

TOO GOOD NOT TO USE



This picture of a young Tawny Owl roosting on one leg was sent in by Kit Smith as part of his Owl Watch report on Page 17. He captured the image at the British Bird of Prey Centre at Middleton Hall, Llanarthey, Carmarthen SA32 8HN.

We did not have enough space for both Kit's report on the owl and the swift situation, but thought this shot of a British bird of prey was too good to leave out.

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

Most people refer to it as CCTV, but we have deliberately used the full title here to remind everyone what the town's cameras are there for. Their use as both a crime deterrent and detector is emerging.

After a lot of consideration of what other towns had learned and what cameras could provide, the Council placed its order with O R P Surveillance of Shrewsbury and we now have cameras with automatic number plate recognition on every road into the town. They work well and a recent check showed one unit recording 7,500 vehicles and their registration numbers in 24 hours. There's the strength - they don't sleep and keep watch all through the night.

A recent vehicle theft on Clee Hill showed how good they are. A check of the cameras showed a vehicle passing through the town and returning in company with the stolen car. A trace though the numbers saw the car

returned to its very happy owners.

The cameras have also been used by insurance companies to trace vehicles involved in a collision with parked cars, night or day. The companies pay the council a fee for that service, which goes to meet the annual maintenance cost of £500.

That £500 is the only cost to come out of the council's annual precept that householders pay. The rest came from a variety of grants as the town's reputation for dealing with the need to combat crime grows. We've come a long way since we became the first small town in England to make SmartWater available to all.

Town clerk Matt Sheehan advises that Ludlow's town council have been to inspect our use of CCTV and the mayor and some councillors from Broseley have asked if they can do the same. They have heard through Police sources that this system works and is worth them considering for their own communities.

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The Cleobury Clarion, July 2019

Volume Fourteen - Edition Four



*An evening of fine poetry and gentle complementary music at Saint Paul's, Knowbury.
See Page 9*



*They came, they saw and they conquered Mont Ventoux three times in one day!
See Page 19*



In Business. Paul and Clare, new faces at Wild Meadow Kennels. See Page 61

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VICKI HULME -
HEROINE!

The remarkable Vicki Hulme, who ran ten marathons in ten days in May, writes: "I would like to thank the local community and businesses for donating prizes and attending my quiz in support of Brathay Trust, who help underprivileged children. This meant a lot and helped me reach the finish day after day. Raising nearly £3,500 was very tough emotionally and physically and a lot of it was all in the mind. Only 128 people in 13 years have taken on the Brathay 10 in 10 on one of the toughest road marathons in the UK - Windermere. This was much harder than my previous challenge of running a hundred marathons or my 75 mile ultra run. Thank you all."

She's a great story, this lady. She first ran a marathon in 2014 and since then has run the 26.2mile distance over 100 times. Just 17 runners entered this, the 13th Brathay 10 in 10, which is based on Brathay Hall in Lake Windermere. They started on May 10th and for the final run on the 19th they combined with the ASCIS Windermere Marathon, which had no less than 1,200 entries.

Brathay Trust operates to help children suffering depression and the isolation this can bring. It is increasing in younger people and work of the Trust can help combat this and give young people a better chance in life. If you would like to sponsor Vicki's efforts to help others, visit <http://www.brathay.org.uk/news/17-runners-10-in-10>.

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Or join online at <http://www.shropshire-rcc.org.uk/services/individuals/oil-buying-scheme>

Next order deadlines are July 2nd July August 6th.

Lizzy Thain

SILLY BITS

"Forget it, Louis. No Civil War picture ever made a nickel."

An adviser telling Louis Mayer not to bid for the rights to 'Gone With the Wind' for MGM.

"Solutions are not the answer."

Dan Quayle, American senator with a poor grasp of logic.

"I'm honoured to shake the hand of an Iraqi citizen who had his hand cut off by Saddam Hussein."

George W Bush

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CLOWS TOP

GARDENING CLUB

July and the garden should now be looking its best. The borders are full of colour and the scent of roses and sweet peas fill the air while the vegetable garden is producing fine crops. Long summer evenings can be enjoyed to the full, relaxing and entertaining friends. However, there's always something to be done. Make sure you keep watering and feeding hanging baskets. Dead head Roses, Sweet Peas, Bedding Plants and perennials to keep them blooming. Take cuttings from your favourite tender plants for over wintering indoors. Cuttings can also still be taken from shrubs and herbaceous perennials.

If you love pottering around the garden, if you need some fresh ideas or advice for your garden, then why not join us at one of our monthly meetings. It's a great opportunity for you to share your thoughts, ideas and advice with other members.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 24th July, the speaker for the evening will be 'Ingrid Millington' with a talk entitled 'The Dry Garden'.

Pauline Bowen

THE SOROPTIMISTS

July promises to be a busy month. Instead of our supper meeting, on the 18th July we have arranged an evening visit to Himley Hall near Dudley. A jewel and green oasis in the West Midlands. It was once the home of the Earls of Dudley.

At 10.30 on July 23rd, we have a visit to EnviroSort near Worcester, to see how our recycling is sorted, treated and sent on to manufacturers to be used again. One newspaper can be recycled into a new newspaper up to seven times.

Our coffee morning will be at the George Hotel, Bewdley from 10.00 a.m. on July 25th.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. For more details about the club and its activities and meetings contact us by e m a i l : kidderminstersorop@gmail.com, or Facebook: Soroptimists Kidderminster
Susan Partridge

CLEOBURY TOWN

JUNIORS

The club have had an excellent season, finishing third in the Stourport League. They also got through to the League Cup Final, where they lost 1-0 to Kiddy Athletic Hawks. Our lads battled

all the way to the last minute, never giving up against a very strong team.

We would not have been able to do this without the help and support of Cleobury. A big 'Thank You' to:

Mrs Mayfield, who lets us use the school field all year round, the Lamp Restaurant, Mike and Shelley Roberts Haulage, the Bull's Head at Chelmarsh, Cleobury Mortimer Youth Project, The Old Lion and the Crib League.
Gary Halpin

THE CREATIVE

WRITING GROUP

The news about writing as a form of relaxation or creation must be spreading. We had nine people plus junior member Willow at our June gathering. A few had written a piece about the chosen subject and there was a spread of other work on offer. Much lively discussion with laughter and a little wisdom in between made it an interesting evening.

For those who want guidance (or is it inspiration?) the subject for our monthly composition is 'Technology' which some of us can understand. For those who don't, there is always creativity, as the name suggests. We meet this month on the 8th, 6.30 at the Town Library.

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A MAGIC EVENING

It was curiosity that drew me to an evening of poetry and music at Knowbury's Saint Paul's church in early June. Kate Innes was a poet whose work I did not know and Whalebone I had never had the chance to listen to properly.

The church stands some way from the obvious centre of the village, a tall landmark on the road towards Ludlow, with stewards directing traffic to park neatly. People were smiling, the atmosphere was welcoming and the band happy to be photographed.

The performers stood in front of the pulpit, framed by an arch of white stone that made the whole setting natural. Kate Innes introduced Steve Downs and Charlotte Watson on guitars and Sarah Ibberson on violin, and explained that the poems would be drawn from her 'Flocks of Words' collection. I had bought a copy from her stall before the evening began and found it a handy reference work to follow.

The balance between the two elements moved around, taking turns to begin each performance of a trio of poems with gentle, complementary music. As an acoustic group, Whalebone had

just the right tone and volume for the occasion, selecting from their own wide repertoire to match the mood of the words.

That careful blending of words and music created a magic atmosphere that had the audience applauding enthusiastically as each number ended. I must confess that I've been irritated more than once by a lack of balance between vocalist and accompanying group of musicians, even the wonderful Joan Baez being drowned out by her band at a Birmingham Symphony Hall performance. A lack of balance in one of Europe's finest musical venues - unbelievable! But here in a modest Shropshire church was a blend that showed how care and empathy of the performers can make an evening truly memorable.

They played for two hours, with a break that allowed the audience to try the refreshments and wines on offer and to talk to the performers. I was curious to know whose idea this combination was, and Kate explained that Sarah Ibberson had first approached her. A later visit to their website revealed previous work with local poet Jean Atkin on a series of concerts in county libraries.



Lots of talent in a picturesque setting. From left: Kate Innes, Steve Downs, Charlotte Watson and Sarah Ibberson.

The acoustics at Saint Paul's are typical of older churches, both instruments and voice clear and easy to listen to. If there was an echo, my ears did not pick it up. The stonemasons who built these fine old places of worship did seem to know their stuff.

At the end of the evening there was prolonged applause and lots of smiles. The final gig on this 'Flocks of Words' tour will be on July 19th at St Peter's Church in Cound, near Shrewsbury. 7.30 start, tickets £10 from Ann Cooke on 01952 510388. Get there if you can - you won't regret it. JR



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Mary's Page - Straight Talking.

Recently the BBC covered the Menopause with a slot each morning for a whole week. It was alternatively hugely informative, amusing, and at times deeply moving. A formally beleaguered husband described the menopause as, "...a tsunami of irrational emotion." He kindly pointed out that we women couldn't help it and left his younger companions with the message of hope that, most importantly, it passes. There was a poignant recording reminiscent of the Radio 4 Listening Project, of a conversation between a menopausal mother and her teenage daughter. Pity the household where teenage turmoil and the menopause collide.

A friend and I worked through this turbulent period at a time when our jobs involved presenting to large rooms of people. No way was my friend going to address an audience whilst going bright red in the face and breaking sweat so she chose the HRT (Hormone Replacement Therapy) route. I was sceptical so instead chose to try and manage by wearing layers and ensuring there was always water to hand. Consequently, when overcome, I would pause, remove my jacket, apologise and explain that I was having a tropical moment. On one occasion, during the tea break, a bloke did confess that when he saw that the cardigan was also coming off, he had begun to wonder just how interesting this training session was going to get.

When there are those of us, men and women, who delay or avoid going to see a doctor because we feel embarrassed about symptoms, open discussion has to be a much healthier approach. I pondered on less liberated times when things were either never mentioned or spoken about in a code understandable only to the initiated. As a child I helped mum make cakes and put together a bouquet of garden flowers for a neighbour

recently returned from hospital. On our way to visit, we encountered a neighbour who informed my mother in hushed tones: "She's had it all taken away." Whilst sitting in the lounge of the convalescent, I looked around. All the ornaments were still there. The furniture looked the same. In fact, nothing seemed to have disappeared. Years later, I would learn the word Hysterectomy.

When we were eight, a boy in our class told us all authoritatively that his grandfather had died of "shortage of breath". A few days later, this nugget of information caused me acute consternation as I fell from a gate and winded myself. On this occasion, want of breath did not prove fatal.

This practice of talking in riddles and the resultant effect is not confined to topics about health. A friend of my husband was invited for the first time to share a meal with his girlfriend's parents. He was anxious to give the best possible impression and had been warned to watch his Ps and Qs and not let the side down. There was salad with a home grown lettuce, full of flavour having come straight from the vegetable patch to the table. Delicious, except that it had a meaty addition of a big, hairy caterpillar. The young man folded up the lettuce leaf and ate it, protein included. The lengths some of us go to for love!

A lady of advanced years once told me that when she was a teenager "Going all the way", meant staying on the bus to the terminus. "Going to the dogs" has nothing to do with placing a bet on greyhound racing. The phrase: "It's a dog's life", has particular connotations in our house. Our dogs have long since commandeered the two sofas. They roll onto their backs, legs in the air in blissful comfort, we are left perched on the edge of what little room is left or sitting on the carpet. It is only through dogged determination and barricades that we have managed to keep the bed.



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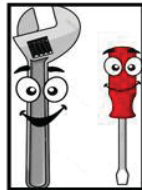
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(Retained Duty System)**

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

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

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



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We have all heard them, but we have seldom seen them. We know the cute photographs and pictures and children's stories, but do we really know much about owls and especially about our owls of Cleobury? That was the challenge for half a dozen of us in 2017. In the autumn of 2018 we started to write down when we heard hootings of owls: when, where, what species. We collected over 200 sets of data so that by early 2019 we could tell fairly accurately how many owls we have, what species and where their territories, feeding grounds and habitats were. We now know we have about two pairs of Barn Owls, three or more pairs of Tawny owls and possibly one pair of Little owls in and around the town. There are three hot spots; the Skate Park, Pudding Brook / Lion Lane and Pinkham / River Rea. We did not hear Short or Long Eared owls. However, we learnt a bit more about the other raptors/birds of prey of the town including Kestrels, Buzzards, Sparrow Hawks and Kites.

None of us are really sure about the owls hooting vocabulary as it is hugely varied. Even the tawny owls "twit-terwoo" is more complicated than we thought, it is made by males and females instantly answering each other, one with "terwit" and response of "terwoo". Nationally, the jury is still out as to which sex starts the combined call.

So, we are more informed and know we have a population of different owls. What can we do to

ensure that owl population is sustainable against a national picture of decline in numbers and species? There are some things we can do to help. We will continue to note hootings for next year, we will provide nest boxes for two Barn owls, three or four Tawny owls and a couple of kestrel boxes. Men in Sheds have started to build those boxes that we will put up in trees this late summer and autumn. They will go up in near proximity to, but not within existing owl territories, so chicks born this year have opportunity to breed in them in 2020.

We know we have to protect existing and future owl habitats which include trees, close by their hunting and feeding grounds. Owls' main prey are rats, mice, voles, shrews even small moles as well as insects, worms etc. They live in taller grassed slopes that surround our town. Owls are important to us humans as they are at the top of a long food chain/biosystem. Any break of a link in that chain ruins the whole chain. There are many hundred other chains in our rich environment. Understanding owls and their chains and doing what we all can do to help, must be the right thing to do. How about Kites, Hedgehogs, Otters etc? Data on our Swifts has been sent to the RSPB who are concerned about swift numbers this year. Swift numbers for the past three years have been 25, 27, and 23 this year so far. Not bad but could do better!



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Level 2 Award in Occupational Health & Safety-17th October-
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For more information on courses or if you require a booking form
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**The Clarion is on the World Wide Web
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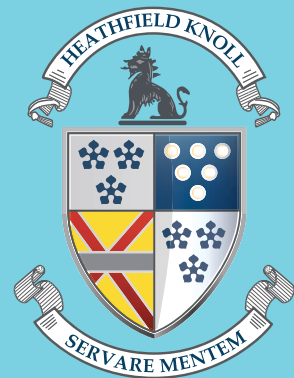
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THEY CAME, THEY SAW AND THEY CLIMBED

Guy Turpin reports on a very tough weekend in France.

Several months in the planning, one van, four cyclists and bikes, seven bags, one support driver and 900 cosy miles later we arrived at the foothills of Mont Ventoux. As we got closer someone said, 'Blimey it's bloody big!' That's when the thought crossed my mind; have I given us one task too far as we were intending to climb the mountain not once, but three times and join 'Club des Cinglés du Mont-Ventoux,' an informal French club for lunatics apparently!

We set off from our base at Bédoin early on Sunday morning with the intention of catching the Sunrise at the summit, a romantic notion so very far from the reality – with the wind chill it was a very frigid 5°C and shrouded in cloud; it was also my idea and boy did I take some stick for it!! My lasting memories of the first climb were the last 6km, which is a bald moonscape open to the elements, where on some switchbacks the wind was so strong you literally had

to stamp on the pedals to keep any apparent forward momentum, tough work.



The four heroes who climbed Mont Ventoux three times on May 26th. From left: Rich Robertshaw, Adam Tillsley, Dom Allen and Guy Turpin.

After refuelling we whizzed down to Malaucène to start the second climb. This one is the steepest and as you progress up you pass yellow stone kilometre markers, which indicate the percentage gradient for the coming section. They didn't drop below 9% and at one stage rose to an eye watering 13%. As we neared the top, I heard rapid footfalls behind me only to be overtaken by a running superhuman carrying walking poles. He didn't even bother with the switchbacks that the road took, he just assaulted the scree with

his poles in hand and literally ran up the rough slope. We looked at each other and burst out laughing – there are some crazy people about!

The descent to Sault was a long blissful 27km drop down the mountain through the lavender fields of the lower slopes. The ascent back up is the easiest, but the longest and joins the first climb at Chalet Reynard 6km from the top, which meant the same windy climb to the summit we completed earlier. We stayed together throughout, as the English naturalist John Ray said, 'misery loves company,' and after 9 hours and 136km of hard peddling with 4443 metres of climbing we completed our task, certainly the toughest physical challenge of my life.

Along with the successful Sportive (or Twisted Spire Velo) on May 19th, we have raised over £6,000 for the Astriid charity.

Guy Turpin

SILLY BIT

"I must confess that my imagination refuses to see any sort of submarine doing anything but suffocating its crew and floundering at sea."

H G Wells, who wrote about Martians landing on earth.

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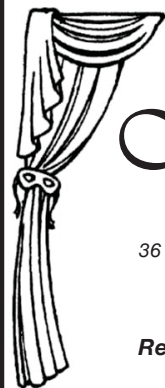


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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice

Services, Events and Activities throughout the Benefice-July 2019

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Cleobury Mortimer.

Services: 7th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 11.00am The Eleven O Clock Service.

14th, 21st, 28th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 9.45am Parish Eucharist.

Events/Activities:

Coffee & Chat-Tuesday 2nd. All welcome at 19 Orchard End, CM all welcome from 10.30am.

Service of Wholeness & Healing-Sunday 14th. Service at 6.00pm exploring "Finding Peace".

Farmers Market-Saturday 20th. In and around St Mary's Church, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Mothers Union-Thursday 18th. A visit to The Old Forge to enjoy the garden and hear about Jenny's travels. All welcome from 2.30pm.

Messy Church-Sunday 28th. All welcome at the Hub at 3.00pm for crafts, stories, games & meal.

St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kinlet.

Services: 7th-10.00am Eucharist, 14th-6.30pm Evensong, 21st-10.00am Matins, 28th-6.30pm Evensong.

St Mary's Parish Church, Neen Savage.

Services: 7th-6.30pm Evensong, 14th-No service, 21st-6.30pm Evensong, 28th-9.00am Eucharist.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Hopton Wafers.

Services: 7th -10.00am Eucharist, 14th-10.00am Eucharist, 21st-10.00am Family service, 28th-10.00am Eucharist.

Saint John the Baptist Parish Church, Doddington.

Services: 7th-No service, 14th-11.00am Eucharist, 21st-No service, 28th-3.00pm Evening Prayer.

Events/Activities:

Strawberry Teas at Doddington Village Hall All welcome from 2.30pm. Just drop in with raffle & card tombola. Contact Celia for more information 01584 318036.

All Saints Parish Church, Neen Sollars.

Services: 7th-No service, 14th-11.00am Eucharist, 21st-No service, 28th-11.00am Village Worship.

St George's Parish Church, Milson.

Services: 7th-6.30pm Evensong, 14th-No service, 21st-11.00 Eucharist, 28th-No service.

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

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

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SEVERN HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING

In June the Group held a coffee morning at 8 Catherton Close to raise funds for the Hospice and to present a cheque for £1,500 from last year's events.

We had hoped to be under the parasols and gazebo on a sunny morning. Not so! The rain came and the wind blew but the people kept coming and spent on cakes and garden produce throughout the morning.

None of this would have been possible without the generous support of cake makers who turned up with cakes large and small and apple pies as well. One lady was heard to say that the apple pie felt heavy, referring to the amount of apple in there.

Lacon Childe school became involved and agreed to sell any leftover cakes to staff and pupils. What a community we have here in Cleobury

£120 was given before the event started, reflecting local generosity. A big 'Thank You' to all who gave cakes and produce and everyone who helped in any way and those who came for coffee and cake.

£600 was raised
Shaunah Murrell

STEP INTO THE PAST

Step into the Past is a local history day centered on the people and places in Stoke Bliss and Kyre. This year's theme is the first half of the 19th century, so Tithe maps, what was happening at Kyre Park and in the hamlets that make up the parish will feature. There will also be Maggie's laptop available so that she can look up the family or house details that you ask about.

Tea and cakes as always and a raffle to help raise funds for the work needed on St Peter's (new ceiling in the nave), and St Mary's (repairs to Lady chapel window.)

We look forward to seeing you between 2.00 and 5.00 on Saturday July 20th at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall, on the B4214 between Bromyard and Tenbury Wells

Maggie Kingston

KNOWLE SPORTS

EVENING SALES

The remarkable Knowle Sports Sales that raise funds to keep the sports facilities up to date and in good order, have added monthly evening dates to their regular events. This month's will be on the 17th, when the sale will be on from 6.00 until 7.30 pm.

It makes a lot of sense to have an evening opening in what we hope will be the more temperate months, although this report is being typed on a cold and wet June day. Has somebody stolen the summer, I wonder?

Just to remind you, the regular sales are on the first Saturday of the month, from 8.00 to 11.00am, with the exception of January. The evening events will run through to October.

As we've said many times, there's no better place for a bargain than this for good quality clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, furniture and books. There is a recycling bank for clothes, shoes and handbags on the site for you to use at any time.

SEVEN DAYS TO GO

You still have a week to get your responses in to the Affordable Housing Needs Survey for Cleobury. Either return the survey in the prepaid envelope or follow this link and complete the survey online by clicking on parish survey <https://www.righthomerightplace.co.uk/surveys/>

The closing date for responses is July 7th.

Vicky Turner
Place Plan Officer



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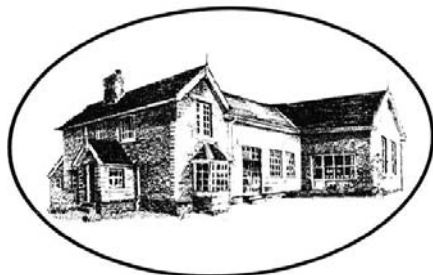
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The National Garden Scheme gives visitors unique access to over 3,500 exceptional private gardens in England and Wales, and raises impressive amounts of money for nursing and health charities through admissions, teas and cake.

Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, volunteers and visitors we have donated a total of £55 million to nursing and health charities, and made a record annual donation of £3.1 million in 2018. Founded in 1927 to support district nurses, we are now the most significant charitable funder of nursing in the UK and our beneficiaries include Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK and The Queen's Nursing Institute.

The National Garden Scheme doesn't just open beautiful gardens for charity – we are passionate about the physical and mental health benefits of gardens too. We fund projects which promote gardens and gardening as therapy, and in 2017, we launched our annual Gardens and Health Week to raise awareness of the topic.

Jo and Chris Barman's home, Upper Marshes, is a Commoner's stone cottage and three acre small holding. 800 feet above sea level. The garden has been developed to complement its unique location on the edge of Catherton Common with herbaceous borders, vegetable plot and herb garden. There is a short walk down to a spring fed wildlife pond and plenty of seats to stop and take in the tranquillity. There is also an optional circular walk across

Wildlife Trust common to a Site of Special Scientific Interest field and various animals and poultry.

July 7th is the first time Chris and Jo have opened their garden to the public and it is well worth a visit to this secluded spot on the edge of Catherton Common.. JR.

REVIVAL MEETINGS AT NINEVEH RIDGE

At Nineveh Ridge we are currently setting up Revival meetings. We hope to open the farm on Tuesdays from 10:30am - 12:30pm, Thursdays, 10:30am-12:30pm and Fridays at 6:00-7:30pm, for people that want a friendly ear to talk to. We will also do crafts, gardening, animal care, mindfulness and reiki, along with any other activities people want to bring that help them and they can share. The idea is that we will support each other through our difficult times, knowing we are not alone in this. We will guide people in active listening skills with the aim of doing co-counselling and to welcome people with open arms and a cup of tea or coffee.

We have a cabin set aside for revival meetings and hope that we can work on it together to make it comfortable and snug for people who may be struggling with lack of support.

*Pippa Bannister
07971 528 513*

CLEOBURY RUNNERS DOMINATE

Swarms of red runners descended upon the Severn Valley Country Park in Alveley on June 9th from Cleobury Mortimer Running Club to compete in the 5km Severn Valley Trail Run, sweeping the

prizes and dominating the results by claiming the top seven spots.

There was an excellent turnout of 34 runners from the club along with their usual supporters, winning 11 of the age group prizes in total, including first male (and overall first place) to Matthew Bailey and first female going to Joanne Watson.

Well done also to the age group prize winners: Steve Turner, Luke Williams, Nikki Tromans, Katy Broome, Chris Taylor, Tom Bentley, Neal Bailey, Heather Morgan and Andie Ford. The race was part of the inter-club championship league, a challenging off-road run through woodlands and along the banks of the River Severn.

Organised by Shropshire Great Outdoors, it was a tremendous result and a really enjoyable club day out.

Lisa Bailey

FLICKS IN THE STICKS EXTRA

There's an additional Sticks date added to the programme this month. On Saturday the 13th the Parish Hall plays host to the popular "Bohemian Rhapsody" that tells the story of Queen and Freddie Mercury, with their huge success at Live Aid as the grand finale. Great story, huge musical success and the sad end of Freddie's life in a presentation that will give you highs and lows of enjoyment. Starts at 7.30 and at just £4.00 for adults it's a great bargain.

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07508145343



Following contact with a constituent recently raising the case of an elderly lady who had been left to wait on the pavement for an ambulance in Ludlow, I have been taking a closer look into both ambulance response times and the way in which we can better treat stroke and heart attacks before an ambulance is able to arrive.

We all know living in a rural area means it will take longer for an ambulance to reach us. But I am pleased latest figures show West Midlands Ambulance Service has one of the best response times in the country to Category 1 calls, i.e. life-threatening emergencies, with only London and the North East performing better. West Midlands Ambulance Service also performs well across the board, when compared with other ambulance services.

I have been on board an ambulance with WMAS for a shift in the past, so know how hard the crews work to get to every emergency as quickly as possible and provide the care needed.

But as we are all well aware, the minutes after a heart attack are critical in improving chances of survival. There are steps we can all take to give lifesaving treatment before an ambulance can arrive, but according to the British Red Cross, just 5 per cent of adults have the skills and confidence to provide first aid in emergency situations. So I am this month taking a refresher course on how to effectively use a community defibrillator and CPR, having first taken the course some years ago when the first community defibrillators arrived.

Since then there has been a very welcome roll out of community defibrillators across the county, progressing at pace. In South Shropshire, schools, village halls and other

community buildings have had defibrillators installed, and I have visited disused telephone boxes repurposed to house defibrillators in remote hamlets. While it can be helpful to know how the defibrillator works in advance, 999 operators are able to talk callers through use of the machine to those who are unfamiliar with it.

The government is building on this progress, and by September 2020 all schools, including academies and free schools, will be required to teach first aid and life-saving skills, meaning that by the time a pupil completes secondary school they will have been taught how to administer CPR, as well as about the purpose of defibrillators, and basic treatment for common injuries. So a new generation of lifesavers will develop over time.

To help with rollout of defibrillators in schools, the Department for Education negotiated a deal with NHS Supply Chain to offer defibrillators at a reduced cost. Since this scheme was launched in November 2014, more than 2,763 defibrillators have been purchased this way.

Better treatment in the community, including by paramedics in ambulances, has meant deaths related to stroke have declined 49% in the past 15 years, but the survival rate for an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is still less than one in ten. I am hopeful that wider knowledge about CPR, and proliferation of more defibrillators across South Shropshire, will give the best possible chance of saving the lives of those who have heart attacks.

Philip Dunne

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BREAKFAST CLUB

We met at the Golf Club on June 11th, to hear Mark Baldwin talk about John Betjeman.

We were reminded that he was a poet, writer and broadcaster and was poet laureate from 1972 until his death in 1984. His origins, early life, sexuality and religious beliefs were touched upon. Betjeman had an abiding love of architecture and was a founding member of the Victorian Society. Although he was unsuccessful in saving the Euston Arch he was instrumental in preserving Paddington Station. In 2007 a statue of Betjeman was erected there. It was a nice touch for Mark to give us all a "freebie" postcard of the statue.

Betjeman's marriage to Penelope Chetwode lasted for 51 years and Lady Elizabeth Cavendish was his long time mistress, eventually living in a "menage a trois" with the Betjemans. Both women continued to care for him during the latter stages of his illness.

Cleobury Mortimer has connections with Betjeman. In 2004 a new street was named in his honour and in recognition of the fact that the restoration of St Mary's Church

steeple won the John Betjeman Award in 1994.

The talk was illustrated with projected images and also poetry - particularly memorable were the poems "Slough" and "The Church Mouse." At one point we even had a musical solo.

The Breakfast Club next meets on July 9th at The Larch Barn. Contact is Angela Drennan (CM 270636). *Paddy Treves*

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

We look after footpaths in a large area, covering the parishes of Neen Savage, Neen Sollars, Milson and part of Hopton Wafers as well as Cleobury. To keep paths good for walking, they need to be walked on an occasional basis to identify any problems and make sure they do not get overgrown,

We have members who do check the south part of our area, but we could do with help for the north of Neen Savage and the outer reaches of Hopton Wafers, excluding Clee Hill.

If you care about our footpath network, it would be pleasant and rewarding for a regular walker to go for some good walks while helping to keep them open. If anyone could help

we would be delighted to hear from you. footpaths@cmfa.co.uk

Our Parish Walk on Sunday July 7th does in fact explore an area outside of Cleobury parish. We meet at Milson Church at 10.00 and the walk will take us from Milson into Neen Sollars and back. *Graham Simpson*

CHELMARSH'S 40TH FETE

As we approach the date of the Fete - 13th July - preparations move up a gear. Already the performers have been booked. Bridgnorth Ukulele Band, Kickin' Alice Dancers, and Flip the Clown will be there, providing entertainment all afternoon. Helpers are being organised, and favourite activities are being dusted down - Coconut Shy, Bric-a-brac, Tombolas, Beat the Goalie, Plant and Cake Stalls, and lots of others. New games and activities are being trialled. Teas and cakes are being planned, and the Donkeys and Pig Roast are anticipated. All should be ready by 2pm on the Saturday. And the entry charge stays at £2 for Adults.

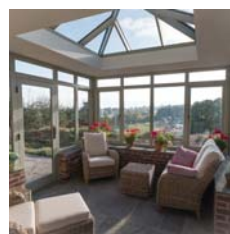
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Tues 2 nd		Deadline for Community Fuel buying orders. PAGE 5	Lizzy	01743 342167
Wed 3 rd	10.00	NHS Hearing Aid Drop-In Clinic, St Mary's Place, Love Lane		
	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Excellent parking facilities		
Sat 6 th	08.30	Sale of Household Goods at Knowle Sports Ground, Clee Hill. PAGE 23		
	1.30	The Horticultural Society gather at Talbot Car park, outing to Millichope Park		
Sun 7 th		Deadline for your Affordable Housing Needs Survey returns. PAGE 23		
	10.00	The Parish Walk starts at Milson Church. PAGE 31		
	6.00	Open Mic Evening at the KA, Church Street, Acoustic only.		
	12.00	Open Garden at Upper Marshes, on Catherton Common. PAGE 25		
	3.00	Rain or Shine Theatre Company present "As You Like It" in the lovely grounds of Kinlet Hall. PAGE 41		
Mon 8 th	6.30	The Creative Writing Group meet at the Library. PAGE 7	Jim Reynolds	01299 270642
Tues 9 th	7.30	The Breakfast Club meets at The Larch Barn. PAGE 31	Angela Drennan	01299 270636
	2.00	Doddington Friendship Club gather at the Village Hall. PAGE 35		
Wed 10 th	9.00	Pensax Thrift Shop open in the Village Hall on B4202 Abberley road		
	10.00	Walking For Health step vigorously out from Market Hall before returning for coffee and cake.		
	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall. Great social occasion		
	7.30	Neen Savage meet at the Village Hall to hear Alf Jenkins talk about Clee Hill dialect		
	8.00	The Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	Mike Hermolle	01299 271384
Fri 12 th	10.30	Rhyme Time for Toddlers at the Library, Love Lane		
	7.30	Quiz Night at Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club		
Sat 13 th	10.00	"Cleobury in Bloom" prize presentation to children's winner at the Methodist Church Hall		
	2.00	Chelmarsh celebrates its 40 th Village Fete. PAGE 31		
	2.30	Strawberry Teas at Doddington Village Hall		
	7.30	"Flicks in the Sticks" presents "Bohemian Rhapsody" at Parish Hall. PAGE 25		
Mon 15 th	7.30	The Reading Group gather in the Library to review their latest read. PAGE 37		
Wed 17 th	6.00	Evening Sale of Household Goods at Knowle Sports Ground. PAGE 23		

THE CHORLEY DUCK TRAIL

This sounds interesting for all the family. It's on Saturday and Sunday, July 6th and 7th, and is based around Chorley. 100 of ducks made by local residents and the local Nursery and Primary School are located along the trail, in nesting sites and in open gardens. There's a theme of Fairy Tales this year, to get imaginations working.

It starts from the Duck Inn (where else?) where there will be trail maps, plants, cakes and refreshments on sale. Entry into the Trail is £3.00 for adults and free for children. It starts at 11.00 each day and all moneys raised will go to local good causes. A nice touch is that Wolverhampton University have helped by laser cutting the ducklings for the children. Sounds really good.



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Wed 17 th	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall		
Thurs 18 th	07.30	Coach leaves Talbot Yard for RBL trip to Bletchley Park. PAGE 35		
	10.00am	Wild Flower survey at Doddington Parish Church		
		The Soroptimists visit Himley Hall, near Dudley. PAGE 7		
	7.00	Brewery Night at Hobson's Kitchen Tap. For tickets call:		01299 270837
Fri 19 th	7.30	Whalebone and Kate Innes end their tour at St peter's Church in Cound, nr Shrewsbury. Highly recommended. PAGE 9		
	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall		
Sat 20 th		Coach outing to Weston-Super-Mare, starting at Clee Hill.		01584 891464
	9.30	Cleobury Country Farmers Market, in and around St Marys' Church		
	10.00	Craft Fair at The Market Hall, Church Street		
	2.00	Step into the Past at Stoke Bliss Village Hall. PAGE 23		
Tues 23 rd	2.00	Doddington Friendship Club meet at the Village Hall. PAGE 35		
Wed 24 th	10.00	Walking for Health gather at the Golf Club for another brisk stroll		
	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning again at the Market Hall. Get in early for the coffee walnut cake!		
	7.30	Clows top Gardening Club, Victory Hall. Talk of "The Dry Garden" PAGE 7		
Thurs 25 th	10.00	Soroptimists Coffee Morning, George Hotel, Bewdley. PAGE 7		
Fri 26 th	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall		
Sat/Sun 27/28 th		Medieval Weekend at the site of the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. PAGE 37		
Mon 29 th	7.30	The Nearly Dead Poets Society meet in the Library. Good words, much laughter		
Wed 30 th	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD.....		
Thurs 1 st	08.00	It's the Big One at Burwarton. Great one day show. PAGES 40 & 41		
Tues 6 th		Deadline for Community Fuel Buying orders. PAGE 5	Lizzy	01743 342167
Wed 7 th	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall		
Sat/Sun 10/11 th		The Far Forest Countryside Show offers great family day out		

FOLK AT THE FARM

This is a new folk music, folklore and crafts festival, based at the popular Acton Scott Historic Working Farm. It's easy to find, north of Craven Arms on the A49 and clearly signposted. It will be open from 10.00 to 7.00, a long day, on Saturday, July 20th.

Whalebone will be performing with poet Jean Atkin, with Ledbury Morris, Men From Off, Sal Tonge, Suzanne and Jake Tumnus, Andy Harrop, Val Littlehales and Free Born Rising all adding to the occasion. There will be poetry, talks and tall tales, craftsmen and artists selling their work, activities for the children, workshops and local products including food and beers.

There is an historic exploratory theme running through the day, as organisers 'FOLK' want to celebrate the work of three local women who collected folklore from the late 19th and early 20th centuries: Georgina Jackson, Charlotte Burne and Mary Webb.

Tickets £30 for a family of four, £15 for adults, £10 for OAPs and £6 for a child. More information and tickets from www.folkcc.co.uk or www.tickettailor.com/events/folk1

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THE PIONEER CENTRE

June has been very wet; it is another level if you are an instructor here. The 44 schools that stayed with us last month have been surprised by some epic downpours. We advised schools to bring extra clothes and laundry bags to carry their wet stuff home in, but the amount of times the kids came to reception to ask if their raincoat had been found was astonishing. I am surprised they took it off in the first place. The weather did not affect the good times they had here though.

The rain has been great for our greenery. As we mentioned last month about being inspired to make more improvements, some of you might have noticed we have a new sign at the entrance. It will hopefully make the turn off into the property a lot clearer. Some of the grassier areas have been turned into meadows by not getting them mowed. Wild flower seeds have been sown in those areas too but we might have to wait a little longer to see the results.

Changes have been made in staff teams too. We had a few positions being filled with the result of promotions. We are very proud of our staff and it is great to see hard work being

rewarded. This will be the last month before housekeeper Kathy Stone retires; she has been a big part of Pioneer for many years. We thank her for her loyal service the last 13 years and will be sad to see her go.

To end with something funny; we only keep lost property for a week because we do not have room to hold on to the many things people leave. A boy came to reception last week and asked how long we keep 'lost property'. When I told him a week, he looked a bit disappointed. I asked him when he lost it and he replied: 'A few years ago'. *Naomi Thompson*

A VISIT TO BLETCHLEY PARK

The Royal British Legion are organising a coach trip to Bletchley Park on July 18th. This is the site of the British code-breaking service during World War II and the heart of so much that has guided international communication since. It is a fascinating place.

The coach will leave the Talbot car park at 7.30am and return at about 7.00 in the evening. The cost of tickets to cover coach and admission is £35.00 a head. Available from Dr Baldwin on CM 270110 or Ron Breakwell on 270830.

DODDINGTON

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Summer's here, or so they say. On May 28th Mr Sherratt gave a very interesting talk on how he restored a 1923 motor car, and the adventures he had when he took the car around the country; he even dressed in costume for some of them.

We have lots more to look forward to, so why not come and see us, join in with a cup of tea or coffee, followed by one of our many types of entertainment. The dates for our July meetings are the 9th, which includes Songs From The Shows. On the 14th we have a trip to the Brecon Railway (non members welcome) and on the 23rd a Strawberry Tea followed by entertainment. We would love you to come and see us, our club is from 2.00 to 4.00pm alternate Tuesdays. *Ann Belcher*

SILLY BITS

Rules are made for the guidance of wise men and the blind observance of fools.

'A Waldorf salad? I think we're out of Waldorfs.'
Basil Fawley

'X-rays will prove to be a hoax.'
Lord Kelvin, President of the Royal Society, in 1896.



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PLASTIC - NOT SO FANTASTIC

Great to hear from Cleobury Chiropractic when Sue Brown gave us some ideas of things they do to reduce plastic:

Recycled paper couch roll is used to cover the treatment couches. (Patients are fully clothed so there are no contaminants or hygiene issues.) The cardboard tubes from inside the roll are taken to the Nursery for the children to build things and the waste roll is great for cleaning windows!

Each patient is offered a glass of water after their treatment, using compostable paper cups. The cups are then used to plant out seedlings at home.

The water dispenser is a freestanding filtration system, refilled with tap water. More eco-friendly than plastic refill bottles that take up space. If staff pop over to the Cleobury Café for a coffee they take their own lidded bamboo coffee mugs to fill.

Perhaps the most important impact could be by reducing the level of pain medication patients take. With any medication, there is packaging to be disposed of and the largest group of medicine usage is painkillers. Chiropractic care

uses no drugs; the aim is to treat the cause of the pain, not mask the symptoms with medication. By reducing pain through chiropractic treatment, you can reduce painkillers and help preserve our environment.

You too can let us know what your business is doing to help: Plastic: Not So Fantastic, email: neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk

Stop press! A plastic plant pot recycling scheme is being trialled in Cleobury Mortimer this autumn. If you have unwanted plant pots and would like to take part in this trial, email neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk who will provide details.

Louise Francis

THE READING GROUP

Holidays reduced the normal full house attendance at our June meeting, but did not quell feelings when we discussed Josephine Tey's 'Daughter of Time'. A 1950s publication that saw Inspector Alan Grant frustrated by time in hospital, preoccupied by the tradition of presenting Richard III as the evil ruler behind the murder of the two princes in the Tower of Landon and using his detective skills to examine the evidence.

The work requires concentration to keep ancient

documents and reports separate from Grant's cold logic and the perceived political background that saw many rivals in a struggle to claim the crown.

The majority of readers agreed that Richard was more victim than villain, with Henry VII the more likely guilty party. But at this distance in time, who to believe and who to question?

Our current read is Isabel Allende's 'Zorro' and when we meet again in the library on the 15th of this month it will be interesting to see how we see a man commonly regarded as a swashbuckling heroic rebel.

Jim Reynolds

THE BATTLE OF SHREWSBURY

There's a Medieval Weekend at Battlefield 1403 over the weekend of the 27th and 28th this month. See knights in armour and archers preparing for battle, as well loads of activities to try your hand at. And at the end of each day there will be a re-enactment of part of the battle, right on the original battlefield.

Visit Battlefield 1403 on Facebook for more details of a very different day out for the family.



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Our fields are a picture at the moment: the various grasses are tall and in flower, thanks to the buttercups and pignuts there are swathes of yellow and white, with pink and purple accents of vetch and clover. Butterflies and other pollinators rise from the flowers as you walk through and grasshoppers ‘ping’ away from your feet. Not all of this will last the month as it’s hay-making time. The flatter fields will be cut, turned twice and, if the weather is kind, bound in small bales all within a week. This year polythene baler twine will be replaced by natural sisal, our contribution to reducing plastic in the environment. Then human power takes over to load the bales and stack them in the barn.

Grazing is an important part of this traditional farming practice. Our resident sheep are currently grazing the big cherry orchard, which means that there won’t be enough grass for hay-making. On the top and ‘hay’ fields the sheep moved off a while ago so the grass has been able to make good growth and will be worth cutting. We’ve been following this pattern for 15 years now, and can see how the wild flowers and grasses have spread through the pasture.

Conservation management is not the same as gardening: it’s knowing enough about the habitats, ecology and life-cycles of species to make sure that any interventions you make are beneficial rather than harmful. People have been having an impact on nature so long on these islands that there is no ‘wild’. The diversity of wildlife is a result of traditional land practices.

You can see this in the Wyre’s woodland, which has been felled and coppiced for hundreds of years. Over recent years the Guild of St George has been catching up with oak thinning and ride widening, which has been necessarily drastic but now we are seeing the beneficial results. In Shelf Held Coppice there are two new rides which have been colonised by Pearl Bordered Fritillary butterflies. This is a wonderful victory for Butterfly Conservation and all the others who have developed policies for making conditions right for the butterflies.



For your education, and because they’re very beautiful, here is Mick Farmer’s photo of the Pearl Bordered Fritillary, which loves sheltered rides and the nectar-rich brambles which line them. If you can get a view of the undersides of the hind wings, the Small PBF gives itself away with more white ‘pearls’, a central black spot and an edging of black chevrons. As these species are threatened nationally we are delighted that the Wyre Forest has thriving and increasing populations.

Linda Iles

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BURWARTON SHOW

August 1st - a date for your diary and an event not to be missed with something for all ages, with a heavy emphasis on a traditional agricultural show, local crafts, a conservation area with a donkey and petting farm with rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens and donkeys as well as sheep shearing, trade stands, food hall, handicrafts, horticulture, horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. Learn the ancient art of scything, try your hand at stone masonry, learn how to fly cast around the Mill Pool or wood turn an item to take home.

A special feature this year will be a display of the popular Valais blacknose sheep as seen many times on television - do look out for them on the Livestock field.

The children's play area welcomes the Panic Family Circus (non animal) whilst the Village Green will entertain all ages with the traditional Punch and Judy Show, Magic Russ, singing and accordion band playing.

Main ring entertainment will include the Atkinson Action Horses - A team of highly trained horses and riders who will entertain you with their daredevil stunts.

Ray & Wendy Aliker make a welcome return with Ye Olde Redtail Falconry. This experienced couple bring the ancient art of falconry to the modern age with a comprehensive and exciting display that is guaranteed to thrill audiences of all ages.

The Aldabra Giant Tortoises are on their way back as they were so popular with everyone last year.

The Show opens at 8.00 a.m. at the Showground, Cleobury North, WV16 6RP, on the B4364 between Bridgnorth and Ludlow and parking is free. Ticket prices remain unchanged from 2018 - admission on Show date is £17.00 for adults and £5.00 for children (12-16 years) whilst accompanied children 11 years and under enter FREE. Save money and buy your tickets in advance at discounted rates either on-line at www.burwartonshow.co.uk, from nominated ticket outlets around the area or direct from the Show Office on 01746 787535.

So much to see and enjoy so do make a note of the date - Thursday 1 August.

'AS YOU LIKE IT' AT KINLET HALL

The Rain or Shine Theatre Company are back at Kinlet Hall on Sunday July 7th with

another Shakespeare performance that will fascinate. This Gloucestershire based company have received so many enthusiastic reports on their tours that they are almost guaranteed a full house every time they appear. But how do you measure a full house for al fresco theatre?

Judge for yourself on the 7th, when tickets for adults are £14.00, concessions £13.00 and children £7.00. Bring your own seat and possibly a rug sit on, and maybe a picnic and fizz to taste. It starts at 3.00 and the performance lasts about two and a half hours. Book your tickets on 01299 841230.

THE EDITOR WILL BE AWAY

The editor will be away from his desk and his computer from the morning of Friday July 5th until the evening of Wednesday the 10th and will be incommunicado for that time.

He will deal with emails and whatever voicemails he can understand from Thursday morning the 11th and asks your understanding that this is a holiday and he will be having far too good a time to worry about anything that happens here in blessed Shropshire until he is back home and can face up to problems with renewed vigour.

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ROWBO REPAIRS

Laura Godsall and Ollie Rowbotham have a rather neat idea behind their new business. They can repair or service a wide range of household devices and gardening tools, or if you have something that's beyond normal repair, they'll take it off your hands and reuse its parts. What they want to do is stop people just throwing away machines that a competent mechanic could bring back to working life.

Ollie's workshop is local and getting a job to him is not a problem. He can collect from your place or you can leave the item to be worked on at Cleobury Country Centre and he'll pick it up.

Laura's contribution at this stage is her administrative and IT skills. She'll be studying for a degree with the Open University, so available to share the workload rather than being miles away and unable to help as the business grows.

Which it will. Ollie has qualifications in mechanical engineering and a fascination with machines that will rise to most challenges. He's also qualified for Portable Appliance Testing and his work on such

devices comes with a certificate confirming that qualification.



This is Rowbo Repairs. Laura and Ollie, full of enthusiasm and energy

There's a long list of what they can handle. Lawnmowers (including sharpening blades), hedge trimmers, strimmers, leaf blowers, shredders and chippers, chainsaws, rotavators, small engines, vacuum cleaners, powers tools, steam cleaners, generators, ATVs and light vehicles. You name it and if you're having a problem with it, these people can get it working again.

Don't scrap it, have it repaired or serviced. If it's beyond help, let them use it for spares and save you a trip to the tip. And if

they can get a machine or tool working, they'll sell it on and a percentage of any profit will go to an environmentally friendly charity that helps to clean up the planet. Don't dismiss that idealistic approach, remember that oak trees grow from acorns.

Rowbo are at 07898 730 246, email rowborepairs@gmail.com or Facebook /rowborepairs. We wish them every success.

MORE HOBSONS SUCCESS

At the Society of Independent Brewers' Beer Awards for the Wales and West region, Hobson's were in winning form again.

Simcoe Chinook, a 4.8% Black IPA took silver in the Cask Premium Pale Ale class, Champion Mild took a bronze in the Cask Dark British Beer category and Shropshire Stout was overall runner-up in the Beer in Keg awards.

Champion Mild is a long term winner for the brewery, with more than 20 awards, including Champion Beer of Britain back in 2007. Simcoe Chinook is a recent collaboration with London's Brew by Number, with American Simcoe and British Chinook hops working well together.

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STEPS TO REALISING A CAREER

After studying at Lacon Childe school and discovering a passion for science, I went to Ludlow college and carried out a week of work experience at Kudos Blends. This sparked my interest in chemistry and I began looking into it in higher education. I decided to take a year out of education before going to university to ensure it was what I wanted to do whilst dealing with a family loss and taking time to focus on my diabetes and using a glucose monitoring sensor. During this time I found a great opportunity to work at Kudos. My role at Kudos is to assist in the lab and help with quality testing the products.



Eshe at work in the Kudos laboratory, getting some grounding for university.

I have spent almost a year working full time for Kudos and have thoroughly enjoyed it. Kudos takes each person on merit and develops individuals to their best ability. My confidence and maturity in this field of research and work has flourished due to their support. Working at Kudos has brought the theory of chemistry I had learnt in college to life using practical skills and taught me laboratory skills that will be necessary at university. I have

learnt how to write reports and also how to be part of a team.

This has been a very rewarding experience for me. Kudos is a wonderful place to work and I am continuously amazed at how supportive everyone is, reflecting the local community.

I look forward to the future and I received an offer from Plymouth university to study chemistry in September. I am very sad to be leaving Kudos and all the colleagues and friends I have made but I look forward to returning to Kudos to work over my holidays.

Eshe Partington

PAT WILLIAMS

This community lost an inspirational lady in April, when Pat Williams was finally beaten by the cancers she'd fought for more than ten years.

She was actually a native of Hackney, a true Cockney, who moved out to Berkshire in her early years. There she met a bloke called Peter, who'd gatecrashed a party and really fell for her. They were 40 years married this year.

Pat was diagnosed with breast cancer ten years ago and as it was found early, the future looked bright. The small tumour was removed, but the disease did not go away and she began a long fight against it. Always with a smile, that charming grace never left her and she carried on with life.

She was an Assistant Guide Leader, loved by the girls she led and always there to offer advice and guidance. And as she had help from charities like The Haven in Hereford, she began a drive to raise funds to help their work. Her dynamism was quite remarkable.



Pat Williams. One of the bravest people you could ever meet.

She had a huge number of devoted friends and admirers, all willing to help her. They put on events like the Robbie Williams Night at the Golf Club, the Three Peaks Challenge when a crowd filled a bus and drove to Scotland to climb Ben Nevis, to Lancashire to scale Scafell Pike and finally to conquer Snowdon, all in 24 hours. Pat herself swam out to the island in Lake Coniston with daughter Victoria and Lou Savage and her brother. Later in her fight she was diagnosed with a gist, a second cancer to deal with, so she did.

No human frame can fight for ever and on April 25th this loving, smiling tower of strength was beaten. Husband Peter and daughter Victoria have so many people to thank for their help: "We owe the whole community a massive 'Thank You'" as Peter put it.

Victoria was back from her studies at Swansea University when we talked. and she recalls the support: "I don't think we cooked a meal for weeks. People left dinners on the doorstep, invited us to their homes. Amazing." The world is poorer for her passing.

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RUBBISH REVOLUTION

The business of dealing with household rubbish has moved on a long way in recent years. The old habit of landfill, and just burying whatever the world didn't want, is long dead. And so it should be.

A party from Cleobury Mortimer gathered at Veolia's household recycling centre on the Battlefields Industrial Estate on the outskirts of Shrewsbury in June. There to see how waste is dealt with and converted into power at the first stage and to building bricks as a final stage.

We were met by Hilary Hampton, eight years with Veolia after retiring from a local authority career in household waste collection. As she showed us into reception we got a first glimpse of a phrase repeated throughout the visit - 90,000 tonnes of household waste collected every year and burned to generate electricity for 10,000 houses.

This is a small unit by Veolia standards, the Staffordshire one processing 340,000 tonnes in a year and generating a lot more power for the local grid. So what used to be seen as waste is now a power source.

Veolia is a French company, specialising in waste processing but also involved in related services like water. They have a 25 year contract with both Shropshire and Staffordshire and that includes rubbish collection, which means 10.5 million household calls in Shropshire in a year. That's a lot of dustcarts and men to wheel the bins to the back of the truck.

There's a constant stream of vehicles bringing waste into this

facility and when you realise how much bulk its all involves, you're even more impressed with the cleanliness of the site. Not a piece of paper in sight, while inside the building a huge furnace is fed by cranes and the waste is burned at something over 850 degrees Centigrade.



Waste Mission Control is this bank of screens, fed by cameras that cover every part of the process.

The cranes feeding the furnace make sure that there's a mixture of materials fed onto the grate. Too much of one material can affect the efficiency of the burning.

The heat generates steam that drives electricity generators and what little is left after this stage is then separated into metal content for further use and the dust goes to make building slabs and bricks. How much of this mountain of waste goes to landfill in 2019? "About one percent of municipal waste and between two and three percent of household," we were told.

A walk on around the tall plant gives a sight of the huge ducts that carry heat to the job of generating steam. It's a shiny place with huge stainless steel ducts and pipes.



Just a small corner of the complex pipe and duct work in the unit.

The Veolia philosophy of cutting down on waste is given in three words: reduce, reuse and recycle. Reduce by cutting down on packaging, reuse by not just throwing away and recycle by processing for another application. This means constantly thinking of ways to use waste materials, and a good example is the huge number of coffee cups new being recycled and used for food packaging.

The Battlefields Energy Recovery Facility cost £63 million to build and employs 24 people to run it, 365 days a year. Amongst the staff is an Education Officer, who visits schools and talks to the pupils about the control of waste. Staff themselves are all encouraged to feed in their ideas as part of a constant research cycle looking at other ways of reusing and recycling. They exchange ideas with business competitors, as the battle against waste is a global one that involves us all.

Seeing the problem tackled here in Shropshire was a real eye-opener. The world needs more of this. JR



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Saturday 6 July 1pm

CMCC v Astwood Bank



Sunday 7 July 10am

CMRC 10km

Only the second year of this 10km run around the undulating roads of Cleobury Mortimer and environs, starting at the Playing Fields. It is now sold out but if you would like to help in any way, please contact the CMRC directly, or cheer the runners anywhere on the route.

Friday 12 July 8pm

Quoits

Social v Stingers



Saturday 13 July 10am

Fun Volleyball Tournament

Contact the Volleyball Club for details and to enter a team. Always a great day. Followed by:

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Andrew Pearce 9pm

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CMCC v Martley



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Quoits

Social v Colliers



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CURLEWS NEST AT CATHERTON

Curlews have nested successfully on Catherton Common this year.



A nest was discovered earlier in the year and protected as part of the SOS/SWT Save our Curlews Campaign. The nest had four eggs and the parents were sitting. Electric fencing was set up around the nest site to protect the eggs and hatchlings from ground predators and disturbance by sheep and dogs. The site was not far from a track and Public Right of Way across the common.

This is the first time for a number of years that curlew are known to have nested on the common. The eggs hatched around the 8th June and two of the chicks were radio tagged in order to monitor their success and movements.

Other curlew nests are being monitored by volunteers across Titterstone Clee Common and it is hoped that efforts to protect the nests will be successful and that young curlew will fledge and survive to adulthood and migrate later in the year.

Curlew are not the only ground nesting birds on the common. Next month I will discuss skylark, meadow pipit and cuckoo

In order to protect our ground nesting birds and avoid any disturbance please act responsibly:-

Do not let dogs off the lead roaming across the common between 1st March and 31st July. This is a legal requirement

Reduce to a minimum driving vehicles off-road onto the common, do not take vehicles where you do not have a right of access

Keep to rights of way and well worn paths as much as possible when you access the common

Clive Dean – Shropshire Wildlife Trust Reserves Officer South

TAKE A STAND AGAINST SCAMS

I attended this event on June 19th and must tell you how useful and informative it was.

Twelve people attended (of a certain age the go ahead people) and Jamie MacKaill took us through the A to Z of different types of scams and possible ways of dealing with them.

There were some interesting tales of people that had been scammed and how they dealt with the problem.

One unsuspecting couple had their payment card details scanned and the culprit treated himself to a thousand pounds worth of carpet until the support from the bank cleared the balance.

Another couple had their car number plate cloned and added onto a car of similar colour and design. They were sent a summons, but it was outwitted by the research and investigation that the victim went to, to prove his case.

There was lively debate and we came away much better informed, clutching information leaflets with useful telephone numbers to keep on hand.

Many Thanks to Jamie MacKaill, NatWest Bank, Friends Against Scams and Cleobury Country for hosting the occasion.

Una Widdett

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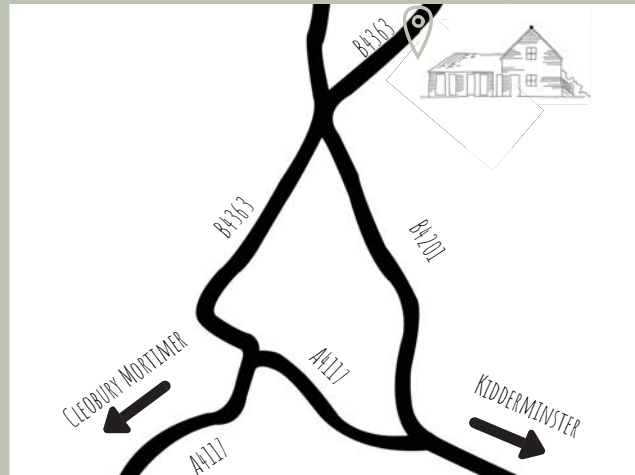
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STOTTESDON W.I.

This month we enjoyed an informative evening about ply-split braiding, presented by Julie Hedges who is trained in Woven Textile Designs and is the Chair of the Braid Society.

Ply-split braiding is a technique where one twisted cord passes through another twisted cord or cords splitting the plies of the latter cords. This is unlike weaving or many forms of braiding where cloth is formed by threads interlacing in an over-under sequence. Pattern is formed by cord colour, and splitting order.

Initially we learned about the history of ply-split braiding, as it is a traditional technique used by nomads in areas of Western India, such as Rajasthan and Gujarat. They use it to make animal related textiles like camel girths, camel covers and fly fringes for horses and donkeys. Traditionally textiles were made from goat hair and they used basic materials to form the braids and make the cloth. They would beat the goat hair with sticks, clean the grease off with wood ash, use their hands and feet to spin the braid and use natural dyes, such as turmeric

(yellow) and madder (red) to colour the braid.



A range of camel girths shows off the effects of an ancient technique.

We also had a demonstration on how to make a 4-ply braid using a cord maker and four threads. The cord maker twists the threads until a braid has been formed.

Once you have made the braid, you can then start to make your item using the ply-split technique, which was also demonstrated to us. To use this technique you use a grip feed to split the braid, threading the cord through the braids, making the distinctive zig-zag patterns.

You can use this technique to make many items, including

bowls, vessels, jewellery, belts, bags and hats.

Julie has agreed to come back to visit our group on a Saturday in late autumn to do a half day work

shop. Details need to be finalised but if you are interested in attending, please contact Clare Tibbits on 01746 718 007.

Sarah Smith

Stottesdon and District W.I.

CONVERSATION

WITH A YOUNG LADY

My older son was here on a visit from distant Hong Kong, a rare treat. Naturally my seven year old granddaughter wanted to be with him, until we agreed to have a Boys' Night at the Spice Empire and got ready to go.

"Can I come?" asked Ava.

"No, we're going down to the pub to have a meal and some drinks and you can't come. You're far too young," her father replied.

"I could tell them I'm nine," she offered, which provoked laughter but did not soften daddy's heart.

SILLY BIT

"I used to drink to drown my sorrows, but now the damned things have learned to swim!"

Frida Kahlo

David Ward
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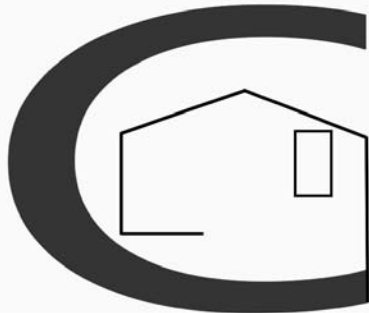
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SAINT JOHN'S DODDINGTON

As mentioned last month, we have been using our grant from Lasletts Charities: we have electronically timed door locks meaning that we can guarantee that the church is open 9.00am to 5.00pm every day, and two of our boundary walls have been repaired and made safe. Thank you to Shires Building Services of Cleobury for that. We are using the remainder of the grant to install an auditory loop in church to help those who have to wear hearing aids.

Our Event-a-Month continues and the 60s and 70s afternoon was great fun! We can highly recommend *Almost Acoustic*, a multi-talented group with a wide range of music. So lively and joyful that we all came away feeling very upbeat.

On July 13th it's our annual Strawberry Teas - 2.30pm at Doddington Village Hall. Drop in any time in the afternoon. And a very special extra brought to us by Beautiful Burial Grounds on 18 July: Learn to identify wild flowers and plants with plant expert Rob Rowe, 10:30 to 1.00. This friendly and informal session in the churchyard is suitable for beginners and those wishing to dust off or improve their skills. Thanks to the National Heritage Lottery Fund's grant to Caring for God's Acre, the 12 places are free but must be booked. To book your place ring George on 01588 673041 or email george@cfga.org.uk (<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>) Celia Gibb 01584 318036 eandcgibb@gmail.com or on Facebook @StJohnsDoddington
Celia Gibb

THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

June was a damp squib of a month as far as the weather went, but the rain hasn't dampened the spirits of Tony and his team at the Social Club, as there are some great events planned for July and August. Hopefully, that big yellow shiny thing called the Sun might put in an appearance!

The Cleobury Mortimer 10km Race will take place on Sunday, July 7th, with runners leaving the start line on the Social Club field at 10.00am. The route heads out into the surrounding countryside and returns to the finish line at the Club via Ronhill.

On Saturday the 13th there will be a BBQ between 5.00 and 7.00pm, followed by Andrew Pearce playing anything and everything on acoustic guitar, 7pm till late.

A Heads Up for the Social Club's Big Weekend in August, starting on Friday, 9th August with a Comedy Night. A Gin and Real Ale Festival is planned for Saturday, 10th August and finishing with a Family Fun Day on Sunday, 11th August. The full line up to be announced- watch this space!

The Stroke Support Group will be visiting the Golf Club for a Cream Tea on Tuesday, 23rd July. Please contact Katja Jones at the Medical Centre if you wish to attend.

See our outside notice boards advertising all upcoming events and when CM Cricket Club are playing at home. Come and support your local team whilst enjoying the biggest beer garden in Cleobury!

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

CLEOBURY W.I.

This month's meeting saw the WI ladies and visitors engrossed in a craft activity, 'Making Felted Brooches'. The workshop led by Maxine Smith introduced the method of felting wool and producing craft works and everyone had a go themselves. Some interesting pieces emerged and as ever, a nice piece of cake and a cup of tea or coffee helped everyone to enjoy the evening.

Our summer outing for June led us to Clee Hill where Alf Jenkins took us on a tour of the former working sites. Clee Hill once was a hive of industry with people working in mines and quarries and their own railway transporting goods as far as Birmingham and beyond. A visit to the Crown at Hopton Wafers for sandwiches and a drink finished an interesting evening.

We are looking forward to July 9th, when Rosemary Winnall talks on 'The Nature of Wyre - Natural History of the Wyre Forest. You are welcome to join us at the Market Hall at 7.30 pm.

Do have a look at the Cleobury Mortimer WI Facebook page. It will show you some of the interesting and fun things we get up to.

Gabby Franklin

SILLY BITS

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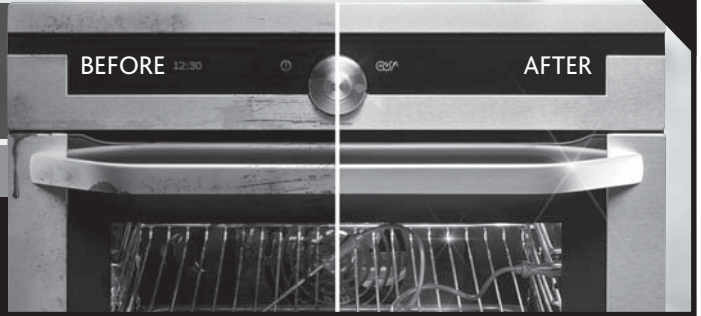
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**EXCITING NEWS FROM SAINT MARY'S,
OUR PARISH CHURCH**

For some years now the congregation at St Mary's has been discussing ways of making the building more comfortable and flexible, not only for church use but also to encourage more use by the wider community. St Mary's is not only a beautiful and historic building but, in its commanding position in the town, is a much-loved focal point for all in Cleobury.

Earlier in the year we applied for a Lottery grant of £10,000 to fund our architect to draw up plans for the improvement of the building. We were delighted to hear recently that our application was successful. The plans will cover things like upgrading the heating, draught-proofing the south porch, installing a kitchen and toilets, replacing the pews with more flexible and comfortable seating, as well as re-laying worn-out stone flooring and improving the access to the tower.

Once we have the plan we will be able to cost the various options, decide in what order to carry them out, and work out how to fund them. We expect that a significant part of the cost would have to come from grants, particularly from the National Lottery, but we will, I'm sure, need to embark on fund-raising in the local community and beyond.

This is all, to some extent, in the future, but we have decided, in a separate but linked development, to embark on what we think is the most pressing need, to improve the

heating. Our existing heating system does not deliver heat to the centre of the church where most people sit, and the church is often cold. So, with the help of a generous grant of £30,000 from the Friends of St Mary's, we are embarking on the heating improvements as the first stage of the overall plan. This will involve installing a new and more powerful boiler and underfloor heating throughout the nave. As this will require the wooden floors to be lifted, these will be replaced with new engineered timber floors which will better withstand being constantly heated.

We hope to have the work done in the autumn so that we have a warm building for the winter. The work is expected to take around a month, and the church will be closed for the majority of that time. Most services during the closure will continue, but will be transferred to different venues.

Funding for the work will come from further grant applications and from fund-raising events locally. The total cost will be £60,000: we already have £35,000 and hope that we will be able to reclaim the VAT of around £10,000 through the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. That reduces the balance to a more manageable level which we hope we will be able to raise quite quickly.

We believe that the overall project will bring significant benefits to the local community, and that the heating phase will deliver a swift and much-needed improvement to our much-loved church.

Chris Kippin

Paul Harding



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JULY 2019 Clarion Report

What a busy year so far and by now the Festival will have taken place and we hope that you all had a really good day and a Big thank you to the small volunteer group of councillors and residents whose hard work keeps it going. If you can bring some expertise and ideas and would like to be involved for next year, please contact the Town Council office.

We work hard to foresee any issues that may affect us all and with that I can update you all on a couple of planning items which may cause some traffic issues.

There are two that will be coming up in a few weeks so we contacted the owners and met with them to raise concerns and are now working with the them to minimise any disruptions.

First of all, the site down the Tenbury road that has planning for 22 homes will be starting construction 6-8 weeks estimated until contracted finalised and signed. Work can commence after that, and they will be setting up traffic lights to close one side of the road. They are looking at 12- 18 months to complete the project which will be 100% affordable homes with 10 shared ownership and the remaining to rent.

Secondly there will be a lot of vehicles using the Bayton Road to work at Saddlers Barn renovations and again we are working with the contractors to help minimise disruptions. We have indicated that Thursdays with bin collections would be a bad day and also at school times, as well as other advice.

The work to re-vamp the Love lane play area is coming along with meetings and quotes, as we also have been looking at funding and are working hard to secure the Grant identified, which is a European grant and is time limited due to Brexit. We have been advised that we can add the Adult Gym equipment to the application, so that would also be a plus for our community.

Shropshire Council is currently restructuring which means that contacts with whom we have had good working relationships have left or their responsibilities have changed. Among the projects that we need to resolve urgently are upgrading the Talbot Car Park, safety concerns on the Newbridge corner and Disabled parking provision in the town. Prior to changes of personnel we had assurances with regard to all of these but are now faced with discussing the details again. The Council will continue to pursue these and other overdue projects until resolutions are achieved.

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IN BUSINESS - Paul and Clare Brunn at Wild Meadow Kennels



Paul and Clare Brunn outside the Wild Meadow kennels. It's a very different place from some they've seen in their search for a rural life.

Paul and Clare Brunn wanted to get away from city life and find a place where they could bring up their young family and have space to breathe. The problem they faced was finding a suitable property in an area where they could earn enough to pay for it.

They're dog lovers and Clare was taking in boarding pets while owners were away. Why not find a country property with a kennels operating already? Their search took them to Devon at first, where they found a luxury operation that sold very quickly but did give them an idea of what could be done.

Their search widened through the more affordable Midlands, and a visit to Wild Meadow on Hopton Bank rang their bell with its quality facilities, plus plenty of space for exercising dogs properly in its 2.6 acres.

Other places did not measure up. Like cramped spaces, a place where nine acres was filled with as many kennel units as the owners could fit in, and there was no space for off-the-lead exercise where dogs could run and feel free.

Or places where there was clearly no affection for the animals, which were just pushed aside and given no time, or others where the smell told them there was not a proper cleaning routine. Animals are not naturally dirty; they want to be clean and healthy.

They decided to take their courage in both hands and put their house on the market, to give them an idea of how much they could spend. It gave them quite a shock when it sold in two days and they had to press the Very Urgent button on their plans.

It took a sympathetic response from the Natwest Bank, who could see the viability of the business plan an accountant friend drew up. Big sighs of relief

when they got the go-ahead and early in the year Paul, Clare, three children and assorted pooches (proof that they are genuine dog lovers) moved in.

What they took over was a kennel layout built by the previous owners to a high standard. 15 pens, designed to house two or more dogs if they are from the same home. The Bruins are licensed to house 30 and had to go through the new and much stricter inspection by the County Council to be certified. They don't pull a face at that need, recognising that recent bad publicity about 'Puppy Farms' and mistreatment means stricter control.

Paul and Clare have taken on a successful boarding kennels and spent money on improvements. Like the fence around the free running exercise area that no dog can jump over now. Their own Italian Mastiff can't.

The whole family have taken to the friendly reception by neighbours, like asking one who would trim the boundary hedges and another phoning to say he'd booked a man to do the job. That's country life, and if you want a place for your dog while you're away, I can tell you from experience this place is good.

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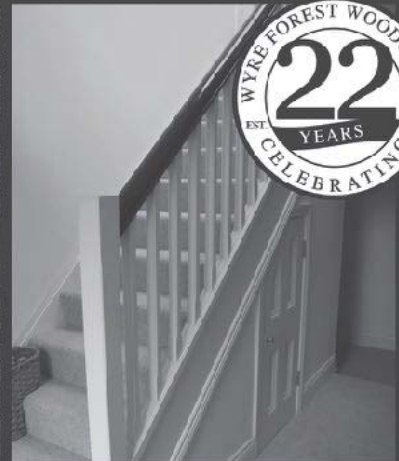
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CITIZENS ADVICE		08444 991100	Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00
CLEOBURY CARERS	Wendy Duley	01299 270562	
CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES	Katja Ward	01299 270018	10.00 to 12.00 Weds
CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY		01299 272301	Open 9 to 5 Monday to Friday and 10 to 12 Saturday
LOCAL POLICE	Constable Anne O'Leary		ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES	Dorothy McBride	07761 976610	
CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Iain Smith	01299 271809	
CRIMESTOPPERS		0800 555 111	Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.
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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, weekdays. www.cleobury.org.uk. Council meets in the Centre on the first Monday of the month
POST OFFICE		01299 270211	In the Spar Grocery Store, Church Street
SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000	
SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM			richard@ssyf.net.
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THE DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE IS JULY 22nd

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