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AUGUST 2020

THE BIG RAINBOW



Rector Ashley Buck thanked sisters Sarah Barnsley and Kate Pearce for their work in organising the work on the NHS Birthday Rainbow.

July 5th was the National Health Service's 72nd birthday and nobody could miss the tribute to that service that was in the Market Hall's front window. Mounted in a wooden frame, it has 1300 hand-made flowers and 70 pompoms to give a huge splash of colour.

It was Kate Pearce's idea and she and sister Sarah Barnsley called on their volunteers via

social media to get working on flowers and pompoms. So how many people worked on the display? "I've no idea," said Sarah. "I just came home from work each day and there were parcels of flowers on the doorstep."

Sarah took on the job of mounting the display, which was in the lounge at her home until it moved to the Market Hall. Getting it out of the house must have been quite a job. Sarah's children worked around it and helped Aunt Kate when she sat in the garden and made pompoms.

A NEW MONTHLY COLUMN

Nigel Reid joins our growing list of regular contributors, an informed man on the matter of computer fraud and how to avoid it. He has 33 years in the IT business and will be covering a different aspect each month, to help we innocents keep out of the criminals' clutches. I'm saying 'we' because I was scammed quite recently and lost money, having thought I would

recognise any such attempt at picking my pocket. The simple fact is we never stop learning and some of the lessons can hurt.

Nigel writes on Page 23 and we welcome him and his good advice to these pages. JR

THE COMMUNITY AWARDS

After last year's great success with its launch, what a pity that coronavirus has meant this excellent community event being cancelled this year.

In its place, and with less of the crowding that would have put the celebration beyond the social spacing recommendation, the council will be recognising the work of volunteers who put in the hours helping others, plus those who oversaw the operation and helped its smooth running. And the traders who made so many sacrifices to keep people fed and cared for will not be forgotten, as they'll have a certificate recognising their efforts to put in their windows.

No small job in itself, it reflects the local character.

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The Cleobury Clarion, August 2020

Volume Sixteen - Edition Five



*Open Garden Day at Upper Marshes, Catherton Common
See Page 11.*



*The Men's Shed gets a handy boost from Cleobury W.I.
See Page 33.*



*So much to offer with service and a smile at the Cleobury Freezer Centre
See Page 51*

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FREE TO USE NOTICE BOARD

The notice board that used to hang on the wall outside Simply Fresh has been moved along to become part of the Stable Tavern signage. Repainted and looking very smart, it's a place to plug your event and the use is free. Just tell the Tavern staff that you'd appreciate a little space they'll do the rest. Nice friendly gesture.

FAREWELL, HEATH FARM MEATS

Heath Farm Meats, that friendly purveyor of quality meats that came from home reared beasts that Clive could tell you about, is closing its doors at the end of September. It's a sad loss to the community, as they had been growing the range of foods on offer, with Ashley's Bakery breads the latest addition.

But Clive and Clair are almost ready for retirement and want a less demanding life and to relax a little. We wish them well and feel sure they'll be very much missed. Theirs is the friendliest shop around, more like a social club than a mere business.

THE CLEOBURY KITE FESTIVAL

Sad news from Helene and Paul at Sky Bums, the organisers behind the annual Kite Festival that brings flyers from all over the country to this corner of Shropshire. But like so many events, this year's gathering has had to be cancelled.

They have promised to let us know the dates for 2021 when they have them. It's a quiet and colourful weekend, where the curious walk into the sports field at Lacon Childe and are made welcome. It will be good to see it back.

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

Jobs to Do In August

Continue deadheading annuals to encourage further flowering

Summer prune trained apples and pears

Prune rambling roses after the flowers fade

Plant out new strawberry plants

Start planning your spring display of bulbs and order

Take cuttings from fuchsias, salvias and pelargoniums

Keep watering sweetcorn and apply diluted tomato feed

Water the paths in the greenhouse to increase humidity and to deter red spider mite

Turn the contents of the compost to encourage it to keep breaking down

Move container plants to a shady spot if going on holiday.

Pauline Bowen

IN PRAISE OF...

I had a wardrobe malfunction of a different kind when the main rail in my Ikea unit collapsed. My fault - the plastic retaining plug was overloaded and gave up. Best shirts and jackets all over the place. Disaster.

A call to Tim Clare of TDC got a swift response and a quick consultation about a repair. He went off with the rail in his hand and two days later, on a Sunday, was back and fitting the rail in place. A good solid job with wooden plates either side of the wardrobe side panel that will hold all I can find to hang on it.

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LOCAL MUSIC DUO RAISING FUNDS FOR THE NHS



I am a local singer songwriter, working with producer Dave Coleman over the past year. We have recently released our debut single 'Cure'. It is a song that has been in the works for a long time and we decided to release 'Cure' earlier than expected to lift the mood in this unprecedented time. Cure is something that we are all searching for currently. The song highlights the importance of loved ones and our time together. We would like to dedicate this song to the NHS, the nurses, doctors and researchers working day and night to find a vaccine. It is now at all times that we must value unity, togetherness and support. That is why we are donating 50% of our profits to the NHS charities.

The song was released on Friday 22nd May and we have had amazing support on social media. If you'd like to help support us and the NHS Charities, it is available for download on iTunes and Google Play for under £1; also available to stream on Spotify and Apple Music. Just search for Dxnelle X and the song will come up. We hope to raise as

much money as possible. The song has always been special to us. I hope that it can now find a special place in your hearts too.

Danielle Andrews

AND TALKING OF MUSIC...

Reading Mary's Page in July's Clarion (Memories are made of this) rekindled some memories of my own. Like Mary I am now a pensioner, born in the 40's, a child in the 50's, a teenager in the 60's and married with a family in the 70's.

My experiences of watching groups (not bands as they are called now) are nowhere as exciting as Mary's but perhaps it might be of a little interest to Clarion readers of a certain age. I saw Traffic, The Flowerpot Men, Keith West who had a hit record with 'Excerpt From A Teenage Opera' (better known as 'Grocer Jack') and a group called The Nice at the Gaumont in Wolverhampton in a half empty auditorium which comprised as many old people (in their 40's) as teenagers in the late 60's.

The Nice gained slight notoriety for being sued by Leonard Bernstein for their instrumental version of 'America' from Bernstein's 'West Side Story' which probably helped the record to creep to number 21 in the charts. Although The Nice were short lived, two members did go on to greater things; David O'List joined Roxy music and Keith Emerson became one third of Emerson, Lake and Palmer who John Peel famously described as "A waste of electricity" but come on, I was a long haired teenager and I thought they were Gods who I

did manage to see quite a few times (20 minute drum solos included.) like "Man, how cool can you get?"

One more memory of The Nice; just after said show in Wolverhampton, they were due to play at the Town Hall in Kidderminster and I managed to persuade my friend Bob who was four years older than me and an old "rock and roller" who didn't really want to go, to take me (I probably bribed him with the promise of a couple of pints); anyway when we got to Kidderminster, The Nice had cancelled on account of Keith Emerson's collapse through "exhaustion" - sex, drugs and rock and roll, folks - and had been replaced by 'Spooky Tooth'(don't ask).

As Mary said, health and safety just didn't exist then and all I can remember was we could not even get into the auditorium and people were jammed in everywhere,we were three quarters of the way up a staircase and apart from the sound of Spooky Tooth I think I saw one guitarist for about 10 seconds, if there had been a fire or if someone had tripped and fallen over I hate to think what would have happened.

Philip Westwood.

THANK YOU

On behalf of all the readers of the Cleobury Clarion, a big Thank You to our editor JR. He has been determined to produce the usual monthly edition with a scarcity of events to report on. You have worked hard and we all appreciate your loyalty to Cleobury and the Clarion.

Thank you.

The Reader

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NEW FACES AT THE MARKET HALL



Kim Grenfell, the smiling lady who greets visitors to the Market Hall. Kim Grenfell has been manager at the Market Hall since April, but with the lockdown she hasn't been in evidence very much. Not that the place has been asleep. Oh no.

Ali Sheffield had worked hard to get a National Lottery grant that has paid for new windows to go into the upper floor. The job was done by Gilbert Carter and the place is so much better with his installation of up to date glazing that makes the room both quieter and warmer as well as looking really smart. The place has had a deep clean and is looking very welcoming for the

day it opens its doors to the public again. A place to be proud of.

There are two offices available to let, one on the ground floor and the other upstairs. A High Street (well, Church Street to be precise) location with your own key, access 24/7, internet, cleaned once a week and not expensive at an introductory £100 and £150 a month. And the kitchen on the first floor has just been refurbished As well as that, you can rent one of the big rooms in the Hall at just £9 an hour.

Kim has two daughters at the primary school and fits in being a mum with this post and another as a swimming teacher. She's a live wire, with an art competition for children running, with prizes donated by a selection of local business, including a family ticket for the West Midlands Safari Park. Talk to Kim on 01299 272732.

And while Kim was getting things sorted out ready for the July 4th launch of the giant NHS rainbow, we took time to sit and talk to another newcomer to the town. PC Steve Mellor, our local bobby. Bridgnorth based and responsible for a big rural patch, he was meeting and greeting local people.



That big grin is easily explained - PC Steve Mellor is a Liverpool FC fan and has much to smile about.

He has been walking around the the town recently, but with lockdown in operation found there were very few of us about. He has a ready smile and enjoys a laugh, but knows he has a job to do and takes it seriously .

His spare time is taken up with his Honda 'Fireblade' motorcycle, following Liverpool FC and walking; plenty of that to enjoy in Shropshire.

He'll be looking to establish a base where he can be available to talk to people -nine turned up at the Market Hall. A welcome new member of the Safer Neighbourhood Team, we wish him well.

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CLEOBURY MORTIMER PARISH HALL

Work carried out during the lockdown.

Band room extension - Storage cupboards Previous ladies toilets now into storage for chairs Disabled toilet now into storage for tables.

Roof tiles on the hall and cottages all broken and slipped replaced.

Inside ceiling tiles broken and stained replaced

Deep cleaning of walls, skirting boards and windowsills. Floor re polished.

Windows inside and out cleaned. Sanitiser bottle in place by the door into the large room. Cottage painting and window frames replaced. Electric pad on disabled door to be completed by the end of the month

I would like to say thank you to the following who came at short notice to complete this work: The Williams Boys. Paul Carter. Black Sheep Scaffolding T.D.C. Carpentry. Our Cleaner Natalie and Caretaker Dan who between them cleaned up all the hall after the work was completed. Val Breakwell, Committee Chair

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OPEN GARDEN DAY, UPPER MARSHES



Looking from the Veggie Garden to the Herb Garden.

Chris and Jo Bargman were brave to commit to an Open Garden Day on July 5th, with so many doubts about visitors being allowed to travel and mix with others. But when I arrived 15 minutes after opening time, there was one space left in the car park.

The place is really welcoming, not one of those with a Philishave lawn and not a blade of grass out of place. The sort of garden you look at and realise that creating a beautiful area can be done by keeping it natural and not over fussy.

Visitors were handed a clear map and found unobtrusive signs at each feature, giving details. They do have a good story to tell, having taken on an old commoner's cottage 32 years ago and beavering away to lay a soft surfaced training area for dogs and horses, after they'd fenced their garden to keep the local sheep out and planted a hedge to provide shelter. At 800 feet above sea level it's a breezy spot, but the outlook across the common towards Clee Hill is so peaceful and scenic.

The yew and laburnum trees were established when they moved in and provide colour and shade. Behind them the chickens were kept under control in their enclosure; they are normally allowed free range of the site. And the dogs that Jo is famous for breeding and showing (including Best in Breed at Crufts) were locked in the house; they are normally the welcoming committee when you drive up the lane.

The shrubbery is where wild flowers are encouraged, with camassia and campion blossoming as snowdrops, primroses and blue bells fade. In this area are two jacquemontii, multi stemmed silver birch that replaced an old pear tree that was rotten and beyond saving.



The Open Gardens Scheme is run to aid a range of charities, as this thoughtful sign reminded visitors.

Lucy Shier had a stall, showing off her "Bee-Fresh" beeswax wraps that we sometimes see at the Farmers' Market. Lucy is always worth listening to, and advised me to use a wrap to protect food you want to keep fresh but not put in the fridge. That means my Normandy brie will taste better in future.

A total of 118 visitors looked in, at £5 a head that's £590, and plant sales produced another £125; £715 in all for the National Garden Scheme. And as the July 5th Stottesdon Open Day had to be cancelled, £165 from the sale of garden produce in that village was handed over to Alison Walter, county organiser. That's £880 going to help a range of charities, thanks to the efforts of local gardening volunteers. Well done, all of them!

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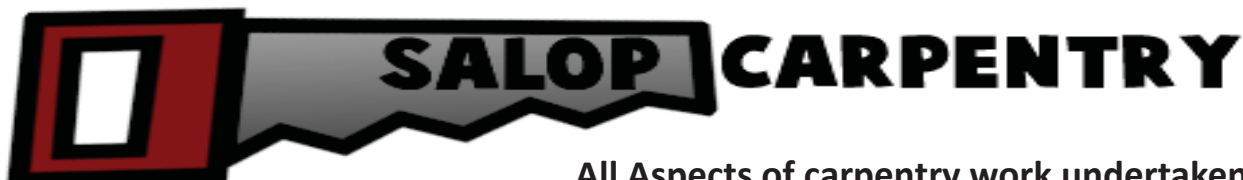
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Bot or not a bot?

I was contacting the medical centre electronically. Before submitting my message I was asked to tick a box to say that I am not a robot. I ignored this bit. Of course I am not a robot. If I was a robot I would be seeking a software engineer not contacting a medical centre.

My message refused to go. An angry looking red instruction appeared telling me to do as asked.

Okay, okay, I am not a robot. Tick. Status confirmed. I am kosher. I'm well trained. When pushed I tend to do the obligatory. This time when I pressed send, my message went winging through the ether to find its destination. The experience set off a train of thoughts.

How long before I would have to carry certification to prove that I am not a robot? Maybe our future documentation will include a signed declaration or carry an official stamp. NOT A ROBOT. Another thought was, what have doctors got against robots? I told the family.

Family: How has this week been?

Me: This week I have had to tick a box to say that I am not a robot.

Response: Yeah, sometimes you have to click on a tree.

Pause...

Me: Wot!?

Response: It's about scamming; algorithms; only a human recognises how to tick a box or click on a tree.

I have read about a robot with diagnostic powers superior to any doctor. In a skin cancer study, this robot spotted cancers more accurately than senior doctors. The robot correctly diagnosed cancer in 95% of cases as compared to the 87% accuracy rate of leading dermatologists.

This robot is also into self-improvement and has the capacity to better its own performance. On balance, the writer did remark that at the end of the day there is still nothing to beat the experienced brain of a human clinician. It was also pointed out that this robot will never fall ill and unlike doctors, never needs to take a holiday.

But, unlike you and me, the robot cannot tick a box.

So, how is it going to get into the medical centre?

Mary



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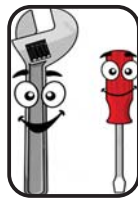
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TRAVELS IN SOUTH AFRICA - PART TWO

I have been rewriting my holiday by looking through the many pictures still on my camera. I took one of a sign outside a bar advertising 'Husband Day Care Centre. Leave your husband with us while you go shopping. You only have to pay for the food and drink, we'll take care of him for you.' At another eating place a sign said 'We do not have WiFi, we talk to each other.'

On another picture I am standing next to a sign for Worcester Bowling Club and on our travels I spotted several familiar names: Llandudno, Kenilworth and Clifton. We passed a Cerebos salt factory, saw JCBs and a Pickford's removal van.

A Jack Ass is the name given to South African penguins, as their call is said to resemble the braying of a donkey. We went to a tourist attraction where these small, endangered birds live. Some were nesting in man-made igloo shaped houses in the scrubland, others perched on massive boulders of granite. We were told this rock is 540 million years old! I wonder how they can tell?

The next leg of our trip was spent at the Aguila Game Reserve, which was several hours drive east. On the journey we passed wine-producing land with towering mountains in the background. The weather was hot and water troughs on the land served as oases for birds and animals. We spotted a

beautiful blue crane bird, and sheep with white bodies and black heads and necks.

At Aguila we were greeted with refreshing cold drinks and shown to our accommodation in attractive chalets with thatched roofs. The water in the outdoor pool was chilly; splendid buffet food to suit all tastes, hot or cold.

Visitors were taken round the animals in covered trailers, our driver/guide tracking down many varieties spread out in a vast area. The lions had recently been fed when we reached them, so that we had a good opportunity to photograph them as they tucked into their meal. There were elephants, rhinos, zebra, buffalo, springbok and other animals not so familiar. I learnt that every zebra has its own unique pattern of stripes, just like our fingerprints. I also learnt that African elephants have the largest ears, shaped similarly to the African continent.

We had three tours on our stay there and on the final one our driver stopped in a picturesque area and produced a picnic for us of tasty nibbles and cold drinks, a pleasant surprise. A regular 'show-off' around our accommodation was a peacock displaying his colourful feathers; I think he liked having his photo taken! There was an intriguing bird call coming sporadically from the bush near where we were staying. I discovered it was artificial, just to create atmosphere, but it was a pleasant noise.

Our final experience was a long drive to St Helen's Bay on the west coast, where we stayed in a self-catering house right on the beach. The sea - the Atlantic - was bitterly cold. We braved it once or twice but even the hardiest of us had to accept defeat. I heard the comment more than once that we should have gone to the east coast, where the Indian ocean is gloriously warm. That remark didn't comfort us!

A scruffy terrier was a regular visitor, who liked sitting beside us and having a fuss. Flora and fauna were colourful and interesting. There were tortoises wandering about, all different ages and sizes. Signs on the nearby road had a picture of one and underneath the words 'Spare Us a Thought'. Perhaps we should have a similar sign on Clee Hill with a lamb on it.

A sight I loved was thousands of cormorants flying north in straight lines every morning to their feeding areas, then back again at dusk. On the beach were coloured shells I couldn't resist gathering to bring home. Some large enough to use as a soap dish, which I do every day. We eventually had to pack up, drive back to Cape Town and have a last indulgence of a meal and souvenir buying.

I must add that we did pass some less joyful sights our travels; houses with tin roofs and not much bigger than our garages. I am privileged to have such an experience with my family and to have had the opportunity to share it with you.

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Stepping Out! Who's Walking, When and Where.

Despite the lockdown being partly lifted, we are not able to offer our guided Walking for Health and Parish Walks, because we would be required to follow a number of complicated safety procedures. Shropshire Council will not yet sanction volunteer groups working on footpath maintenance. As soon as things change we will publicise via our website, Facebook page and this Clarion page.

There are many lovely summer walks to be had and you can get the best out of these by using our self guided walks leaflets. Found on the website for downloading or purchased from Londis or Cleobury Café. 24 leaflets that describe more walks through shortening them or combining them. If you fancy a change from the footpaths near to Cleobury, why not branch out?

Two walks start from the Golf club, Walk 23 is a wonderful five mile circuit with a lot of variety, half in woodland and half farmland. The shorter version of Walk 24 is very flat and easy with no stiles.

There are also walks starting from Hopton Wafers, Neen Sollars, Milson, Far Forest and Catherton Common. All offer some wonderful scenery. Walk 15 from Hopton Wafers is a particular favourite, especially on a clear day, but is quite energetic.

Where walks start from a pub (the Golf Course, the Live & Let Live in Neen Sollars and the Crown at Hopton Wafers), we have arranged with the owners that you may park without prior permission even if they are closed. You do not have to, but it would be great if you could show your appreciation by stopping for a drink or food afterwards, taking care to observe Covid rules of course.

Graham Simpson

LOCAL WALKS ON VIDEO

Stewart Mumford's detailed guides could direct you to the walks that suit you best:

As you are aware I'm producing a series of walks videos based mainly around Cleobury Mortimer and the surrounding area. They are able to be viewed on YouTube by anyone; the channel is

called Cleobury Walks. The channel has grown with at least one walk video being added per week. New videos are live on Sunday mornings. There is occasional bonus content such as equipment reviews, wild camping videos and Cleobury Walks on Tour (where I walk in places slightly further afield). To date there is a catalogue of 23 videos uploaded to the channel.

I am also inputting one Cleobury Mortimer Footpath Association walk in to Viewranger, an online and mobile mapping application, per day. I will continue to do so until I have completed them. Viewranger is a free downloadable phone app. Once downloaded people are able to search for the walk by name and follow the route with GPS guidance from the phone itself. The maps are basic but functional, it is possible to pay an annual subscription to have Ordnance Survey Maps which is what I use.

Stewart Mumford

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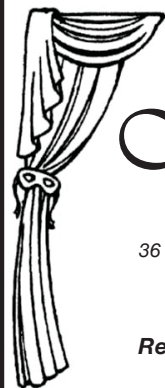


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THE WILDLIFE CORRIDORS - AN ESSENTIAL PART OF FUTURE PLANS

Kit Smith, a retired farmer who moved here from Kent, is a member of the Neighbourhood Plan working group with particular interest in preserving the town's strong countryside links. As he points out: "You can start from any point in the town and just walk for five minutes to be in the countryside." When we all were asked to say which part of Cleobury we most wanted to see preserved, the biggest vote went to keeping that link to the rural setting in which we live.

Guiding the Plan is a clear intention of developing the seven Wildlife Corridors that are part of the town's history and appeal to the present generation. They are all shown on the map that is part of the package showing what is planned and where it's going. See last month's Clarion for more details on that.

Nature in the form of plant and animal life has formed the corridors. Plants grow where there is water and the soil is best for healthy development.

And plants and water provide good living areas for animals, whose basic needs Kit describes as "What they want to breed and feed." It's fundamental: they want to survive themselves and see their next generation do the same.

There are quite a lot of old pastures within the town, which explains the presence of owls, because that's where they can find the voles that are an essential of their diet. Voles are the most common mammals in England.

Kit has had meetings with the management of Mawley Hall, where so much restoration work is going on to restore the estate to its former glory. The thinking appears to be not only about the next 20 or 30 years, but to look forward 200 or 300 years. Eat your heart out, Capability Brown. The work along the River Rea reflects this, which fits in with that particular stretch as it is one of the corridors. There is a lot of tree planting going on as well, all good news for the future of the area.

Part of the town plan includes the modest need to include the building of another 140 dwellings - houses if you

like to call them that - in the next 18 years. That's in addition to building already agreed and works out at less than eight per annum.

To fit new housing in with the rural character of the town, there will be tree planting to give 20 percent of leaf cover. From the end of the housing on Catherton Road there will be an extension of the wildlife corridor to follow behind the houses, with a footpath around to the cemetery. There is no plan for housing north of Lea View.

A possible extra development is an avenue of oaks planted from the western border of the town up the Ludlow road to Hollywaste, with trees either side of the road. Not close together, about 20 or 30 metres apart to give a view of the countryside as you pass through. The hedgerows that would be a natural growth would add to the appeal and habitats.

It was an interesting hour, talking to Kit and learning more about the plan to improve the facilities of the town and maintain its strong rural presence. There will be arguments, but the basic idea makes much sense.

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HOW TO BEAT SCAMS

Nigel Reid, a man with many years in the world of IT, has agreed to write a series of easy to understand articles on the matter of avoiding scams. Good information to have, it could save you both time and money. JR.

Most of us are familiar with Fishing, that singular sport where you sit by a body of water waiting for hours for a bite. But have you heard of the term Phishing, pronounced the same but a modern crime? This crime is one of several ways that modern criminals are attempting to extort money from innocent people.

Phishing is one of several crimes in the family that are known as SCAMS. In a series of articles, we hope to raise public awareness of scams to ensure you stay protected and beat these criminals.

There is a raft of information available over the world wide web to help the public understand the risk of being scammed, but there is also a large population who do not have access to the Internet, who are probably more at risk from these criminals. This month's article focusses on Internet users.

Phishing is a cyber-attack that uses disguised email as a weapon. What really distinguishes phishing is the form the message takes: the attackers masquerade as a trusted entity of some kind, often a real or plausibly real person, or a company the victim might do business with. The goal is to trick the email recipient into believing that the message is something they want or need.

It's one of the oldest types of cyberattacks, dating back to the 1990s, and it's still one of the most widespread and pernicious, with phishing messages and techniques becoming increasingly sophisticated. So how do we distinguish an email as genuine or a Phishing email?

Many good Phishing emails emulate trusted brands which is the first step in drawing in the unsuspecting recipient. BBC, HM Government, Microsoft, Tesco and most high street Banks appear as genuine emails, but it is often easy to spot the scam.

The email may be poorly worded and have grammatical errors in it as well as spelling errors, but it is the sender's details that give it away. Right at the top of the email is the senders address and this could be for example BBC. But if we click and highlight the sender with your mouse or tap on the Smart phone or device, we may see something completely different. A recent example of an email supposedly from TESCO revealed the sender was members@scd.igain-mail.co.uk Does not look much like a TESCO email!

So, with nearly all these types of emails the action is simple and clear. Do not open it or click on any contents. Delete it immediately. Do not reply as this confirms to the scammer that they have a valid email address and can attempt to scam you some other way.

In the next issue we will talk about Telephone Scams.

Nigel Reid



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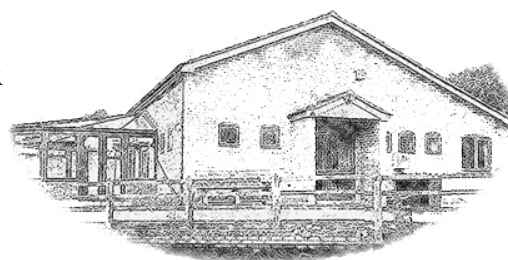
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COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Town Council asked for nominations for these and winners were to be awarded at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

The meeting was cancelled due to the Covid crisis. A small number of nominations were received prior to the shutdown for which we thank you, but the awards as planned will not go ahead this year.

However we do want to recognise those who came together in support of our and adjoining communities. All the volunteers who helped deliver food, shop, collect prescriptions, walk dogs and phone people will be acknowledged by personal letter.

The coordinators who used that team of volunteers to deliver whichever need was identified will receive an individual award.

Those traders who put food orders together, donated essentials and made sure basics were available to those who needed them will similarly receive an award to display in their window.

Ours is a part of the country to be proud of and the Town Council wish to recognise the fact and say thanks to you all for pulling together irrespective of where you live.

Cllr Paul French

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

Regulations to curb the pandemic meant that the Breakfast Club could not meet

in April, May or June, but the easing of these regulations gave Angela Drennan the chance (and challenge) of organising an unusual meeting for July 14th. Its most unusual feature was that we had no speaker – nobody's fault this time, but because we met on the lawn outside the Larch Barn, sitting well spaced out at their picnic tables. Despite variable weather forecasts, Angela kept her nerve, and it didn't rain during the meeting, although a trifle chilly. 15 members met and were well cared for by the café staff.

For many years the Club has not held a meeting in August, but the success of the July meeting was such that we may break with tradition yet again, and hold another outdoor meeting in August. The weather's bound to be hot and sunny, isn't it?

Well done, Angela.

Mark Baldwin

THE BORDERS CLASSIC BIKE SHOW

Organiser Tracey has had the sad task of notifying a long list of enthusiasts and keen helpers that the Borders Classic Bike Show will not be happening this year. A main factor is that the school site will have restricted access for everyone except pupils in September. To have hundreds of visitors crowding the place on a Sunday and then tackling a deep clean in time for the usual early start on Monday morning just does not make sense. Hence the decision.

The Show has been a strong fund raiser for the school since it started in the mid 1980s and Tracey promises that the 2021 event will be fabulous - great to have such enthusiasm driving it forward.

I have a soft spot for this weekend, having organised 30 of the shows myself. I never did keep records of just how much we made, but one treasurer of the school's Parent Teacher Association reckoned we'd raised £100,000 in that time. I hope it will be back in the calendar and as successful as ever next year. *JR*

SHEDFEST 2020

We reported on this event last year, when it was held in Worcester and drew shed people from all over the country. This July it was held as a virtual gathering, with no obvious venue, but with quite a star as its major attraction.

Chris Fisher, the only totally blind wood turner, was a big attraction last year and this time his fame was spread even further. He does some super accurate work on his lathe and his talk explained the trials and self doubts he faced in deciding what he wanted to do when he lost his sight as an adult. Today he's in demand and gives demonstrations as he talks, working to spread the word about the Axminster Tools company that supplied his lathe and supports his work. A remarkable man who I am sure will star at Shedfest 2021. We'll tell you when it's happening as soon as we hear.

JR

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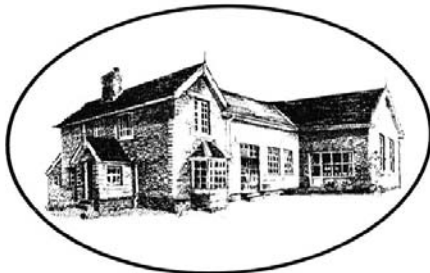
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POTHOLE OF THE MONTH

In fairness to the County Highways Department, the number of potholes can be seen to be getting smaller. Stretches of resurfacing on both the Bridgnorth road and from Barbrook out towards Baginswood have had work done, but there are still some ugly blemishes on the area's beautiful face that need attention.



This long depression in the centre of the A4117 outside the Royal Fountain is typical

of surface deterioration that has got worse because it has been left unrepaired for too long. Even in the lockdown period there was quite a volume of heavy traffic and now that travel is slowly getting back towards normal, it's getting more heavy vehicles pounding away. Some eastbound trucks do keep well over and avoid the bumpy depression, but in the dark it won't be so obvious and easy to avoid.

The marking around the problem tells us that it's on the schedule next time the road gang come this way. That means the man employed by the authorities to spot where repairs are needed is doing his job. And let's not just blame Shropshire Council - the spell of austerity we were told was good for the country's economy left a lot of maintenance put on the back burner for another time.

SILLY BIT

Q: How many archaeologists does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Who said we should change?

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A Letter from the Rector

On the 3rd of March, coming back from a family birthday in West Wales, in a reflective mood, rather than any of the quicker routes I came back to Cleobury by way of the journey I remember constantly taking during my childhood, alongside the Central Wales Line, through Llandeilo, Llandovery, Builth and Llandindrod, all places where I once upon a time had cousins. Driving through the so familiar hills even then I was wondering when I would see my family again, and also whether everybody would be safe in what was to come.

I can't remember when I had first learned that there was an outbreak of a novel coronavirus causing severe respiratory symptoms in China, centred around a city I had never heard of. At first I suppose the distant reports seemed to follow a pattern of other such diseases, a great deal of publicity swirling around little hard information, and the hope that it would somehow burn itself out as had the others, far away. But little by little the threat drew closer, Northern Italy was a place I knew and the desperate struggle between its hospitals and communities and the cruel virus seemed like an alarm call by March.

I came home into Cleobury and after that was like everyone else pretty much confined here. For a long time I only left the Benefice for the weekly shop, or for the Crematorium. My family's story

merged with the story of our community and of our nation; many of us have experiences we hold in common from these odd times, but we all lived it as individuals and households, and we can think how different some of our paths through these weeks has been. For some a time of rest, for some a time of hard labour, for some it has been a tale of painful separation, for some a story of precious time shared. And there are so many people to be thanked for what they have done.

But for all of us there are lessons learnt. And they are going to be important going into the Autumn and whatever it brings. Firstly, people are precious, it is the mark of the quality of a society how well it cares for its most vulnerable. Secondly, the important people to our society are not those that make the loudest noise and are paid the most, they are those who serve others, often at their own risk. And thirdly, it is good and there is a nobility in sacrificing our freedom for a while to protect each other. Selfishness isn't just bad manners, it is actually cruelty.

We cannot see the future, but we can say this, the better we look after each other the better it will be.

God Bless,

Ashley.

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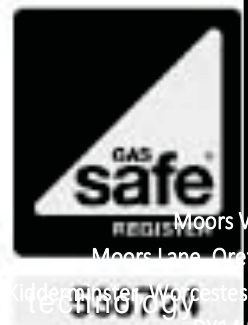
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It is with some sense of relief that this month is the first that I have been able to move more freely for some time, having been required to shield myself since mid-March. So I have been busy planning my diary to resume visits to South Shropshire's towns and villages, to meet constituents and businesses and discuss local issues.

Clearly, this newfound freedom still requires suitable social distancing to mitigate continuing transmission risk of the virus – a new normal for all of us, which will be with us until we find a vaccine. Getting out of my home and off the farm has given me cause to look back over how life has developed with the impact of COVID19 this year.

There have, perversely, been some positives in the midst of multiple anxieties. Many of us have had the opportunity to reflect on what is important to us during such a difficult time.

I have been so impressed by how people have stepped up to help others in need, through volunteering and community help. Lots of people will have got to grips with their own personal 'to do' list, sorting things around the house or if lucky enough to have one, putting the garden into better shape while the weather was so fine. Many people who would ordinarily be going out to work have been able to spend more time at home with their children.

But there have of course been terrible impacts due to this virus, not least the loss of life, which has been significant, despite the brilliant efforts of the NHS and key workers across the country. For those unable to see family and friends, there has been worry about keeping safe and well – particularly for the most vulnerable. Those with caring responsibilities have faced serious difficulties due to restrictions in movement, and changes to support available.

Trying to keep on top of daily activities we take for granted in normal times have caused anxiety, like buying basic products, like food or loo paper. Our ability to socialise has been

curtailed, unable to see friends, whether in each other's homes, in church, at the pub or cafe, or for young people at school and college. The huge contraction to our economy has brought with it real concern about livelihoods, especially for those who have fallen through the cracks of the unprecedented government support schemes.

I have received a huge volume of correspondence during COVID19, far outstripping the daily influx I receive during General Elections or even the Brexit referendum. So I am aware of how deeply this pandemic has affected people in South Shropshire, in very different ways. None of us have escaped its impact.

There will be many lessons to be learned, not least that zoonotic diseases (leaping from animals to humans) are on the rise and the world needs to prepare better to prevent and manage them. While there will no doubt be effects to ensure the UK is better able to respond quickly to pandemics in future, it will take international cooperation to develop effective warning and response mechanisms for such viruses in future.

This disease has disproportionately affected older, more vulnerable, and more obese people. But it has been young people who have paid a steep price through lack of education, jobs and opportunities while measures to curtail the virus have been in place. So it is right the government looks to support younger people through this trying time.

This challenge is far from over, and as a nation, a county, a town, a parish, a community or a family, we need to adapt to build on our strong British values of endurance, entrepreneurship and innovation, to work together as good neighbours to help us all cope as we live with this virus in our midst, until a vaccine is available to allow us to defeat it.

Philip Dunne

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WINTER WARMER LUNCHES AID THE MEN'S SHED

Cleobury W.I.'s Winter Warmer Lunches are a well established event, raising funds for a local charity each year. After another successful time keeping the population warm with home made soups and apple pies, this year's total raised was £300 and the lucky charity was the Men's Shed.

They had done their bit, swelling the numbers who took the lunches as well as helping to serve and take the cash on the admission desk. When there are ladies in charge, you don't get away without helping...

After a long break until Covid-19 could be seen to be less of a threat, W.I. chair Judy Sant met with a party from the Shed on July 14th and a cheque was handed over. All very proper, they kept two metres apart and Judy brought a remote picker device to hand the money across a regulation gap to treasurer Bill Duley while Shed committee chair Pete Blackburn and member Mike Patterson looked on.

"This is just what we need at this moment," Pete Blackburn explained. "We've got the insulation materials to go up and then the electrical wiring will go up, all in steel piping to give easy access for maintenance and any

alterations that may be needed.



Smiles all round as Judy presents the cheque in a Covid-19 Proof special delivery stick and Pete Blackburn, Bill Duley and Mike Patterson smile at another generous contribution to the Shed's progress.

And when the party had broken up, Pete and Mike got together to start the installation of the 100mm thick insulation:



It's going to be a warm and welcoming place when the Men's Shed opens its doors.

LACON CHILDE SCHOOL

The latest news from our school is that they have been successful and secured over £1,000,000 through the Condition Improvement Fund. This means improvement in the demountable facilities and the heating system - it's a big place to keep warm. And the Primary School has received nearly £500,000 to fix the roof and their heating.

The place has been busy through the lockdown time. The Design and Technology staff have been making vital PPE visors, over 1300 so far. All for healthcare professionals in the area, including 100 to the Kemp Hospice and to TLC Care at Bewdley. The same staff are now working with a group of Year 10 students making scrubs for hospitals and care homes.

The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust now has a Laptop Programme that will provide students with an HP Probook in a special format for school work, with the cost spread over a range of easy payments starting at £16.69 a month for 36 months. Having a laptop designed for this vital job makes life a lot easier for students and at the end of the purchase there's no final payment - it's bought and paid for.

A reminder to all Cleobury Mortimer readers. You have until August 3rd to register your opinion on the Neighbourhood Plan. Visit the Council website or Facebook or call the office on 01299 271154.

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The August Social Calendar

Sat 1 st	6.00	Summer Run fund raiser for Cleobury Primary School		
Mon 3 rd	10.00	Cleobury Library opens 9-5 mon-fri 10-12 sat		
Thurs 6 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLING BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Thurs 13 th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Thurs 20 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLING BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		Year 11 Exam Results Day at Lacon Childe. Expect details to be sent to you		
Thurs 27 th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER.....		
Thurs 3 rd		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		

THE CLARION SOCIAL CALENDAR

Inevitably the Calendar has been very thin through the lockdown, but there was very little to tell you about, apart from the bin emptying days. But with the gentle lifting of restriction there are signs of a social life returning. We hope to have a full calendar soon, if not in September then certainly by October, God, Government and Covid willing. In the meantime, do take care, stay safe and let the editor know of any events we can help you publicise. *JR*

THE SHROPSHIRE VIRTUAL SHOW

On Saturday, August 22nd from 10.00 until 9.00, you can visit the Show by clicking on www.shropshirevirtualshow.com to get into a big event with a Stunt Show, horseback gymnastics and comedian Paul White getting the humour up before the musical entertainment kicks in. No charge to get in, but you can make a charitable donation, as the day is all about supporting local charities.



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ON THE BUSES

Just a quick update. The 292 seems to be running pretty well these days and the buses are certainly less ancient and battered than they used to be. There has been one instance of a driver charging on the 08.54 to Kiddy and this should not be happening so let me know if it happens to you.

Passengers are gradually returning but please remember that face coverings are now mandatory and the drivers can (and have) refused entry to those not so equipped. Apparently some people are still turning up without these so don't forget 'No face covering, no ride'.

Steve Todd

GETTING THE WORK DONE

The Clows Top Victory Hall Committee have decided to take advantage of the lockdown closure by working to carry out necessary repairs and redecorations to make sure the Hall is in good order and ready for use when the current restrictions are removed.

Committee members have been busy cleaning and repairing the rendered frontage of the Hall and

repainting it. The plant boxes at the front of the Hall have been refurbished and a member of Clows Top Gardening Club has replanted the boxes which should produce a colourful display in the near future.

Weeds have been treated around the grounds and equipment inspections have been carried out so that everything is serviceable and ready for use. As part of the Community First organisation Committee members have been taking part in Zoom conferences to keep up to date on the necessary Covid 19 precautions and that details of the necessary preparations for reopening are ready when the time comes.

As a registered charity the Hall depends on volunteers to make sure that the facilities are available for the local community. If anyone would like to assist with the current works, or in any other capacity, then please contact Roger Dyer on 07870522567.

The Hall contact number is 07788 604 542

Nigel Caldicott

BIG THANK YOU'S

Joanne Booton emailed:

"I've been asked by the residents of St Mary's Place to

request a Thank-You slot in the Clarion...

For Mike who brings Lambert's Family Grocers-Mobile Shop every Friday afternoon before and during Lockdown- they say "They could not have managed without him". He stocked loo rolls, flour and bread when other shops struggled to provide.

Sean Boden - The Milk Man- never fails to turn up and his customers are really grateful."

On that same subject, Katja Jones has said that we should not forget the Cleobury Pharmacy and the effort all the staff put into changing the layout and serving customers in the approved safe style through the lockdown and beyond, still with courtesy and a smile.

And we're overdue to tell you more about Katja herself, when we can catch her with a few minutes not taken up with looking after her daughter and all the jobs she takes on.

As ever, we're happy to tell you about local people doing an exceptional job.

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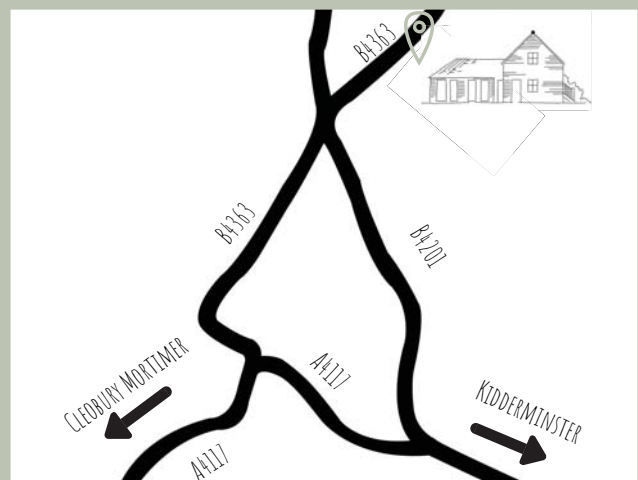


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Cleobury Community Hub

Thanks to the incredible efforts of many volunteers and young people, Cleobury Community Hub opened in September 2019. St Mary's Youth Project has converted the Methodist Church into a café style environment open to everyone in the community. Our hope is to work alongside the Neighbourhood Plan to create a space for people of all ages from our fantastic community to meet and spend time together.

St Mary's Youth Project is founded in a Christian ethos, but all are welcome regardless of faith or belief.

News and Events

On 7th July we were excited to reopen the Hub's doors for the community to enjoy our barista coffees, muffins and NEW milkshakes – and to meet, chat and share in person. We've installed social distancing measures such as our specially designed (marked out with paint) "Chatter Boxes", self-service Mawley Milk refills and environmentally-friendly disposable cups. We're also prepared for all weathers with our bright orange canopy.

We're open 11am – 3pm every Tuesday and Friday. Takeaway is always available, and if there is space in a Chatter Box, then you can safely enjoy your drinks with other households. The Hub has always had a knack for keeping you longer than you intended, a space for forging new friendships and discovering new things, and this hasn't changed.

We loved celebrating with the Year 6 leavers on Friday 20th with milkshakes for everyone after their last day at Cleobury Primary. Thanks for everyone who came along – we look forward to seeing you again over the holidays.

Please see our social media accounts for the most up to date information about the Hub and SMYP.

At SMYP, we've recently expanded our Family Climbing activity welcoming groups of up to 5 (from the same household) to spend time with a qualified member of staff exploring and enjoying the great outdoors through a day's outdoor climbing. Contact Mark on 07828 116 810 for more details.

Thank you for your continued support and please do get in touch with your feedback, ideas or just for a general chat!

CLEOBURY COMMUNITY HUB - WEEKLY CALENDAR	
Café open Tuesday	11am-6pm
Monday	
Tuesday	11am-6pm
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	9am-3pm
Saturday	
Sunday	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	9am-3pm onwards
Saturday	SMYP Dance 5:30pm onwards
Sunday	Soft Play 11:30am-6pm

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On sunny days recently I have enjoyed watching the dragonflies darting over the pond.

There are two species that visit to hunt smaller flying prey and court their mates. The Broad-bodied libellula is the most frequent: the male with a broad blue abdomen, the female brown. I see the males more often, or maybe I should say 'male' as there will only be one in residence at one time and it will make sure it sees off any competitors. I accommodate it by offering a couple of twigs as perches at the edge of the pond – from these it can make its occasional sallies across the water. The female is brown and therefore less conspicuous to predators but her arrival will bring the male immediately to join her in flight. During mating (usually on a handy lily leaf) the male grasps the female with his tail just behind her head, and they will often fly off joined in that way while the female dips her tail in the water to lay her eggs on plants.



The male Libellula, captured at rest by the camera of Nigel Stone

The larger and faster Southern Hawker dragonfly is often a slightly later arrival but one which one can't fail to notice. It charges up and down the pond with wings going full tilt, and if another male or another species is around there will be an aerial altercation. If no female appears it will leave to try its luck at another woodland pool.

The nymphs that soon hatch from their eggs are initially quite tiny but they have a reputation as one of the fiercest hunters in the aquatic environment. They start with microscopic prey such as water fleas (Daphnia) and Cyclops and work their way up, stalking the unfortunate creatures then spearing them with a modified lower lip that shoots out from under their heads. After two or more years of this underwater tyranny they are ready to metamorphose into an adult: the nymph climbs the stem of an aquatic plant and once in the air the adult emerges through the split skin of the thorax. It then stays nearby for several hours while its wings extend and harden, enabling it to fly away leaving the empty skin of the nymph still clinging to the plant. This process sees it at its most vulnerable: one summer there was a canny Jay that staked out the ponds at the Forestry Commission's Discovery Centre and caught all the adult dragonflies as they emerged.

A scattering of large insect wings was all that was left.

Linda Iles

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THE LIBRARY

Cleobury Library and Country Centre will be open 9.00 to 5.00 from Monday August 3rd. Place returned books on the table; they will be quarantined before being processed. Click and Collect books can be collected. Covid precautions will apply; numbers will be limited, so please be patient.

LACON CHILDE

Great news for our local schools with the announcement that Lacon Childe have secured over £1,000,000 through the Condition Improvement Fund. Head Darren Reynolds explained that will help improve and extend the demountable teaching facilities and improve the heating system. It is a very big place to keep warm. The Primary School have also succeeded in raising funds, with nearly £500,000 to fix the roof and the heating, vital for comfortable development of the children who are the future of this community.

Lacon Childe's Design Technology staff worked through the lockdown making PPE visors for health care workers. 1300 visors so far and more to come. And Year 10 pupils have been working to make scrubs for hospitals and care homes.

The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust have a laptop programme that makes HP Probooks built to educational specification available for students to buy for as little as £16.69 a month. Vital tools in the technical world they will soon enter.

PLASTICS

Some ideas for entertaining the kids and, in the process, saving money. Keep a plastic bottle in the kitchen as an egg yolk sucker. Crack the egg into a bowl, place mouth of bottle over yolk whilst squeezing the bottle. Release grip slightly and allow the bottle to re-inflate, sucking up the yolk. One less bottle in the bin.

Plant Pots. Wash bottle, remove label and residue. With non permanent marker, draw outline of animal at the bottom of the bottle (simple shapes work best) and cut out. Wipe off ink before coating bottle with acrylic paint; let dry. Create animal's face with paint pens and permanent marker. Once dry, pot your plant with potting soil.

Encouraging children to grow plants is rewarding and educational. A Hanging Bottle Garden is an ideal start on a small scale. The hanging bottle is made by stringing the bottles together at the top and bottom, and hanging on a sturdy beam, cutting a section out of the bottle to house plants of your choice. For a vertical garden, cut a hole in the base of the bottle to accommodate the neck of another. Holes in the lid of the upper bottle allows drainage to the plants below.

If you have ideas about single use plastics, please **c o n t a c t** neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS

During "lock down" our local shops came to our aid and kept us all going. They worked long hours ensuring that shelves

were well stocked and did not run out of essential goods. Stores such as Londis, Select and Save and the Co-op were there for us. Pubs such as The Talbot, the KA and The Lamp and Spice Empire supplied us with takeaways. In fact my husband and I had many meals from The Talbot who delivered on time, and always nicely presented - we even tried their Sunday Lunch. We can recommend them, their pies are the best I have ever tried. Now lock down has eased, please do not forsake our local shops - let's continue to support them.

Carole and Keith Evans.

CATHERTON COMMON

Apologies for the lack of news about the Common over the last few months, but I was furloughed from work. I haven't managed to visit since March and am hoping fewer visitors benefited the site.

You will see heather cutting on Upper Marshes to allow collection as a source of seed for areas where there is recreation and improvement needed. Cutting also creates a firebreak and provides variety in age and structure of our heather.

To close on a positive note, the lovely warm, dry weather has been excellent for a range of insects, so we hope numbers of important butter- and dragonflies will be increasing this year. Insects are also an important food source for our birds, of course.

Clive Dean

Shropshire Wildlife Trust

Reserves Officer South

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Cleobury Clarion - Page 50 - August 2020



"We tried artificial flies. We tried lures. We tried live bait. Nothing works ... it's like they're psychic!"



"Blood-curdling screams. Hayes, will do nothing to help us catch a fish."

In Business - The Cleobury Freezer Centre

It was 28 years ago when Ann Cuckson and her husband decided to take the plunge and start their own catering supply business. Ann had been working for a Kidderminster supplier, mixing phone sales and deliveries on the way to and from work along with raising a young family. She certainly doesn't look for the easy option when it comes to filling her time.

At first they took on space on the Amodil site, out of town at Forest Park, and built their local reputation as Katerfresh. The business concentrated on trade supplies to pubs, restaurants and kitchens, with very little direct trade with the public. They moved on to the New Farm business estate 16 years ago come December and realised there was an additional market to build - serving local people with a wide range of foods.

The building they took on was an old barn, converted by their Robinson landlords with officers on the upper floor and downstairs stockrooms open to view. It invites you in, to see how many freezers they have stuffed with food. Plus a wide range of household goods.

The Freezer Centre is open from 8.30 to 5.00 on weekdays and from 8.30 to

1.00 on Saturday. And while the breadth of choice available will amaze, even better is the attitude of listening to what the customers want and getting it in for them. Like the lady who asked if they stocked KitKat. "No, but we'll get it for you," was Ann's answer. Next time the lady called, there it was on the shelf. And when another customer asked about Wispa bars, the response and the follow-up was the same.



Ann Cuckson, one of the friendly voices that handle the phone calls and always willing to get whatever the customer wants.

It's this flexibility that wins them friends, like recognising that people living alone do not want to buy in any bulk. So if you want one fish cake, they'll open a box and serve you. When there was a flour shortage earlier this year, they bought in large sacks and split that bulk into

smaller bags, to help people who were opting to bake their own bread at home. As Ann puts it: "We try to be different from everybody else."

It's a small and friendly team that run the place, with Ann and Lynne Mantle answering the phone, looking after customers in the stockroom and typing up invoices. Ann's husband is the power behind the operation, he built the new website that shows off the range they stock and can tell what the best sellers are: "We do very well with fish. If it swims, we sell it," he told us. If you like prawns, do look at their Raw King offering - they're enormous.

If you want to see how big their range is, look in at www.cleoburyfreezercentre.com and you'll be impressed.

They deliver to your home if you don't want to call in. Jason is the van driver, another ambassador with a friendly approach. They have customers as far away as Knighton and Malvern, which shows you how good their service and reputation is.

They've come a long way since that brave step 28 years ago. They've learned a lot and made friends along the way. Ann summed it up: "We have to sell what people want." And they do it well.

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August 2020 Clarion Report

Everything seems to be getting back to some normality but make no mistake we still need to stay alert and follow the government guidelines as we do not want to see anyone ill or worse. Please wear a face mask when needed and wash your hands regularly.

By now we will have had the grand opening of the Love Lane Play area with the opportunity to remember Jack, who is sadly missed but not forgotten. He will now be remembered with the plaque placed by Chrissie Woodhouse and family by the parent child swing, a fitting place to remember him. Please take all precautions when using the equipment and we know it is your play area and will be treated well. Any issues please contact the Council office.

We still chase issues with Shropshire council and continue to get normal day to day issues sorted and as our work increased with the following of Government guidelines, we would like to thank you for your patience and understanding, while helping us keep everyone safe.

We are still having parking issues in the Town, especially parking on the Zig Zags by the Talbot, in disabled bays for those that really need it, on double yellows outside the Manor house, in front of dropped kerbs for mobility scooters and on pavements where people cannot pass and have to go into the road. Usually when we see this there are free spaces nearby and we are lucky enough to have two free car parks. Please be more considerate as I will be asking for parking enforcement to visit us as much as they can.

The Town council has now a group led by Cllr Paul French to look at the Wells and what we can do as it has historic value to the Town and we have some repairs to do to lift the standard. We need to say thank you to Mr Iain Smith and family for their continued efforts to keep the garden there is good order and with funding we have applied for, then perhaps this will be another focal point for visitors to our town.

The Food bank is still growing strong every Friday morning at the Market Hall 9.30am to 11.30am and helping those in need and we thank those that donate every week so that those in need will not go hungry. The volunteers every week do a great job sorting out and looking after people, while Cllr Brown and myself are there to coordinate and offer advice. Thank you, Cllr Brown, for nurturing her idea and making it what it is today.

You do not have much time left with the Neighbourhood plan and asking for your comments. Please take time to look at it and submit comments. It runs until the 3rd August 2020. You can see all the documents and complete the consultation by going to the Town Council Website www.cleobury.org.uk or can request a hard copy of the draft plan by ringing 01299 271154

Finally, I need to welcome two new volunteer councillors joining our team, Cllr John Greaves and Cllr Guy James, who individually bring extra and different experience and needed knowledge to help the community move forward. We have a vast range of professionals now that can all bring their own skills to help us deal with any issues, we find ourselves dealing with. Please make time to get to know your councillors as they are there for you.



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CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE		01299 272300	In Love Lane, 9 to 5 Mon to Fri.
CITIZENS ADVICE		08444 991100	Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00
CLEOBURY CARERS	Janet Manley	01299 272841	
CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES	Katja Ward	01299 270018	10.00 to 12.00 Weds
CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY		01299 272301	Open 9 to 7 Mon, 9 to 5 Tues/Fri and 10 to 1 Sat.
LOCAL POLICE	Constable Anne O'Leary		ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES	Dorothy McBride	07761 976610	
CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Lowri Hughes		cleoburybeavers@gmail.com
CRIMESTOPPERS		0800 555 111	Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.
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HOME FROM HOSPITAL		01584 878046	Help over the first weeks back home from Age UK
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NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND	Rosemary Abbiss	01746 718451	
TOWN COUNCIL	Clerk Matthew Sheehan	01299 271154	Cleobury Country Centre 9 to 2 pm, Mon to Fri. www.cleobury.org.uk. Council meets in the Centre on the first Monday of the month
POST OFFICE		01299 270211	In the Select and Save Grocery Store, Church Street
SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000	
SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM			richard@ssyf.net.
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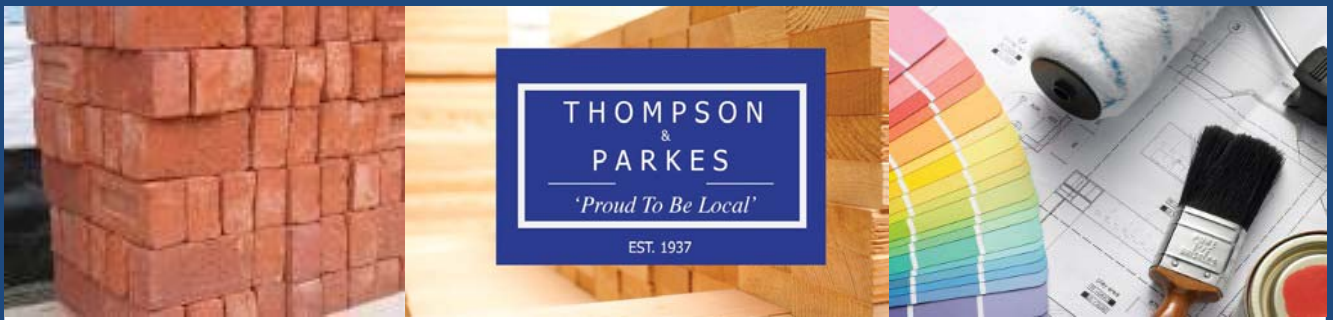
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