

The Cleobury Clarion

SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

JUNE 2020

THE WOODWARD EDUCATIONAL TRUST

This interesting notice has been received recently, reflecting the generosity of Clive Woodward of Hopton Court towards the local community. It will be of interest to a wide range of people looking to improve their qualifications and employment prospects.

The Woodward Educational Trust was established by the generosity of Chris Woodward to make grants for educational purposes, regardless of age, to anyone living in the parishes of Hopton Wafers, Cleobury Mortimer, Neen Savage, Neen Sollars, Milson, Kinlet or Doddington. The Trustees invite applications and have a wide discretion to make grants, both in terms of purpose and amount. There is no closing period – applications can be made at any time. For an application form, please go to www.w-e-t.org.uk/contact.shtml.

A SLIMMER COPY OF THE CLARION

You may have noticed that this copy of The Clarion is lighter to pick up than usual. Quite right if you did, as it has shrunk from the recent count of 68 pages to a mere 60.

The reason will be obvious to anyone who knows this area and the level of social activity we enjoy when times are normal and can move around freely. At such times there are pages of reports of what's been happening, supplemented by the team of regular correspondents who add to a mix of news, forecast and the events that make life richer. At this strange time, that flood of news is not there, the country is quiet and the streets of the town seem deserted.

I am determined that the Clarion will continue to appear and hopefully interest you with a mixture of history and talks with people whose experience is well worth telling - when we can go out and meet them. JR

SIMPLE DECENCY RULES

If you want proof of the simple decency and generosity that makes Cleobury Mortimer a great place to live, take a look at our 'All About Cooperation' feature on Page 39.

You'll read the reasons for that statement inside, but let's not forget that businesses who have agreed to give some extraordinarily generous help are themselves struggling in a very hard national situation. If anyone thinks it's easy to make a half decent living out there on the streets and still give quantities of free food to those less fortunate just do not grasp the very basics of business. Those people still have bills and staff to pay, plus families to support and mortgages to meet.

We British have become very fond of calling people heroes, which is true of many who aren't recognised in normal times. But to pay all the bills and still manage to give out free food - that's heroic

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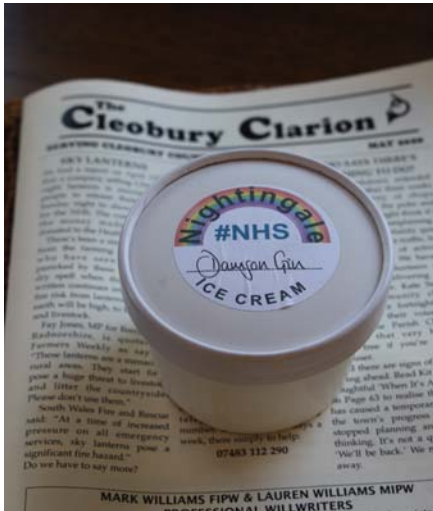


Golden Charter 
Smart Planning for Later Life



The Cleobury Clarion, June 2020

Volume Sixteen - Edition Three



A Cleobury Mortimer exclusive. NHS Ice Cream in a range of flavours that will please. See Page 7.



The Talbot was fully dressed for the occasion of VE75. A credit to the town. See Page 11.



Pothole of the Month. A double-header to give you real grief out on the Bayton Road. See Page 27.

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MEMORIES OF THE CLEOBURY AREA

Phil Westwood discovered this area back in the 60's. It must have made a deep impression, as he lives here now.

It was very interesting to read the article "Memories of Old Cleobury" by Janet Dickinson in May's issue of the Clarion.

My memories are not of Cleobury itself but of the villages of Oreton/Farlow and Cleeton St Mary and the late 1960's.

At that time I was courting a girl from Oreton who lived up the lane from the "The Gate Hangs Well" pub at Oreton. I won't divulge her name for obvious reasons.

I lived at Pattingham near Wolverhampton and used to travel to Ludlow to meet "M" and we would go to the cinema, a round trip of 56 miles. When you are 19 and the proud owner of a Vespa 180 SS scooter, that's hardly a problem. After we came out of the Clifton cinema in Ludlow off we would go to the village hall in either Oreton or Cleeton St Mary to the Saturday night dance which consisted of a record player on a chair.

Perhaps there are some Clarion readers who remember those nights of over 50 years ago and if they remember a "Townie" with a funny accent who rode a red scooter with fair hair down to his shoulders (sob), that was me

Happy days.

Philip Westwood

THE LUDLOW DOG DAY

No repeat of last year's great success in the current COVID-19 situation, but the Rotary Club of Ludlow have come up with an ingenious virtual version as a fund raiser for local charities. Barry Treves explains:

Not even COVID 19 can put a complete stop to Ludlow Rotary Club's Annual Dog Day. Instead the Club has set up a virtual Dog Day Facebook group and is inviting dog owners to join and take part in a Dog Day photo competition each month.

The first two classes were held early in May for the Male Dog With The Most Endearing Eyes and the Female version of the same title. Each subsequent month further competitions in two different classes will be organised. The Club hopes

owners will make a voluntary donation of £2 per entry and thus help the Rotary Club raise some much-needed funds for Saint Michael's Hospice, Hope House Hospice for Children, Guide Dogs and the Club's own charity initiative, Ludlow Rotary Cares.

The full details are on www.ludlowdogday.org.uk, and the Facebook group is called [Virtual Ludlow Dog Day 2020](https://www.facebook.com/VirtualLudlowDogDay2020). So, please GET SNAPPING!

Barry Treves

THE LOCAL DEFIBRILLATOR LIST

There were errors in the invaluable list of locally available defibrillators that we published last month, thanks to the generosity and hard work of Sue Del Mar.

The telephone number was wrong and should be 01299 270397. Keith Brown at Rock praised the existence of such a valuable source of information and pointed out that the Rock unit is not at the village hall, but on the side wall of the Rock Cross Inn.

Our apologies for the error in the telephone number. Sheer carelessness!

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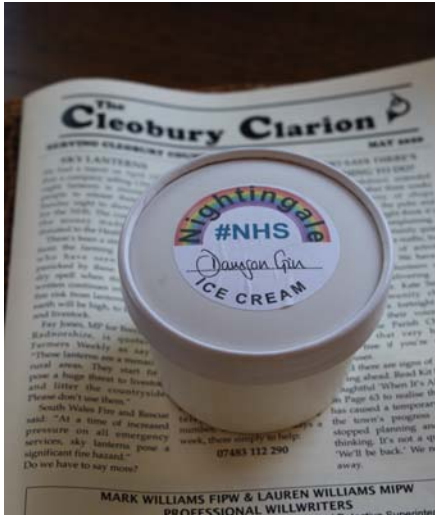
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NHS ICE CREAM!



A Cleobury Mortimer original. One tub of NHS ice cream, from the Perkins family kitchen via Heath Farm Meats.

This is a brilliant idea and a real treat to eat. It's NHS Ice Cream, made here in Cleobury and available from Cleobury Cafe, Katerfresh, Heath Farm Meats or The Larch Barn.

I saw it at Heath Farm and had to give the Damson Gin flavour a try - I was not disappointed. It costs £2.50 a tub and all monies received go to the NHS funds. It was launched in late April and when we talked to the maker, Molly Perkins, on May 6th they had already made £365 for that best of causes.

It comes in five flavours and is a family affair, with Molly and mum Jan making it in the family kitchen, while dad Andy looks around for ideas for other flavours. Also involved are the Robinson family at Mawley Milk, where a surplus of cream needed using in a proper way, so it's donated to the NHS Ice Cream cause. How long will they carry on producing it? we asked. "As long as there's a need," was Molly's answer. Do try some before the rest of Cleobury catches on and it runs out. Delicious! JR

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

I hope you are all enjoying your gardens in this fabulous weather we're having. We're still in lockdown and I hope you are staying safe and well.

No definite dates yet when meetings will be resuming, but rest assured we will let you know when we are allowed to meet up again. For now, keep gardening, Stay Safe and continue supporting each other

Jobs to Do This Month

Plant out climbing French beans, Runner beans, courgettes and squash

Keep thinning out any overcrowded drifts of annuals

Provide supports for Dahlias and any tall or floppy perennials

Sow freshly collected seed from foxgloves and aquilegia

Plant outdoor Tomatoes in their final positions and provide support

Prune Philadelphus and Weigela after flowering

Ventilate and shade plants in the greenhouse on warm days

Plant main-crop Carrots and protect from root fly

Sow oriental vegetables under cloches

Keep young vegetable plants well-watered and catch weeds early by hoeing off.

Pauline Bowen

A VERY CIVIL SERVICE

I draw a War Pension. Nothing heroic attached to that, it's just that I was invalided out of National Service when I developed bronchial asthma and was declared permanently medically unfit for military service after they'd taken me in Grade 1. Not that six months in the Army of Occupation of

Leicestershire was a very dangerous mission, you understand.

I have had the monthly payment directed to my savings account until recent growth in the household bills made a change necessary. So I emailed the War Pensions Office in Lancashire, asking them to send the money to my current account in future. A prompt reply told me it would be done, but as the staff were all working from home it might not be quick.

Less than two weeks later a very polite lady called, explained she was dealing with the matter and after a brief identity check made the necessary changes there and then. So I could be staring solvency in the face fairly soon. Bless them. JR

THE PANDEMIC PANTRY

Harriet at Colliers Cookery School in Bayton tells us:

"Charlotte Pike, who is hosting our [Persian Course](#) on 5th November has created a motivating culinary website <https://pandemic-pantry.co.uk/>. Containing a suppliers directory, recipes, podcasts, competitions and more. Be prepared to be inspired!"

This non cook has to say that it's a very interesting and informative site and it would very likely inspire those who know more about the kitchen than this fool. Well worth a visit - do give it a try. JR

SILLY BIT

From a letter of complaint to Wick Town Council:

I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall."

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A STRANGE PARALLEL
Cyril Breakwell, whose stories about rural life many years ago have been such a fascinating tale to follow, phoned recently. He had a distant parallel with the current coronavirus scare that he saw as a seven year old at Farlow School. It was in 1931, when he'd just started school - later than most because the long walk to school and up that steep hill was regarded as too much for a child of six years. My, haven't times changed in the past 90 or so years?

Cyril said he could remember an outbreak of diphtheria at the school that claimed the lives of two sisters. What a tragedy for their parents, losing two little girls to a disease that's almost unheard of today. As Cyril was such a young boy at the time, he can't remember if there were other deaths in the area and as the school is currently closed, we asked other local sources for more

information. Alf Jenkins said the school records should have a record, but that's locked away in the school right now.

Robert Hodge of the History Society has no access to local records on this matter, but advises that diphtheria was a major cause of death in children in Britain in the 1930s. There was an average of 58,000 cases a year and 2,800 deaths across all ages, with Under 5s and Over 40s considered the highest risk. In those pre-NHS days, when medical care was a matter of payment or charity, an outbreak of a disease as serious as diphtheria was a very serious matter. Fortunately the matter was addressed in the 1940s, when five million children were vaccinated and it became much less of a threat. The authorities learned how to deal with the problem of that time, just as we will today when a resistant injection has been developed.

JUST TO MAKE YOU SMILE

In a recent excellent BBC TV feature on the story of John Le Mesurier, Clive Dunn told how he walked up to a policeman one evening and asked where the local branch of Alcoholics Anonymous was.

"Do you want to join, sir?" asked the constable.

"Oh no," said John "I want to resign."

THANK YOU

This appreciation of the help neighbours give came with a request that no name is revealed. But the manners are still correct and the sentiment just as strong:

The residents of Mortimer Gardens would like to thank the good neighbours who have kindly been cutting all the grass surrounding the bungalows in the Gardens. It has been very much appreciated by all. Without their efforts it would all be looking sadly neglected.

WISE BIT

True wisdom is knowing when to give up and have a glass of wine.

Anon




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CLEOBURY MORTIMER PARISH HALL

Arts Alive and Flicks In The Sticks are suspending all shows until the start of the next season in August. All being well, the programme will resume with 'Green Book', which was originally due to be shown in March

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VE75 DAY



The Talbot Hotel, right in the town centre, in decorative mode for Victory in Europe's 75th birthday.

The weather was definitely on our side for VE75 Day and the town's celebration of that historic day rose gently above the solemnity of the problem the country faces with the corona virus.

A walk down the High Street highlighted the happiness, with neighbours sitting along the pavement, carefully observing the two metre social spacing rule and chatting. Gabby Franklin is quite a social force in her own smiling way, and was happily chatting with two young ladies in wartime Land Girl outfits who had been offered a glass of wine but opted for tea; we assume they were driving home.

Gabby told us later that they are waiting for the building of the Cleobury Heights home to be completed, as they are working there.

Nearby but not too near were Flora and Haydn, with her sister Tilly, plus youngsters Lola and Delilah, another happy family enjoying the sunshine. Later on the adults and Gabby went out onto the street again after Her Majesty's speech and sang "We'll meet again" in the gleam from the floodlit Talbot. Great stuff.

Roger and Janet Brown were looking very relaxed, with a glass of wine, a light lunch and friendly smiles. They both put in a lot of effort for the Parish Church and the Saint Mary's Youth Project that has built the Cleobury Hub up so well. Like so many people in the community, they are looking forward to being busy again.

Phil and Josie, new licensees at the Talbot, had laid on a range of food for people to help themselves and make a donation towards the Royal British legion funds. Very little was left by the time we arrived, which shows what a great idea it was. These two look like making a success of the town's most prominent hotel and we will be getting to talk to them when life is once more settled and normal.

It was only a brief walk down the town centre, but coming across was the strong community feeling that makes this such a good place to live.

A SMALL WORLD

A friend living near Leamington Spa emailed recently to tell that he's filling in time working on a history of the traditional Real Tennis Club in the town. It's a real piece of Olde England with correct observance of rules and proper catering for the members and guests.

Amongst the archives was a note of a visitor in 1850, a William Lacon Childe, who gave his address as Kinlet Park. Could it be that there was a traditional tennis court on the Kinlet estate at that time? Not that tennis was the only interest at Leamington, with evidence emerging of cards, drinking and billiards all being popular. Intriguing. JR

STEPHANIE'S TREATS

Stephanie Morrison, who made a name for herself for quality treats and catering, has a new venture - Rock Village Tuck Shop. Loads of traditional sweets, lollipops and cake pop sticks, all delivered to your door.

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DAVID WALFORD

David is Cleobury Mortimer's best known living poet, with several of his collections published. This was written in the middle of the coronavirus crisis.

Silent unseen enemy

The Reaper waited while a
silent unseen enemy
Played a deadly game of tag.
Resting on door handles,
Tagging on handshakes and
innocent kisses,
Passing on the game of death,
Multiplying, multiplying.

Great metropolises became
silent and empty
...Bunkered down.
Earth breathed a long forgotten
...Unpolluted freshness.
Skies became silent,
Traffic almost ceased,
Arias of birdsong filled the
silent void.

The Reaper waited while a
silent unseen enemy
Played a deadly game of tag.
Resting on door handles,
Tagging on handshakes and
innocent kisses,
Passing on the game of death,
Multiplying, multiplying.

Humanity retreated behind
closed doors,
Lived in a virtual reality world,
Watching and waiting,
...Avoiding contact

For fear of the deadly game of tag.

The silent unseen enemy
shrank to almost nothing,
Waited for its chance to rise
again,
Increase its numbers for those
Who foolishly thought it had
been beaten.

The Reaper waited while a
silent unseen enemy
Played a deadly game of tag.
Resting on door handles,
Tagging on handshakes and
innocent kisses,
Passing on the game of death,
Multiplying, multiplying.

**CHILDREN PAINTED
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THE KITE FESTIVAL

In March we told you that the Cleobury Kite Festival, one of two such annual events that Helene and Paul Morgan of Sky Bums in Wem organise, was booked to occupy the Lacon Childe School sports field once more. The weekend of July 18th and 19th were the dates.

It's a colourful, friendly event and the kite flyers do make curious visitors very welcome. So easy to find too, with colourful kites like a beacon to show you where they are.

We spoke to Helene in mid May, to find out if the Festival is definitely going ahead, but as

you'd expect she could not give a definite answer. It's down to the government if people can travel from all over the country to Cleobury and it's down to the school and the Department for Education to judge if it will be safe.

Helene has promised to let us know as soon as she has a firm answer about the event. We will let you know what the decision is in the July Clarion, and in the meantime our fingers are crossed.

THANK YOU

On February 28th at about 8.55 a.m., I collapsed outside Ben's Barbers and I would like to thank those who came to my aid:

The lady driving the Mawley Travel minibus, the lady with two greyhounds, another lady and two or three men who found a chair and helped me into the minibus, which took me to the Medical Centre, the two ladies who came out of the centre to meet me with a wheelchair and Doctor Paul Thompson.

I am not a patient of the practice and would like to express my heartfelt thanks to them all.

*Mrs Lorraine Cooper
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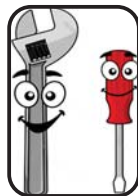
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With the continuing Coronavirus crisis it's no surprise that we have no new job vacancies to offer. Businesses that are not allowed to open are not likely to need new talent at this time.

But it is a good time to use this space and remind you that any advert for a vacancy can appear on this page at no charge; it is a public service. Not one limited to businesses large and small, because if you just need a cleaner at your home this is a good place to find one.

We are printing fewer copies right now, because a lot of our outlets are closed as part of the national

lockdown, but there are still 750 a month going out to the busiest places like doctors' reception areas to be read. When times are more normal we will begin to grow the output again until it reaches 1,000. That's a lot of Clarions circulating every month and numerous readers have told us that they read their copy and then pass it on. Goodness only knows how many actual readers we have, but it is certainly a lot more than the number we produce.

There's very little chance that you need to know this right now, but it's a reminder of what we can do to help you, whether you are looking for work or offering it. The Clarion is here to help - it always has been. *JR*



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Carpet Days - More Unhappy Memories

Some more random tales from days in the British carpet industry many years ago, the continuation of a story that started in the August 2019 issue. I was National Sales Manager at a factory in Bolton.

Bolton Carpets was part of the Bowater Furnishings Group, in what seemed to be an accident of acquisition. Bowater liked property and land - as a giant of the paper industry they owned 85% of Newfoundland and the timber that represented - and had bought the Beautility Furniture company that was based in a large site in North London. Beautility owned Goodacre Carpets of Kendal and in that group was Bolton Carpets. No prizes for guessing where they were based.

My family moved there into The Dutch House, constructed by a local builder for his son in the 1920s. We had never been made more welcome anywhere we lived - the neighbours were just so big hearted. Our sons were happy in the nearby primary school and my wife was studying and later getting her Open University BA degree. She was handed it by David Attenborough, before he was knighted and became Sir David.. We were very happy.

I had recruited a good sales force and once the production side had been sorted out with a new managing director coming in, the business grew fast. The company was profitable; in our best year the sales force and myself cost the company 3.5 percent of the revenue we generated.

The sales office manager, who had tried to stab me in the back by lying about my conduct in the past, now found he was working for me. All I will say is that he retired early with a breakdown and that I believe revenge is a dish best eaten cold.

The company was outgrowing the Victorian spinning mill where it was based and plans were made at a very senior level to move the whole operation down to Kidderminster. Bowater had bought Georgian Carpets in Clensmore Street and the neighbouring old axminster works of Minster Carpets, plus the next site along, to accommodate the backing plant and warehousing. Overseeing the move was a senior man from Bowater in Knightsbridge, who presented our MD with a single sheet of paper with a rough line drawing that was supposed to be the moving plan and timetable.

The move was chaotic, with carpet produced in Bolton and shipped to a contract backing plant and then delivered to Kidderminster until our own plant could be installed. New workers were recruited to run the plant and when it started a huge Middle East order was put through to test how it ran. That cheap stuff had a simple latex seal on the back, not a sign of foam. And if there was a leak and latex got on the face of the carpet it had to be marked on the stock label, which the new crew duly did. Until someone asked why the latex was still coming through on the wrong side? About eight rolls had gone through damaged, 800 square yards and no-one had asked the crew to pass the message on to the operator at the other end. 800 square yards of carpet that we couldn't send out to our Arab customers. Oh dear.

I had been optimistic about the move to the Midlands, as it seemed logical that in Kidderminster we would find good people with experience of making carpets properly and sales office staff who knew what they were doing. I should have known that assumption is a very poor guide to forward planning, but I was about to find out. JR



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ROMANCE BLOSSOMS

It was one of those phone calls that gets your imagination firmly into top gear. "Would you like to come and meet my new wife, CoCo?" asked John Carter, distinguished antiques trader and a long way short of antique himself. I lied about that last bit, but he has promised to buy me a drink.

Curiosity saw me putting off the Monday morning domestics and grabbing the camera as I headed for Chez Carter, the man's bijou residence. Outside stood his splendid Volvo estate limousine; I know it's an estate version because it looks like it's been shot by a gamekeeper.

John himself responded to my ringing the door bell and I assumed it was the butler's day off. Tea was served at two metres distance in sturdy British mugs, none of your fancy bone china for this true son of the English soil.

Then came the anticipated moment, when John introduced me to his new woman, who seems to be of foreign blood, as she remained silent throughout our meeting. I asked if the lady had a passport, to be told "Oh no, we're not married yet."



John Carter and CoCo. We can only wish them good luck and happiness.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, DODDINGTON

We thought we'd give you a quick update. In common with all churches, St John's remains closed and it is sad not to be able to meet together. Our Events have been postponed, and our project is on hold – not least because the National Lottery has suspended all new funding for now. Of course the ongoing costs of just keeping the church standing and the churchyard maintained continue, so we will face financial challenges. However, we have much to be grateful for. The churchyard is a haven for wildlife with wild flowers being allowed to grow in appropriate areas – anyone can visit as long as you exercise

the distancing rules. Church services are being provided in all sorts of ways – we could join Cleobury Benefice is doing a Sunday morning service each week on Zoom at 10am and other services throughout the week and these are available on a YouTube channel anytime. The Diocese of Hereford and Church of England are also providing services and resources. In our community, like others all over the country, the kindness of people is noticed, there are many who run essential services working hard for all of us, and if you step out of your door at 8.00pm on a Thursday you can hear the loud noise of thanks being expressed to carers of all kinds (that's if you pause briefly from making your own loud sound to hear it!). If you would like any practical help during this difficult time, or the info about accessing the church services mentioned above, or have any questions, call Celia on 01584 318036 or email stjohnsdoddington@gmail.com. And let's continue to keep in touch with each other: send messages, phone one another, call and ask for prayer or anything else you need.

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

CLEOBURY FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

This time of the year, our footpath work concentrates on keeping paths clear of the rapid spring growth. It is amazing how quickly a path can go from being completely clear to being unpleasantly overgrown. Sometimes, just a week or so. We generally walk and clear individually near to our homes, but there are one or two paths that need a group effort.

This year all official footpath work on behalf of the County Council has been stopped. We will not be able to do the bigger jobs but some of us have still been out and about doing clearance.

It has been remarkable to see just how heavily walked our local footpaths have been this spring and pleasing to see how many people are discovering our extensive, well maintained and substantially stile free footpath network.

This heavy usage has helped to keep paths much clearer than usual. However on some paths, nettles will still grow up at the side of the paths and hedges and bramble will grow across them.

If you come across a path where the nettles have been bashed down, or a hedge nicely trimmed at a stile, it did not happen all on its own. One of our volunteers did it. Without our continuing effort over the years, there would be very few walkable footpaths.

One of our bigger jobs is "Jacob's ladder" which goes from Ron Hill to Furlongs Close. Without us, that will definitely get overgrown this year.

Don't give up using paths that do get overgrown. Help yourselves and other walkers to keep enjoying our paths by doing a bit of clearance. Take a pair of secateurs or shears with you and take a few extra minutes to help. Even bash things down with your walking stick or trample on them.

If anyone would like advice or the loan of tools for that purpose please get in touch. footpaths.cmfa@gmail.com

Susan Sharp

STEWART'S WALKING VIDEOS

Stewart Mumford has a good track record as a walker, with some long treks over big hills to his credit. And as he continues his hobby locally, and the Memory Walk in April was cancelled in the face of coronavirus, it was a natural move to take his GoPro Hero 7 camera and record some of his outings to show his mum, now unable to get out and savour the Shropshire countryside.

It works well, so much so that Katja Jones heard about the venture and asked if the films could be put on video to show to housebound people in her care. Stewart is building his portfolio, with a dozen local walks and journeys on record, including two of Ludlow Market visits plus one

of Mawley Hall estate and the considerable improvements being made there. Plus there's one stroll down the High Street with close-up shots of notable buildings to perhaps remind anyone who sees the film of the place where they grew up.

The collection is now ready to view on You Tube if you dial up "Cleobury Walks". The films last between 10 and 20 minutes and there's a commentary that includes directions to guide you over some areas where there are no signs. It's proved to be a very popular idea, with the most popular recording 471 visits by mid May.

This is not a commercial venture, it's Stewart's hobby and will remain so, though he's hoping to get the walks out on DVD so that more people can see them. He's walking and filming most weekends in the summer weather, with a five mile jaunt along Simon Evans' Way the next in line. The full SE Walk will come later.

Amongst the advice he gives on film is the correct footwear and clothing, plus a water bottle and food. Stewart likes his reasonable comforts and his equipment includes a small stove, a coffee making kit, some stout gloves and a pair of secateurs for clearing brambles on any local walks. The complete walking handyman in fact and a real service to the community.

VOLUNTEERS TO THE RESCUE

A few weeks ago while watching Midlands News I saw our inspiring Neen Savage anaesthetist, Nageena asking for help in making coveralls for the NHS.

At last, something positive I can do in this time of lockdown. I rang the number given but was told that the centre was in Birmingham and I lived too far away. I e-mailed Nageena to say what a shame but quite understood.

I thought nothing more until a few days later a volunteer arrived at our front door with some twenty coveralls to be made up. (No doubt due to Nageena). He would collect them the next week and bring me more.

With just myself making them it would be a very small order, Why not advertise on the Neen Savage and Cleobury Mortimer volunteer websites for other sewers? This duly done the response was amazing! And before I knew where I was I had willing helpers busily sewing away and in the space of two weeks we sent sixty coveralls back to base.

However the need for scrubs in care homes had become urgent so the depot in Birmingham switched its priority to making scrubs. This required a week or two of reorganisation on their part as they had an army of sewers but not many volunteer administrators.

When the reorganisation was complete I rang to order some scrubs but delivery seemed to be a problem. This was soon overcome by the fact that we had our own driver, Giles MacVean, who had kindly volunteered.

Off went Giles and returned with no less than two hundred suits, just a little more than I visualised! However the large pile of garments in our hall is slowly going down.

Our present team are beavering away. They range from a seamstress who made dresses for Laura Ashley to pupils from Lacon Childe school and from several mothers and daughters to B&B hosts, all who live locally.

I shall be advertising in the Rock Magazine and the Clarion at the end of the May so hopefully more sewers will come forward and our hall will emerge into the light again.

Sue Del Mar

01299270397

Jz.delmar@btinternet.com

PS if you have a machine but are unable to use it we have several sewers who either do not have a machine or their machine is not up to the job, who would be most grateful for the loan of it.

LOTS OF ACTIVITY AT LACON CHILDE

There's been quite a lot of heavy trucks up and down Love Lane in May and much activity in the courts out on the edge of the sports fields. Head teacher Darren Reynolds tells us that it's the Astro Turf being replaced.

This all-weather playing surface has a normal projected life of seven to eight years, but in this instance careful use and maintenance has seen it last ten years. All credit to the school for that.

When it was first laid there was an agreement that the school and the local authority would both contribute to a sinking fund, so that finance would be available when a new surface was needed. And here it is, scheduled to be ready for use whenever the school is back in operation. A great facility for our own sports college.



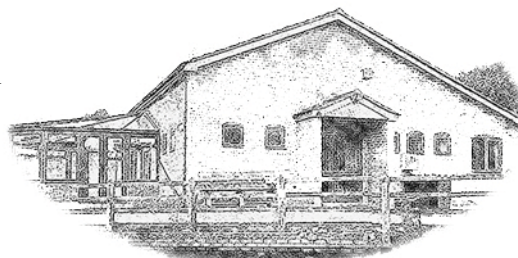
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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice
Services, Events and Activities throughout the Benefice.
June 2020

To follow is a short bio to introduce one of the new members of the clergy, curate Joe Simons, who will begin in June. He will be joined by Peter Hayward whose bio will be produced in the next edition.

Joe Simons

Rather than being sent to Coventry I arrived in Coventry in 1962. Life began in my grandmother's front room in late March, my mother being particularly stoic, either that or no one had mentioned pain relief. I had a happy and rather uneventful childhood save for two moments of note. The first was the consumption of a small quantity of petrol, I liked the smell, suffice to say I don't anymore. The second involved me taking on the role of 007. I thought that I could kick through a small pane of glass in a rubbish skip. Actually, you do need sugar glass and a stunt person in order for the illusion to work. I was taken to the local GP where I was stitched up under candlelight. I am still trying to work out if these events were truly formative.

My schooling was equally uneventful save for always being just short of the expectations of my teachers. That maybe a teacher thing to stretch one to achieve, or simply that I was always just short of their expectations. I come from a family of teachers especially scientists. My father was a Professor of Chemistry and my younger brother Professor of Theoretical Physics so clearly a life in the ministry was on the cards for me.

Truth be told it probably was. I felt drawn to serve and recognised through my parents and siblings that service was an area that sat very comfortably with my natural disposition. However, as I have come to realise you can't always expect to get from A to B in the most direct route, in fact it is often best if you don't. I went to university and studied for a degree in Urban Estates Surveying and 2 years after that I qualified as a Chartered Surveyor. My specialism was retail and after spending some time managing the property estate for a now defunct Dry Cleaners, I spent the majority of my career working for Boots the Chemists looking after their stores and acquiring new ones. My work took me all around the UK and also overseas for a short period of time.

My life has had its fair share of ups and downs and my faith has been right at the heart of it, especially when my mother and my daughter died in very quick succession. The darkness that comes with loss drew me even deeper into the reassurance that I was loved by God and valued not abandoned. There was a tap on the shoulder which turned into a push, then a tug and finally I succumbed and was approved by the Bishops Advisory Panel in June 2017.

I am looking forward to my curacy and getting to know you all. This next stage in my journey, will I pray, be built by us together as I seek to serve you and our God in this new place.

Online services during the lockdown will continue using the medium of Zoom. If you would like to be part of any or all of these services please email the Reverend Martin Quayle on martin-quayle@icloud.com. Full details are also available on the website www.cmbenefice.com.

The Church Office open Tuesday & Thursday from 9.00am-2.00pm
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BRASS BANDING IN CLEOBURY MORTIMER

Katie Griffiths tells the story of an outstanding local institution - Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass.

The origins of Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass go back to the early 1900's when a group of self-taught men formed a band in the village and became known as The Cleobury Mortimer Silver Band. They practiced in a room above The Old Lion.

In the late 40's the band consisted of about eight experienced players, with new players swelling the ranks to around 18. By the early 1950's they had reached a high enough standard to take second prize in a competition. The conductor of the band at this time was Sandy Millichamp.

Band records show that in 1955, there were 17 male members of the band; the addition of females did not happen until 1960. Members were issued with a book of marches and a selection book. At this time, the band moved to their new practice room above the Old Fire Station (at the rear of the Market Hall) which served as the home of the band until sold in late 1981.

In 1984 the band started to receive sponsorship from local engineering company Mullers and were also able to use the canteen for practice and storage. The conductor was now Raymond Millichamp (son of Sandy) who held this role for several years, his brothers also playing in the band. Jim Clifford (of Mullers) became President of the band and held the role for 15 years, he was followed by Adrian Coles for eight years and Paul Wakeley from 2014 to the present day.

In the early 1980's and as a branch off from the Lacon Childe school band, the Cleobury Junior Band was formed and were then sponsored by Bray Construction. This band then morphed into The Bell Band a few years later and were conducted for many years by Jon Jackson, Penny Jaeger took up the baton in the 1990's

With the Bell Band having a lower average age, it was inevitable that over time the

numbers would diminish with youngsters moving on. It was around 2014 that the Bell Band wound up and Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass made the remaining players welcome to join them. There are not many small towns that will have housed two brass bands!

A large number of the band have been playing in Cleobury for over 30 years, most of us started learning whilst at school. Over the years there has been much romance in the band, several weddings and offspring still playing to this date.

In 1995 Stella Disney became musical director, bringing musical knowledge as well as beginner players to the fold. It was at this time, the Prelude Band was formed

In 1996 the band were awarded a lottery grant of £28,432 which was used to buy a complete set of instruments and these are still in full use. Stella Wilcox was our honourable secretary and ambassador of the band from 1977 to 2004, she is greatly missed for her organisation skills, although we are trying to keep the scrapbooks up to date for future generations.

In 2005 we moved from Mullers to the Parish Hall, not easy to find a venue in Cleobury that can house both a 30 piece brass band, music and equipment! It was during this year that Roger Andrews joined us as Musical Director, and when he left Mike Amphlett took up the baton and started the band competing again. We have enjoyed much success on the competition front for the past 9 years. We have performed at many varied events, with happy audiences enjoying our wide repertoire of music.

We are so lucky that we have this wonderful town band that has played a major part in our local community for many years and hopefully many more years to come. And for those who have gone before us, what a fantastic testament that the band is still thriving all these years later, a huge part of town history.

Katie Griffiths

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**CLEE HILL
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Now that the Government has eased the coronavirus lockdown restrictions in England, we are going to do what we can to complete our annual Bird survey. We would therefore continue to welcome observations of Curlew, Lapwing and Kestrel from Clarion readers, including any records from earlier this year that have not already been reported to us. These earlier records will help us plug the gaps left because we weren't able to get out until mid-May. All records will make a valuable contribution to our assessment of the population and distribution of this threatened wildlife.

The survey is carried out from public rights of way, and we will not ask for permission to go on private land at this sensitive time. Members are local residents, and will observe the social distancing rules. If you want to help, please let us know.



Heard but seldom seen, the cuckoo. Photo by Eric Davies.

There have been lots more Cuckoo records than usual. It's not clear whether there are more Cuckoos about, or we're better able to hear them in the peace and quiet! Either way we should take advantage and collect the records. Therefore,

can you please tell us about any Curlew, Lapwing, Kestrel or Cuckoo that you've seen or heard since the end of March

Please send records, or offers of help, to Chris Bargman on 01299 270514, email: chcwg@shropscwgs.org.uk

Leo Smith

**TO WHOM IT MAY
CONCERN**

Styx Cottage
Hades Lane
The Underworld

Just a brief note to thank all those of you out there who feel the Government's instruction to stay at home or stay alert is pointless and representative of the Nanny State. It's encouraging for me to see you all flocking to the coast and beauty spots so I'm right with you on this one. Why take orders from stupid politicians or desk bound bureaucrats who can't distinguish between their backside and their elbows? Just get out there and mingle!

No doubt you will have considered the implications for your friends and family, but it's only a mild virus, so no need to worry. I must admit that your approach is keeping me flat out but that's what I'm here for so no complaints on my part. The Ferryman is whingeing a bit saying he is run off his oars but I told him 'Charon, you aren't bound by the EU Working Time Directive so you'll just have to lump it'.

Anyway, must rush as it's busy, busy, busy. Thanks once again for all your help on this and see you soon?.

Yours Faithfully,
The Grim Reaper.

**POTHOLE OF THE
MONTH
And some good news as well**



A double-header out on the Bayton Road.

Our thanks to Chris Kippin for this outstanding example of how to make motoring life difficult. How can any car, van or even tractor avoid this double-header out on the road to Bayton. It's not a busy route, but those travelling down it do deserve a better deal than this.

Chris has pointed out that a bicycle could get through and as very experienced pedaller he will know.

On a more positive note, Chris also told us that he'd been back to check the state of the hole and it had been filled in. Full credit to the Highways Department for dealing with the matter on a very minor road. The editor broke the lockdown control to go out and have a look for more holes for this feature and it wasn't easy to find the level of hazard we have been showing. That's good news.

WISE BIT

"There's no such thing as junk. It's just things owned by the wrong people."

**Drew Pritchard
Salvage Hunters
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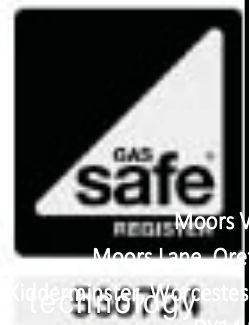
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Summer in the New Normal

As I write, we have had several weeks of glorious weather before entering June, with warm sunny days providing the main relief from the dark shadow of the coronavirus pandemic, which continues to disrupt many of our usual freedoms.

I have considerable sympathy with those who have been coping with the lockdown in cities, where outside space and access to nature is limited. One of the many reasons people choose to make their lives in South Shropshire, or to move here, is for the beautiful countryside we enjoy. At a time where we have had to limit our exposure to others, I know for many people our countryside has been invaluable.

But equally, I feel for those who would usually be putting much dedicated time and effort, often for free, into the many community events we enjoy in South Shropshire over the summer months. As we do not know how long this wretched virus will be with us, planning events even months in advance has been impossible. Great stalwarts of the South Salopian summer calendar have had to be cancelled – like Burwarton Show this August – or postponed.

So it will fall to many of us to have our own DIY summers, if we want to retain some of the fun and sense of community such events bring. Having seen how our communities came together to mark VE Day with social distancing, or the weekly clap for carers that sees neighbours united in celebration of NHS, care and essential workers, I feel confident that we will see similar community spirit during this summer.

I write ahead of publication, but easing some of the lockdown measures, including

allowing for more time outside and the resumption of some sports that lend themselves to social distancing, with hopefully a gradual opening of more non-food shops and leisure activities, will help avoid a stir-crazy summer – especially when I anticipate overseas travel continuing to be severely restricted.

I hope this cautious resumption of some freedoms means we are slowly getting back to normal. But this will continue to be conditional on the rate of new infections not reigniting. We are all aware of what we are trying to do as a country to beat this virus. So it falls to us all to use common sense, and try and reduce our chances of spreading the disease as much as possible.

One of the impacts of the disruption to Parliamentary business from coronavirus has meant my Private Members Bill, to clean up Britain's rivers, had been meant to start its passage in the House of Commons before the summer recess, but has now been pushed back to October. I remain hopeful it will have enough time to get through the House of Commons and make it into law, but timing is getting tighter.

I am also highly doubtful I will be able to undertake my summer routine of driving my campervan to smaller villages in South Shropshire to hold my mobile advice surgeries – due to the need to social distance. But as ever, you can contact me by email on philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk if you would like to raise an issue.

Keep safe and well.

Philip



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HELPING IN THE HIGHLANDS

More stories from Marian Rees of her days working as a shepherdess in Scotland.

My travels as a shepherdess many years ago took me to the Killilan Estate in the Scottish Highlands, a little inland from the Kyle of Lockaish. To get there involved a scenic drive alongside Loch Long, passing a few houses dotted about until reaching a cluster of dwellings in Killilan.

The biggest house was where the Estate Manager lived, he was English and knowledgeable about deer stalking and butchering the meat, but had little interest in the sheep side. One road passed the houses and led out onto the beautiful wilds and seven miles later ended at Iron Lodge. Here the old shepherd Alastair MacRae lived with his sister Flora, who has learning difficulties, and their dog Nell and the cow.

Alastair was devoted to his flock of sheep, spread out on the hills around. It was a huge job to gather them, involving several shepherds, helpers like me and many dogs. Some dogs were brilliant at running out long distances to gather the sheep off the far peaks, others at barking and getting the sheep to run. The gatherers were standing strategically at certain points, we had to wait for perhaps an hour before the fittest men climbed up to the heights and then the gather commenced. A sheep gather could last seven to eight hours.

We would come across a herd of deer sometimes and if we

disturbed a young deer calf lying in the bracken we had to make sure it didn't follow us and get separated from its mother. The very young had been left in a certain spot by the mother, who came back to that spot to feed it later on.

The sheep handling pens and dipper in Scotland were called the Farik. The sheep, and especially the lambs were likely to have ticks on them and dipping was essential. The person actually doing the dipping stood down in a pit alongside the dipping bath. They had to grab hold of the ewe's horn and dunk her head while the rest of the sheep was obviously submerged. It was quite a dangerous job, as the dip could splash your face and eyes. In those days it was a very strong dip that was used; very effective on the ticks and maggots, but now banned.

One time the Farm Manager ordered Alastair to move his entire flock to a nearer hill to "save travelling and petrol." Alastair humbly agreed, but a smile came onto his face. When the sheep were released on to 'foreign parts' they just made a bee (sheep?) line back to their familiar ground, using knowledge passed down from generation to generation. I stood beside Alastair as he watched them through his spy-glass. "My sheep have all gone home," he said with a very satisfied expression on his weather-worn face.

There was a track that led from Killilan up to Corrie-Doyne, another remote area, absolutely beautiful and wild. There was a sheep farm there

and large tin barn. The first time I went into this barn there were hundreds of sheep fleeces all piled up from the shearing of the previous year. I had to help wrap them all up individually, pack them in wool sacks and sew them up - a good job for a wet day! There were plenty of them that summer.

Nearby were the ruins of a house where a shepherd and family once lived. One of the locals told me when babies were born in this house the doctor had to come by horseback to tend the lady. No mobile phones in those days. One of the shepherds, Donnie Findlayson and his wife Ina, were very friendly and hospitable and they sometimes invited me for a hot meal after a hard day's work. Once I fell asleep at the meal table, I was so tired.

The whole estate was owned by Arabs and probably still is. Donnie told me when they were deer stalking they would be transported to the hills by helicopter. The game keeper, Innes Smith, lived on the estate and was quite a character, with interesting stories to tell of life in the Highlands.

I would love to revisit this area one day, but it is a long way away. I still have some good Christian friends who live in the area and invite me up - typical Highland Hospitality - they say "No need to give us warning of your coming - just arrive!" We'll see....

Marian Rees

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The June Social Calendar

Thu 4th GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY

Thu 11th BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY

Thu 18th GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY

Thu 25th BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY

AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JULY:

Thu 2nd GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY

These were the collection dates issued by Shropshire Council's site in May.

In the coronavirus crisis and lockdown, no social events were advised.



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Cleobury Clarion - Page 35 - June 2020



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THE CLEOBURY SWIFTS WATCH

Our Swifts have returned from overwintering in Africa. They were a week late but as of the middle of last month we had at least five nesting pairs. At the end of last year, we counted 27 swifts, so we have some way to go, but it is still very good to see them racing around the church and high in the sky. House martins are back again in good numbers especially around the Medical Centre. Swallows however are very few and far between, a trend for the past two years.

Our Tawny owl population of at least three nesting pairs are feeding their owlets with much hooting and calling. Installing five new nesting boxes will resume in the autumn. The real performers are our buzzards with a nesting pair in the town and an astonishing 30 counted at one time at Mawley. Their soaring flight and mewing calls are now part of the countryside sights and sounds.

Kit Smith

PLASTICS - EMBRACING CONSUMER POWER

The overuse of single use plastics is global and overwhelming. It is all too easy for us as individuals to think "What difference can I make?" Well the Cleobury Plastics

Reduction Group is appealing to you to embrace your power as a consumer and request local shops and takeaways to offer a plastic free alternative. It is only through demand that business will see there is a market for change. This may take the form of a simple request whilst calling for your takeaway order asking "What plastic free containers do they offer?" or "Please use foil containers rather than plastic".

Change is possible, a nearby Fish & Chip shop has switched to biodegradable containers from suppliers such as www.enviropack.org.uk. The Spice Box in London eatspicebox.co.uk and The Crafty Indian restaurant in Shipley thecraftyindian.com are examples of takeaways inviting customers to use Tiffin Tins to avoid plastic containers. Your voice is the most powerful tool we have when it comes to making change. Together we can help Cleobury become a leader in this change.

As a family we have switched to soap that comes free of plastic wrap. My wife was inspired by the TV Chef James Martin who appeared to have a lemon on a bracket above his sink. A little research showed this to be Le Proveni Lemon Wall Rotating Soap from www.frenchsoaps.co.uk in Harrogate. Having been in use

for the past four months we are not half way through the bar and estimate it is more cost effective than the bottled hand soaps and it smells amazing.

Links to companies are included in this article to facilitate you should you want more information. They are not endorsements. If you wish to become involved or have ideas regards single use plastics, please contact neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk.

Neil Tysall

ARTS AWARD ONLINE

The Shropshire Libraries' Arts Award is designed to encourage young talent and has naturally gone online this year. A lovely touch is that every child who completes the competition will get a certificate from Trinity College London.

The Discover Level is for ages 5 to 9 and the Explore for 7 to 11s, with any youngster up to age 25 welcome to join in.

Lezley Piston, Shropshire Council cabinet member for culture, said: "While spending more time than usual at home, Arts Award is a great way to occupy the mind and try something new."

More information at www.artsaward.org.uk/

Sounds like a great idea to keep active young minds and art talent occupied and in practice.

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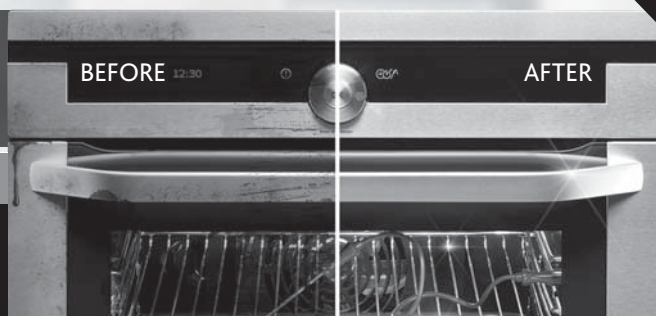
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Local garages are aware of the miles the workers cover and the wear on their cars, so there are some good deals out there just for them:

Like Hopton Bank Service Station's offer of an MoT for £30 and special prices on tyres and servicing. Like all garages offering a deal, they ask to see NHS or carer identity. Hopton Bank are on 01584 890225

Mawley Oak Garage will do you an MoT for £28 and take 15% off the labour on servicing from now until the end of August; identity needed, of course. They're on 01299 270207.

Lower Street Garage offer an MoT for £25 and a special rate on services and tyres. Their contact is 01299 270208.

Select and Save on Church Street are one of many who

have been supporting this drive from the beginning. They are currently offering a package of bread, milk, eggs and butter free of charge for 30 people, NHS workers, carers or those in need.

The Spice Empire restaurant is another long term supporter, preparing free packed meals in a takeaway box every Thursday for all care workers. They started this in March and it was carried through until the end of May, at which point they invited local businesses to try the same treat. They are carrying on a special offer to NHS and care workers until the end of the year. Amazing generosity. 01299 270419 is the main restaurant number.

Just along the High Street, The Lamp Restaurant offers free meal vouchers to NHS and key workers. Just call in and collect your voucher - more details from Jay on 01299 272785.

The Cleobury Seafood Centre at the Newhouse Farm trading estate on Tenbury Road is offering a home delivery service - Ann on 01299 271345 will be happy to tell you more. They have a big range of ready meals to heat, including Veggie, Gluten Free and Vegan. And now they're stocking the

Bennett and Dunne range of cooking oils.

Mimi's Plaice Fish Bar have been really getting involved. On VE Day they delivered free chippie meals to Doddington Lodge, then on the 13th it was a lucky day for the residents at Casa Mia in Far Forest, who had 50 free meals delivered from Mimi's.

They've carried this remarkable generosity further and on Wednesday and Saturday from 5.00 to 7.00 elderly residents who are isolating can get a free dinner of fishcake and chips if they pre-order via Facebook Messenger. Don't phone, as they're working on a reduced staff and are very busy, so Messenger is the easiest.

And would you believe that amongst the big range of pizzas they're offering is one with Nutella! Go on Facebook to see how very popular this place is.

This list is the best we could gather on the phone. There are probably more generous traders out there helping both carers and elderly who are isolating. If we missed you, please tell us and we'll get you in the July issue.

Jim Reynolds

The Clarion is on the World Wide Web

On the 4th day of the month it's out there, every page including the advertisements, accessible and free on www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk

We have readers in America, New Zealand and Hong Kong, but would those people please understand that the free meals we're reporting on this page are not for them!

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In recent weeks I've been taking regular walks in the forest, although not beyond a pretty small radius. One of the benefits is that I really notice the little details and the changes in the forest from one week to the next. The luminous leaves of the spring have darkened to a deeper green, the foliage giving cover to the Fallow Deer and reducing the sunlight to the ground-hugging plants.

I'm watching the little Bilberry bushes which, like almost everything else, flowered generously this spring, developing their purple fruits and noting the most promising clumps for picking in August. Could this be the year for a bilberry pie? Still on the fruit theme, we're keeping an eye on the cherry orchard and have high hopes that next month may yield a crop for us to enjoy and even share. The blossom in April was a sight to behold and even the surviving centenarian trees set fruit to some extent. It all depends whether the Wood Pigeons and Mistle Thrushes leave any for us.

The tadpoles in the reservoir are growing their legs and form black shoals near the surface. Any day now the edges will be teeming with baby toads leaving the waters of their birth to take their chance in the wider world of the woods. Toads are much more tolerant of dry conditions than frogs and can make a good living eating slugs, worms, spiders, ants and other insects. They sometimes take up residence in gardens: what with fat adult toads lurking unexpectedly under stones or logs in the garden and tiny baby toads finding their way into piles of weeds waiting for

the bonfire, my interactions with them have not always been happy.



The Greater Spotted Woodpecker, whose alias is Yaffle, is a regular sight and sound in the forest.

The sounds of the forest develop too as the season progresses. We've lost the Cuckoo and the Garden Warbler is silent now, but the squeals of the Swallows ring out around the barns. Nesting sites are sometimes revealed by the squeaks of the nestlings when we pass close by and there is no doubt where the Greater Spotted Woodpeckers have built their nest in a dead cherry tree. The Green Woodpeckers may be nesting somewhere nearby too: we often see the adults picking up ants from the track or fields, and their loud laughing cry is the origin of their other name of Yaffle.

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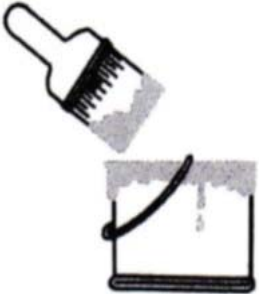
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Cleobury Community Hub

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

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

COVID-19 UPDATE

Sadly, due to the Covid-19 outbreak, Cleobury Community Hub has been closed since lockdown started and will remain so until further notice. However, we are exploring options to open (with limited capacity) hopefully by the end of June, but the situation remains fluid. Please keep an eye on our website (www.smyp.org.uk) and our social media accounts (@CleoburyCommunityHub) for further updates.

Although the Community Hub building itself is closed, we still believe we remain a community and have continued to engage with those who normally visit us. Have a look on our social media to see upcoming events. Please look out for the **"Chat Room"** coming online in the coming days. The Chat Room will be dedicated to the different groups that use the SMYP facilities: Nippers, Kids Club, Youth Drop-in, Climbing Club, Messy Church and the 'Coffee House chat'. These will all be sign posted online via Facebook, Instagram and via our website - Join us for a social catch up throughout the week.

This time of social distancing presents a great challenge to all, but also an opportunity for the community to step up and create and discuss new ways to remain supportive and engaged with all those around us, even without physical contact.

With extra time at home why not try out an online course, for example a new 4 session course brought to you from Care for the Family - The marriage sessions! Whether you're newlyweds or have been married for decades, this course is for you. The four themes covered: Cherish, Connect, Collaborate, Commit. It's a free online course to do at your leisure. Check out our platforms for more information and how to sign up.

Thank you for your continued support to the Community Hub and the work of SMYP. We look forward to seeing you in person when it is safe to do so.



The Cleobury Community Heart - If you're walking past, please add to the heart with any flora you may find on your daily exercise.

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During the next few months our community faces difficult and challenging times in dealing with Coronavirus. At the time of writing, the Government advice is to avoid pubs, however given what has happened in other European countries, this will most likely change to a general closure of bars and pubs with a view to social distancing. In anticipation of this, the Social Club Directors have decided to close the Club for the foreseeable future.

If you have a private event booked at the Club during the next month, please contact the Social Club on 01299 271448 or via our Facebook Page. Despite the Club being closed, the telephone will be checked for messages, likewise Facebook.

We look forward to welcoming you back, whenever that may be, but in the meantime, let's help each other by supporting the elderly and vulnerable in our community. If you are shopping for someone, please ensure you follow all guidance as set out by Public Health England on the www.gov.uk website.

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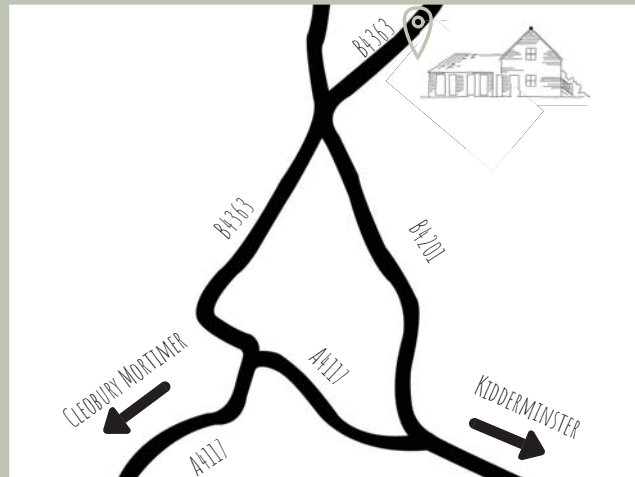
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June 2020 Clarion Report

Our whole routine has now changed for a lot of us and we have come together so well as a community to help those in need, especially looking after the vulnerable and confirming the good spirit of our community. So many events cancelled and a whole new way of getting used to daily routines, which we have all had to do. Well done all! Especially the carers and volunteers for being there, and a Thank you to Guy plus those that have used their exercise time to litter pick around Cleobury

The Town council has continued to work with the normal day to day items while also working with the volunteers and community groups in gaining grants and securing ways to keep everyone informed. Of course we have had to secure areas for lockdown and will take the appropriate steps to open again as and when informed it is safe to do so. Please be patient, we are so lucky to have the countryside around us to walk and enjoy.

We must also recognise the businesses locally that have gone that extra mile to help the community with food and deliveries even though they are suffering themselves and keeping to the restriction, we must remember when we get through this as they will need our support.

The schools have been there for us all and helped with the Food bank and helping in any way they can with the Primary School open daily looking after the children of those still working as well as Lacon offering space and collecting for the Foodbank.

We have managed to still work to hopefully get the Play area ready for it's welcomed opening, completing the final CCTV cameras fitted, Pot holes, streetlight faults, running the Friday Foodbank and helping the volunteers look after the vulnerable, dealing with residents issues. Until next month Stay safe!!

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Community Contacts for Clarion Readers

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR	Theresa Parfitt	07703 965 064	theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk
CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE		01299 272300	In Love Lane, 9 to 5 Mon to Fri.
CITIZENS ADVICE		08444 991100	Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00
CLEOBURY CARERS	Janet Manley	01299 272841	
CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES	Katja Ward	01299 270018	10.00 to 12.00 Weds
CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY		01299 272301	Open 9 to 7 Mon, 9 to 5 Tues/Fri and 10 to 1 Sat.
LOCAL POLICE	Constable Anne O'Leary		ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES	Dorothy McBride	07761 976610	
CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Lowri Hughes		cleoburybeavers@gmail.com
CRIMESTOPPERS		0800 555 111	Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE		0800 783 1359	Women's Aid, 24 Hour support:
HOME FROM HOSPITAL		01584 878046	Help over the first weeks back home from Age UK
MARKET HALL	Ali Sheffield	07752 542 853	markethall@cleobury.org.uk
MEDICAL CENTRE		01299 270209	Out of surgery hours, use the Shrop Doc Service.
SHROP DOC		111	Service available evenings and weekends
THE PHARMACY		01299 270219	Closes for half day on Saturday. Delivers prescriptions
NEWLIFE CHURCH	Pastor E Stirrup	01562 630595	Sunday services at 10.30
NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND	Rosemary Abbiss	01746 718451	
TOWN COUNCIL	Clerk Matthew Sheehan	01299 271154	Cleobury Country Centre 9 to 2 pm, Mon to Fri. www.cleobury.org.uk. Council meets in the Centre on the first Monday of the month
POST OFFICE		01299 270211	In the Select and Save Grocery Store, Church Street
SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000	
SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM			richard@ssyf.net.
VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME		01299 666119	Mandy Smith
WASTE DISPOSAL		0345 678 9007	The contractor is Veolia
WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCIES	Severn Trent	0800 783 4444	

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Out in Cleobury Country at: Heath Farm Meats, **Bagginswood**; **Clee Hill Stores**; The Village Store, **Cleobury North**; **Clows Top Stores**; The Sun and Slipper, **Mamble**; **Hopton Bank Service Station**; Bennetts End Inn, **Knowbury**; **Ludlow Library**; **Mawley Oak Garage**; The Colliers Cafe & Shop, **Rock**; The Fighting Cocks, **Stottesdon**; The Duck Inn, **Chorley**; The Live and Let Live, **Neen Sollars**; The Eagle and Serpent, **Kinlet**; Parker Motors, **Ditton Priors**.

Copies are also available from the Parish Churches in: Cleobury Mortimer, Bayton, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, Milson, Neen Savage and Neen Sollars.

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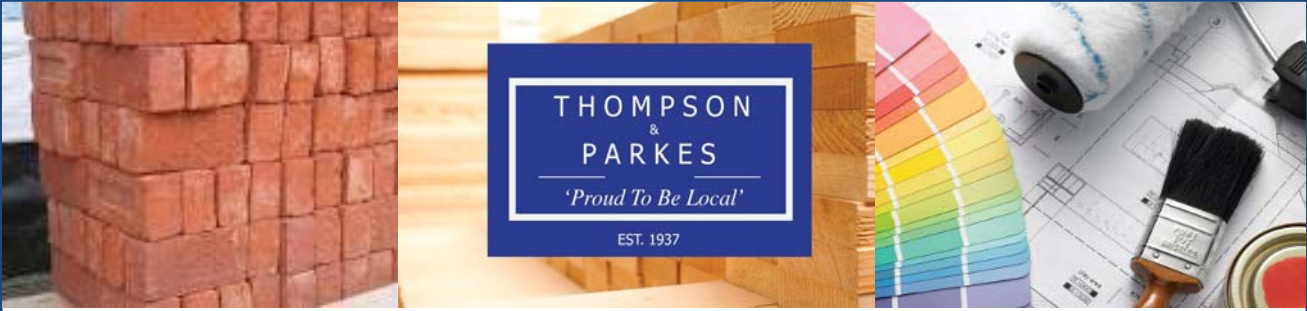
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