Stall at the Scarecrow Convention, raising £129.30 for WI funds and our scarecrow won! An excellent effort by Mary and Sandra who captured the mood, with canny recycling of Betty's head from a couple of years ago.

Catherine Evans

THE FESTIVAL REVIEW

Another Festival has been and gone. A very big thank you to all who visited the venues and contributed in any way to making it a happy, and successful day. A great many folk are involved and we are grateful for your hard work and effort.

However the group is very small and we plan and manage the day with some help setting up, but could do with more volunteers throughout the year and at the event.

Please consider helping us to make next year even better by joining the team. As a member of the group through the year or as a volunteer on the day.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact Paul French on 07808 682715 or mail paulfrench143@yahoo.com

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August 2019 Clarion Report

The bike trail area is now complete and just awaiting signage, a fixed bin and inspection. to make it a safe place for them to enjoy what was usually done around the streets.

The Town council were delighted to deliver some of the projects that people voted so well for. However, we are a little disappointed with the fact that someone has run through the wildflower meadow and also the litter and damage at the bike trail so we will be keeping a close eye on it all.



Some rubbish collected by councillors in two days from the bike trail.

So many people have emailed and commented on the Wildflower meadow and dog training area, which have just been completed. The flowers in the wildflower patches have really added to the walking experience around the park.

The dog training area is getting well used and will also soon have a new dog bin put inside too, it has been a great success, which is what you asked for in the Big survey and the Town council listened and delivered. An official opening will be announced soon.

The biggest project we are in the middle of, is getting the grant funding from the European Union to give the Love lane play area a complete makeover and get some adult outdoor gym equipment in the park area. The council office is working hard to get all the relevant paperwork together. We are also working with parents and the primary school to make this happen and we should hear in September if we have been successful in obtaining the Grant. Three companies have put in tenders with designs and all look really good so it will be difficult to choose. If you would like to be involved, contact the council office.

To update on Highways issues, we now come under Bridgnorth area due to all the reorganisation in Shropshire Council. Cllr Shineton and the Clerk had a two hour walk around Cleobury Mortimer with the new contact from Bridgnorth and pointed out all the issues that we have struggled to get done, as well as in surrounding roads and parishes. The Clerk attended a Town clerks meeting at Shire Hall and pushed for outstanding work to be done. The drains that are all blocked in the town and have not been done for years, the Talbot car park, safety at Newbridge corner, state of the roads. The first job they want to get onto is the cleaning out the drains. We shall see. Other items raised were disabled parking, dropped kerbs, state of the roads, potholes, road markings and street cleaning, among our long list. The new people at Shire Hall have promised action, so we will continually keep on at them going forward.

We continue to supply CCTV footage to the police for incidents, but we all still need to be vigilant and make sure everything is secure. If you see anything suspicious please ring 101 and report it.

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If you would like an early-morning or evening appointment then please call James on: 07506 287191.

IN BUSINESS - Sally at Luxure Aesthetics

Sally's Luxure Aesthetics has come a long way since its launch 18 months ago. In the early stages she used the treatment room at the Red Hare salon on Mondays, as that was the hairdressing staff's day off. A good location, well known to many of her potential customers, but arriving every Monday morning, to unload and set up her equipment before she could deal with the first client did not make life easy.

The answer was the conversion of a spare bedroom at home in Cleobury Meadows, permanently ready to accommodate those looking for a better complexion. It's working well and she is drawing people from as far as Kidderminster and Highley and interest from even further away. As someone who moved into Cleobury 12 years ago, she realises that the drive out here is a lot more appealing than some city locations.



Sally in her special treatment room. Nothing flashy or overwhelming, just a welcoming clean and tidy place to enjoy her gentle technique.

She offers advice and the pH range of developed serums to combat skin damage by both sunshine and pollution. As a professional midwife, she brings an understanding of clients' nervousness and the need to talk and explain the treatment.

"The initial consultation takes 30 to 60 minutes," she explains. "That includes a skin test to assess the client's skin sensitivity, then to agree the best treatment package. That includes a home care kit and we normally advise a monthly visit to check progress and see that the client is happy." She's very happy about the pH support, with advice available on a 24/7 basis.

Her own smiling and gentle manner is very effective for putting clients at ease. No pushy selling, no lecturing: "I'm here to advise and educate," as Sally puts it. "I believe that we are what we eat and if you eat a lot of bad food you'll see the effect on your skin." She practises what she preaches, with lots of fruit and vegetables in her own diet and an allotment with the Horticultural Society ensures fresh produce all year round.

A new product from pH is the 'Inside Out' range. Look at her own skin and you realise why she has such a confident, winning smile.

Another part of the range of treatments she can offer is micro needling and mesotherapy that provides different serums according to the client's need. This is a complex treatment to learn and apply, but she explains it in a simple and

straightforward way that just makes sense.

With so much progress made in 18 months, where does she see future growth coming from? "I want to do some business promotion courses and learn to use social media better."

She thinks for a moment. "I may do the Glastonbury Festival next year, offering skin care if it's sunny like this year. We could do glamping, a party of us to enjoy the event and meet more people." It's quite a brave idea, but with thousands of people to reach, it could be a breakthrough.

What about expanding, maybe opening a bigger treatment facility on the main street? "If I go full time with Luxure I don't want to lose the personal touch. I can offer people a cup of tea here and make them feel really relaxed."

Just how effective her treatment is was summed up by a happy client:

"It's amazing! From the first treatment, there are visible results, my wrinkles are less obvious. My husband has even noticed!"

What I love about Sally at Luxure Aesthetics. is that she is constantly learning about all things skin. She is flexible, creative and educated me about my skin care. Together we discuss my individual treatment plan. Altogether this makes me feel that I can trust her professionalism, judgment, experience and safety in aspects of my aesthetic care."

To contact Sally, simply use the details in her advertisement on the opposite page.



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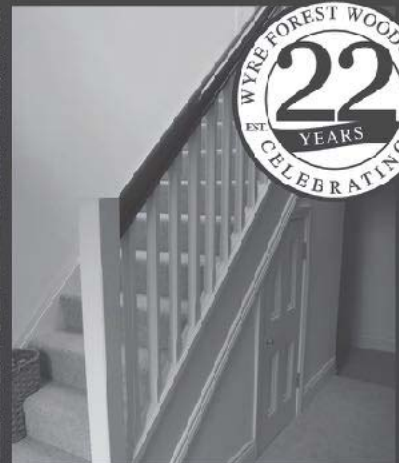
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POST OFFICE		01299 270211	In the Spar Grocery Store, Church Street
SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
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