

The Cleobury Clarion



SENSE PREVAILS

At the Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council meeting on June 11th, Cllr Gwilym Butler proposed a motion that: 'The Parish Council agrees to take action against individuals who have made insults against the Council and/or Councillors and instruct the Police to take the appropriate action.'

He outlined the strong reaction from the community to insulting messages in the windows of Mumford's shop and said he had consulted with the Police. They had informed him that if notices displayed in a public place can be deemed insulting, legal action can be taken.

He pointed out that all members of the Parish Council are volunteers, working for the good of the community. They cannot be expected to please all of the people all of the time. If people do not agree with what the Council does, they have a democratic right to stand for election themselves. The Council are also employers and

have a duty to protect their employees from insult.

Councillors Betty Davis and John Griffiths spoke against the motion and during a heated discussion Cllr Griffiths accused Chairman Cllr Thorogood of being corrupt. Asked by the Chairman to justify that accusation, Cllr Griffiths did not reply

There were only six of the nine Councillors present. Two voted against the motion, one abstained and with three voting in support, the motion was carried. There was prolonged applause from the members of the public present.

It is a great pity that this action is needed in such a matter, but before this meeting a member of the public complained during the Democratic Time that visitors to the town during the Olympic Torch procession had found the notices embarrassing. The notices have since been removed from display and the town is better for that. Let good people live in harmony.

JULY 2012



A new food event, Cleobury Country Market, arrives at the Parish Church on Saturday July 14th. It will feature stalls from over 15 local food producers plus local craftspeople and will be open from 10.00 to 1.00.

Admission is free, it's going to be a busy place and is an initiative by Cleobury Country and Natural England to publicise local flavours and good eating. Sounds too good to miss. **More on Page 9.**



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The Cleobury Clarion. July 2012

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STOTTESDON AND CHORLEY VILLAGE GARDENS OPEN DAY

As part of the National Gardens Scheme, 16 gardens in Chorley and Stottesdon will be open to the public over the weekend of July 14 and 15th. The opening hours are a friendly 11.00 to 6.00 and with a good pub in both villages you can find food to see you through the day.

The gardens range from small to spacious, with vegetables well featured and a champion vegetable grower's plot on the list. There's a competition for pots planted with an Olympian theme, to be judged by the visitors. The School Garden in Stottie will also be open, with no charge for any visitor.

The cost of entry to both villages' garden selections is £5.00 for an adult, while children under 16 get in free. If you don't know the way to these two fine communities, they'll be signed from the B4363 Cleobury to Ludlow road. Look for the familiar NGS logo.

For website wanderers, take a look in on www.ngs.org.uk

HELPING THE LIFEBOATS Elizabeth Burton reports:

The street collection in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on June 9th raised £257. We would like to thank all

who gave donations to the event and all who helped to collect for this very important cause.

Elizabeth Burton

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Alec Osbaldiston brings us up to date:

The weather, which we were NOT responsible for organising, did not dampen enthusiasm for the Jubilee Wine Walk on June 15th. About sixty people came to walk around the lanes of Cleobury searching out the four homes offering hospitality for the evening. Each host kindly provided drink and nibbles for people to enjoy whilst they chatted with friends and acquaintances. An opportunity to meet new people and see everybody entering into the spirit of the evening and enjoying themselves.

Our thanks to the hosts for their hospitality and contributing to a successful and enjoyable evening. As someone remarked "Great evening, great people".

Our next event will be a Fashion Show on Thursday July 12th at 7.30pm at The Edinburgh Woollen Mill Shop in Ludlow. Tickets £5 each available from members of the committee, Cleobury Pharmacy, Cleobury News and Spire Hairdressing.

On Saturday July 14th we are participating in the Tastes of Cleobury Country Event when we will be selling tastes of home made baking.

Alec Osbaldiston

LETTER FROM THE LIBRARY

There's a lot happening in the Land of Literature on Love Lane, as Victoria Alexander explains;

A busy time in the library over the last month, with the Olympic

Torch Event, seeing 120 children receive a signed copy of 'Peggy the Much Wenlock Pig' at an author event at Lacon Childe school. I managed to persuade Paul, caretaker at Ludlow library to wear the Big Blue Bear outfit, which was brilliantly received by the children. Poor Paul was very hot under all that padding, I can tell you! Thanks Paul.

The last few weeks I have been preparing for the national Summer Reading Challenge. Coordinated by The Reading Agency, it is run by public libraries throughout the UK. With 780,000 children aged 4-11 taking part, it is the biggest national reading initiative. It runs through the summer holidays, with incentives, activities and events designed to create a real buzz around children's reading.

The challenge is simple: read six or more library books over the summer! For more information, log on to: <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

There will be a launch event, on July ?? held at Cleobury Library which I am thrilled to say will be hosted by the local children's author Mr Edwin Sayers, who will be reading for the children and has written some short stories especially for the day. Mr Sayers will be bringing copies of his acclaimed book, 'The Coracle Boy' which some of you may have read already, and can be purchased on the day.

At the close of Summer Reading Challenge in September, there will be a celebration for all those who have taken part, with children's entertainers providing a party atmosphere.

I am gauging interest on a new Creative Writing Group from the library and will keep you posted on that.

Victoria.

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CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

At the May meeting Bill Auger, gave a talk on 'Soft Fruits'; he runs an organic soft fruit business at Hopton Wafers. Member's had questions and queries regarding their fruit problems; a very good evening and lovely atmosphere, enjoyed by all.

Many thanks to everyone involved with the plant sale on Saturday 19th May, another great success.

Diary Dates

Wednesday July 25th. David Cropp, will give a talk on 'Gardening For Climate Change' Saturday 18 August, CLOWS TOP SHOW.

Pauline Bowen

CHURCH GETS CRAFTY

Following on the successful Art Festival of last November, which is to be an annual event, and then branching out with film shows, Cleobury Methodist Church are now launching what is hoped will be another regular event. It's a Summer Craft and Gift Fair on Saturday the 28th, starting at 10.00

Spread out between the church and the hall the fair will have a wide range of stalls with handmade products from jewelry, silk work, scarves, hats and hearts and cards.

Come on the 28th to browse and buy from the fine quality craftspeople, supporting small businesses and the church, whilst getting that unique present, or treating yourself. And if you have crafty things to sell contact Helen on 01584 819649 to see if there is a stall left for you, or to get on a contact list for future events.

Meanwhile beware a murder mystery being plotted for the Autumn...

Rev Helen Roberts

LONG DISTANCE PIES

Older residents of Cleobury Mortimer will remember John Cope's fine traditional butcher's shop in Church Street, where John produced pork pies that regularly won medals at agricultural fairs in the region.

We were talking recently to a lady from Dudley, who knew Cleobury because she rode out this way with her brother and always stopped to buy "These wonderful pork pies, so lovely."

It was a comment we had to pass on to John, who could cap it with the story of a man who telephoned to ask if he was the butcher who made pork pies with cheese and pickle in them. Indeed he did, and it was one of his the man had sampled at Hobson's. John agreed to make him one for Friday, to be collected.

"On Friday he turned up in a borrowed Land Rover," John remembered. "He'd flown up from Bristol to Milson Airfield, borrowed the Land Rover and driven here to get his pie. I think I'm the only butcher with a customer who collected a pie by plane."

CLEOBURY W.I.

A well attended June meeting firstly remembered with sadness the loss of a very dear and longstanding member, Joan Purslow. They then celebrated another longstanding member's Diamond Wedding and presented Joan Deller with a card and a bouquet. Business concluded with the announcement of an outing on the September 19th to Bourton on the Water and the Evesham

Country park. The cost at present is £12 but this could be lower if we fill the coach, so any person who would like to join us is welcome, please contact our President on CM 271671.

We then had an evening of activity, making a bracelet of beads. Many a time these have been admired as one of our members is very proficient at making them. Each member had a pack and carefully followed instructions; nobody realised how long the process would take and the patience needed. Suffice to say nobody completed their bracelet but took it home to finish.

On July 14th we will be holding our Charity Coffee Morning on behalf of the Severn Hospice and W.I.funds in the Market Hall, from 10.00 to 12.00 noon. We hope to see many of our friends for a coffee and chat!

Liz Smurthwaite

CONGRATULATIONS

To Derek and Joan Deller of Eagle Lane, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 14th. That was just a few days after Her Majesty's own rather special occasion, so they were in good company.

They were married at St Michael's church in Maidstone, and lived in Kent, Lincolnshire and Warwickshire before moving to Shropshire about 30 years ago and on into Cleobury Mortimer ten years later.

With three children, ten grand children and two great grand children they must have had quite a celebration. Here's to many more.

SILLY BIT

"I'm sure that wherever my Dad is, he's looking down on us. He's not dead, just very condescending."

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CLEOBURY COUNTRY MARKET TAKES OFF



Showing off local produce outside the Parish Church are, from left, Sue Davis of Cleobury Country, William Henry of Talbot Store and Tabatha Leigh of Natural England.

Put this one in your diaries and come along for a taste treat on July 14th. It's the launch of Cleobury Country Market, with 15 or more local produce stalls in the church, plus a pig roast and craft stalls. Darren Broome the Bitterley Blacksmith will be outside with his remarkable iron works - lovely craftwork.

This new venture replaces the old Taste of Cleobury that never overcame clashing with the giant Food Festival at Ludlow. Chris Tibbitts is the organiser and told us: "The aim is to showcase and promote locally produced food." That's what Cleobury Country is all about, of course.

And you can try your hand at archery (surely not in the church?) with Cleobury Archers, just the right touch as county archer Alison Williamson prepares for the big event in London.

If you are a local food producer and would like a stall to test reaction, a call to Cleobury Country on CM 272300 could be a good investment. And the space is free. You don't get better value than that.

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

The final few weeks of the term are upon us and the children are getting excited about their summer holidays. We are doing many activities centred around this, and looking at different countries they may be travelling to. This also links in to thinking about the countries competing in the Olympics and looking at the many sports we might be seeing in the games.

At this time, families may be looking for childcare for the new term. In September, Kinlet Family Playgroup will be offering sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, opening 9am-3.15pm. (Our 'Little Tiddlers' parent and child sessions will continue to run within the Thursday morning session - 9.30-11.30am, £2.50 per child.) We offer excellent childcare and educational facilities in our rural yet easily accessible location, in the grounds of Kinlet C of E School, so have excellent links if you are considering enrolling your child there.

If you would like more information or would like to arrange a visit before the end of term, please call 07794 166514, Mon-Fri. We look forward to welcoming you.

Zoe Pearson

THE BOWLS CLUB

On May 26th, 50 people took part in the in the Royal British Legion Poppy Fund Day, from the Cleobury Mortimer and Far Forest/Rock branches. Due to other engagements, Clee Hill and Tenbury branches could not

attend, but I hope they will be able to join us on September 22nd for Day Two of the Competition to raise further money for the Poppy Fund.

A great rain free day was had by all. Doubles Teams were divided into pairs of Bowlers and Non Bowlers. Each Team played three Games, over five ends. The winning pair were Mike Arrowsmith, Bowling Club and Charles Watkins, Cleobury Legion scoring 21 shots. The Trophy Shield was presented to them.

The total amount raised on the Day was £170.00 from entrance fees, refreshments and a raffle with an addition of another £9.00 in small change collected over a period of time for the Poppy Fund and the Air Ambulance.

Dave Harley

GREETINGS FROM DOWN UNDER

We were delighted to get a long distance e-mail early in June. All the way from New Zealand.

It was Mrs Sara McSorley, who 40 somethings may remember better as Sara Taylor when she was a single girl living at Clows Top. "I would just like to say how great it is to be able to catch up on the local news online. We emigrated to New Zealand four years ago from Cleobury, where I had lived most of my life. A part of us will always be there," she wrote.

If you ever needed proof that this is a small world, here it is. The Clarion is available all around the world.

We have asked Sara if she's interested in becoming the Clarion's Southern Hemisphere Special Correspondent. No reply so far....maybe market prices of penguin meat wouldn't have much appeal.



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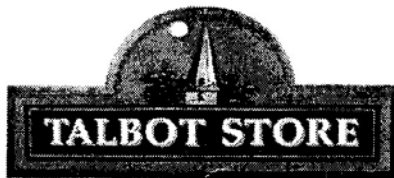
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

GREAT MONEY SAVING OPPORTUNITY

Cleobury Country is joining in a Midlands wide scheme to get older houses better insulated and easier to keep warm. It's a scheme organised and delivered by the Marches Energy Agency, and British Gas.

The target is houses with solid walls, particularly where the heating is by coal or electricity. As most heat loss in houses is through the walls - up to 45 percent - there's clearly a lot of energy to be saved and bills to be trimmed. What this scheme offers is an insulating coat that is applied either to the outside; obviously if the outside is treated, there's less upset to the household. If there's any doubt about planning consent for an outside treatment, such as in a conservation area, British Gas can handle the matter.

What the house owner gets is a better looking building, with a protective coat that will prolong its life, and much reduced draughts as any cracks are filled by the coating. And if anyone in the household is getting income-related benefit, from Housing Benefit and Income Support through to a War Disablement Pension or Child Tax Credit, there is funding that gets even better if the house is one of those using coal or electricity.

It is estimated that external insulation can save up to £475 a year on fuel costs (This savings figure source is [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk / energy-saving-assumptions](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-saving-assumptions), May 2012) and households eligible for maximum funding may even find it covers 100% of the cost, effectively giving you free insulation. British Gas

arrange the funding, you have a range of finishes to choose from, and the job from first survey to final completion and cleaning up the site is done by British Gas. Just to round it all off, the cherry on the cake is a 10 year manufacturer's warranty. And you don't have to be a British Gas customer to benefit

People in likely areas will be contacted by a local person at first and after a questionnaire has been filled in to establish if the house is eligible, a British Gas Energy Expert will look at the property and advise the best treatment and any cost involved.

There will be public meetings for likely customers - look out for notices in the Clarion and other local newsletters - and there will be mailshots coming through the door if you live in one of the identified target areas. Each area will have a local contact to pass on enquiries, in Cleobury Mortimer it's Parish Councillor Geoff Hainsworth, who's on e-mail goh7@hotmail.co.uk

As we hear of other local contacts being established we'll keep you posted.

One last point you should be aware of. The funding for this excellent offer won't last forever, and all applications need to be made by the end of September this year. Do not sit back and wait to apply - this could save you a lot of money in a world where fuel costs are not going to come down.

MADGE SHINETON WRITES

1: Blue disabled badges:

I am interested in any problems people may have experienced

with obtaining blue disabled badges.

2: Countryside Explorer Bus:

Highley Councillor Mary Nicholls and I are trying to find fund an Explorer Bus, to run next year April to October, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays. We are interested in hearing from anyone who would be interested in using it if we are successful.

3: The Bridgnorth Saturday Community Bus:

We have at last managed to find another way to provide a bus to run every Saturday morning to Bridgnorth, provided by Bridgnorth District Community Transport Group. Cost is a membership subscription of £3.00 per annum and either a bus pass or fare of £6.00 return. Pick up in Stottesdon is 9.20am at the Fighting Cocks, with a further pick up in Chorley by the Chapel.

For more information and to book a seat ring 01746768539.

4: Overhanging trees and bushes:

May I appeal to all land owners to check any boundary hedges which are next to roads or footpaths for overhanging foliage and to cut them back.

Thank you. *Madge*

SILLY BITS

Lady in restaurant to waiter: 'I'm going to order a broiled, skinless chicken with a side order of salad without dressing. And I want you to bring me a lasagna with garlic bread by mistake.'

'My doctor told me to start my exercise programme gradually. Today I drove past a store that sells sweat pants.'

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Clarion Clippings - The Local Good News

DOUBLE CENTURY CONGRATULATIONS

What a wonderful piece of news this is - two centenarians in Cleobury Mortimer.

The first is Mrs Margaret Price, resident at St Mary's, who saw her 100th birthday in with family and friends on June 12th. Mrs Price is a remarkably independent lady, who will catch the bus to Kidderminster and then travel on to Worcester on her own. I know that because I talked to her as she waited at the bus stop.

The second is Mrs Norma Bratt, who will be 100 on July 15th. There will be a special ringing of the bells at the Parish Church after the Family Service to commemorate her most notable date.

Jim Reynolds

ONE INVITATION....

From Jim Martin:

Come and join us at the Over 60's (or thereabouts) Pub Lunch Club held at the Talbot Inn. We meet every 1st. & 3rd. Monday at 12.30 for a main meal, dessert and tea or coffee and a good old chat. Guests are welcome to join us. Martin and his staff do us proud at £7.50.

Help with transport is arranged. Meals must be booked by ringing Jim on CM 271532. Maybe we'll see you there.

Jim Martin

....AND ANOTHER

From Betty Ladek:

The Charles Beal Dance Club meets every Tuesday at Lacon Childe School, starting at 8.00 and dancing on until 10.30. Please don't be afraid to come and join us, you will get instruction on the dances and makes friends very quickly.

We also hold social evenings. For example, on June 6th we had a dinner at Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club. A very successful evening with 25 attending and the meal and service by the Club was quite excellent.

Please come and support us. Old and new members are very welcome. If interested, please ring me on CM 270322.

Betty Ladek

A BIG THANK YOU

Mrs Audrey Taylor, whose tireless work for the Knowle Sports Association has done so much for that community, wants to acknowledge some of those who have helped the cause:

Knowle Sports Committee, Clew Hill, wish to thank Mr Robin Ayres, manager of Clew Hill Plant, for the loan of a roller free of charge. Also for letting Des Edwards undertake the rolling of our new improved sports field, which has cost in the region of £63,000.

This money has been raised through our Thursday and Saturday sales over the last 20 years. The field will hopefully be in use for August, when a Football Friendly is to be held.

The Committee also wishes to thank everyone for their support and patience over the last two years, while these improvements have taken place.

Audrey Taylor

THREE CHEERS

On Friday July 27th, a mini bus will leave the Smithfield Car Park in Ludlow, for a tour of the Shropshire Hills and to enjoy sampling local cider, beer and wine.

It will be visiting three local drink producers, Mahorall

Farm Cider at Nash, Hobsons Brewery at Cleobury Mortimer and Ludlow Vineyard at Clew St Margaret.

Project Officer, Jodie Griffith: "There will be tasters and nibbles at each business, with a guided tour of the premises and a free gift to take home at the end of the evening."

This is one of the Discover Local Project events organised by the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership to raise awareness and use of local products.

The minibus will leave Ludlow at 3.00pm from Smithfield Car Park, Lower Galdeford in Ludlow and return by 8.00. Cost is £17.50 or £15 for Friends of the Shropshire Hills AONB. Places are limited so please contact Jodie to book, on 01588 674090 or email jodie.griffith@shropshire.gov.uk

STOTTESDON W.I.

In place of our June meeting an outing was planned to Halfpenny Green Vineyard on one of the few summery days that month. A pleasant morning was spent browsing the little shops before lunch. The fresh preparation of the range of light lunches takes its time here, and for a leisurely outing this conservatory café and restaurant was a good choice.

We meet again on Wednesday 18th July at 7.30 pm at Sidbury Hall by invitation of Mrs Reed, who has kindly hosted our midsummer meeting for a number of years. Hannah Banks from Mortimer Solicitors will talk on 'Power of Attorney and Making a Will'. Give me a call if you would like to join us and need help with directions.

Marian Wootton
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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

A Good Idea Updated

We have spent the last few months here at Severn Edge Veterinary Group working on our latest offering to our clients. It is not a new idea, rather a re-imagining of a similar scheme that used to run while we were Hollybush Veterinary Group. We call it our Pet Health Plan.

In a nutshell, this plan is a convenient way of paying for your pets' annual healthcare in small and manageable monthly instalments. Included in the price is all of the routine flea and worming treatment that we would recommend for your pet at our normal dosing intervals (four times yearly for wormers, six times yearly for flea treatment). We include their annual vaccinations (Dogs for Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Parainfluenza, and Leptospirosis, but not Kennel Cough, Cats for Flu, Enteritis, and Leukaemia, Rabbits for Myxomatosis, and Viral Haemorrhagic Disease). We also include a free 6 month health check with a vet, and, as if that were not enough, we will give you a further 10% discount on everything else.

So, with the Pet Health Plan, you get to pay for your pets care with an easy to afford, agreed monthly amount, and avoid those big annual bills when you come in for vaccinations, flea treatment and wormers.

"How do I sign up?" – I'm glad you asked... Perhaps it is best to pick up the phone and speak to one of our receptionists about the plan and pricing structure before you make any further decisions. The plan is priced very competitively, but prices vary depending on your pets size. 01299 271967 is the number.

If you decide that the plan is right for you, then it's as easy as popping in to fill out a form. We will set up a direct debit for the agreed amount, and once everything is set up you can start to enjoy the benefits. There is a one-off £5 registration fee to cover administration time in setting up the direct debit.

Also available to members of the scheme, as an optional extra, is our Accidental Injury Cover. For a small additional monthly fee you can include insurance cover for treating accidental injuries up to £2500 per incident (subject to a small excess).

You can claim up to £5000 in any 12 month period. This cover will be extended to cover you while away on holiday (only in the UK) to obtain treatment for accidental injuries at the nearest available vets if necessary.

If you already have pet insurance – you will not need to take out our accidental injury cover.

Our scheme will also provide you with the facility to spread any large unforeseen bills (over £200) over a maximum of four months. Regrettably we cannot give you the 10% discount if this option is chosen.

If you think you may be interested, we have leaflets and brochures in all branches detailing the plan in plain English (not the gobbledy-gook you have just read), and our brilliant receptionists will be happy to take the time to explain the plan to you, or answer any questions you may have.

We feel this is a significant step in helping to spread the cost of pet keeping, and we hope you agree.

And for the Bubbles Watchers

Bubbles is well and just coming up to a year old now. He now knows what is naughty and not , and excels in doing naughty things all day long. The latest craze is climbing up the loft ladder and using the rafters as an adventure playground. He will sit underneath the loft hatch and meow until someone puts the ladder down for him!

Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS.

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Bayton - A Happy and Peaceful Place for Children

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It's transition time at Bayton C of E Primary School once again. Our new Reception children who start in September have just enjoyed their first induction afternoon, when they met their new Teacher and Teaching Assistant, Mrs Wooldridge and Mrs Farr. The children will be coming in to school for two more afternoons and one full day, when all our children move up into their new year groups for the day. Further, our year six children are all in the process of spending a day in their new schools. This year we have children going to Lacon Childe, Tenbury High, Stourport High and Kings in Worcester.

Our year six children have all worked so hard in their recent SATS exams and are now practising their Leavers' Service which is always a great success. They have all been a great pleasure to teach and we wish them well in their future schools. Due to two families relocating, we have two places in our Reception year for September. For further details, contact the school on 01299 832393.

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Another busy few weeks, with a visit from the Olympic torch with owner Meryl, who ran at Ludlow. The children were keen to share their experiences and Meryl was impressed with their knowledge of it at such a young age. Each had their photo taken as a keep sake. We celebrated the Jubilee with a party, a 'traditional lunch' followed by games and everyone took a party bag home with a slice of Union Jack cake. The veggie patch goes well and we have planted a good selection of vegetables, showing the children how things grow underground as well as on top. Summer holidays have been planned using ideas from the children and split into themed weeks with a whole host of different activities on offer and trips out to the Wyre Forest, a farm and the park.

Stacey



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What's in your drinking water?

Many prominent scientists are alarmed by the content of some drinking water and actively seek to change the processes involved. The practice of making water safe to drink actually involves adding large amounts of extremely poisonous chemicals to it. Key scientists are now providing evidence that long-term ingestion of small amounts of chemicals like these could be the cause of some major health problems. Here is a list of just a few of the chemicals routinely added to our water supply:

- *Liquified chlorine*
- *Fluorosilicic acid*
- *Aluminium sulphate*
- *Calcium hydroxide*
- *Sodium silicofluoride*

Even if the water leaves the source in a relatively clean state, don't forget that your water travels through pipes, which may have been underground since Victorian times. It is almost impossible for the water not to become contaminated by something undesirable.

Contaminants in Tap Water Tap water is treated with a large number of chemicals in order to kill bacteria and other microorganisms. In addition, it may contain other undesirable contaminants like toxic metal salts, hormones and pesticides, or it may become contaminated by chemicals or microbes within pipes (e.g. lead, bacteria, protozoa).



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Happenings on High Street

COMING SOON

Cleobury Chamber of Trade and Cleobury Country are cooperating in the creation of a novel scheme to encourage you to shop in the town.

It will be in two stages, the first one a series of special discount offers. If you buy one of those, you'll go into a local shopping draw and every three months the lucky name that comes out will win £250.

It starts in September and we'll have full details in the August issue.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This month's Parish Council meeting would normally be held on the 2nd, the first Monday. But to have details of the new public toilets available to discuss, they've moved this one to the 9th. It's in the Market Hall at 7.00 and the public may raise local issues in the first 15 minutes, in what is known as Democratic Time.

THANK YOU

Jim Hulme, chairman of Cleobury's branch of the Royal British Legion, would like to thank everyone who turned up to march on the Queen's Jubilee day and those who worked in support serving refreshments in the Market Hall. Despite the sort of weather that would put most people off leaving the house, there were about 100 stalwarts out there.

Jim is particularly proud of the number of youngsters who joined in, from the Scouts and Guides, Brownies and Cubs packs. "They are the future and isn't it good to see them turn out to support us?" he commented. Young people we should all be proud of.

NEW LADY IN CHARGE AT MCCARTNEYS



Mary Stone-Belben has recently been appointed manager of the McCartney's branch on the High Street. She comes with a good track record as manager of the Tenbury Wells branch, voted McCartney's Office of the Year for 2011. She'll be supported at Cleobury by Michelle Deane, Kate Collins and Debbie Knight.

Her work here will mainly be carrying out market appraisals for sale and rental properties.

The recent merger with Phipps and Pritchard gives the Cleobury McCartney's short-lead contacts in Kidderminster and Stourport to offer a dense local spread for their sales effort. Regional Head Chris Rees says Cleobury Mortimer is "...a key office for us, covering some of the most sought-after areas."

We wish Mary well with her expanded responsibilities and look forward to Cleobury topping the poll as Office of the Year some time in the future.

CLEOBURY IN BLOOM - AN INVITATION

Why don't you come along to the Market Hall on Saturday July

14th to join the Horticultural Society's annual Cleobury in Bloom award event? We shall be presenting prizes to the winners of the primary schools' gardening competition, the Lacon Childe School allotment competition and to our own members for the best full and half plots at Greens Barn allotments. Also, we shall award prizes to the winners of the Horticultural Society's competition for local gardeners. This year, we have invited the many and varied clubs and societies in Cleobury to nominate or encourage their members to enter the competition in one or more of five categories: front garden, back garden, vegetable garden, containers and new garden developed in the last two years. The event starts at 1.30pm, so come and celebrate the green-fingered successes of our community. *Flo Hadley*

PUMP HOUSE APPEAL

The Pumphouse is a local historical gem, built in 1900 to filter and chlorinate water from the Wells for local use. In the late 70s the water was deemed unfit to drink and supplies came from elsewhere.

The Guides and Scouts raised the money to refit the Pumphouse and today it houses the vibrant Guiding and Scouting movements. It is used every week day for at least two meetings.

We are seeking new blood to replace the out-going committee, to whom we are greatly indebted. We require a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary that are not current leaders. The commitment is limited to four meetings a year and some assistance in fundraising to update and maintain the building.

If you are interested please contact Kate Pearce on 01299 272745 for more detailed information.

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Star of the Small Ads - Lower Street Garage



Martin and 1965 Ford Anglia 105E in the showroom. "A pair of front wings? £1,000 today."

Martin Smith has been running Lower Street Garage since 1977. That's when his dad bought the place from Frank Harrold and Martin gave up working in the Birmingham motor trade to join him.

The garage prospered as they developed the business. They were agents for what was Morris and went on to become British Leyland and finally Austin Rover.

In 1969, when business for a country garage was much easier, the current workshop had been built and new fuel tanks were installed in 1970, with a new forecourt. Martin offers a measure of how the business has changed: "30 years ago there were 22,000 petrol stations in the country. Now there are about 8,500." The garage stopped selling fuel in

2005, when the tanks needed replacing, at a cost that would run into six figures, and country garages made a few pence on every litre.

Today the business prospers because of loyal customers who trust the people they know to give a good, honest service. "New people to the town come in and try us," explains Martin. "The motor trade's got a terrible reputation, but customers do come back because they like what we do. Some of them leave the car and the keys, and just say 'Ring me when it's ready'."

That's a level of trust you won't find in many places, but Martin's been here 35 years, Tony Mullard is about to retire after 50 years and Gene Kemp has been around a long time and will continue with his magic touch with everything auto electrical.

Trust is vital to this business, as Martin appreciates: "You can spend £500 on your car and not see what we've done, unless it's obvious stuff like changing tyres." You'll only know thousands of miles later how thorough the work was.

He gets pretty worked up about some of the prices he sees charged. Like the luxury car service he's been asked to quote for, where one dealer is asking £15.00 a litre for oil. "I'll charge him £6.50 and still make a profit," he

explains. "The trouble is that in the current climate people will cut corners and miss out on services, because modern cars are so well made." At those prices for oil, you can see why. It makes a lot more sense to use an established garage with low overheads and a good local reputation.

And with the motor trade distributors offering a really rapid service on parts, there's very little that can't be delivered next day, whatever the make of the car. Alright, maybe not for a Ferrari.

His own choice is a Ford Mondeo turbo diesel: "A super car, good to drive and economical." And in the showroom is an original 1965 Ford 105E Anglia that's his plaything: "Did about 300 miles last year. It had one owner before me and it's done just 38,000 miles." He's had lots of offers, but don't waste your time asking - it's not for sale.

35 years on, does he still enjoy 8.00 to 6.00 five days a week and all the little problems cars and an MoT station can bring? "The human contact is the nicest bit." And who will replace Tony Mullard when he retires at the end of the month? No names at this stage, but an experienced mechanic is lined up to follow in Tony's footsteps.

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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

This year the Localism Act comes into force to empower those who serve the local community on the Parish or Town Councils. I applaud the commitment which local people put into running their local council. They make decisions which affect the communities in which they live, and do so as unpaid volunteers. They rarely get any thanks for their public service.

The main objective of the Act is to provide councils at parish level with powers to take more responsibility for what happens in their area. This will become increasingly relevant in planning, where for years people have complained that planning authorities do not take sufficient account of local concerns. It will combine with Government changes to the planning regulations, condensing over 1,000 pages of rules and regulations into 50 pages of overarching principles. Local Neighbourhood Plans will become the building blocks of the planning regime for areas that choose to adopt them.

In Shropshire we are in the midst of consultation on the County Council's work to develop a new planning policy, to replace differing policies of former councils. This is aimed to dovetail with the development of local plans. In the Ludlow Constituency, Much Wenlock and Lydbury North are developing Local Neighbourhood Plan pilots, not just by the local council but with wider engagement by volunteers interested to help the community decide what sort of development it is prepared to see within the council area.

The Localism Act also seeks to make it easier for public spirited individuals to participate in their local council. From 1st July new regulations come into effect to simplify the disclosure requirements on those who serve as town or parish councillors.

I am aware of some concern about the new rules, not only from constituents but also raised with me on Midlands Today last month. It is important that integrity of our local councils is maintained by transparent declarations of financial interests. But to be clear, the new disclosure regulations are improving the 2001 rules to simplify disclosure and remove some of the petty requirements (such as notifying any gift worth over £25 from a local resident!) or those that were subjective, such as the perception by a local resident of a conflict. The Standards Board is being abolished, since it had become a vehicle for petty and vexatious disputes between councillors; thousands of trivial cases were brought and rejected each year.

With new powers our parishes need to ensure they have the capacity to use them. In May 2013 all local parish and town councils in Shropshire have elections when I hope local residents who want to get involved will come forward so that we can have contested elections, not party political, to ensure you will have the opportunity to choose the best candidates to reinvigorate your newly empowered council.

Philip Dunne MP

Missed your copy of The Cleobury Clarion? It can happen. Knowing that many readers have busy lives that can't be ruled by the simple matter of picking up your local newsletter, we've put it out on in the most public forum of all, the internet. Just type in www.cleoburyclarion on the 4th of the month.



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The July Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sun 1	10.00am	CMFA meet at the Parish Church for another Parish Walk. All welcome		
	10.30am	Developing Grassland tuition at the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre in Craven Arms. £5.00 a head.		
	11.00am	Bewdley Local Produce Market is in the town centre Load Street offering local fine food and quality craft.		
Wed 4	10.00am	Short Social Walk from the Fitness Centre	Ian Pearmain	01694 722077
	5.00pm	-9.00pm Special Late Evening at Cross House Arts, with artist Rod Willis making a personal appearance. SEE PAGE 53.		01299 832616
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington village hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 5		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.00pm	Rock Pathfinders walk starts at Manor Arms Inn, Abberley	Alan	01299 400304
Fri 6	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 7	1.30pm	Rock Fun Day at their outstanding village hall		
Sat 7/ Sun 8		The Horticultural Society's "Cleobury in Bloom" puts the town's best gardens on show, with prizes to be won.		
Mon 9	7.00pm	Revised date for Parish Council Meeting, Market Hall		
Tue 10	7.30am	St Mary's Breakfast Club meet in the King's Arms, to hear Wade Muggleton talk on "Permaculture"		
	2.00pm	Doddington Friendship Club, Village Hall. Ellie Targett talks about "Other Men's Shoes"		
	7.30pm	Cleobury WI meets in the Parish Hall to hear about "Norway in a Nutshell"		
Wed 11	11.00am	Short Social Walk from Severn Hospice Shop, High Street	Ian Pearmain	01694 722077
	12.30pm	Ladies Luncheon Club meets at The Royal Fountain, Church St	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	8.00pm	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thu 12		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.30pm	Friends of St Mary's Fashion Show, Edinburgh Woollen Mill Shop, Ludlow	Jo Booton	07969 104808
Fri 13		The Smallholding Series of classes at Unicilys Farm covers "Selling It" and the rules you have to observe		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Marys Village Hall		

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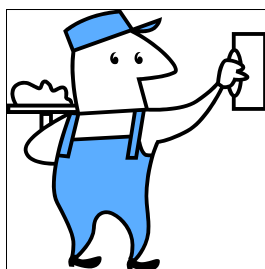
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The July Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Fri 13 / Sun 15		The Hole in the Wall Festival brings a party and music to Hopton Court enquiries@portculliseventmanagement.co.uk		
Sat 14	10.00am	WI Charity Coffee Morning at the Market Hall. SEE PAGE 7.		
	10.00am	Cleobury Country Market is a brand new venture, in and around the Parish Church with lots of flavours to sample and crafts to see. SEE PAGE 9.		
	2.00pm	Summer Fair at St Mary's Place, Love Lane, with the Rangers and Severn Hospice in support.		
	7.30pm	Stourport Choir in a Concert of British Music at Kidderminster Town Hall. Tickets on phone number or on the door		01562 751918
Sat 14/ Sun 15	11.00am	Open Gardens in Stottesdon and Chorley. Wide range to appeal to all tastes. SEE PAGE 5.		
Wed 18	10.00am	Short Social Walk from Fitness Centre. See 4 th July above	Ian Pearmain	01694 722077
	7.30pm	Stottesdon WI meet at Sidbury Hall. Speaker: Hannah Banks on "Making a Will". SEE PAGE 17		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 19		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders walk starts at Dog Inn, Dunley	Alan	01299 400304
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan Evans	CM 271104
Fri 20	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 21/ Sun 22	10.00am	Leominster Kite Festival at Berrington Hall, on A49 near Leominster. For details		01568 615721
Tue 24		"Treetastic Tuesdays" start at Wyre Forest and run through August. SEE PAGE 49.		
Wed 25	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall. SEE PAGE 7		
Thu 26		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Neen Savage Parish Hall	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 27		"Forest Fridays" start at Wyre Forest. SEE PAGE 49		
	3.00pm	Bus Tour of local drink producers leaves Ludlow. SEE PAGE 17		
Sat 28	10.00am	Summer Craft and Gift Fair at the Methodist Church, Church Street. SEE PAGE 7	Rev Helen Roberts	01584 819649
Mon 30	9.00am	"Wild in Wyre" offers three full days for 8 to 11 year olds. SEE PAGE 49		
		AND LOOKING AHEAD TO AUGUST		
Wed 1	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 2		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		



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Tony Mullard - The 50 Year Man

Tony Mullard left school 50 years ago, aged 15, and walked into a job the very same day. "I heard there was one going at Lower Street Garage and went to see Frank Harrold that evening. He said 'Can you mend that bike? If you can, you get the job.' "

"It was the delivery bike for Lloyds the Grocers, where Spar is now. I got it fixed and Frank said 'Right, you can start on Monday.' Been here ever since."

He worked alongside mechanics Ken Harrold and Bob Phillips, with no formal apprenticeship but loads of good advice to call on. When he was 17. and a half, the same Bob Phillips and John Davis came calling at home, to talk to his brother about joining the local volunteer fire brigade. "He wasn't interested, though it sounded good to me, but you couldn't join until you were 18." He signed up on his birthday, quickly passed the test of knowing where everything on the fire engine was, and ended up 37 years later retiring as station sub officer.

He learned to balance work at the garage with sudden absences when there was a fire, and tried to work extra hours in the evening to make up for it. In the tinder dry summer of 1976, when the strain on the fire service was at its maximum, he went to work in the evenings to try to catch up."At times there were just four of us on call and you went to bed with your trousers laid out on the floor, your socks in the pockets and your shoes as loose as you could get them, so they'd slip on quickly. If there was a call

you finished dressing on the way there in the engine." If that all sounds just a bit like Fred Karno's Army, it certainly wasn't. The Cleobury Brigade was highly rated by the full time professionals who would call and inspect them.

Tony's hours were 8.00 to 6.00 Monday to Friday and 8.00 to 1.00 Saturdays. That was the theory, the practise was much longer, with petrol pumps on the kerbside to look after and local tradesmen to keep on the road. "Thursday was half day closing, so we used to have all the local businesses' vans in to service, and we'd stay until it was finished. Me and Bob Phillips have been in here at midnight on a Thursday, changing the gearbox on a van."

The old garage was very different from today. As well as the roadside pumps, which opened for business from 7.00 until 9.00, to one side was a fish and chip shop. He smiles at that memory: "I had to get in early on a Wednesday to get plenty of potatoes through the peeler, before I started work and got my hands oily." The place was a fast food outlet as well as the garage business.

He's full of praise for bosses like Martin Smith, as well as workmates, who have tolerated him disappearing when a Fire and Rescue call came through. That work has changed drastically through the years, from mainly house fires to a higher percentage being road traffic accidents today. As open fires gave way to central heating, so the number of house fires dropped.



Tony - 50 years of not being afraid to get his hands dirty.

He doesn't have a romantic view of the many vehicles he's worked on. "The first car I had was an old Austin. Cost me £4.50, kept it two years and sold it for £6.00," he laughs. "We used to be rebuilding engines when they'd only done 40,000 miles. My Vauxhall Vectra has done 200,000 and it still does 50 miles to the gallon." As a retirement present to himself he's bought the newest car he's ever owned, a six months old Ford Focus Turbo Diesel. With his knowledge and experience, he knows a good buy when he sees it.

He quits work at Lower Street Garage at the end of this month, but with his enthusiasm for life and energy you can't imagine him putting his feet up and doing nowt. There are the grandchildren to play with, places he wants to see, quiet pints in The Bell to savour. But you can bet the neighbours will call round if they have a little problem; he'll still be getting his hands dirty.



Cleobury Country Market

St Mary's Church
14th July 2012
10am - 1pm

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Woodworking Charity Meats Kids Treasure Hunt
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We Celebrated the Jubilee with Flowers



In St Mary's, Cleobury, this lovely flower orb captured the spirit of the Queen's Coronation in 1953.

Her Majesty's 60th Jubilee was celebrated in many churches around the area, with flowers wonderfully crafted in a range of displays.



Outside the church, a line of bright banners really caught the eye and drew visitors into the display.

Even though Saturday was a dull, wet day both St Mary's in Cleobury and St John the Baptist in Doddington attracted visitors with their lovely displays. The bunches of flowers either side of the climbing path to St John's shone through the inevitable mist to welcome people.



At St John the Baptist in Doddington the pulpit became the centre of a children's garden party



And Doddington hadn't forgotten HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, with this model of a Royal Navy Corvette, complete with a picture of the Duke and a letter from Buckingham Palace.

So much work had gone into this proud day, a reminder of the volunteers who plan, spend on flowers and produce lovely work for many occasions through the year.

Others had been working on a competition in St Mary's, where children were asked to make a crown. The editor was rather overcome to be asked to pick the winners, no easy job with such capable young talent on show, but decisions were made and the result was: First - Lexi

Colquitt; 2nd - Ruth Parker; 3rd - Hannah Lupton.

Fund raising was part of the weekend, and at Doddington the count included refreshments and a donation from flower provider and decoration tutor Rachael at Wild at Heart to produce a grand total of £315.77.

In Cleobury, with a bigger congregation and church, the Festival and Tea Party produced a handsome profit of £1213.95. As volunteer Carol Turner put it: "Not bad, considering the weather."

AND THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB HAD A GRAND DAY



The Cleobury Mortimer Friendship Club had a special Jubilee Buffet Lunch in the Parish Hall on Sunday June 3rd, with films of Her Majesty's 60 years reign to entertain and evoke memories. Displayed on the big screen used for the Flicks in the Sticks evenings, it was a grand show.

25 members were there, Janet Rollston was the hostess and with a grant that Val Breakwell managed to raise, the whole treat cost them not one penny. On top of all that, everyone was given a souvenir Jubilee mug, and that includes the volunteers who work to make the regular meetings such a friendly success.

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Clive Davies' Westwood Diary

WESTWOOD FARM DIARY 19th June

The seasons are moving on, but it's becoming pretty difficult to tell them apart. The most suited summer weather was early in the year and now that we could do with some harvesting conditions, it's more like spring growing type weather or alternatively winter. The difficulty that the late growing season has resulted in is too much grass all at once. The situation is almost unmanageable. Modern day thinking suggests that if there are surplus supplies, get the mower out and cut it down thus providing a yield of conserved forage. That's fine in theory but many of the fields that have beaten the stock are not the ones that lend themselves to a tractor cutting swathes and in any case the weather window has hardly been long enough to get from the tractor cab to open the field gate let alone complete a decent job.

The abundance of grass has led to the cattle and sheep having too much intake and it has not helped their digestive systems at all. A good many folk are commenting that animals did better last year when growth was minimal when compared with this time. Just shows what happens when there's too much of a good thing! However, in amongst it all the lambing and spring calving have been completed and were reasonably successfully.

Both species have provided about two thirds of female offspring and from our breeding and potential sales point of view that is very good. The lambs born at the end of March have not been weaned yet and with the good grass supply will stay with their dams a little longer yet. We have to keep an eye on worm burden

and have already dosed on a couple of occasions. The calves are developing well. They started life OK but are moving forward now at rapid speed. The cows are milking well what with a good food supply and we have just got the stock-bulls out with the breeders to start the process again.

We have recently sold off our remaining saleable breeding bulls so have only some young top prospects awaiting possible clients. Sheep management tasks are up to date. We were very fortunate to have been able to get the last of the woolled sheep shorn on Holiday Monday. There was a very big risk of fly strike at about that time what with the warm temperatures and damp conditions. All is much better now that the ewes have lost their fleeces and in that we have treated the lambs with a pour-on material, hopefully everything should be safe.

We have the summer Shropshire Sheep sale at Shrewsbury to prepare for. Two rams and five ewes are entered. It proved a very good outlet last year and so with the sheep here looking promising, we hope for a better result this time. There seems to be good interest in the breed with a useful number of enquiries coming forward. Preparations are ongoing to get to some agricultural shows. We have completed a couple with some encouraging results. However, we do have a very impressive bull that has not yet quite met our expectations. We might need to work a little harder with this, because proper preparation prevents poor performance!

Clive Davies



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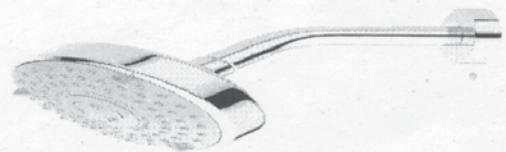
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McCartneys Ludlow Market Trends Report

FINISHED CATTLE – 358

As one buyer left the ring he was heard to say “these are some sort of rent today”. Whatever your deadweight prices this week, it isn’t enough. Everybody tells us when the deadweight is going up how much the cattle are worth. With respect you work these out per kilo deadweight. Steers reached £1,747.00 per head, heifers reached £1,467.00, young bulls £2,140.00, cull bulls £1,339.00 and cull cows £1,334.00. More cattle could have easily been sold.

BARREN COWS & OVER 48 MONTHS CATTLE – 48

A tremendous trade again with genuine barreners up to 177.5p per kilo.

FINISHED SHEEP – 3,506

A brighter lamb trade with quality and meat at a marked premium. Best lambs up to 245.0p per kilo.

Export quality lambs sold up to 245.0p per kilo and averaged 203.3p per kilo and home trade lambs sold up to 199.5p per kilo and averaged 196.8p per kilo.

The killing ewes on offer were another very sharp trade with killing ewes sold up to £124.00 and an overall

average of £64.80. Killing rams up to £108.50 and an overall average of £101.50.

STORE CATTLE – 300

A marvellous trade. Plenty of buyers in attendance with all of the steers averaging 211.0p per kilo, all of the heifers 197.0p per kilo and all of the bulls to include Friesians 190.0p per kilo. Steers peaked at 249.0p per kilo, heifers 245.0p per kilo and bulls 235.0p per kilo. A lot of cattle, both steers and heifers, over £1,000 per head again. Many more are needed.

STORE SHEEP – 41

The first of the new season of store lambs met a strong trade. Stores lambs to £65.00 per head averaged £57.00. Only small lambs on offer.

CALVES & WEANLINGS – 25

An increased entry and a good trade. Bull calves sold to £375 and averaged £212. Heifer calves to £275 averaged £250. Weaned bull calves – mostly Friesians to £284 and averaged £269. Weaned steer calves to £485 and weaned heifer calves to £430 averaging £340. More needed.

Jo Ince 26th June

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY'S MARATHON MEN

Every one of our three entries made it to the finish....

The London Marathon is a huge event. The biggest charity fund raising single event in the world, it attracts a huge entry and world wide publicity. This year there were three Cleobury entrants, all men.

Rob Cooper didn't make the 2011 event because of a late training injury that left him limping for months, but this year he covered the course in 3 hours, 58 minutes and 33 seconds, to raise £1200 for his chosen children's cancer support charity, Monty's Corner.

Matt Yarranton had given himself a hard training schedule for his first big event and he crossed the line in less than the magic four hour figure to raise

£1507 for Get Kids Going, which helps to fund wheelchairs for disabled children to take part in sporting events. Will he do it again? “No, but I might do the Birmingham Half Marathon later this year.”

And finally **Wayne Smith**, head brewer at Hobson's and touching people's hearts as he ran in memory of his lost daughter Milly, raising money for the pregnancy problems charity Tommy's.

Wayne made it across the line in 4 hours and 5 minutes and is determined to crack the four hour barrier when he runs next year. And he'll be out to top his fund raising achievement of this year, when he hit £3,620!

Gentlemen, you are all heroes. Even better, you did it for others and for that you deserve everyone's thanks and praise.

DODDINGTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Alison Osborne reports:

What a way to celebrate your 50th birthday, by riding a Harley-Davidson motorcycle along the famous Route 66 in America. This is exactly what Penny Salisbury did for her 50th.

We had a most interesting talk and slide presentation by Penny, sharing her experiences with us on her tour. To ride a 600 lbs motorcycle over a short distance is one thing, but to do it over this whole route was absolutely amazng.

A very enjoyable and fascinating afternoon.

SILLY BITS

‘I used to know a really good joke about amnesia.’

‘A friend of mine owned a cardboard business. But it folded.’

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY

PATIENTS' VOICE

Our group met on June 18th, when Keith Billson, from Oswestry and Shropshire Citizen Advocacy gave a talk. This group prepares volunteers to become advocates for people with learning difficulties. Keith lives in Cleobury and is OSCA's South Shropshire coordinator. If you wish to learn more about this fantastic organisation e-mail keith.osca@fiscali.co.uk.

Men's Health is our target group for this year, especially Prostate Cancer. We have contacted various charities and NHS organisations, but none are willing to undertake random testing in Cleobury. But they have agreed to have a stall at one event in Cleobury this year, which we thought could be at the Classic Bike Show.

We received a comment about Medical Centre staff parking in disabled spaces in the Car Park next to the Centre. The Practice has now agreed that all able bodied staff should use the temporary car park the other side of the building unless it is too dark and they need to be closer for safety reasons.

Another suggestion was space in the new Medical Centre for Alternative Therapies, but the Practice cannot be seen to favour any one therapist. They do not dismiss alternative therapies, but these are unlikely to be in the new Centre. It would also be sensible to discuss any therapy with your GP, before you have it, to make sure it would not be detrimental to your condition.

All comments sent to us get investigated. If you feel able, please do put your name and address on the Comments Card. All contacts are treated confidentially, but if we have

more details we will be able to get a better outcome for concerns.

Cleobury Compassionate Communities (Cleobury Co Co) is a new project for the vulnerable of our community. The paid part-time Coordinator is hoped to be in post by early October. We urgently need to get new volunteers trained so we can start taking clients as soon as the Coordinator is in post. If you can spare an hour or more a week, contact Jenny McCrorie on 01299 271383. Training has been set up for the end of July and we urgently need volunteers for this.

Useful links & contacts:

Cleobury Mortimer Medical Centre : www.cleoburymortimermc.co.uk
Cleobury Patients' Voice email: cleoburypatientsvoice@hotmail.co.uk

THE FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER TOURNAMENT



They may be Juniors, but they're keen and very determined. You can see why club scouts visit events like this, to spot early talent.

It was a Five A Side soccer event and a Family Fun Day, the town playing field crammed with mini pitches and hundreds of determined players of all ages. With 50 clubs entered, from as far as Shrewsbury and Welshpool, it wasn't quite a record, but it was a very busy day.

The younger players impressed with their determination and a wide spread of talent from making up the numbers to smooth, stylish and one to watch. Derek Pearce, who's run a few events himself, was full of praise for Carl Brookes: "We couldn't run the football side without Carl."

The Bell Inn Band, with David Taylor wielding the baton, gave musical accompaniment of a high order and the Sports and Social Club had its doors wide open to offer whatever refreshment you most needed.

People stood and chatted, lots of smiles in place as the sun broke through. Lots to see, hear and do and at the end of the day the Nightingale Nursing Fund was better off by £3,000. Good job done.



The age range within the Bell Inn Band is confirmation of their long term planning to keep the talent coming.

FITNESS SILLY BITS

Doctor to seriously overweight man: 'What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour and day or being dead 24 hours a day?'

Woman to trainer: 'I have metal fillings and my fridge magnets pull me in. So I can't lose weight.'

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The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

Day	Time	Event	Contact	Phone	
Sun	08.30	Holy Communion, Parish Church		CM 270624	
	09.45	Parish Communion, Parish Church		CM 270624	
	09.00	Mass, St Elizabeth's, Lower Street	Canon Walsh	01584 872906	
	10.30	Cleobury Country Archers, Lacon Childe Sports Field	Lesley Burnside	CM 271374	
	10.30	New Life Church – for venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787	
	11.00	Morning Service, Methodist Church	Rev H Roberts	01584 819649	
Mon	08.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School Mon to Fri		07794 166514	
	08.00	Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon School Mon to Fri	Zoe Day	01746 71879	
	09.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe School Mon to Fri	April Rogers	CM 271418	
	09.00	CM Playgroup, Primary School, Mon to Fri	Jane Preece	07816 193933	
	09.30	Morning Workout, Sports Hall	Deena	CM 271317	
	10.00	Age UK, Monday Club, St Mary's Place	Sarah Wilde		
	15.45	Gym Club with Ann Davis, Lacon Childe Mon & Wed	Don Carter	CM 270312	
	18.30	Karate Club, Lacon Childe School	John Nelson	CM 879210	
	19.00	Tai Chi Class, Lacon Childe School	Rose Jacks	01584 875544	
	19.30	Rangers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Helen Smith	CM 270912	
	19.45	Bingo, CM Sports & Social Club	Alan Evans	CM 270114	
20.00	Women's Clog Dancing Classes	Linda Small	01746 718624		
Tue	10.00	Nippers, Moths & Tots, Methodist Hall, Church Street	Emma	CM 272959	
	14.00	Friendship Club, Parish Hall, Church Street	Janet Rolston	CM 270353	
	15.45	Ballet Class, Lacon Childe School	Liz Broadway	CM 251246	
	17.00	Sports Roundabout, Sports Hall, Love Lane		CM 271317	
	17.30	Beavers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Becky Keeley	CM 271416	
	18.45	Bridge Club Hopton Wafters Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562	
	19.00	Bell Ringers' practice night, St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808	
	19.30	Modern Dance Sequence Club, Lacon Childe School	E Wrigglesworth	01562 822291	
	Wed	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
		16.45	Gym Club for 6 & over, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
		17.15	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Emma Reynolds	CM 272746
19.00		Guides Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street			
19.00		Yoga Class with Anna, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312	
19.00		Zumba Class with Emma Forni, Lacon Childe School	Emma Forni	01746 862842	
19.30		CM Concert Brass Band practice, Parish Hall	Stella Wilcox	CM 270560	
19.30		New Life Church prayer meeting. For venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787	
19.30	Choir Practice, Parish Church	Philip Engleheart	CM 270627		
Thu	09.30	Little Tiddlers, Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School	Zoe Pearson	07794 166514	
	11.00	Sale of second hand goods, Knowle Sports Club, Clee Hill	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644	
	14.00	Scrabble Club, St Mary's Place, Non residents £1.00	Jo Booton	07969 104808	
	15.30	Cleobury Comets Netball, CM Sports Centre term time	Mandy Smith	CM 271809	
	17.30	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Rebecca Barnes	CM 272945	
	19.00	Bell Inn Band improvers rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street			
	19.15	Cubs Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Kate Pearce	07772 102986	
	19.30	Tums and Bums, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312	
	19.30	Adult 7-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre	Dave Hinves	CM 271317	
	20.00	Bell Inn Band rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street			
	20.00	11-16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317	
21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317		
Fri	10.00	Tiny Stots, Chorley Playgroup, Stottesdon School	Zoe Day	01746 717769	
	10.00	Tiny Tots, Parish Hall	Bettina Poole	CM 271868	
	17.30	Rainbows Meeting, girls 5-7 years, Old Pump House	Jean Basham	07792 813774	
	19.00	Scout Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Chris Andrews	CM 270937	
	20.00	Badminton, CM Sports Centre		01584 881359	
Sat	08.30	Sale of second hand goods, Knowle Sports Club, Clee Hill	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644	
	10.30	Junior Coaching, CM Golf Club, Wyre Common	Robert Watkins	CM 271112	



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THE CHARITY SHOP THAT KNOWS HOW TO APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC



All smiles as Lesley Burnside of the Chamber of Trade hands over the Olympic Torch Best Dressed Window Cup to Gayna Woodland of the Severn Hospice shop (left) and Craft Club organiser Catherine Evans.

It was a happy evening at Cleobury Country Centre when the Clarion Cup for the best dressed Olympic Torch themed window was handed over to the Severn Hospice shop on June 19th. Manager Gayna Woodland was warm in praise of her staff of volunteers and the craft club members who produced the team of mice who featured in the stadium.

We chatted to Gayna, whose drive has made the shop such a success, and proudly explained that the income from the gift aided donations at the Cleobury branch were just under £8,500 in 2011, the second highest result in the charity's 21 shops.

An even more impressive figure is the amount of income that actually gets to the user. The national average for charities is between 30 and 40 percent. Severn Hospice achieves 82!

The standard of window displays at 16 High Street sets a level for other traders to aspire to. And it works as one of their selling tools: choice items in the window attract the attention of evening visitors and they get phone calls about them. "People ask if we keep changing the window displays because the volunteers are bored, but we say it's definitely not, it's because we've sold what's on show," she laughs.

Stock is turned over. If an item doesn't sell within three weeks, it's moved on to another branch. If it's not sold within six weeks of coming into stock, it goes out for recycling. That is Severn Hospice policy and it pays: "We get asked if we've got something in another size, but I tell the customer it's an exclusive, we only have one," Gayna grins. She's a canny saleswoman too.

She is full of praise for her staff of 25 volunteers: "They are absolutely outstanding and will go above and beyond the call of duty. It's simple - if you treat people with respect, they'll respond. And I couldn't do this job without Jayne Leach, my assistant manager."

That Olympic stadium of mice was a product of the Tuesday evening craft club that Catherine Evans leads. "I've had a lot of enquiries about the welfare of the mice," says Gayna. "They're currently in respite care at Baldwin's Bookshop and Myfanwy Baldwin is keeping the girls separate from the boys," she assures. That's good news, as it means no risk of the town being overrun by knitted mice.

FUNNY BLOOD

It isn't funny at all. Funnyblood is the movement

started by Ruby Edwards of Pershore when her son Noah was diagnosed with Platelet Function Disorder, which leaves the patient vulnerable to bruising and bleeding. Now Ruby's friend Dr Ann-Marie Bard of the Cleobury Dental Practice is mounting her own fund raising campaign here in Cleobury.

Ruby's tireless devotion to Noah and the need to understand his ailment better has seen her on BBC TV and local radio. Apart from raising funds and public awareness of the illness, she's in the process of getting Funnyblood accepted as a registered charity.

From July there will be a collection box in the Dental Practice and possibly in other places as the campaign grows. Any donation you care to make will go to a very good cause.

MEMORIAL GARDENS PROBLEM

The work to replace the fencing around the town's War Memorial looked fine when it was first done. But problems with the bolts holding the railings down revealed the wrong standard of fastening used, not the one specified for the job.

The contractor, a Mr Jordan, has been contacted but did not put right the fault before the passing of the Olympic torch through the town meant that another contractor was called in to make a temporary repair.

The original installer having failed to keep an appointment to examine his work, the Parish are taking advice on action and have a bill to present to him. We'll try to keep you up to date on this one; the town's property should be carefully looked after.

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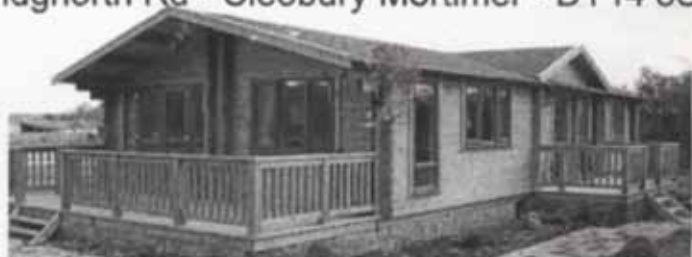
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

JULY IN THE WYRE FOREST



The Silver-washed Fritillary, one of many species to be spotted in the Wyre Forest. Photo: Phil Rudlin.

This is the month to look out for Silver-washed Fritillaries in the forest; several visitors have asked us where they could find these big, orange butterflies. The females fly along open rides while the males circle in courtship flights, so look along the Elan Valley pipeline, the disused railway line or similar places, in the right weather too.

There has been an annual survey of butterflies along the Earnwood section of the pipeline by the Wyre Forest Study Group. In 2010 there were 1446 sightings of 24 species, including 24 of Silver-washed Fritillaries. The full results can be found in The Wyre Forest Study Group Review 2010. Contact Rosemary Winnall at rosemary@wyreforest.net if you'd like to get hold of these informative publications.

There are also a few places where you may catch sight of a White Admiral – oddly named as it is dark brown but with a white band across all four wings. It feeds mainly on honeysuckle, so that's where to look, along the Dowles Brook, and even in the shadier areas.

Once the school holidays begin we have FREE "Treetastic

Tuesdays" and "Forest Fridays" from July 24th to August 31st, when you can come and explore the Community Discovery Centre anytime between 11.00am and 3.00pm. Follow different trails around the centre, including the new Sensory Trail, the Earth's Story Timeline, Texture Tunnels, etc. You can also enjoy the art works inside and out. The new Wildside of Wyre Museum will also be open on these days. There will be a different children's activity on each day, for a small charge.

Wild in Wyre, July 30th to August 1st, is three full days of fun and adventure in the forest for 8 to 11 year olds. Activities include building shelters, camp cookery and making bows and arrows. 9.00am to 3.00 per day. £60 per child. Booking is essential as places are limited. Contact us for more details on 01299 266929.

Linda Iles, Forestry Commission

PEGGY WINS THE MAVIS CARTWRIGHT COMPETITION



Six years old Peggy Griffiths proudly shows off her winner's certificate and the memorial shield.

The Mavis Cartwright Memorial Shield is given every

year to a young reader. The latest competition was to design a book cover based upon a favourite character and Peggy Griffiths did a splendid job to be judged the overall winner. Also in the prizes were Evie and George Adams. Our congratulations to them all.

But that has to be tempered with the news that there were just three entries. As a memorial to a lady who worked very hard to promote our library, that was not a good result.

DOG POO - THE MUSCLES ARE BEING FLEXED...

Not canine muscles in this case, it's the Cleobury Mortimer Footpath Association getting indignant and taking action.

They have a petition out around the town and are asking all people of like mind to sign on the dotted line. It's addressed to the Parish Council, asking them to take action against the problem. Without wishing to give that generally cooperative body grief, they are the community's executive and nearer to the sources of action and influence than most. Do your bit - sign it.

MR COLLINS IS COMING

The Borders Classic Bike Show on September 8th and 9th, is now in the hands of new organiser David Spruce. His first move will please local grass track racing and speedway fans: Guest of Honour will be Peter Collins, multi world speedway champion and big time winner on the humble grass tracks of the Midlands. A fine, modest gentleman who'll fit in well here. JR

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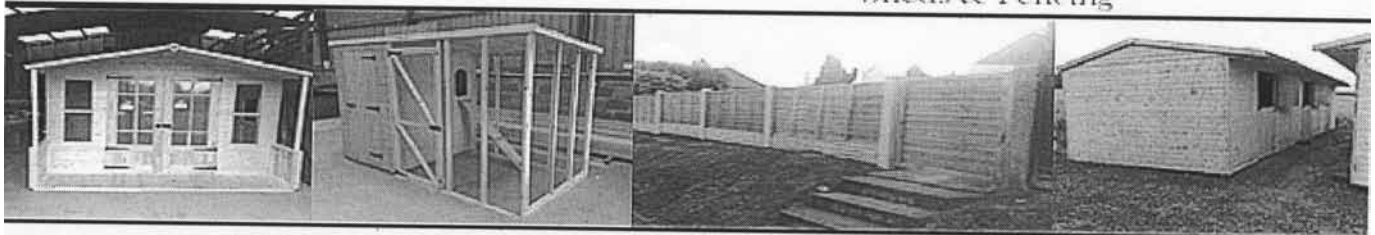
Ofsted "GOOD" inspection report

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

LOCAL ARTIST EARNS MAMBLE EXHIBITION

Cleobury Country's own art gallery is devoting space to the work of a local artist throughout July. Cross House Arts, just across the road from the fine Sun and Slipper in Mamble village will feature an exhibition of Rod Willis's prints with the theme 'Hills and Landscapes of Shropshire and Worcestershire.'

"Rod used to be the resident artist at Mamble Craft Centre and I think quite a few Clarion readers will know him," explained gallery owner Georgina Instone. "He has created some lovely new pictures of the local hills, including Brown Clee and Titterstone Clee, as seen from his old studio at Mamble."

There's a series of ten 'Hills' prints to be seen and a special attraction is a large canvas print of Rod's oil painting of the Teme Valley in autumn mists.

Rod will be at the gallery in person on the evening of July 4th, from 5.00 to 9.00pm. The exhibition of his work will be in the gallery, which opens Wednesday to Saturday every week, for the whole of July. If you can't make it in the normal 1.00 to 4.00pm opening hours, a call to Georgina on 01299 832616 will get you a special opening.

AN OLYMPIAN TALE

With the Olympic Games in England after a gap of 64 years, this seems to be the right time to recall the 1968 Games, when a TV set really put Cleobury Mortimer on the map.

John and Liz Redfern were running The Old Lion pub then, and opening honours were strictly controlled. 10.00 o'clock closing unless you had a special late licence and no arguments. But 1968 was a breakthrough year in television broadcasting and the BBC were going to show the Olympics from Mexico in colour. It was the first time this had been done; it was an excellent business opportunity for the Redferns.

"I decided to apply for a late license for the period of the Games, and as the broadcast was coming from Mexico it was on pretty late, so I asked for a four hour extension. It had to go before the magistrates and I sent Liz along, because she was much better looking than me. And I told her to be sure to wear her hot pants."

The magistrates court in those distant days was in the old library building in Church Street, and Mrs Redfern dutifully attended the hearing. If a young lady in hot pants influenced their decision it's not

on record; if she didn't, there was something wrong with them. They got the late hours extension, but not before canny old Tom Pain, chair of the bench, made it clear they had to buy a colour telly.

"Off I went and bought a colour TV for £600, an awful lot of money in those days, but it paid off," smiles John at the memory. "The local press picked up on the story that we were open 'til two in the morning with the games in colour, then the nationals got hold of it and we were in every damned paper. This little pub in a place with a funny name, open late."

"We had two students who read about us down in Cheltenham and travelled up and helped us in the bar for a week. Went on into Wales, then came back because they missed the place!"

"It was absolutely packed out. I was standing out on the pavement with a queue of people, letting two in if two came out. Never seen anything like it."

So the town had a few weeks of fame and renown for late drinking and when the Games ended it was back to normal. And was it worth that £600 for a new TV set? John smiles: "Oh yes, well worth it."



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CONTACT DETAILS

Cleobury Mortimer Primary School

Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Nr Kidderminster,
Shropshire, DY14 8PE

Tel: 01299 270313

Email: admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net

Website: cleoburymortimerprimaryschool.ethink.org.uk

The Primary School Fete - May 25th



This face painting is a very serious business, you know.



It opened at 5.00 on Friday and ran on beyond 7.00 as people stopped to spend, to wonder and to talk to old friends. A really friendly event, with everyone smiling and laughing



Maybe face painting is not so serious if you're the Unit Manager in charge of the town's Fire and Rescue Service. The face behind this is Graham Phillips, in the spirit of the occasion, as the men are every year, when the fire engine draws lots of future recruits to try the driving seat. Colin Todd was another having paint applied and told us about the time Graham Phillips was carefully given a clown's face, only to find himself leading the team as they responded to an emergency call-out. Arriving at the scene of the fire, they were downloading the hoses and kit when a curious onlooker asked who was in charge. As one man they pointed at Graham and told the questioner "The clown's in charge!"



Parents look on, most of them with slightly worried frowns as Junior climbs the stairs to the platform and looks out at a big drop before taking the Big Jump Down. Grandparents are even more concerned, forgetting how readily children accept a challenge, find that they can do it, and keep on coming back for more. This was one of the busiest areas of a very successful event; you can't beat younger children if you want to generate a feeling of fun and enjoyment.

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IN BUSINESS: Posh Potties



Chris and Emma Gittins - their great idea is growing fast.

Three years ago Chris and Emma Gittins decided to test a little business idea they had. Just at weekends they'd see if people would rent mobile toilets with a difference - they would be really posh. High class enough to be rightly called Posh Potties.

They had one unit built to their specification, the interiors designed by Emma. The Ladies side was signed and lit in pink, the Gents in blue. The stairways had matching lights set into the treads - no confusion about which was which in the dark.

You step into a Posh Pottie loo and could think you were in a luxury hotel. Subdued lighting, soft music, a dish of sweets, flowers on the double wash stand, everything spotlessly

clean, every surface properly finished, right down to the non-slip flooring. Chris explained how he tows a unit into place for a special occasion, then sets it up with the electricity supply and all the little detail touches. "I like to keep the door closed until it's ready, then open it up to show the customer," he smiles. You can see why. The Wow Factor is there, waiting to greet you.

Today they have three units, each one to their exacting standards, built locally at Shobdon. Their idea has grown into a significant business, with smaller portaloos added for more modest occasions, and the diary from May to September is full.

Their original policy was to keep the operation local and travel costs and time down; just serving Shropshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire. But when we talked there was a unit in London and they're getting regular bookings in Wales and Cheshire. "We gets enquiries from London. People say they just can't get anything like it down there," explains Emma.

For that special occasion, such as a big birthday party or wedding, the unit arrives on Thursday, is set up ready for the weekend, and then normally

collected on Monday. Back to the storage unit at New House Farm on Tenbury Road, where it's mopped out before Chris deals with the downloading and Emma the cleaning.

Chris works full time in industry, while Emma took a break from work to bring up the children and has found her return overtaken by the demands of a business that has hit the spot with people who want the best. With accounts and admin to handle, bookings to take, cleaning to do and two young children to look after, full time employment seems to have claimed her.

They've recently taken on and trained one self employed helper, which will give them time for a quick holiday. They've learned a lot and can talk about the number of people their units can comfortably handle in a day. It was good to notice more toilet units in the Ladies than the Gents; those queues at events give a good clue to the fact that men deal with the matter quicker than women.

With demand growing from more distant places, the test of time has proved the idea right. Whether they go for growth or keep it personal and local, they've built something to be very proud of.

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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page

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

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

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

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

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

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