

The Cleobury Clarion

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JUNE 2021

A LADY OF GRACE AND STYLE



Mrs Janet Moss, stepping out on her 100th lap of St. Mary's Close

On Friday, April 30th, Janet Moss completed her 100th lap of St. Mary's Close. It was to keep her vow to donate a 'Pound a Round' to help raise funds for the Old Comrades Club that is part of the Cleobury Royal British Legion organisation.

The Legion was naturally there to applaud and support her wonderful effort. Her son

David had travelled up from Andover to escort her and cakes had been cooked, to share with everyone who filled the Close and cheered. A lady reporting for the BBC - we assume Radio Shropshire - also interviewed her.

What made this whole event remarkable was that Mrs Moss celebrated her 98th birthday on May 1st. She is a shining example to us all.

Dr Mark Baldwin helped the cause by collecting monies and handing them on to the Legion treasurer. As we went to press the amount raised by Mrs Moss and her many supporters was an impressive £1200 plus.

Please see Page 17 for details of the Royal British Legion's 100th anniversary wreath laying and plans for the Cleobury branch's similar anniversary in July.

ADRIAN SATTERLY

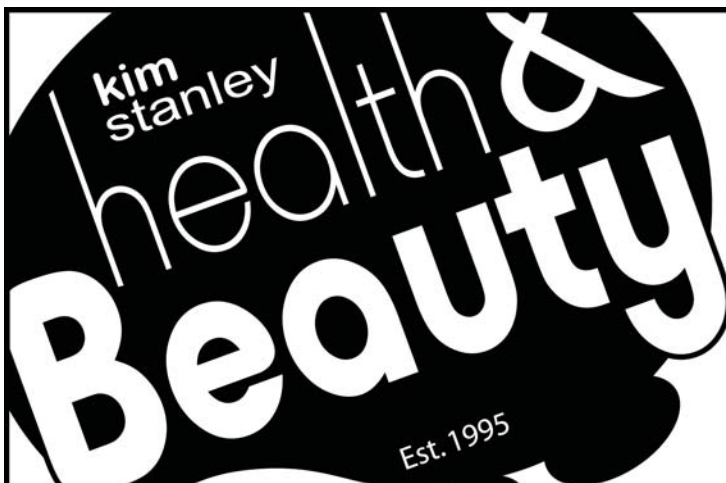
Mr Satterly appeared in Shrewsbury Crown Court on May 14th, to answer the charge of 20 counts of 'Theft from the person of another.'

There being very little space in the Crown Court for press and public, the Clarion had arranged a link via computer, thanks to a very cooperative court staff. But this did not work on the day and therefore our report is based upon other sources.

We understand that Mr Satterly had not managed to arrange a defence representative and the hearing of the case was again adjourned, this time to June 14th. We are informed that the court will not tolerate a further delay and if a defence is not properly arranged for that date, the trial will proceed. We hope to offer a report in the July Clarion.
JR

THE CLARION SOCIAL CALENDAR

It's been an important part of the Clarion since the whole thing started and only the dreaded pandemic could stop it. Now it's back, rather slim but ready to tell about events to interest you.



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The Cleobury Clarion, June 2021

Volume Seventeen - Edition Three



*The Million Steps Heroine,
Alison Andrews.
See Page 11.*



*The Royal British Legion
is 100 years old.
See Page 17.*



*Andy of Energy Zone
In Business.
Page 57.*

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TAI CHI CLASSES

Alison Wall explains:

If you've ever seen people practicing Tai Chi in the park, you'll know it's a calm and graceful form of exercise. If you've ever tried it, you'll know how enjoyable and relaxing it is to move slowly, allowing your body to become gradually more flexible and your mind calmer.



The lady herself. Alison will be leading the classes at the Parish Hall from June 30th

Tai chi originated in China centuries ago and is now practised around the world. There are many different types, but all involve slow flowing movements, deep breathing and calming the mind. Its roots are in Chi Gung, a much older – and

easier to learn - Chinese exercise practice designed to promote health and wellbeing. Fast forward to present times, and according to the NHS: 'While there's scope for more rigorous research on Tai Chi's health benefits, studies have shown that it can help people aged 65 and over to reduce stress, improve posture, balance and general mobility and increase muscle strength in the legs.'

The simplified Tai Chi I teach is called Tai Chi Movements for Wellbeing, which was devised by an NHS clinician and a Tai Chi specialist based in Herefordshire. The simple moves are designed to promote relaxation, flexibility, better balance and co-ordination. Many people comment that they sleep better after a session of tai chi, and feel more relaxed and less stressed.

My classes are for people of all ages who are new to exercise and those looking for a gentle form of exercise. The moves can be practised standing up or sitting down. I am launching a new weekly

one-hour class at Cleobury Mortimer Parish Hall, starting Wednesday 30th June, from 10am to 11am. There is no need to book, so feel free to come along to try the class out.

To find out more, call me on 07581 436338 or 01299 400 536, or email alisonwall3@gmail.com.

Alison

THE CHILDE

ENDOWMENT FUND

Students residing in the parishes of Cleobury Mortimer, Neen Sollars, Milson, Coreley, Hopton Wafers, Farlow, Wheathill, Aston Botterill, Stottesdon, Kinlet and Neen Savage are invited by the Trustees to make applications to the above fund for financial assistance to help further their studies.

Details and application forms can be obtained from Lloyds Bank in Cleobury Mortimer, Lacon Childe School or the Reverend Justin Parker, Clerk to the Trustees of the fund at Adam House, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster DY10 2SA. The Closing Date is June 24th.



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THE MARKET IS BACK!

After 17 months our lovely little market is returning to St Marys Church on June 19th.

Covid has meant that we have been unable to trade over the last 17 months but with the gradual easing of restrictions we are once again able to welcome visitors.

The layout will be slightly different to allow for social distancing measures to be applied but it's hoped that over the next few months this too will ease. The pews in the church have made way for chairs making the space there much more flexible and we will try to create a one-way system round the traders so that the bottlenecks along the aisle and in the doorway are smoothed out. Please bear with us whilst we get used to the new layout. The Friends of St Marys Church will continue to supply teas, coffees and cakes and their area for seating will remain the same.

Sadly, some of our traders have called it a day and are planning on taking life a little easier so we wish Tracey and Steve from Good Game, Jenny and Ray from Headway Cards, Mike and Diane from The Trumans and Mary from Fir Cone Fire Lighters well and hope to see them as visitors rather than traders to future markets!

Not to be disheartened by people not returning we have been busy enrolling new traders for our market. The new faces for June are:-

Sandra from Tranquility Candles

Tanya from Dogs Daily (Natural plant based organic canine cookies & cakes)

Anthony from Half Penny Green Cider

Sonia from Bewdston Preserves

And a couple of others that we're still waiting to hear back from! We are always keen to hear from foodie traders who'd like to join our gang – please get in touch!

The old faithful bunch of traders returning are:-

Cosy Kitchen, Little Detton, The Ham Man, Augerniks, Bennett & Dunn, Fox & Fettle, Cara Button and of course, Elsie Jordan Plants.

So come along and show this lovely lot that we've missed them.

Future dates will continue to be on the third Saturday in the month and times are the same at 9.30 to 12.30.

Clare Todd

LITTLE ACORNS TODDLER GROUP

'Little Acorns' Stay and Play Toddler Group is now open every Wednesday morning in term time from 9:30-11:30am at Rock Village Hall.

The group has a large variety of toys and play equipment suitable for babies and beyond. Sessions include craft, messy play, outdoor activities, music, story time and refreshments in a friendly welcoming atmosphere - all for only £2.50!

Government Covid 19 guidelines are followed, to ensure everyone's health and numbers are limited so please contact Emma Moore on 07376 490822 to secure a place.

THE MAY 6th ELECTION

Simon Harris and Gwilym Butler would like to thank all the electors in Cleobury Mortimer and surrounding parishes for putting their trust in electing them as their representatives at Shropshire Council.

We would also like to pay tribute to Madge Shinton who retired from being a councillor this time. She has worked tirelessly for Cleobury Mortimer and surrounding Parishes for many years for which we are truly grateful.

There is a lot of work to do and we are proud to represent our community.

You can contact us as follows Simon.R.Harris@shropshire.gov.uk 07833094145

Gwilym.Butler@Shropshire.gov.uk 07801099015 or on Facebook

OPEN AIR CONCERTS

The Sparc Theatre in Bishops Castle has a series of three 40 minute long open air concerts on Saturday June 5th. They're given by the Mid Wales Opera and will be on the playing field in front of the theatre, courtesy of the Community College.

The performances will start at 2.00, 3.30 and 5.00. Covid-19 and social distancing rules will apply and tickets will be limited. Quite a bargain, they're £5.00 for adults and children go free. You must prebook, by phone on 07764 171259 or email admin@midwalesopera.co.uk Good news - small packages.

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A TRULY LOCAL BUS SERVICE?

A new charity based in Tenbury Wells is looking into the possibility of a weekly run through the area with a 16 seater minibus. John Driver (good name for a bus driver, you must admit) is the chairman at Teme Wheels and would like to hear from anyone who would use such a facility.

The initial idea is a bus starting out from Great Witley and driving through Bayton to Cleobury, then on to Tenbury Wells before progressing through Little Hereford and Brimfield to Ludlow. The return journey would be timed to allow for shopping and the bus would have wheelchair carrying capacity.

All this would be on a non-profit basis, with fares kept as low as possible. What John wants to establish at this early stage is how many people will possibly use the service. Not every week, but on a reasonably regular basis that will cover the cost of running the bus. If you would use such a service, please contact John on 01584 819214, mobile 07967 284 819 or email chairman@temewheels.org.uk.

If you'd like to know more about the Time Wheels charity, take a look at their website on www.temewheels.org.uk

COAST 2 COAST CYCLE RIDE

After having their London to Paris Charity Ride cancelled for the second year running, the Cleobury Cranks; Dom Allen, Adam Tillsley, Mark Harbourn & Guy Turpin (ably supported by Paul 'Finch' Southall) are tackling the 'Coast-to-Coast' cycle route, but with a twist.

They have chosen a route which will include two of the country's toughest climbs. If the Hardknott Pass is the King of Climbs, then the Wrynose Pass is every bit the Queen, with some sections comfortably exceeding some lung busting and leg fatiguing 33% inclines.

Starting on July 15th, the 170 mile route takes in three of our National Parks, kicking off on the west coast at Ravenglass in Cumbria, climbing over the southern section of the Lake District, through the Yorkshire Dales and finally crossing the North York Moors culminating on the east coast at Whitby, for some well-deserved fish and chips.

This tough challenge is again in support of Astriid, who do valuable work as an online matchmaking service that connects its pool of highly skilled members living with long term illness with flexible employment opportunities, helping them achieve fulfilment and dignity.

Donations can be made online at JustGiving and search 'Cleobury Cranks' or the individual cyclists.

MACBETH AT SEVERN VALLEY

On June 19th, The Lord Chamberlain's Men, the premier all male theatre company, will present William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' at Severn Valley Country Park in Alveley. It's a chilling tale of power, written by one of the masters of our native language.

It will be in the open air, just like Shakespeare first saw it, and it was an all-male cast those many years ago. Bring a hat to keep the sun off - we hope - and a seat. It all starts at 7.00 and should be quite an experience. Tickets are £17 for adults and £11 children. The Box Office is on 01743 281281.

Great to have live theatre back.



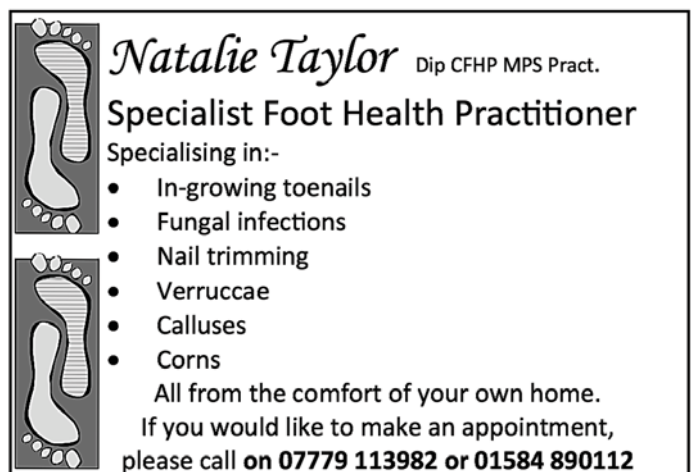
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One of those sectors are the future NHS professional, we have Daisy who is in her last year of her training to be a midwife, Lucy who is working towards the end of her training to be a Physiotherapist. Christina and Aila about to start their journey into nursing. We have further staff who have just been accepted into the NHS. These lovely kind young adults not only study many hours both in university, on hospital wards, they also give to us and have helped us support our clients for many years! Most joined us while still at college.

TLC have ex-nurses that come to us after raising their family and some, in recent times have re-joined their colleagues in the NHS.

We have staff who have raised their kids and now want a career, TLC will train or retrain people to help people reach their full potential and become one of our Outstanding Team.

We encourage kind caring and honest people of all ages and backgrounds who want to make a difference to people's lives to join our team. TLC invest heavily in people with ongoing support and training to help our new colleagues achieve their goals and reach their full potential. Once initial training is complete and they have been assessed as competent, TLC Induction Manager and our Training Manager will support staff through to achieve their Level 2/3 in H&S Care

Our Training

TLC's Training Team offers full free training on site and support staff through their Care Certificate. We have strong connection with an outside Training Provision who help our staff to achieve their Level 2/3 in H&S Care. Currently we have 32 members of staff that have already achieved Level 2/3 in Health and Social Care. We have qualifications at level 4 and five of our Senior Managers have Level 5. All staff that are new to care are required to achieve Level 2 within the first two years of their employment.

Contact us

For further enquiries please regarding Care or employment please ring TLC Care at Home 01299 272897 for an informal chat. Visit www.tlccareathome.com or wecare@tlc-careathome.co.uk

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COVID-19 Update

All our staff are provided with full PPE's including Gloves, Full Aprons, Sleeves, Visors, Gloves Surgical Masks.

Video training on Donning and Doffing PPE's sent out regularly.

Staff sign health declarations daily, Staff have weekly Covid-19 test. Most of our staff have now been vaccinated against Covid-19. TLC work closely with government regulation and update our risks assessment accordingly.

ALISON ANDREWS - ONE HEROIC LADY



On top of Clee Hill and on top of the world! Alison celebrates one million steps raising support for Severn Hospice.

She did it! As anyone who knows her would expect, the very determined Alison did her one million steps and ended the marathon walk with a stroll to the top of Clee Hill. This is her report:

"I can confirm that I completed my one million steps challenge atop Clee Hill, where we raised a glass of fizz to Pat Williams, an amazing friend, an inspirational fundraiser, a real 'lady of legend', (to quote the wonderful engine that I saw passing by on the Severn valley railway a couple of

weeks ago when I was walking at the Severn Valley Country Park). It's very apt!

We were very lucky indeed not to get wet, as you can see there were storms around us up there. We made a very hasty retreat as soon as we saw lightning though!

I can also let you know that the current total raised for Severn Hospice is £1635 and I believe there is a little more to follow 😊.

I would love to thank all my family and friends for their fantastic support, and everyone who has supported me and donated, including business sponsors Hobsons Brewery, Energy Zone, Mawley Milk, SciQuip, Heath Farm Meats, Andrews Laboratory Services, Urban Prints and the Spice Empire. You have made a real difference. Thank you so much.

Alison

THE WELLS

The Wells in Church Street is an ancient part of Cleobury's history, the place where both cattle and people would draw water for washing and drinking. The area has been through many restorations and transformations in recent years

and now there are provisional talks about making the area attractive again.

Richard Davies has been looking at the place and his grandson Jack has prepared a drawing showing a tiled area at the roadside end and the well itself with enough water to make it look inviting.

So there are plans for the place, but how likely it is to be funded in the coming months we have to wait and see. No firm moves yet, but we'll keep you posted as we hear more.

ROAD CLOSURE IN JULY

Shropshire Council's Street Works Team advise that Meaton Lane in Kinlet will be closed from 9.30 to 3.30 on Wednesday, July 14th. It's for BT to carry out a pole test and tree cutting and the stretch between G H Guest and Silligrove Farm will be affected.

For more information, you can contact Customer Services on 0345 6789006 or email the Street Works Team on streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk

SILLY BIT

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The Neighbourhood Plan

Second Public Consultation

A public consultation on this plan was done in the Summer of 2020. The community steering group have made some changes to the plan based on public feedback e.g. removal of the picnic shelter at Larks Rise, and putting public safety as the highest priority of the plan, due to public concerns about highway safety and in particular Tenbury Road junction.

All Neighbourhood Plans must have had an independent Environmental Assessment done to comply with planning legislation. We are pleased to report that this is almost complete and the steering group are eager to share this, and the full plan, with the community. This second public consultation is now being planned and will take place during the months of July/August 2021.

The public consultation will include:
Public Drop in Sessions at the Parish Hall:
6pm - 9pm Friday 16th July 2021
1pm - 5pm Saturday 14th August 2021

During the consultation period the Plan and environmental assessment will be uploaded and accessible on the Town Council website: <https://www.cleobury.org.uk>

A link to the survey to collect public feedback will be communicated via Facebook, the Town Council website and the drop-in sessions. Paper copies will be available at the drop-in sessions, from Cleobury Country or by calling the Town Clerk on 07483 112290 during the consultation period.

All of the above will be subject to the COVID Public Health England advice.

Reminder: With no Neighbourhood Plan development will happen anyway but without guaranteed community gains.

Peter Blackburn
Community Chair
Cleobury Mortimer Neighbourhood
Development Plan Steering Group
07776 243584



Gilbert Carter

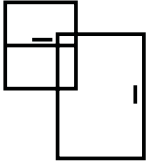
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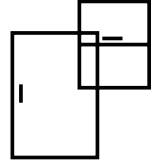
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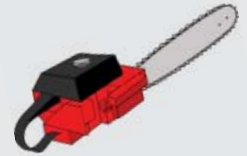


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Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group

Group area

Our area is centred on the open hill land of Titterstone Clee and Clee Hill Common, extending approximately as far as Knowlegate and Knowbury to the south, Bitterley to the west, Cleedownton and Bromdon to the north, and Catherton Common and Doddington to the east. A map can be found on our website.

Save our Curlews

Working with Shropshire Ornithological Society, we have tried to find every Curlew nest in the area, so we can put an electric fence around it to protect the eggs from predation. When the chicks hatch we will attach a radio tag, so we can see what happens to them, and how they use the landscape.

We think there are eight pairs left in the area, and half the nests have been found, plus another one just outside the area. Three of these five have been fenced, an excellent result. We will report on the progress of these nests in future issues.

Unfortunately, the owners of the land containing one nest refused permission to put a fence up, and the sitting adult at the fifth nest had already been predated when it was visited to put the fence up, the day after it was found.

Bird Survey 2021

We have been monitoring local Curlews and other birds since 2012, and the 2021 survey is now underway. The Curlew and Kestrel populations are important at the County level.



If you see or hear Curlew, Lapwing, Kestrel or Cuckoo any time between now and mid-July, anywhere in the area, we'd like to know, please.

We particularly want Curlew records, as it's possible that there are more to find.

You can find the survey reports from 2020 and previous years on the relevant part of the Community Wildlife Groups website, www.ShropsCWGs.org.uk

Ours is one of 10 Community Wildlife Groups monitoring Curlews in Shropshire. You can see where they operate, and what they found in 2019 and 2020, on the same website

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THE LEGION IS 100 YEARS OLD

No offence is intended to the Royal British Legion in its centenary year. But when the body was formed in May 1921, with the intention of helping anyone who had served in the forces, it was just The British Legion. It was 50 years later that Her Majesty bestowed the Royal title. And on May 15th Cleobury Mortimer's branch gathered at the town cenotaph with Rector Ashley and bugler David Taylor to lay a wreath commemorating that historic anniversary.



From left: Rector Ashley Buck, bugler David Taylor and Cleobury Royal British Legion chairman Mike Hermolle

It was a simple and very dignified service. A prayer led by the Rector, the Last Post delivered by David Taylor, followed by a silence and then the bugler played Reveille before Mike Hermolle recited The Exhortation, that very moving verse from Laurence Binyon's poem 'For The Fallen,' those present responding with "We will remember them."

Mike then reminded the modest gathering that on July 17th the Cleobury Mortimer branch of the Legion celebrates its 100th birthday, one of the earliest rural branches to be formed. With such a long history, no wonder it enjoys such strong support in the community. More details of the event in our July issue.

ROAD CLOSURES IN JULY

Work is due to start on the B4194 fronting Worcestershire Marble at Button Bridge, on June 29th and last until July 13th for resurfacing and carriageway improvements. The road will be closed between 9.30 and 4.00 and the diversion will be signposted. This quite a busy road and essential maintenance is needed as part of a county wide plan to deliver the work in the most efficient and cost effective way. The reference given for this job is Strategic Highways at Shropshire Council on 01743 250453.

Shropshire Council's Street Works Team advise that Meaton Lane in Kinlet will be closed from 9.30 to 3.30 on Wednesday, July 14th. It's for BT to carry out a pole test and tree cutting and the stretch between G H Guest and Silligrove Farm will be affected.

For more information on this project, you can contact Customer Services on 0345 6789006 or email the Street Works Team on streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk

DOT DAVIES

The family would like to thank all who sent condolences to pay their respects as Dot made her last journey through Cleobury on May 6th. So many people helped Dot in her last years when she couldn't get out and the family is very grateful for all the support given. Bespoke CM have been a great support which meant that Mum was able to remain at home.

Mum was a popular dinner lady at both Cleobury schools and loved working with the children and kitchen staff at the primary school. There have been kind messages from children, now grown with their own children remembering her kindness.

She was a loyal and caring person and helped many friends and neighbours in Steeple Close where she had lived for 64 years, the last of the original residents. Dot was something of an institution and will be sorely missed. Thanks also to Victoria Allen and her wonderful team who conducted the funeral with great care and consideration.

Kathryn

JUST BRASSO!

I bought a tin of Brasso, you can guess what for, from Amazon. It did the job.

But Amazon followed up with a questionnaire about service and satisfaction. For a tin of Brasso, for Heaven's sake. So I wrote a review, now on their site, making it clear that something so basic doesn't require another form filling session. Mad or what?

JR

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School Governors - A Vital Role in the Community

School governors do an important job in the process of educating our children, but get little recognition; they are the backroom boys and girls. We talked to the chairs of governors at Cleobury Primary and Lacon Childe to get a better idea of what this voluntary role means.

Stuart Auger has stayed on as chair of the governors at the primary school, even though his son has now moved on to Lacon Childe. He's been a governor for six years, and enjoys the challenge of helping the school improve whilst seeing the children flourish. As a self employed project manager he has skills that help support the school without intruding in the day to day operation. The governing body consists of three parent governors, three community governors and two staff plus the head and leadership team, although this year he is keen to build up the numbers to full strength. This work is not too demanding with six formal meetings in the year, plus time spent in school supporting projects like the plan this year to build an extra classroom - a sign of how popular the school is. Taking over the nursery that once operated independently within the school naturally involved the governors, too, and it is so great to see it go from strength to strength. The school is part of the Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust, which allows particular talents to move around the group, such as specialist teachers, advising other schools on methods and facilities, or sports professionals sharing their skills. "The teachers are really passionate about their job," he explains "which makes the role really rewarding". "And as a governor you're that critical friend, someone who can see the potential and discuss how it can be achieved." Does he still enjoy his voluntary role? "Oh yes, it's so different to the day job. The school and staff are great and there's so much to learn and understand." Governors can bring in business-like thinking and often use an annual Skills Audit to ensure their combined strengths and skills are best suited for the school. "But it's the passion for the role that's more important than anything," he emphasises.

Lisa Cigsar chairs the governors at Lacon Childe and has a daughter at Bayton Primary and a son at Lacon Childe. Self-employed in the

financial services area, she's quite a sucker for punishment as a long-term governor at Bayton as well as her Lacon Childe post. How much time does just the chair of governors post take up?

"The year is divided into three terms and there are two governor meetings a term, we also visit the school and staff regularly as part of our monitoring role, and try to match these to areas that we ourselves may be interested in. We work alongside the teaching staff and senior leaders, looking at the impact that decisions and policies made at governor and board level have on the outcomes for the pupils and staff within the school, of course this takes some of your time, but it is fabulous to see what a positive impact your input and support can have." She's another to talk about the passion of the staff for the job: "The lockdown has been very difficult for all schools, but the dedication of all of the staff at Lacon has shone through, playing our part in supporting them as governors has been priceless."

You can see just how keen the staff are by the car park that's filling up before 8.00 in the morning. Teaching is not a 9.00 to 5.00 job, whatever the students' hours may suggest; the children give their best to teachers who lead and inspire. So, being part of the school community, has Lisa herself learned more? "It's broadened my skills. I am a better communicator and I've become more confident about public speaking. If you'd like to be involved, I'd say 'Do it, it's so very rewarding.'"

Darren Reynolds has been head teacher at Lacon Childe for eight years and has overseen the formation of the Shropshire Gateway Education Trust that covers Cleobury, Clee Hill and Stottesdon. Done with the cooperation of school governors: "It's governors who are going to drive a school forward," he explains. "We need community governors, local people with an interest in the community and who want to see it improve."

If you would like to be part of this constant drive to improve opportunities for the young people who are our future, contact Julia Priscott, clerk to all the governors in the Trust schools. She can tell you where there are vacancies.

julia.priscott@laconchildeschool.co.uk or call 01299 270312.



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

ROCK PATHFINDERS

The next walk will be on Thursday June 24th, starting at 10.30am.

However, social distancing will be in place and therefore if you would like to join the walk please email your request to suehumphries1@hotmail.co.uk

Sue will then send you details of the walk and start point address. For further details and any other announcements or changes please visit website www.rockpathfinders.uk

Sue Humphries

BAYTON NEWS

More good news on gates. The difficult stile between Carlton and Teddon farms has been replaced by a gate, thanks to the landowner. The route all the way from Colliers Hill to the road at Beach Hay is now stile free. This improved route features on two of the Bayton Walks which are available on View ranger or in print from me.

Steve and I have been working with Judith and Lester who look after Mamble parish. We have been making improvements on the Shakenhurst Estate which straddles both parishes as

well as a bit of Neen Sollars. The route from Mamble to Neenshilltop via Westwood Farm had several difficult stiles on it. Two have been removed to leave a gap and we have replaced one with a gate. We plan to replace a further two with gates.

Elsewhere on the estate, four stiles have been removed leaving gaps for much easier access. We are very lucky to have such considerate landowners as neighbours.

Susan Sharp

susanjsharp44@gmail.com

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

Our work parties are now back to their regular monthly outing. In May this included installation of a metal kissing gate in Common Lane and the repair of a number of stiles.

Over the next few months, some repairs are going to be carried out to the wall alongside the footpath through the Glen Caravan Park. Occasionally, during that time, it will be safer for all if the path is not used. An alternative route through the site will be made available and signposted.

Walking for Health restarted in May with a full complement of 30 walkers as allowed by the Covid Roadmap. Having been unable to meet since March 2020 it was a delight to

catch up with old friends whilst enjoying a walk around Pinkham. This short walk, taking in country lanes, track, converted buildings, with views of the river and the attention of sheep and donkeys provided much interest. A reminder of the lovely area in which we live. All that was missing was the post walk hospitality provided by CoCo that will hopefully return when it becomes safe and practical to do so. We welcome new walkers as restrictions allow, hopefully from 21st June. Please check on the CMFA website for further information.

A group of CMFA members travelled to Lancashire in late April for their annual walking holiday postponed from last year due to Covid. Despite restrictions resulting in lower numbers able to attend, a good time was had by all. Based at Carnforth in lakeside self-contained lodges, members enjoyed organised walks ranging from 4 to 14 miles. Highlights included the coastal area around Jenny Brown's Point with lunch in the garden of the Silverdale Hotel. Wonderful views of Morecambe Bay were seen when ascending Warton Crag whilst taking care not to tread on the delightful clusters of purple orchids, the earliest of our native species.

Graham Simpson

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Philip Dunne's Letter from Westminster

Following the move to Step 3 of the recovery roadmap last month, we have all been able to enjoy some of the freedoms that mean so much to us all.

The ability once again to hug family and friends, and overnight stays possible across the country, have given the opportunity to reunite with loved ones in a way not possible for months. For those in care homes across South Shropshire, loosening the rules to allow five visitors, instead of just two previously, has meant a great deal.

For many people, the chance to get out and make the most of South Shropshire's great food and drink venues, without the need to run the gauntlet with the Great British weather, has been a great pleasure. Like many others, I took the opportunity to eat out and support a local pub once restrictions changed to allow indoor dining on 17th May, and encourage others to support their favourite local pubs and restaurants now we are able. It is especially important to help them bounce back after such a tough year.

In a welcome boost to South Shropshire's vital tourism trade, hostels, hotels, and B&Bs have been able to welcome back guests. Schools can once again organise trips with overnight stays – crucial to support many of the outdoor leisure businesses in South Shropshire, which rely on residential visits.

Later in the month, all being well, we will move to Step 4 – the final marker on the roadmap. I write before full clarity

has been issued about what this means in terms of any need for continued distancing or certification, but we do know that the government hopes to be in a position to remove all legal limits on social contact. But this will depend on other factors, like the successful pilots of largescale events with crowds.

The fact that we are able to move encouragingly, and hopefully irreversibly, towards resumption of normal freedoms we enjoyed pre-pandemic is thanks to two factors: the continued respect for the rules by the public, and the remarkable success of the vaccine rollout. The UK has been consistently at the top of world league tables for our vaccine doses administered, helping to keep our population safe. But sadly, risks remain, as we have seen from the advance of new, more contagious or more deadly variants in other parts of the world. So we cannot throw caution to the wind just yet.

We must continue to consider the vulnerability of those we contact, and obviously watch how variants of the virus spread, and maintain social distance when not with friends and family. Remember hands, face, space and fresh air.

As we approach the longest day of the year – the marker for the change to Step 4 – I hope we are able to put this most difficult period behind us, and move towards the return to normal freedoms we all need, and deserve.

Philip Dunne

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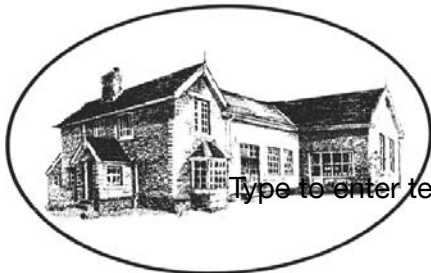
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Debs Newbold
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Taffy Thomas



Jan Blake



Torgrim Mellum Stene
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Celia Gibb 01584 318036

THE READING GROUP

A little step back to normality as a small group of us met in May, exchanging our views on 'River Dog' by Mark Shand. A tale of exploration and adventure featuring the river Brahmaputra, rising in Western Tibet and flowing 1,800 miles to the Bay of Bengal. An intrepid traveller, Shand overcame hardships and illness as well as struggling with much

bureaucracy. Vivid and evocative descriptions, with fascinating characters coming alive on the pages. A touching portrait of a traveller and his dog. Most of those who read it enjoyed the interesting tale, especially the humour and comedy involved. Some intend to read 'Travels On My Elephant', a previous book by Mark. A downside was the small, light print, not great for some of us older folk.

If life goes as planned we will all meet on Monday 21st June to review 'The Pleasures of Men', a debut novel by Kate Williams. Set in 1840's London and a thriller it's a complete change of genre.

Deana Kimber 271754

THE FAR FOREST SHOW

The Far Forest Countryside Show will return to the Callow Hill show ground on August 14th and 15th. It will be reduced in size to be Covid secure, with plenty on offer. The Tenbury Town Band, Falconry Centre, Zennor's Dance Academy and the ever popular Dog Show.

The Horticultural Show will be in the main marquee, with local craft talents on show, competing for the show manager's trophy as Best In Show. There will be a craft and hobbies marquee, plus a variety of stalls all around the show.

Children will have bouncy castles and other attractions, plus the popular tractor trailer ride as a star attraction.

Food and drinks and cream teas for sale in the pavilion where the art exhibition will feature. With displays of vintage vehicles, farm equipment and small animals we hope to provide a complete countryside experience. More details will appear on our website, social media and the local press. We can't wait to see you again.

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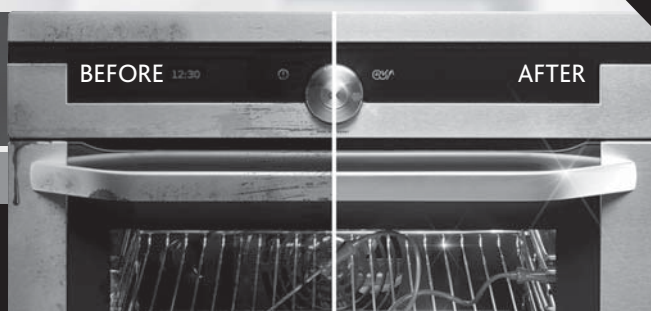
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CLEOBURY W.I.

We were all looking forward to join our President Judy Sant in her garden for a 'Welcome back Buffet' on May 18th. The order of the evening was: hand sanitiser, signing in, staying socially distanced, bringing your own food and staying in groups of six. An enjoyable time in spite of the rain. Our walks during Lockdown were so successful that we are planning to carry them on and were invited to meet at Clare Hadwell's garden for a drink after a walk on May 27th.

During a committee meeting we discussed how to increase our membership and appeal to all age groups. One member said, "It could be people do not realise that we are more than cakes and Jerusalem". We held an open evening on May 20th, hosted by our president and advertised on our Facebook page and the local website to answer questions, show what we are doing and to attract more members

Our programme is still provisional, depending on Covid restrictions and the meeting in June is outside.

Flo Hadley is going to show us her beautiful garden at Catherton House on June 8th. Keep an eye out for posters around the town advertising forthcoming events, and we look forward to seeing you at them. *Gabby Franklin*

BELL RINGING

With the easing of lockdown on June 21st the bell ringers hope to ring out the bells again. For newcomers who have not heard us, we practise on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm and ring for Sunday service from 9.15am to 10.00am.

As a newcomer, should you wish to find out more about campanology then come and visit us on a Tuesday evening but please make an arrangement beforehand as the church is kept locked during practice night. (Telephone Alec 01584 891 351 or Clare 01299 272913)

You may like to visit our web site for more details.

<http://www.cleoburycountry.com/local-groups-and-societies/local-groupssocieties/cleobury-mortimer-bell-ringers>

Alec Osbaldiston

GOOD GRIEF CAFE

From July, there will be a new place in town, hosted by Cleobury Compassionate Communities, and Cleobury Mortimer Hub. The Good Grief Café will be for local people, grieving the loss of a loved one, to be amongst others with similar experience. An informal, positive space for people to meet others and chat, in the welcoming environment of the Hub café, at a time when it is closed to the public. A place to support one another through understanding.

Good Grief Trust is a national body, which supports communities to set up similar style pop-up café's as a starting point. In Cleobury we already have the resources to make this happen. It will be there, for those who wish to come and see if it's for them, or find other routes of support.

The doors will open for the first time on Thursday July 1st, 2 - 4.00pm and then on the first Thursday of the month. More information: contact Katja Jones on 07966080111 or speak to Mark at the Hub when you are next there.

Cleobury Mortimer and Neen Savage Women's Institutes.

Afternoon Tea to Celebrate

NHS Social Care and Frontline Workers Day

Monday 5th July 2021

At: The Sports and Social Club. 4pm to 6pm.

£5 per person. Pay at the door.



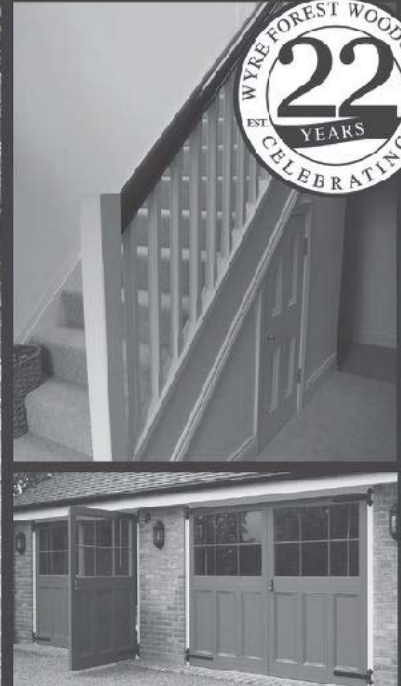
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Sunday 6th June – 10.00am Eucharist

Sunday 13th June– 10.00am Eucharist

Sunday 20th June – 10.00am Eucharist

Sunday 27th June – 10.00am Eucharist

St Michael and All Angels', Hopton Wafers

Sunday 6th June– 9.30am Eucharist

Sunday 20th June- 9.30am Eucharist

St John the Baptist, Doddington

Sunday 6th June– 11.15am Eucharist

Sunday 20th June – 3pm Evening Prayer

All Saints', Neen Sollars

Sunday 6th June – 11.00am Village Worship

Sunday 13th June – 11.00am Eucharist

Sunday 20th June - 11.00am Village Worship

Sunday 27th June – 11.00am Village Worship

St George's, Milson

Sunday 20th June – 11.15am Eucharist

St Mary's, Neen Savage

Sunday 6th June -18.00pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 20th June – 11.00am Eucharist

St John the Baptist, Kinlet

Sunday 13th June – 11.15am Eucharist

Sunday 27th June – 6pm Eucharist

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The Social Calendar for June

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone
Wed 2 nd	9.30	Little Acorns Toddler Group at Rock Village Hall. Every week. PAGE 7		
Thurs 3 rd		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 5 th	2.00, 3.30, 5.00	Open Air Concert at Sparc Theatre, Bishops Castle. PAGE 7		
Tues 8 th		Cleobury WI visit Flo Hadley's Garden at Catherton House. PAGE 31		
Thurs 10 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Mon 14 th	9.30	Road closer in Meaton Lane, Kinlet. PAGE 11		
	6.30	The Creative Writing Group meet in the Library	Jim Reynolds	CM 270642
Wed 16 th	2.00	AGM of busy St John's Church, Doddington. PAGE 29		
Thurs 17 th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 19 th	9.30	Cleobury Country Farmers Market returns to Parish Church	Clare Todd	CM 272300
	7.00	Macbeth at Severn Valley Country Park. PAGE 9		
Mon 21 st	10.30	Walking for Health are out again. PAGE 21		
Thurs 24 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		Final Date for Childe Endowment Fund applications. PAGE 6		
Mon 28 th	7.30	The Nearly Dead Poets' Society meet in the Library, Love Lane		
Tues 29 th		The B4194 closed at Worcestershire Marble until July 13 th . PAGE 17		
Wed 30 th	10am	Tai Chi classes with Alison, Parish Hall.		07581436338
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JULY.....		
Thurs 1 st		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	2.00	The Good Grief Café opens its door at Cleobury Community Hub. PAGE 31		

With 1,000 copies printed and distributed locally, plus 350 website visitors a month, any event in the area really should be on this page. Entry is free, just email details to the editor, whose contact details are on Page 59.

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CATHERTON COMMON

Good news! I was pleased to find out recently that we have curlews nesting on Catherton Common. Local volunteers and wardens are keeping an eye on the site and it was decided to surround it with an electric fence to protect the young from predators. Predators such as crows and foxes are the main reason the chicks fail to reach adulthood successfully. Given that we know of one nest and that there may be others, along with skylark and other ground nesting birds, can I ask once again that people please keep dogs on a lead until 31st July. Disturbance by dogs is another major reason for curlew to fail to raise their young successfully.

Unfortunately we also had some bad news earlier this year. There were some large fires in February and March with significant areas of the common being burned and the fire brigade having to respond to protect both the common and peoples houses.

It is difficult to estimate the damage to our wildlife with uncontrolled, large fires such as this occurring during the dry spell.

Even more worrying is that I have been shown footage from security cameras nearby which appears to show two of the fires being started deliberately. The footage shows a car pulling up very late at night beside the common, someone gets out and passes in front of the headlights. Shortly afterward the car pulls away and an area of flames starts to build up in the area soon becoming a large blaze. Both fires started late at night.

I have been in contact with the local community police officer and am hoping that we can take some action to investigate these incidents and carry out more regular patrols

If you have any information about these incidents or if you see any suspicious activity on the common feel free to contact me to discuss it or contact the police direct. clived@ShropshireWildlifeTrust.org.uk *Clive Dean*

CLOWS TOP VICTORY HALL

Clows Top Victory Hall Committee are busy planning events and activities that comply with the regulations. The hall was used as a half way refreshment stop for the Mad March Hare Cycling event in May.

Zumba Sessions have resumed and Clows Top Gardening Club is due to resume its monthly meetings in June. The organisers of other regular activities are making preparations to resume in the near future.

Local people are invited to attend the Hall Annual General Meeting, taking place at 7.30pm on Thursday 1st July at the Hall. The meeting will review the Committees plans, consider an update about the housing developments planned adjacent to the Hall and provide an opportunity for raising points of interest.

The Committee are keen to welcome new members and would like to hear from anyone who would like to know more. Make contact by telephoning 07870 522567, by email at clowstopvictoryhall@gmail.com



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WHAT DOES YOUR GARDEN REALLY SAY ABOUT YOU?

A friend recently gifted me a small plant. This has become an annual thing as one of us finds ourselves drowning in a glut of whatever we're growing. Last year, my excess cucumber plants found a happy new home in her greenhouse, while she repeatedly comes to my rescue when my sweet pea crop fails (for the umpteenth year). This time, though, there was a particularly mischievous glint in her eye.

"It's pampas grass", she said with a smirk. Blimey. My inevitable off-colour joke about us being close friends, just not *that* close, was taken in good humour.

Confused? Well, a quick internet search on pampas grass will explain all. For some inexplicable reason, this statuesque grass has long been associated with an 'alternative lifestyle' that I have neither the energy nor will to get involved in. According to legend, sticking a big clump of pampas grass in the front garden is the equivalent of placing an ad in the local paper (*note - our advertisement rates are very competitive*) or erecting a giant neon sign with an arrow pointing towards your front door saying 'Good Times Guaranteed Inside (*please bring a bottle and wipe your feet*).'

Of course, this urban myth is complete tosh. If you're the proud owner of pampas grass - indeed, I now count myself as a member of this select group - you'll know that it's a genuinely gorgeous plant. Growing to an impressive size (15 foot is not uncommon), it sways beautifully in the breeze and very easy to look after. It's a whopper.

(*On re-reading the above description, it occurs to me that some may view it as a particularly boastful Tinder profile. Mind out of the gutter, please people...*)

So, how does a perfectly lovely ornamental grass suddenly become associated

with car keys in a bowl? I don't know, and to be frank, I'm not keen on Googling the subject for fear of freaking my wife out when she sees my browser history. "*Research for the Clarion*" is a strange defence and unlikely to cut it.

This whole episode has, however, prompted me to dig a little deeper into the world of plant symbolism. And, wow, what an eye-opener.

That bunch of yellow carnations you buy at the petrol station on the way to see your mum? Their real meaning is *rejection, disdain and disappointment*. Whoops.

You're on much safer ground with dahlias which represent *elegance and dignity* - the perfect description of a mum. Just be sure not to give *black* dahlias - the message then would be one of *betrayal and dishonesty*, which is notably less upbeat.

Oh, and a variegated tulip means you've got *beautiful eyes*, which is nice if a little random.

And this whole symbolism thing isn't limited to flowers. The coriander sprinkled over your curry? *Lust* (a perfect description of how I feel when faced with a Chicken Madras from one of Cleobury's fine selection of Indian restaurants). The basil on your pasta? *Success*. And so it goes on.

It would seem that every plant has a meaning; we've just lost sight of them over time. Hopefully, one of the slithers of silver lining from the last 12 months is that we've all slowed down a tad. Take time to stop, examine the incredible nature we're blessed with and, maybe, dig a little deeper into its history and symbolism. There's an entire forgotten world out there to explore, a world that's even more exciting than discovering your neighbour has planted pampas grass in their front garden and has just invited you over for a drink...

Simon Morton

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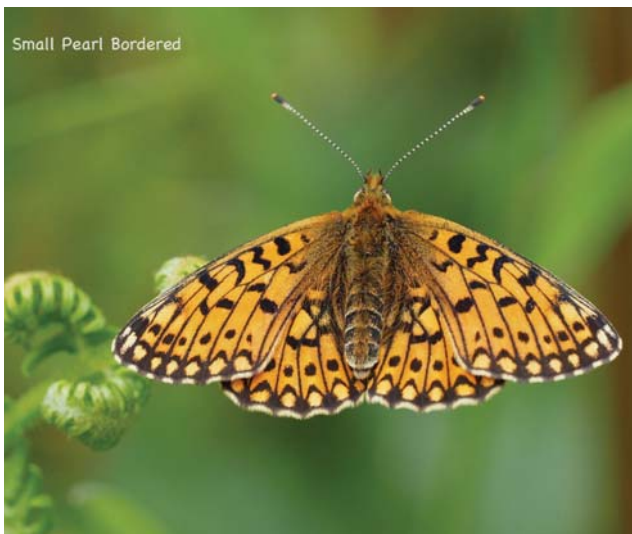
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Early summer has come, as the orbit of the Earth decrees it must, despite a reluctant spring that was cold, too dry (in April) and too wet (in May)! Each day has brought new leaves, blooms, insects and birds to delight us, lifting the heaviness of a winter that was far too long.



The year's first sightings of butterflies bring a special thrill. Across the nation concern for these insects, which have shown a 76% decline (in abundance, occurrence or both) since the 1970s, has prompted many projects to protect or restore their habitats. In the Wyre Forest there has been a huge effort to conserve the Pearl-bordered and Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries which can be seen bringing a flash of orange to woodland edges and rides from May to mid-August. (Mick Farmer's photo is of the Small PBF but does not show the underside of the hind wing which distinguishes it from its relative.) Both lay eggs on the Common Dog-violet, which is often seen where the sunlight reaches the ground at the edges of rides and in recently thinned or coppiced areas. Surprisingly, Bracken is another essential plant for the two species as long as it is not allowed to dominate

the vegetation completely. It provides a sheltered nursery for young violet plants and the dead Bracken provides a warm place for the butterfly caterpillars to bask in cool weather. Thanks to careful cutting of vegetation, cattle grazing and coppicing in the Wyre Forest our local populations of the butterflies have held on. On a national level, although the last three years have generally been good for butterflies, 2020 year saw the third worst year on record for the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary and its ninth consecutive year of below average numbers.

The charity Butterfly Conservation draws attention to the sad fact that what is now seen as a 'good' year for butterflies is still poor compared to records from 40 years or more ago, and that we have forgotten, or never experienced, the abundance of former decades.

There are always opportunities to reverse this trend, which applies to all areas of our wildlife. It was so encouraging to talk recently to a visiting ornithologist who is surveying birds in woodland around Uncllys Farm. Although her work is not yet complete, she has found good numbers of Redstarts, Willow Warblers and Tree Pipits as well as Wrens, Blackcaps and Goldcrests in the sections of forest which have been thinned, fenced and planted with diverse native trees over the last three years. The difference between them and the open woodland is, she says, very noticeable.

That is worth celebrating, and I hope it is a story that will be repeated many times over. Let me know if you want to be part of the good news and help to plant another 2000 little trees next winter!

Linda Iles

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Oxfam: Sadly you are not alone... Following the revelations about Oxfam staff misbehaviour in various areas, the WHO (World Health Organisation) has been fingered for similar abuse. Apparently, women applying for jobs were obliged to sleep with aid agency workers in order to be appointed. Other agencies and the UN were also implicated although the WHO appeared to be the major player. Just for info, the UK contributed £240 million to them last year so clearly money well spent.

At least Kier, famous for failing to fix Shropshire's potholes, are consistent in their approach to contracts. Already, their failure to maintain armed forces accommodation properly has resulted in the condition of squaddies housing being a major cause of resignations from an already overstretched organisation. The latest gem is an accommodation block for key workers in north London sited on land owned by Arsenal FC. Kier built this in 2014 using flammable cladding. They were required under building regulations to install fire cavity barriers but didn't, and residents are likely to face bills of about £64,000 per flat to fix it. Kier have refused to accept liability as have Arsenal leaving innocent leaseholders with unsaleable properties. Makes having potholed roads seem a minor problem. This may have something to do with Kier's precarious financial position with borrowing averaging £436 million compared with a stock market value of about £150 million. This has resulted in them shedding a quarter of their staff (perhaps that's why there is no-one to fill potholes) and making repeated calls for cash from investors to tide them over. Good luck with that.

Post Office news: In an act of breathtaking Hypocrisy, the Post Office have said that they will do all they can to help the hundreds of sub postmasters wrongly imprisoned and penalised for failures in the Horizon computer system. Having spent many years lying repeatedly to all and sundry including Parliament and despite knowing that the system was faulty, senior Post Office executives fought tooth and nail to prevent

justice for their innocent employees. Tactics included spending vast sums on high powered Lawyers, who are themselves being looked at for their behaviour in this case, and submitting increasingly unlikely legal arguments to the the Judiciary who were not impressed. Now, as the Post Office have failed in their efforts to prevent it, many of those penalised have had their convictions quashed. Can we now expect some of those responsible to themselves end up as guests of Her Maj? As most have moved on to other high paid posts and even been awarded honours, what do you think? Me neither, as they have too many powerful friends.

We do love our dogs – An out of control Husky, which had never received any training savaged another dog - which had to be put down – and bit the owner when she tried to protect it. The Husky's owner was given a suspended sentence and it was due to be destroyed until ...over 300 offers of retraining were received. As a result, it has now gone to a rehoming centre. The cynic in me wonders how many offers of support would have been received if the owner was due to be put down... Which seems like a plan. Train your dog or risk execution if it misbehaves. This would concentrate owners' minds given how few of the burgeoning dog population seem to be under any form of control.

I see that the average cost of a wedding is now £24,000. If so, what might the most expensive ones cost?. I would have thought that young couples who aspire to home ownership might be better off saving for a deposit and appreciate that this is a celebration, but is it more about showing off?. When I got wed (which was a mistake as it turned out) it was at a Registry Office with about 30 guests and then refreshments by the groom's parents at their place. Only other costs were a hire car and photographer.

Q: Do all fairy tales start with 'Once upon a time'?.

A: No. Some start with 'If I am elected, I promise'...

Ariadne J. Grumpy

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FESTIVAL AT THE EDGE

AN INTERNATIONAL STORY TELLING FESTIVAL

HOPTON COURT, HOPTON WAFERS, 16th TO 18th JULY

Festival At The Edge is in its 28th year and has moved around the Midlands before finding a place that suits it naturally - Hopton Court. The Festival will be there from July 16th to 18th, presenting a blend of story telling and folk music. All in one of the loveliest settings for a relaxed weekend.

The stories cover everything from epic tales, ghost stories, local legends and tales of wit and wisdom. The story tellers include Jan Blake with tales from Africa and the Caribbean, Irish story teller and musician Colin Irwin, Norwegian Torgrim Mellum Stene and the energetic Ruth Kirkpatrick from Edinburgh. As well as that mixture of talent and energy Taffy Thomas will be down from the Lake District with his Tale Coat: choose an image from the many on his coat and hear a take about it. Sounds a lot better than T K Maxx.

The live music includes Pete Morton, Anne Lister and Rapsquillion, while Daria Kulesh will entertain with songs and music of her Russian and Ingush roots. The notes we've been given include one not to miss: award winning fiddle player Rowan Rheingans who also covers the banjo, and works as songwriter and theatre-maker. Rowan will be presenting her debut theatre show 'Dispatches on the Red Dress', which won a Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Festival.

Away from the big marquees are more intimate attractions, like the story rounds where people can share their own tales and night time sessions continue into the early hours. Many people have told their first ever traditional tale, or sung their first song, in public at these relaxed and informal welcoming spaces. And there are also practical workshops covering the

three days of the festival, offering a range that includes storytelling, musical and craft expertise. If you're new to this scene and don't understand that storytelling is a craft, this is the place to learn. Examples of the skills on offer are Storytelling for Beginners, Shadow Puppet Creating and Tuneworks, where any instrument and level of skill is welcome. It's all about meeting new friends, having new experiences and maybe realising that you have a talent that others appreciate.

Naturally there's a children's programme, activities including tales, workshops and bedtime stories, all in the Big Top Tent. And in there you'll find Professor Elmo and the Panic Family Circus, where children can learn circus skills over the weekend. You'll also find the Black Cat Theatre with their Indian marionettes show and a late night puppet experience with Hansel and Gretel off into the dark forest.

Hobsons, who else, will be providing the bar in the Village Area and you'll find plenty of food and craft stalls in there too. The whole event, run by a team who know how to do the job smoothly, promises to be a really good weekend.

Admission is by ticket only and the numbers are limited to comply with Covid measures. Book yours through www.festivalattheedge.org or call 07544 044 126

And finally, a chance to meet one or more of the artists and get to know them as well as having free admission to the weekend. If you can play host to any storyteller or musician for the festival weekend, you get into the event free. More information on this really novel offer from Genevieve Tudor at 07779 176 049.

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Cleobury Clarion - Page 50 - June 2021



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



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

JUNE 2021 Clarion Report

By now you should be aware that our two Unitary councillors for the next four years are Gwilym Butler and Simon Harris. They are our representatives at Shire Hall dealing with Shropshire council and representing our interests. Please contact them if you need help.

We have still got a vacancy for a Cleobury Mortimer Town councillor, so if you are interested to join the team and help our community, and can spare the time to volunteer, please contact the Town Clerk for details.

One of our challenges is to get the Potholes and roads around Cleobury sorted out as they are in a really poor state. It has been very frustrating trying constantly to get things done and answers to our letters and emails of complaints, but we will not stop trying.

Please get to know your local Town councillors.

There are projects we are moving on with to benefit the community and enhance what we have already. Our Historic Wells is one project that will take time and investigation to enhance but **Cllr French** is working hard to move that along. He is also working on the bulb planting in the QEII area and a drainage issue we have, so please contact him if you are interested to help in any of those.

Cllr Greaves is working on the Solar lighting project in the QEII area as our expert with the environment and reducing our carbon footprint.

Cllr James is project managing the new steps from the playing field into the QEII area.

Cllr Brown is our Chair and also as well as working closely with me in looking after the Town Council, she was instrumental in setting up and running our Foodbank, and together with **Cllr Buck** we manage the needs of those less fortunate and in need. A big thank you to the other volunteers that help us every week, and those that donate.

Cllr Brown also manages our social media and website.

Cllr Buck and **Cllr Tysall** help control the CCTV and gain footage for the police. Last week after a burglary locally we gained the registration of a vehicle involved and the quick action by the police stopped it with the goods still inside. Result!

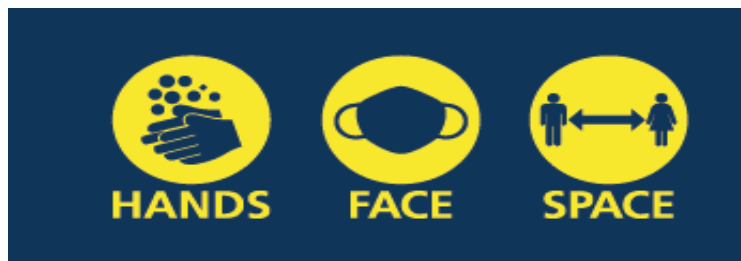
Cllr Hainsworth works with me on the street lighting and upgrading to LED and is also assisting with the road and parking issues.

Cllr Smith is a full-time teacher and helped turn the phone box at Curdale into a book borrowing point, making the shelving, and repairing the broken glass.

They also do a lot more for you so please get to know them as they give up their time to help our community, which can be long and hard work. If you see them please say hello!

All our councillors are listed with introductions and photos on our website, so please get to know who is helping us all.

www.cleobury.org.uk



M Sheehan Town Clerk
Cleobury Mortimer Town Council

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Cleobury Community Hub

Come on in!

The Hub is now fully up and running, inside and out, for coffee, cake, Mawley Milk refills and conversation in line with government guidance. Our outside space is covered (so perfect for recent Spring weather) and we are continuing to offer barista takeaway drinks for anyone who prefers a shorter visit.

The Hub is open **9:30 – 13:00 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.**

We look forward to seeing you soon.



Our amazing new purpose-built climbing/bouldering wall – Climb 61 – has been incredibly busy since we opened up for families, bubbles and individuals to come and give it a go.

Our induction sessions are suitable for all ages and abilities. It's so exciting to see so many local people experiencing the joys of climbing.

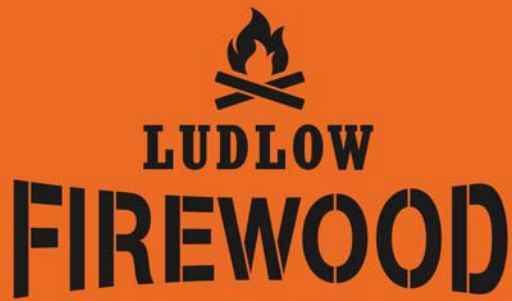
Check out our social media for further details of times and clubs available and information about to book.



@CleoburyCommunityHub

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As always (and we know we say it every month!) a genuine thanks goes to you all for your understanding, support and shared excitement of the work of the Community Hub. We look forward to becoming a regular fixture in your weekly diaries again.



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All building work undertaken

Welcome to June. In the show "Carousel" written by Rogers and Hammerstein, this month is celebrated with the song 'June is Bustin Out All Over'. It seems appropriate for us given that we expect things to start to return to normality from the 21st which is incidentally the longest daylight day in the UK, Summer Solstice day. There will be many who will celebrate this day for many different reasons but sadly there will be many who won't be celebrating as they have fallen victim to one or other of the many different scams that just will not go away. In previous articles, I have outlined several scams and tried to demonstrate ways of ensuring you do not fall victim to them. Regrettably it would appear there is little we can do to avoid being initially targeted by scammers. However, there are ways that you can frustrate scammers who attempt to gain access to your personal data. When a scammer gains sufficient information about you it is possible to 'clone' your ID and use this to buy goods and services or even access your bank accounts to steal your money. Unfortunately, we sometimes make this easy for them as they can access information about you which has been gathered by legitimate companies. How many times have you given your details when ordering goods and services yourself on-line? Frequently you are asked to subscribe or create an account 'to make it easier for future transactions'. Details, such as date and place of birth, mothers' surname, name of first school or favourite pet's name etc etc are recorded by these companies. In many cases this is used to give you "Loyalty bonuses" but the real activity behind this is what is known as DATA MINING. Naturally every legitimate company will assure you that they keep their data very secure and do not pass it on to third parties. In most cases this is true but not always. So many companies are linked to others and you can be sure the data is shared. Take the example of KINGFISHER GROUP. You might not have heard the name but they are an International Home Improvement Company who own B&Q in the UK and Ireland, Screwfix in the UK and three other organisations in France, Spain, Portugal, Romania, Poland, Russia and Turkey. If your data is shared across this group, how do you know it is really secure? There have been some celebrated hacks into big named

organisations including banks, where millions of customer records and details have been stolen. Why? Simply so the hackers can sell on the data on the black market. Who are typical buyers of this data? Those very people that attempt to scam you out of your money! There is a post going around Facebook just now illustrating the dangers of some of the 'innocent' games that ask for things like what was your first car, describing your town or city of birth, your first school, favourite pet etc etc. Believe it or not it does not take a genius to start to build up a fairly detailed picture of yourself with this data. With lawful records of Births, Deaths and Marriages being freely available online now, a scammer with the right technology can easily create a believable clone of an individual. While raiding bank and savings accounts is the preferred method of most scammers, using your personal details whether gained through open records or from bought hacked sources, makes it so easy for us to be targeted. So, if you use Online Banking, think about the fact that the banks ask for what, to you, are easily remembered questions to help identify you when logging on. Mothers maiden name, pet's name, date of birth, place of birth etc etc. Does this sound familiar to you? The message is clear, we are in a very connected world now, where your data is constantly being mined and updated. Hackers will always try to break into the most sophisticated of systems and usually succeed. Black market money changes hands very easily and your money can disappear in a flash. What can you do about it? For a start use strong passwords for every online account you access including the social media accounts. Use a different password for every account (easier said than done). Change your passwords regularly. There is plenty of guidance online for this. One company www.proprivacy.com has a lot of good information about keeping you safe online. This is not an endorsement, just one example of genuine companies on the internet that want to help you stay safe. <https://www.which.co.uk/consumer-rights/scams> or <https://www.actionfraudalert.co.uk/> and our own Facebook group Cleobury Mortimer Neighbourhood Watch If you are not a member, please ask to join us. Thanks again for reading. Stay Alert, Stay Safe. *Nigel Reid*



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Andy Perkins's EZ Energy Zone says in its own advert that it's "One of Cleobury's best kept secrets" and that's a very true statement. Tucked away on the Newhouse Farm business park, next door to the Seafood and Freezer Centre, there's no showy bling about their industrial unit. But dig deep and you find one very bright man and a forward looking business with a national reputation among the professionals with whom he deals.

Andy earned his degree at Aston University and after working at Emerson's engineering works for nine years moved on to start his own engineering business. He specialised in heating and ventilation drive and control, and his original thinking soon developed greater efficiency and control. An interest in the growing solar thermal power was a natural move. He could see the potential in the solar panel market and began to concentrate on that area.

"The roof space is the best use, but there's no compulsion to do so," he explains. "The aim is to meet whatever the targets that are specified and do it at lowest lifetime cost." Not as a quick dash-for-the-cash job; lowest cost means long term reckoning. "Houses last a long time, so the heating and ventilation system should too," he reasons.

That philosophy carries over into the components used in systems they design and instal "A typical heat pump system costs from £9,000 to £11,000, but if you spend about 10 percent more on the pump,

you'll get up to 20 percent more efficiency and better long term reliability too," Andy says. It's just good sense to buy quality and enjoy the benefits that brings.



Andy Perkins. Engineer, system designer and logical thinker. Just a no-nonsense operator.

Something like 25 percent of Andy's time is given to the research and development work that keeps the company ahead of the game. As well as buying in quality components from known sources, they also design better system components and have them manufactured - his background as an engineer helps a lot with that. A good example is the new hot water cylinder. What can you do with a basic component that would make a difference?

"It heats from the top down, not the bottom up," he explains. "It uses about seven percent less electricity and as it takes the hot water out from the top of the cylinder, it takes about 20 minutes from switching on to drawing out hot water." That greater convenience for the customer, whether domestic or commercial, is the result of

sitting and thinking. Why ever change such a long established water cylinder design? Because it's better; next question?

EZ serves the whole of the UK, with the greatest concentration around its base here in Cleobury. Andy employs 15 full time fitters, including three apprentices, and they serve an area dictated by a one hour journey time to the job. Good economic thinking in these days of traffic delays. Further away the work is farmed out to proven contractors.

The cost of EZ's current system will pay back the cost of installation in about seven years, and offers lower running costs through that time. There's a lot of new technology coming along that will make operation cheaper still. Like the ability to follow the weather forecast, track the price of electricity and thermal performance of the house to run the heat pump at the lowest cost.

And electricity is safer than a conventional gas or oil heating system: "Heat pumps remove the flammable bits," as Andy puts it.

He is keen on quality all the way. "If you scrimp on installation, it's trouble. With a good system it should cost no more than one pound a day to supply the average new build house. That's heating, lighting and cooking and other day to day use of power. And can the national supply of power cope with demand if it's high? He smiles: We're using 30 percent less than 15 years ago."

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SHROP DOC		111	Service available evenings and weekends
THE PHARMACY		01299 270219	Closes for half day on Saturday. Delivers prescriptions
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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	
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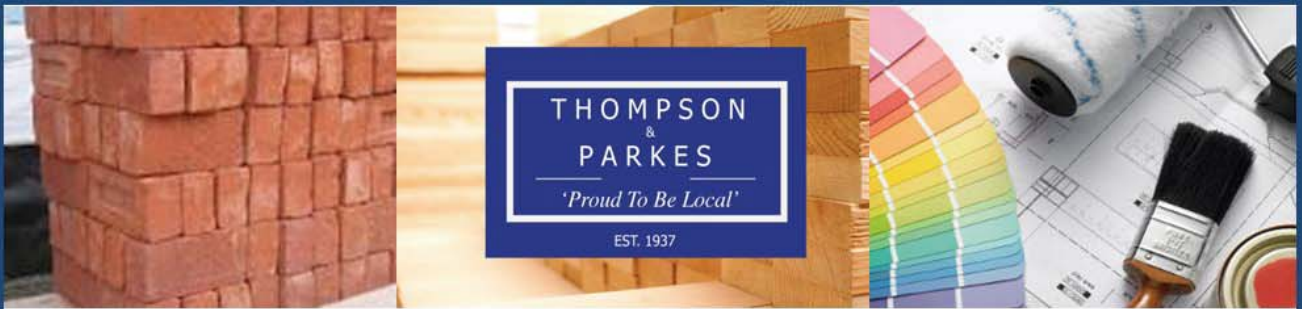
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