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The Cleobury Clarion

MORE THAN ONE MEDICAL ADVANCE

Cleobury's long promised and delayed new Medical Centre has moved one stage nearer to realisation. On February 16th the Parish Council and Matrix Medical exchanged contracts.

This is not going to be a quick process, but it is under way and we can expect to watch the Centre grow above the hedges lining the Ludlow Road.

And on the 25th, Blue Square invited us all to look at their proposed plans for a modern 60-bed retirement home to be built on the Cleobury Engineering site on Ludlow Road, subject to planning consent.

It's an impressive proposal and the developers would like your view of their plans. Pick up a questionnaire from Matt Sheehan at the Market Hall and be sure it's completed and returned by March 14th.

OUR SMALLS

Nothing improper here, just a mention for the huge range of services and help available from small businesses in Cleobury Country, many of whom you'll find in our Small Ads.

In a world where big corporations book whole pages of full colour in national newspaper and magazines, it's easy to overlook the small trader. But that's where you find the people with old fashioned manners and skills, willing to listen to what you want and capable of producing it, whatever it is.

They are easier to find now, all together on Pages 4, 10, 24, 38, 42 and 48. And as part of our service to local traders, we have a new series of interviews with Stars of the Smalls, starting with Steve Hems on Page 41.

MARCH 2012

IN PRAISE OF

The Cleobury Pharmacy does a good job in processing prescriptions from the busy Medical Centre and helping with advice on minor ailments.

Apart from the very smart shop on Church Street, they also offer a very useful service to the less mobile in our community. They will collect a prescription from any local medical practice, produce the medication or whatever is needed, and deliver to the patient free of charge. It's a simple idea that removes a worry for people who live alone and have no transport.

Debbie Cox owns the business and deserves thanks for taking on a long established and good service, having a fresh approach, and making it even better. We should be proud of it and the helpful staff there.

The Clarion is on the web from March 4th:

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28 Vaughan Road , Cleobury Mortimer, £140,000 HC002437

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Small garden to rear bordered by a stream



9 Barnfields , Cleobury Mortimer, £289,000 HC002341

A four bedroom detached property
Beautifully presented within walking distance of local amenities Conservatory
Single garage and Medium sized garden



The Cleobury Clarion. March 2012

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You don't have to fight for a copy.

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on the fourth of every month.**



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Clarion Clippings -The Local News

THANK YOU

Please put a piece in the March Clarion letting everyone know that the Whist Drive held at Clows Top Victory Hall on February 2nd was very successful with £235 raised for the breast cancer campaign and thank all for their generous support....

Joy Pearson

FOLK CONCERT

Cleobury Methodist Church is hosting the A49ers - a folk based group from Brimfield, Herefordshire - for a concert on Sat March 31st at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 and are available from church members or by calling the minister on 01584 819649.

Come prepared to sing along for some of the night; words and refreshments provided. For those with connections a search for A49ers on YouTube will give a taster of what is on offer.

A MESSAGE FROM ST MARY'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

We would like to thank everyone in the community who has supported St Mary's Church during the last 12 months. Many have supported financially, by regular giving or donations, and by supporting fund raising events. We are pleased to inform you that we have broken even in

2011. However, there is no room for complacency; we anticipate our outgoings will increase during 2012. To maintain the building, we have a number of restoration projects that will require funding.

As we write, the bells are being restored. Nothing has been done to them for 85 years and we need to ensure they will serve the church for many years to come. We are pleased to tell you that the cost of approximately £12000 has been met by donations and grants from groups supporting work on church bells. This includes a very generous grant from The Hereford Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers Bell Restoration Fund.

During a recent inspection the church electrical wiring was found not to be up to current standards. We are applying for permission to rewire the building and replace the old light fittings. This will provide discrete and energy efficient light fittings with much better illumination. This work will start within the next few months and the cost is expected to be in excess of £20,000, funded in the main, by a large donation from The Friends of St Mary's and generous grants from, amongst others, The Shropshire Historic Churches Trust. There may be a

need to raise some additional money, so look out for requests such as 'sponsor a new light fitting'.

The recent quinquennial inspection drew attention to a number of restoration issues that are essential and mostly concerned with keeping water out of the building. Some are quite small; some have been dealt with, and paid for out of our funds. Others will need significantly more money to achieve.

Once again, thank you for all your support in the past and we look forward to it continuing as we work to maintain this important historical building.

Heather Kippin

CLOWS TOP

GARDENING CLUB

Chair Marion Wilson welcomed members to the first meeting of 2012 and wished everyone a Happy New Year. The speaker was Brian Draper on 'Elgar's Countryside'. The slides were beautiful and the commentary amusing and witty as usual from Brian. A great success, with everyone enjoying the talk.

This month we meet as usual in the Victory Hall on the 28th for our Spring Show and a Quiz. Further details from Marion Wilson on 01299 270475. Non members are very welcome.



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

DO YOU REMEMBER JAMES MACKAY?



James MacKay, ex Scottish soldier and steward at Muller's Social Club in the 1940s.

The Clarion has been contacted by NRK, a leading Norwegian television station, whose Tore Stromoy is trying to trace any relatives of James MacKay.

James was stationed in the Faroe Islands in 1940 as a member of a Scottish regiment, and fell in love with a local girl. When he was moved on, he left pregnant lover behind and she duly produced a son in 1941. This was no runaway trick by the soldier, who supported his son financially, but was not allowed to visit his lover or to see his son. Now his son is trying to contact any of his

natural father's family or to trace his story.

In 1947 the court in the Faroes declared James was the boy's father, giving his address as 72 High Street, Cleobury Mortimer. There is no such address today; the highest number on the High Street electoral roll is 69. Has the house he lived at been demolished, or is there another explanation?

Jim Warren knew the name MacKay, but not the man, and says he ran the old Muller's Social Club, which then was in or near 43 High Street. If we can trace the man's life story and maybe contact any surviving family, NRK in Norway will bring his son over here.

Did you know James MacKay? Do you have any old records that show his name, or where he moved to when he left Cleobury? We have searches going on in parish records and have asked the County Archive Office for help, but here in Cleobury could be the answer to a son's search for his father's traces. If you can help in any way, please contact the editor - full details on Page 55.

MILSON'S OWN FILM NIGHT

St George's church in Milson is hosting a very special event on April 14th. That old comedy

favourite film 'Some Like It Hot', starring Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon will be shown, and admission is free. If you'd like refreshments a donation would be appreciated and the organisers recommend that you bring a cushion. Those wooden pews are not the most comfortable seats for a full length feature film. What a friendly idea to encourage people to enter their church.

YOUR OPINIONS, PLEASE

Town maps showing the possible changes to parking arrangements are on display in the window of the Market Hall. The Parish Council is asking us all to look at them and tell the Council what we think of the ideas on show there. This is not a done deal, it's simply a proposal and your opinion could influence the action they eventually take. What you might call democracy at work.

A REAL TREAT

Lacon Childe School's drama productions are always to a very high standard. From March 21st through to the 23rd they're staging Willy Russell's great comedy 'Our Day Out', starting at 7.30.

Tickets are £6.00, with a reduction to £5.00 for concessions. From the school, telephone CM 270312.



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

HOBSON'S EXCLUSIVE BREW PAYS OFF



Happy evening at The Bell Inn as Nick Davis of Hobson's (left) and PR manager Kate Pearce (right) hand over a cheque to British Legion Chairman Jim Hulme and President Ron Breakwell.

It was a very busy evening at The Bell in Lower Street on February 8th. The Royal British Legion members were gathered for their monthly meeting, but before that they greeted Nick Davis and Kate Pearce of Hobson's Brewery, there to hand over a big cheque for the Poppy Appeal.

The money came from a levy of 5p on every bottle of the special 'Old Comrade' ale sold to celebrate the Cleobury Legion's 90th birthday last year, plus the profit from a presentation of 'The Enigma Story' by Dr Mark

Baldwin at the brewery premises. It was all a great success, and a cheque for £1377 is now on its way to the Poppy Appeal's account.

RBL Chairman Jim Hulme thanked Hobson's for their generosity and Nick Davis admitted that he'd never expected such a great result as this. Quite a present for a 90 year old.

AND WHILE WE'RE ON ABOUT HOBSONS...

It may not be the weather for cricket but Hobsons is seeking cricket enthusiasts to join pub teams across the region as it launches its 2012 Pub Cricket League.

Following the success of last year, which saw ten teams sign up to the new league, our local brewery is keen to get teams committed for the new season. It's aimed at teams linked to local pubs which stock Hobsons fine beers, and mid-week fixtures will be set up, starting in May until late July running to a format of 15 eight-ball overs.

"We had a great first season and hope to build on the success attracting new teams allowing us to split the league into regions to reduce travelling time. The ethos behind this is to get local people involved in a team sport, and at the same time supporting their local pub."

commented Hobson's Kate Pearce.

If you would like to get involved in the Hobsons 2012 Pub Cricket League please get in touch Tel: 01299 270837 further updates can be found on www.hobsons-brewery.co.uk

CLEOBURY COUNTRY'S A.G.M.

On March 2nd at 7.00 pm, Cleobury Country will be holding their 5th AGM at the Lacon Childe School. There will be two guest speakers, after the formalities. Paul Stedman of Cognet Ltd, a local independent training provider and consultancy, will speak on 'Training: thinking the unthinkable.'

To conclude, Philip Dunne, MP for Ludlow will present the case for "The Coalition Government's plans to invigorate the rural economy." Cleobury Country Ltd is a not for profit company set up to further community, environmental and businesses objectives within the area. This is your opportunity to understand and measure their success.

All are welcome to attend the AGM and it would assist the organisers if you would give notice of your plans to attend. Call 01299 272300 or e-mail business@cleoburycountry.com



The Cleobury Country Centre

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- **Food Hygiene level 2** - 8th March
- **First Aid Requalification** - 23rd & 24th Feb
- **Paediatric First Aid** - 25/26 April & 2/3 May (6pm—9pm)
- **Emergency First Aid at Work - 3 day**—21st, 22nd, 23rd March
- **Practical Fire Safety (1/2 day)** - 16th April 9am to 1pm
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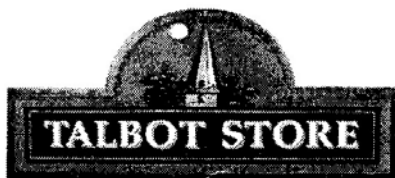
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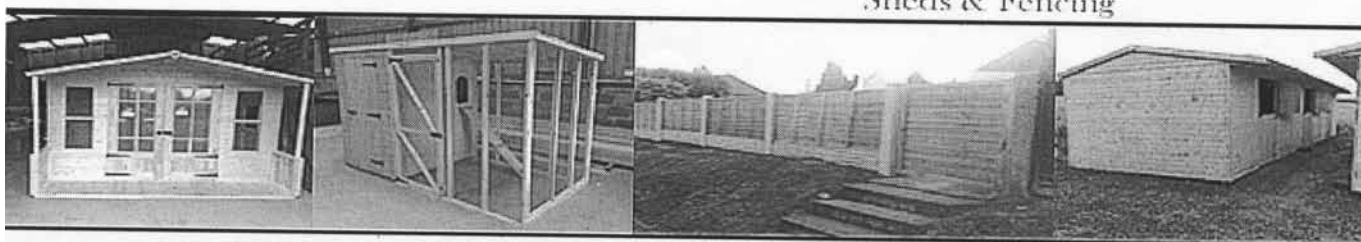


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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

HOPTON WAFERS

COMMUNITY LED PLAN

The Steering Group are pleased to say the Hopton Wafers DRAFT Community Plan is now available for review and comment. Copies are in the village halls, parish churches, Hopton School, Hopton Bank Garage, The Crown Inn and Clebury Mortimer Library or on our website www.hoptonunity.info.

A public meeting will be held at Hopton Village Hall on March 19th at 7.00pm. Please come along and share your views as this meeting gives everyone an opportunity to question and comment. The Plan will then be published and presented to the Parish Council for adoption; it will give our community a greater voice with Shropshire Council when implementing policies. Every household will receive a copy as it represents residents' views gained over the past 18 months. It covers topics from Transport and Roads; Housing and Planning; Environment; Services and Community. At the end of each topic is a list of issues raised, actions required and by whom.

Once the Plan is adopted the Steering Group will continue to

take responsibility for its progress. Reports will be made regularly to residents through the Parish Council newsletter and website. This is a living document and regular reviews will take place to ensure proposed actions and projects take account of changing circumstances to meet the needs of the community.

RUGBY 100 CLUB

Did you know that Clebury's own Rugby Club now has a 100 Club? You sign up, commit to pay a modest amount and once a month they have a draw that could pay you £20. Or slightly less if you're one of the lower placings. The December draw saw Colin Todd take the £20 top prize, with Betty Phillips pocketing £10 and Guy Turpin a fiver. £5.00 was retained for 100 Club funds and so far £50 has been raised for CMRFC funds. All in a very good cause.

RENEWING YOUR BUS PASS

If you're entitled to a Bus Pass, you'll have to apply for your new one at the right time. Jane Torrens explains:

In 2009 Shropshire Council issued thousands of new bus passes, with a three year life span. They are coming up for

renewal during the next 12 months.

We are running a year-long campaign, so that people know they need to check the expiry date and apply for a replacement at the right time if they require one.

A poster will be displayed in public buildings and on buses. All the information and contact details are on the poster and application form, but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. at www.shropshire.gov.uk/buspass

TITANIC TALK

An intriguing evening is planned by Clebury's Cricket Club at the Sports and Social Club on Friday the 13th of April. The date is exactly 100 years since the sinking of the Titanic, and Mike Watkins, chairman of the Tenbury Wells History Society, is giving a talk on the subject.

The posters say it's 'Setting Sail at 8.00pm' and at £5.00 a head that includes a Ploughman's Supper and a glass of wine on arrival, it's certainly excellent value for money. And there's a prize raffle to tempt a coin or two out of your pocket.

Tickets available from Barbara Evans on 01299 271351.



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A NEW APPROACH TO RECYCLING

Catherine Evans reports:

The Severn Hospice Shop is embarking on a new venture to reuse and recycle unwanted donated goods that would otherwise be sent for rags. Instead, they are turning them into beautiful handcrafted pieces. A group of nifty crafters are meeting in the shop on a Tuesday evening to stitch unique, individual items that will be sold at special evening events. Our first sale will take place on Tuesday March 13th, when the shop will open from 6.00 to 7.30pm for people to come along and buy exclusive Mother's Day themed gifts.

Calling ourselves the SeH 'n' Sews (Severn Hospice Sewers) we are happy to welcome new crafters to join us. Either on a Tuesday evening or call in to the shop and ask for stitching to do at home. For more details contact me on CM 270647.

MAY CHARITY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

At a meeting in the Sports and Social Club on January 15th the outline of the tournament was drawn up. There will be Junior and Senior matches played on May 12th, with a hot dog stall

and a bouncy castle in support for the children. For the evening, a live band will entertain and there will be a raffle or auction to tempt you. Prizes on offer so far include Stadium Tour tickets for Liverpool F C and Aston Villa, plus match tickets to Kidderminster Harriers, Telford AFC and Notts County.

Chris and Steve Robson of Worcester Caravans have kindly agreed to sponsor the event, while Dave Price has agreed to supply the medals for the Junior winners. The trophy formerly known as the Cyril Martin Cup will also be presented to the Junior winners.

Anyone who can help should please contact me on 078375 28491 or 01299 270599. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 1st; all are welcome to attend. *Derek Pearce*

CLEOBURY W.I.

In February, a talk on the Severn Way Walk by Paul Watts brought a good gathering of members. We took a pleasant stroll along the 210 miles of the Severn from its source in Wales to the end in Bristol. Mr Watts planned his walk in stages, using mainly public transport to get to each section and return home. This took a long time but he f o u n d w w w .

travelinesmidland.co.uk, a website that gave bus and connecting train time tables, so with a lot of careful planning he is now able to share his route with others.

The majority of the paths run alongside the river, which begins as a very small trickle and ends up about 4 miles wide. There are points where it deviates from the riverside but not for long. Gloucester is a difficult town to pass through as the way does not appear to be signed and the paths are not obvious. People lost here had to seek direction from locals.

There are many picturesque scenes along the Way, Bewdley and Arley being two near to here, where the walk is not too long. Mr Watts was easy to listen to and by the end we all wanted to take the walk.

Our next meeting is on March 13th at the Parish Hall.

Liz Smurthwaite

SILLY BITS

"Forgive your enemy, but don't forget to remember the beggar's name." *Anon.*

"Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them." *Anon.*

"He has just two brain cells. One is lost and the other's out looking for it." *Anon.*

"War without France would be like World War Two." *Anon*

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Philip Dunne MP - Letter from Westminster

I am in London from Monday to Thursday each week when the House of Commons is sitting. Awareness is rising in the capital that there will be an election in May to elect a Mayor for the next four years. The contest is unusual in that both the main candidates, Boris Johnson and Ken Livingston, have held the post before, so have a clear track record which voters can compare.

London's free papers, the Evening Standard and Metro, are running almost daily coverage of the contest. One of the issues discussed is the respective track record and current priorities of candidates for fighting crime in the capital, as the Metropolitan Police are accountable to the Mayor of London, who is directly elected by residents of London.

We do not have elections in Shropshire this May. But we will have an election on 15th November for a new post, the Police and Crime Commissioner to whom the West Mercia Police will become accountable. This will become one of the most important elected offices in our area. So raising awareness of the role and the rationale for its introduction is also important.

West Mercia is a large area, comprising Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. We do not have a single paper which covers this region entirely, let alone a free one. So local parish magazines like this provide a helpful outlet to inform local residents. The Police and Crime Commissioner's role will be to become the main voice through which local people can hold the police to account. He or she will set strategic priorities for the force, providing

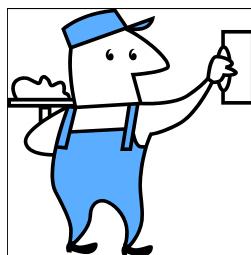
stronger and more transparent accountability of the police, holding the chief constable and the force to account; effectively making the police answerable to our communities.

A major part of the task will be to ensure local community needs are identified and met as effectively as possible, so developing local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust. This will lead the Commissioner to work in partnership with local MPs, councils and a range of agencies, within the force area and at a national level, to ensure an integrated approach to preventing and reducing crime.

But the Commissioner will not be expected to run the police. Operational responsibility will remain with the Chief Constable and his senior team. The Commissioner will take over the responsibilities of the existing West Mercia Police Authority, the members of which have been mostly appointed by local authorities. Shropshire Council will still have a role, appointing members of the Police and Crime Panel, which will scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner.

West Mercia is an effective police force. I want to ensure it remains so, and therefore make sure we have a strong field of high quality candidates for Police and Crime Commissioner to choose from this autumn. Candidates will need to live in the West Mercia force area and to be nominated by 100 people. It is expected to be a full-time role. More information can be found on the Home Office website.

Philip Dunne MP



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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

We welcome a new correspondent to this page as Jeremy Hall, complete with kitten Bubbles, takes over the monthly column for Severn Edge.

Where are you off to on Holiday this year? Did you realise that pets can travel with you to most places in Europe? The rules about Pet Passports have recently changed, meaning that it is now a lot cheaper, and easier to take your best friends with you. Through March Severn Edge Veterinary Group are giving you 10 percent off Pet Passports. Also, for every Rabies Vaccination we use, the manufacturers will donate a free one to charity, a project called "Help save lives in the Serengeti."

So, the basics of Pet Passports now just involve your pet having a microchip identification, a Rabies Vaccination, and a little blue passport. You still have to travel through approved UK ports, and there are some re-entry requirements, but for those of you who have looked into this in the past, there is now no longer a need to take a blood sample in order to validate the Passport. Current UK requirements are for a booster against Rabies to be completed every three years (using our vaccine.) We can now have a dog or cat ready to travel in just three weeks.

More and more people are opting to take their pets on holiday with them. The shipping companies are set up nicely to help make the journey as stress free as possible, so if you think you would like to know more just call, or pop in to discuss it further. Don't forget though that the 10 percent off promotion only lasts for the month of March.

My little kitten Bubbles is now eight months old. He enjoys sitting on top of the fish tank warming his behind on the lights while trying to bat fish through the glass. We are sure that he only does it for attention. If only he had been able to meet my well behaved cat from childhood... Maybe he might have learned how good cats are supposed to behave? Maybe.

As cats get older, much like us they can start to suffer from arthritis. You may notice this as a reluctance to jump up onto the fish tank, slowness running up the stairs, or just general stiffness. There are a few things that we can think about doing to help ease the pain of arthritis. Again, throughout March there is a nationwide campaign to raise the awareness of feline arthritis. All of our vets are more than happy to take time to examine your cat, and discuss the appropriate options with you. If you are worried, please don't hesitate to call, or pop in for a chat.

Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS.

Severn Edge

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Bayton - Is There A Happier Place for Children?

Our Class 3 children (years 3 and 4) are learning about the Tudors this term. As part of this topic they have enjoyed a D.T. day during which they designed and made Tudor houses. The day was a real success with many parents coming into school to give a helping hand.

Before half term, the children went on a trip to Harvington Hall, where they dressed up as Tudors, learnt a Tudor style dance and about life in Tudor England. They were especially enthusiastic about exploring the Hall to find the various priest holes where the Catholic Priests hid away from Henry VIII's soldiers.

Class 4 (years 5 and 6) children are learning about the Victorians this term and

are looking forward to a trip to The Black Country Museum in March. This is always a popular topic in our school, and the children especially enjoying learning about what life was like for Victorian children.

Our key stage one children are learning all about Families and Neighbours this term. This involves children describing members of their family and what their relationship is with them, as well as producing their own family tree.

Due to families relocating, we currently have places in our Reception and Year 2 classes. For further information about our school contact us on 01299 832393 or visit our website www.baytonpri.worsc.sch.uk.

THE PRIMARY SCHOOL. Lovely rural setting and grounds. Ofsted 2011: 'Good with Outstanding Features.' Head Teacher: Avis Pounder 01299 832393

Just before half term the children welcomed parents, grandparents and friends to a 'Celebration Day' to celebrate our Outstanding Ofsted inspection. We had many people visit to have a piece of cake, a coffee and a chat and some of the children cut the celebration cake, while others had their face painted by Emily (Jo and James' mum). To teach the children about other cultures, we celebrated Chinese New Year with the reception class from school. We tasted spring rolls and prawn crackers, coloured masks, played instruments to Chinese music and the children wrote and hung their wishes on a tree, - an old Chinese tradition, before finishing with a Chinese dragon story. Introducing the children to school is an important part of nursery, especially as September draws near. We meet several times to play on an informal basis before the children start their induction days so they are familiar with the environment and teaching staff. Half term seemed just as busy as we held a 'Superhero's week'. During holidays, the

children are encouraged to plan as many of the activities as possible allowing them to run the holiday club as such. They asked to do clay modelling, cooking Valentines biscuits, a mystery treasure hunt, make dens, dressing up, design a superhero, a show and much more, which we managed to fit in! Planning for the Easter holidays is now under way.....if you have any ideas or for more information, email us at little_learners@btconnect.com

We hope you had a go at making the playdough from the recipe we provided last month. This month we decided to make it a bit messier!
Stacey Childe

Cornflour Goo

Ingredients: Cornflour, Water, Food colouring or glitter (optional).

Tools: A shallow tray.

Method: Mix the cornflour and water together until fairly stiff, then enjoy feeling the goo run through your fingers!

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AN EVENING OF 1970s NOSTALGIA

Do you remember Cleobury in the early 1970s? Did you take part in a wheelbarrow race or on a carnival float? Were you at playgroup with Ashley Pugh? If so you won't want to miss this.

A collection of cine films by Joe Bieli, charting life in Cleobury, has been preserved on DVD and will be shown in the Methodist Hall on Friday 16th March.

The film will be shown as a rolling show between 5.30 and 8.30pm so just drop in when you can - it runs for about 1 hour. £3 entry includes a cup of tea and slice of cake while you watch. Copies of the DVD will also be on sale. All proceeds will be shared equally between the Macmillan Nurses and the Compassionate Communities Group in memory of Grace Bieli who donated the films to me. Parking will be available at St Elizabeth's Church car park. For more details contact Catherine Evans on 01299 270647.

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

After half term break the children began learning and thinking about recycling. We are all being very thoughtful within our Playgroup environment and making sure rubbish is going in the right bin to be recycled. The

children are thinking about the various materials used in packaging and enjoying sorting and matching - even Peppa Pig likes recycling as we have found in a new favourite story.

We are beginning the countdown to Easter and will be holding our annual Sponsored Easter Walk and a special Easter Raffle. If you are from a local business and would like to donate a prize to our charity Playgroup, we would be very pleased to hear from you and would be delighted to mention you in our newsletter, website and Playgroup news.

If you would like to contact us, to donate a prize or for more info about the Playgroup and available spaces, please call 07794 166514 or email info@kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk
Zoe Pearson

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

February's meeting was led by John Millington of Hill View Hardy Plants, Worfield. He was very jocular and got members involved in the processes. Sowing seeds sounds easy but we can make it very difficult for the seeds to germinate if we are not careful. Several things were pointed out and many of us knew we were guilty. First thing: Have I got the right pot? Seeds

need to be sprinkled sparingly on the top, some need to be covered, others not, then they have to be put in the most suitable place for them. Some need heat, some to be chilled. Instructions are not always available on the packet so a little research is needed.

We moved on to other methods: stem cuttings, division, soft and hardwood cuttings and root cuttings. All need different care when planting up. This process he involved members in to ensure we took notice.

Next meeting; March 12th in the Methodist Hall.

Liz Smurthwaite.

FAREWELL TIM

Tim Hall, long time pro at the Golf Club, is off to a new post on April 1st, as Head Golf Professional at Ross-on-Wye Club.

He's worked hard to raise standards at what he calls 'The West Midlands' Finest' and as a final farewell is staging a members' competition on Sunday, March 18th. This Texas Scramble Shotgun starts at 9.00 and will be played over Badger's Sett and Deer Park. You won't miss him, he'll be manning the SN1's halfway bar.

We wish Tim well in his new job and hope that his successor will be equally devoted.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

St Mary's Church will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by holding a Flower Festival and Jubilee Tea Party. Jayne Brown explains:

The event will be held inside the lovely, traditional space of the church with displays celebrating everything royal plus, on a large screen, footage of the Queen's wedding in 1947 and her Coronation in 1953. For the children there will be a "Design a Crown" competition with all entries being displayed and prizes for the winning entries.

A special Jubilee Tea will be served throughout the afternoon of Saturday 2nd June when there will also be a Treasure Hunt around the church, a bottle tombola, a lucky dip, a raffle for a Jubilee hamper and other stalls.

The Flower Festival will run from Saturday 2nd June to Tuesday 5th June with the Jubilee Tea Party on Saturday 2nd June from 2p.m. to 5p.m.

Everyone is welcome to come along and help celebrate this very special event. For further details ring me on 01299 271880.

A LOVELY FAMILY IDEA

The Friends of St Mary's Church are organising a Paint a Pot Party in the Market Hall on March 17th. Children from five upwards are given a pot to paint, then a plant to put in it to present to Mum on Sunday the 18th That's Mothering Sunday, of course.

All materials will be provided. The children just have to bring a parent, grandparent or close relative along to fork out the £5.00 a head entry fee. Tickets are on sale at Cleobury Pharmacy, Cleobury News or Spire Hairdressers. And of course from members of the committee, if you happen to know any.

And three days before this, the Friends have their AGM in the Market Hall, planning future events to raise funds to protect the fabric of the church that is the focal centre of the town. 7.00 o'clock start, non members welcome.

STOTTESDON W.I.

Sustainability was the theme of our February meeting, when Shropshire Council's Rachel Strivens gave a presentation on the environmental impact of our everyday household activities. We all came away with a greater awareness of the effect of human activity on the world's weather systems, and the importance of regulating water and fuel usage. Even in the UK winter drought is an increasing problem, which we all play a small part in controlling by a few simple changes. Details of Climate Week 12th - 18th March can be found on www.climateweek.com

We meet again at Farlow Village Hall on March 21st, when Nikki Brown will let us into the secrets of Dog Psychology and Dog Whispering. Come and find out more, with a dog for the competition (any medium - NOT the real thing!)

Marian Wootton

WALKING IN ROCK

Rock Pathfinders have two outings with a difference this

month. The first is today, starting at 10.30 this morning, starting from On March 23rd reference 761777.

The second starts from Rock's wonderful Village Hall on the 15th, but only after what is promised to be a short AGM. That sounds like a good idea! and it's another 10.30 start. OS reference is 735712.

Further details on both events available from Alan on 01299 400304.

STOP PRESS

These events came in too late for the Social Calendar, but you should be aware of what's going on:

At 7.30 on March 23rd there's an unusual arts event in the Market Hall. 'Spoken Word and A Bit On The Side' features local author Ruth Alliston reading from her works, poet Eric Stirrup will deliver some of his poems and Himat Rai will be playing a range of Indian folk music.

It's not a money making event and the entry charge of £3.00 will cover the rent of the hall. If you want to add to the party feeling, please bring your own wine and glasses for a friendly, gentle evening.

And we have notice that the Short Community Walks, that start from the Sports and Fitness Centre at 10.00 on the first and third Wednesday mornings of the month, will be striding out again on the 7th. Ian Pearmain knows all about them and can tell you more on 01694 722077.

And this idea has grown, with the addition of half hour walks from the Severn Hospice Shop on the High Street, starting at 11.00. This month's will be on the 14th. Again, Ian Pearmain is the man who knows all and can help with details. Enjoy.

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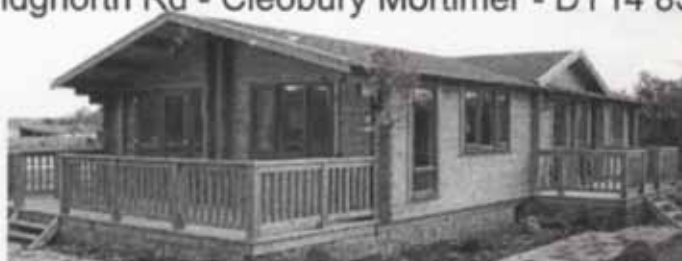
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

NEEN SOLLARS HYDRO SCHEME LAUNCHED



The smiles say it all. Bill Duley (left) and Jon Halle shake hands over a launch well received.

On a day when the weather did little to encourage support, Neen Sollars' Victory Hall was busy as plans for the Community Hydro Cooperative were outlined.

Director Bill Duley and Secretary Jon Halle led the presentation, outlining the installation of a 12.5kw generator at Tetstill Weir, its projected life of 40 to 50 years that takes it well beyond the 20 year span of the financial project and the return investors can expect. At the end of 20 years, the investments will all be repaid; the money from Shropshire Council via Cleobury Country will be used for other community projects.

There were questions, a few doubters and an impressive statement from the owner of Tetstill Mill of his confidence and commitment to invest. As Bill Duley explained, the River Rea had provided power via the mill for centuries; in the 21st century it will produce vital electricity with no damage to the river or its environs.

Most people leaving the busy meeting collected a copy of the Offer Document with its detailed report. If you would like a copy, contact Sharenergy at 01584 875881, www.sharenergy.coop/neensollars, or pick up a copy from Cleobury Country Centre. The offer closes on April 18th.

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

Those who braved the elements on February 5th walked to Reaside Manor and back via Barnslands farm and Tenbury Road. A beautiful mild day and there is nothing like crunching through virgin snow where the only tracks are from creatures foraging for food. The clear skies meant we could see as far as the Malverns and Abberley Tower.

Two of the party were visitors and we were able to share points of interest and suggested they purchase CMFA walk leaflets from Cleobury News since they were keen to walk further.

We also celebrated Christmas at the 'Live and Let Live', indulging in a beautiful meal and a pleasant evening for all.

If you would like to join us, we walk on the first Sunday of each month leaving from the parish church at 10.00. The walks are usually one and a half to two hours and can be tackled by all ages although some stiles and hills can be encountered.

Our next Walk will be on March 4th. If you would like to help us maintain our footpaths please contact: susan@eaglelane.co.uk.

Joy Wilkinson

THE READING GROUP

A page-turner or jumpy & contrived? Conflicting views were put forward on "Rain Before it Falls" our book last month, with most of the

gentlemen recommending it & the rest not so keen. We agreed the descriptions in the book were good but opinion was divided on the way the chapters used photographs to chronicle the lives of many characters. The spiritual aspect of the story was interesting, also to what extent parents influence their children's lives.

"Diving Bell & the Butterfly" by Jean-Dominique Bauby (a biography) is our book for the meeting at Cleobury Library on March 19th at 7.30pm. If you would like to join us give me a call or pick up a book from the library.

Deana Kimber 271754

FROM THE BANDROOM Stella Wilcox sees a busy year ahead for Cleobury Concert Brass:

Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass will very soon be starting a Training Band. If you would like to learn to play in the band it will meet on Wednesday evenings and be run by experienced musicians with various instruments available to borrow. Both new players and beginners of any age are welcome. Membership will be £1.50p per week.

To register interest, or for more information, please contact Jack Martin on 07534 241630 or Katie Griffiths on 01299 270262.

training@cmcb.org.uk
www.cmcb.org.uk

Requests for the band to play at various events are coming in fast and the band diary is rapidly filling up.

Stella Wilcox

Hon Sec, Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass

The March Monthly Social Calendar - Part 1

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Thu 1		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders gather at the Lenchford Pub, on B4196 for a social walk.	Alan	01299 400304
Fri 2		Hedgelaying is the subject of a practical Rural Skills Training session at Uncilys Farm, Bewdley. Repeated tomorrow, Saturday. Peter at Bewdley Development Trust can tell you more	Peter	01299 405516
	7.30pm	Cleobury Country AGM is at Lacon Childe School. All welcome; come and hear what this remarkable volunteer group have achieved. Please advise if you're coming on clare@cleoburycountry.com	Clare	
Sun 4	10.00am	CMFA Walk out in sociable style from the Parish Church. All welcome.		
Wed 7	8.00	Whist Drive Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 8		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 9	7.30pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall. In aid of Hall Funds.		
Mon 12	8.00pm	The Horticultural Society gather in the Methodist Hall, Church Street to hear Jim Almond talk about "Wildlife in the Garden".		
Tue 13	7.25am	The Breakfast Club meets at Lacon Childe School to hear Marlaime Deloegry talk about "Swedish as a Job"	Gill Chapman	CM 272575
	6.00pm To 7.00pm	Severn Hospice Shop open for an evening sale of special craft gifts made by volunteers. Ideal and affordable for Mother's Day.		
	7.30pm	Cleobury WI will be in the Parish Hall to learn about The Phantom Snuffler of Old Dudley Town. It all sounds rather spooky.		
Wed 14	12.30pm	Ladies Luncheon Club, Exchange Brasserie, Cleobury High Street	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	7.00pm	Friends at St Mary's Church Annual General Meeting, Market Hall. Non members are welcome to attend.		
	8.00pm	Cleobury Branch of the Royal British Legion meets at The Bell, Lower Street		
Thu 15		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		



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The March Monthly Social Calendar - Part 2

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders' brief AGM at Rock Village Hall, followed by walk.	Alan	01299 400304
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 16	5.30pm	To 8.30pm Non stop DVD show at the Methodist Hall in Church Street of Cleobury Events in the early 70s. £3.00 entry includes tea and cake.		
		Tapas Night at the Exchange Brasserie with lots of Spanish flavours to savour.		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 17	4.30pm	"Paint A Pot" Party in the Market Hall, with afternoon tea included. Children paint a pot, add a plant and give it to Mum tomorrow. Lovely idea.		
Sun 18		Mothering Sunday. Mums should expect breakfast in bed at the very least!		
Wed 21	7.30pm	Stottesdon WI at Farlow Village Hall. "Dog Psychology and Whispering"		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 22		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Neen Savage Village Hall	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 23		Charcoal Burning Course at Uncilys Farm. See Friday 2 nd above for details		
Wed 28	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club present their Spring Show and a Quiz. Victory Hall, Clows Top	Marion Wilson	CM 270474
Thu 29		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 30	8.0pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 31	10.30	Coffee Morning, Market Hall. In aid of Cleobury Playgroup		
		AND LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL:		
Wed 4	8.00pm	Whilst Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 5		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		

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Clarion Coppers - Station Volunteer Flo Hadley

It's really great to be able to report that it's been a quiet month. There have been no burglaries and very few incidents, which, from a local policing point of view, is very cheering because we want Cleobury and our surrounding communities to be peaceful, pleasant and safe places to live. One reason for this low crime rate is down to the vigilance of the local community and the fact that residents are ready and willing to come forward to report suspicious circumstances to us, so thanks to everyone.

It was the vigilance of a local resident and the resulting phone call to us that provided really important intelligence regarding metal theft - descriptions of the people concerned and the registration number of the vehicle meant we could act very positively and quickly on this intelligence. Three people have been arrested for metal theft in a rural area just outside Ludlow; they are helping the police with their enquiries.

Our local Neighbourhood Watch continues to flourish, which is another way for members of the community to look after each other and to get involved in crime-fighting locally. The next meeting, to which everyone is invited, is on Wednesday 23 March at 7pm in the Methodist Hall in Cleobury. It's the Annual General Meeting and will also include a presentation on security by Bewdley Locksmiths and a demonstration of the latest advice on how to recognise signs and provide immediate help to people who you think might be having a heart attack. So a very useful meeting - look out for the notices around the town and information from your local co-ordinators if you are already signed up to Neighbourhood Watch.

And finally, if you'd like to volunteer to help the local policing team, you know where to find us! Just call in at the station and let us know what you'd like to offer.

MARSHALS WANTED!

Fine strapping young fellows and ladies are wanted to help control the crowd and make the day run smoothly when the Olympic Torch passes through Cleobury Mortimer on May 24th.

No Colt 45s or tin stars are necessary. Just bring common sense and a little patience to help the own's Big Day of 2012 run smoothly.

Please contact Councillor Madge Shingleton on 01299 271186 or e:madge.shingleton@shropshire.gov.uk

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE OLYMPIC TORCH

Progress towards the Big Day....

February's gathering to discuss plans for the Olympic Torch's progress through the town saw fewer people than the previous meeting, but heard about some good progress. Councillor Madge Shingleton chaired the evening in sympathetic style, listening carefully, answering questions as well as the current information allowed and not wasting time.

It was agreed a concerted effort to dress shop windows would be good, possibly using the posters from the children's design contest as central points. A prize fund is available to the Chamber of Trade if they will develop the idea.

The Chamber's bunting will be put up and left for the following weekend's Golden Jubilee celebration. Craft workers at Severn Hospice are busy making more bunting from recycled material. The main street will be leafleted to advise vehicle owners not to park there on the day, when the road must be kept clear.

Primary schools in the Lacon Childe family are expected to bus pupils in and they will be accommodated along the north side of the main street down to the Market Hall. The church area will be reserved for pensioners and the less mobile, with the south of the street available for the rest of us. Extra parking areas have yet to be established, as has the availability of toilets. There will be a First Aid tent in the Rectory Field.

A working party was formed to carry the work forward. Mrs Shingleton confirmed that wheelie bin collection will be altered on the day.

THE NIGHTINGALE

FOOTBALL FUN DAY

Rosemary Abbiss on progress with the big summer soccerfest:

The local Nightingale Nursing Fund Football Fun Day is creeping closer and it is now time to make sure that your 5-a-side football teams are entered for the day - 10th June. We are hoping that this year's event will be extra special, as it is also the year of the Olympics.

For entry forms please contact Carl Brooks at the Sports Club in Cleobury Mortimer on 01299 271317 or contact any of the boys football managers.

We are always looking for extra help on the day so if anyone has an hour to spare please feel free to contact any of the committee, Gill Shorter, Debbie Brown or Rosemary Abbiss.

YOUR TRIP TO THE TIP

Shropshire Council remind us of the nearest Household Recycling Centres. These are at Barnsley Lane, Bridgnorth, Long Lane, Craven Arms and a limited skip facility in Coder Road, Ludlow.

To prevent misuse of these to dispose of commercial waste, there's a control on the vehicles given access. Nothing over five metres long is allowed in, nor is anything over 2.1 metres high. No tractors or agricultural vehicles, no tipper trucks, flatbeds, pick-ups or Luton vans. And no trailers over 2.4 metres long or horseboxes. You'll be turned away if you don't conform. If you want special concession access, contact Veolia on 0345 6789 007.

CHAMBER CHATTING

Relations between local traders took a big step forward at an informal February meeting jointly organised by the

Chamber of Trade and Cleobury Country Centre. Peter Roper hosted the two hour session, encouraging people to talk to those they didn't know and highlighting points on body language. The man does know his subject well.

What emerged strongly was the wide range of services on offer from local people, with Peter encouraging the exchange of details with new business in mind. 31 happy people who stayed to the end says it all about the success of the idea, which will be repeated on March 20th, at the same venue, at the same time of 6.00pm. Any local trader should be there, with business cards to hand out. Just remember to book your place with a call to Clare Todd on CM 272300 or an e - m a i l t o clare@cleoburycountry.com.

CCTV PROGRESS

Plans for closed circuit television cameras in Cleobury town centre have advanced and most of the preparatory work is complete. Western Power have to instal mains power to the new cabinet and feeder pillar outside Hems's shop, BT were due to complete their site survey on February 28th and the next step is for the contractor to order the cameras. These will be programmed for the town's needs.

No date for actual installation was available when we went to press. But they are coming and security will be improved with their arrival.

SILLY BIT

Q: "How do you keep a man from reading your e-mails?"

A: "You rename the mail folder 'Instruction Manuals'" *Anon.*

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Clive Davies' Westwood Farm Diary

WESTWOOD FARM 22 February

Links can be quite surprising sometimes. Who would think that West Midland farmers, tea and cakes and agri-political leaders had any connections? One of the most recent occurrences on the last count has been the election of Adam Quinney to the top table of the NFU. Adam and his wife Sarah farm on the Worcestershire/Warwickshire border near Alcester. They are quite dynamic in their methods and are no strangers to trying out innovation. Their main enterprises are beef and sheep farming and have just embarked on a very direct supply link with a major retailer. Adam's excellent input into a recent national radio programme was the starting point for his election nomination by Worcestershire County and following a campaign trail around England and Wales, together with a good many canvassing phone calls, the local man easily led a field of seven candidates for the NFU's Vice President position. That's the easy bit done. Whilst Sarah will be able to get on with the farming in relative peace and quiet, Adam will pick up an already full diary of engagements to represent his organisation, farming and the countryside. There are so many matters already ongoing and such a lot of issues imminent. However, it is hoped that Adam will be able to bring his 'out of the box' thinking into much of the subject matter that he will deal with. His election took place at the end of the NFU's Conference AGM held at the ICC, Birmingham. This is a most impressive venue. Plenty of room for the thousand or so delegates, lots of meeting rooms for the various breakout sessions and a very helpful and obliging staff to advise and cater for all needs. The usual raft of speakers were in evidence. The top politicians, the Government's Caroline Spelman and Jim Paice and

opposition spokesperson, Mary Creagh contributed, leaders from banking and the food industry and many farmers feeding-in their knowledge and experiences. Another outstanding feature of the Conference, once again, was the presence of the younger generation, most of them invited members of the Young Farmers Club movement. Their energy and forward vision of what is to go on in our countryside is so important. And what of this future, what is Adam heading for? Where we are now is a situation of some good opportunities but many of them probably entangled with some long and deep seated problems. That is why so many issues may need some new approach. Most probably, a good lot of clear thinking is required together with methods that move us on to the best outcome. We should be grateful that here in the West Midland region we have successful and forward thinking farmers that are able and prepared to affect the challenging times ahead. The whole area has such a range of expertise that it will be a significant player in the future of food production and countryside management. The many problems must be tackled and solved allowing for best planning and execution of farming's most important function, the provision of a wholesome food supply. This brings us close to tea and cakes! Well, when a number of farmers from Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire shared a brain storming session with Adam Quinney, a few days before his election, beverage and cakes were much in evidence at the chosen venue of the Colliers Cafe at Rock. So, as the chosen one's agri political career progresses, we, in these parts can feel a little responsible. We do have some links!

Clive Davies



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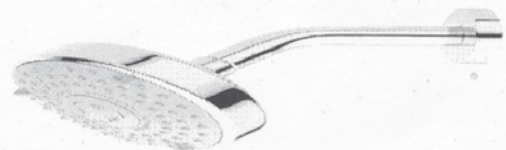
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The Clarion Weekly Calendar - Part One

day	time		contact	phone no
SUN	8.30	Holy Communion)at the Parish Church of St Mary		CM 270264
Sun	9.45	Parish Communion) the Virgin, Church Street		
Sun	9.00	Mass at St Elizabeth's Church, Lower Street	Cn Christopher Walsh	01584 872906
Sun	09.00	Clebury Country Archers, Sports Centre	Lesley Burnside	CM 271374
Sun	10.30	New Life Church, for venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
Sun	10.30	Health Walk in the Wyre Forest, Visitor Centre A456	Visitor Centre	CM 266929
Sun	11.00	Morning Service at the Methodist Church	Rev H Roberts	01584 819649
MON	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe (term only)	April Rogers	CM 271418
Mon	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School	Tracey	CM 841210
Mon	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Mon	09.00	-19.00 Library open		CM 272301
Mon	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Mon	9.30	Morning workout in the Sports Hall £2.00	Deena Edwards	01299 271217
Mon	9.30	Belly Dancing Class at Victory Hall, Clows Top		
Mon	10.00	Monday Club, St Mary's Place £5.00 for day incl 2 course meal	Jenny Ferriday	CM 400773
Mon	18.30	Karate Club, Lacon Childe School	John Nelson	CM 879210
Mon	19.00	Tai Chi Class, Lacon Childe School	Rose Jacks	01584 875544
Mon	19.00	Clebury Mortimer Ladies Rugby Team Training	Sarah Cound	07977 120272
Mon	19.15	Yoga Class, Bayton Village Hall	Linda Thomas	CM 832998
Mon	19.30	Rangers Meeting (term-time only)	Judy Ellis	01584 890759
Mon	19.45	Bingo, CM Sports & Social Club (exc. Bank Hols)	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Mon	20.00	Prize Bingo, Sports & Social Club, Love Lane		
TUE	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Tue	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Tue	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Tue	09.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Tue	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Tue	10.00	Nippers (Mothers & Tots), Methodist Hall,	Emma Greenaway	CM 272959
Tue	10.30	Health Walk in the Wyre Forest, Visitor Centre A456	Visitor Centre	CM 266929
Tue	14.00	Friendship Club, Parish Hall	Janet Rolston	CM 270353
Tue	17.00	Sports Roundabout, CM sports Hall. £1 per hour		CM 271317
Tue	17.30	Beavers meeting (term-time only)	Becky Keeley	CM 271416
Tue	17.30	- 19.30 Youth Forum meets at 8 Talbot Square	Sandra	07964902549
Tue	18.45	Bridge Club, Hopton Wafers Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
Tue	18.45	Yoga, Victory Hall, Clows Top	Linda Thomas	CM 832998
Tue	19.00	Bellringers' practice night. St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808
Tue	19.00	Dog ringcraft class, Clee Hill Village Hall	01584 890999	or 890478
Tue	19.00	Zumba Fitness, Lacon Childe School	Faith Thompson	07517 753375
Tue	19.30	Peak Physique, Lacon Childe School	Kim Bills	01384 877702
Tue	20.00	Charles Beale Modern Dance Sequence Club, Lacon Childe	E Wrigglesworth	01562 822291
Tue	20.30	Aerobics, Lacon Childe School. £2.00	Ms K Bills	01384 877702
WED	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Wed	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Wed	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe (see Mon)	April Rogers	CM 271418
Wed	9.00	Open Doors in the Market Hall. Parents & toddlers 1 st monthly	Rachel	CM 272920

The Weekly Calendar continues on Page 39....

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The Weekly Calendar - Continued

<i>Day</i>	<i>time</i>		<i>contact</i>	<i>phone no</i>
Wed	9.00	Rising Fives Playgroup, Market Hall (see Mon)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Wed	9.00	- 17.00 Library open, Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane		CM 272301
Wed	10.00	Citizen's Advice Bureau, CM Library (appt only)		01584 876933
Wed	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
Wed	17.15	Brownies meeting (term time only)	Jadwiga Borns	CM 270215
Wed	16.30	Gym Club for ages 6 and over £3 (booking essential)	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.00	Guides meeting (term time only)	Bev Pearce	CM
Wed	19.00	Heartbeat Fitness, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.00	Yoga Class, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Wed	19.30	Rugby Club Training, Lacon Childe		CM 271317
Wed	19.30	Band practice, Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass	Stella Wilcox	CM 270560
Wed	19.30	New Life Church Prayer meeting. For venue, please ring	Derek Morris	CM 270787
Wed	19.30	Choir Practice, St Mary's Church	Philip Englehart	CM 270627
THU	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Thu	8.00	- 17.30 Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Thu	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Thu	9.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Thu	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall. (term-time only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Thu	9.30	Little Tiddlers, birth onwards at demountable, Kinlet School	Sam	CM 271847
Thu	11.00	Sale of second-hand goods, Knowle Sports Club,	Mrs A Taylor	01584 890644
Thu	13.30	Cards and Scrabble, St Mary's Place, Love Lane	Jo Booton	CM 270792
Thu	14.00	Scrabble Club, St Mary's Place, £1 non residents	Jo Booton	07969 104808
Thu	15.45	Cleobury Comets Netball at Sports & Social Club		CM 270317
Thu	17.30	- 19.30 Youth Forum meets at 8 Talbot Square	Sandra	0796 4902549
Thu	17.30	Brownies meeting (term-time only)	Jadwiga Borns	CM 270215
Thu	19.00	Bell Inn Improvers rehearsal. Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thurs	19.15	Cubs meeting (term-time only)	Kate Pearce	
Thu	19.30	Tums & Bums, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
Thu	19.30	Adult 5-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre	Dave Hinvies	CM 271317
Thu	20.00	11-16 Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Thu	21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Thu	20.00	Bell Inn Band rehearsal. Bell Inn, Lower Street		
FRI	8.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, demountable at Kinlet School		01746 718769
Fri	9.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe till 3.15pm	April Rogers	CM 271418
Fri	09.00	-17.00 Library open		CM 272301
Fri	9.00	CM Playgroup, Market Hall (term-time only)	Jane Preece	07816 193933
Fri	10.00	Tiny Tots, Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon Primary	Zoe Day	01746 718769
Fri	10.00	Tiny Tots, Parish Hall £2.00 per family	Bettina Poole	CM 271868
Fri	17.00	Junior 5-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Fri	17.30	Rainbows Meeting girls 5-7 years (term-time only)	Jean Basham	07792813774
Fri	20.00	Badminton, CM Sports Centre. Adults £2.50,		01584 881359
SAT	8.30	Sale of second-hand goods, Knowle Sports Club	Mrs A Taylor	01584 890644
Sat	10.00	-13.00 Library at Cleobury Country Centre		CM 272301
Sat	10.00	Telephone advice line to Citizens' Advice Bureau		01584 810860
Sat	11.00	Junior Golf Coaching for boys and girls, CM Golf Club	John Jones	CM 271628

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Star of the Small Ads - Steve Hems



Steve is the third generation of the Hems clan to work in their small High Street shop. Grandad Arthur started it in 1953 as a change from his work in the Birmingham meat trade, and Steve's father Gordon followed after he left National Service. Steve will assure you that Gordon was a tank driver in his National Service because the two-handed control of the fighting machine was close in style to driving a horse and cart around Brum. And he keeps a straight face when he explains it.

When Gordon was taken ill, Steve's plans for a career in the Royal Navy were forgotten and he joined the family business.

He'd known the shop for a long time, back to his days in the pram, when Gordon's assistant Ivor Booton used to push him around in the pram. "That's how I got to know all the pubs!" he laughs.

His dad is still a partner in the business, but Steve lives above the shop and has run it for years. Being that close at hand can save time: "Our first delivery this morning was at 6.30 and of course I was here," he laughs.

The shop's meat has a reputation for top quality and flavour. They have a buyer at Ludlow Market, who knows the sort of beasts Steve needs and picks them out. They go straight to the abattoir and the carcasses come into the freezers at the shop, to be butchered as needed.

A lot of produce is made on the premises. Like their famous

sausages and hams, plus a range of burgers, barbecue meats and faggots. The steak and ale pies are made by his mum, in a true family business tradition.

Award winning black puddings come from Poxon's of Birmingham, while lovely chutneys are made down the road at Rosie's Cleobury Kitchen. If you've tried any of this wide range, you'll know why there's often a queue out the door and along the pavement. They're open six days a week, with apprentice Rob covering when Steve's delivering to customers who can't travel in to see him.

The smile and laughter are all part of the appeal. He won't tell you, but he's often working until 8.00 or 9.00 o'clock the night before to keep up the supply of produce.

It might be a small shop, but it has a big appeal and an even bigger reputation.

Hems the Butchers.

01299 270392.

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

WOULD YOU LIKE HELP AT HOME?

The Age UK Help at Home scheme helps older people maintain their independence and remain in their own homes. The scheme is supported by Shropshire Council and accredited to the ISO 9001:2008 quality standard. There are four separate elements to the scheme:-

Domestic and Shopping Service.

Provided by employed Home Support Workers. These HSWs are fully trained, CRB checked

and have a particular empathy with the needs of older people. They carry out everyday tasks that the older person is having difficulty doing. The current charge is £18 for two hours work.

Gardening Service

Also provided by employed Home Support Workers who will help the older person keep their gardens neat and tidy. The charge is £18 for two hours work.

Befriending Service

This part of the Scheme addresses the loneliness that older people often experience.

Trained and CRB checked Volunteers provide this free service. They make a friendly social visit at home for a chat, cup of tea and to share experiences.

Telephone Buddy

Trained volunteers again provide this free service which takes the form of a telephone call (usually on a Monday) to have a general chat and to check on well being.

For more information or to make a referral please contact us on 01743 233788.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

MARCH IN THE FOREST That means Linda Iles, with some more Wyre Wanderings....

Signs of spring abound in the forest. You should be able to hear goldcrests and siskins singing, while blackbirds, mistle thrushes and song thrushes start to build nests. The eggs of tawny owls, dippers and ravens will already be hatching. On warm days some of the cold-blooded inhabitants of the woods – wood ants, adders, grass snakes and slow worms – should emerge from hibernation and frogs will spawn.

Silky “pussy willow” buds will silver the willow trees and new leaves appear: usually first on the hawthorn, followed by hazel, rowan, elder and bright green larch needles.

Early flowers should be out: primroses, wood anemones, celandines, violets and wood sorrel. Thinning and felling of conifers near the new Community Discovery Centre has created the right conditions for a variety of other woodland plants, such as bluebells, heathers, ramsons, enchanters nightshade, woodsage, bugle and wood spurge to spread. We will be encouraging this enrichment of the habitat by planting more native flowers and shrubs where appropriate. We hope to see more bilberry bushes as well, not only because

the fruit is good in pies, they are excellent in jams and jellies, cooked in batter or raw with cream. In the Hebrides the leaves are traditionally dried to make a tea, while the berries were collected from the Long Mynd to be sold as a dye (no surprise for anyone who has collected them and suffered the stains resulting from the odd squashed berry). The deer love to browse bilberries but the bushes are sometimes protected by tangles of brambles so that humans have a chance too. Grazing by deer reduces diversity in our forest, so the best flowers are generally tucked away in inaccessible places by rills and streams.

The Forestry Commission will be hosting events open to the public. Forest Friends are a group of pre-school children and carers, meeting every term-time Thursday from 10 to 11am for forest-based play and activities. And Health Walks every Tuesday and Sunday starting from the Forest Cafe at 11.00am to build fitness at a gentle pace.

During school holidays there will be weekly Treetastic Tuesdays and Forest Fridays with the Discovery Centre open for people to see the interpretative artworks and exhibits. Plus trails and activities for children on these days. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday from 10.30am to

2.00pm, starting at the Community Discovery Centre. No need to book but please bring £3.50 per child.

All 2012 events can be viewed via facebook.com/wyreforestofdiscovery or by picking up a leaflet at libraries and Tourist Information Centres. For more information please ring 01299 266929.

Linda Iles,
Forestry Commission

COFFEE MORNING

This month ends on a Saturday, when the Cleobury Playgroup will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Market Hall to raise funds for their cause.

Doors open at 10.30, a convenient time for those whose shopping is a leisurely morning event. So you can look in for coffee and cake, and probably find a raffle to tempt a little more spending. All for the benefit of the children, so no excuse for not trying your luck.

SILLY BIT

‘ Here lies the body of Martha Dias.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

BOOKED TO APPEAR IN COURT?



Roy Leigh, looking very cheerful for a man in a police cell.

It's a pity Roy Leigh's not fond of shouting, because the man has a sense of humour that isn't heard in a crowd. When he introduced himself at the recent Chamber of Trade, he told them he'd just bought the old library building in Church Street and was thinking of trading in second hand books. That's what we heard.

"No, I didn't get a chance to finish what I was saying," he told the Clarion. "I was going to say I was thinking of dealing in used books, but all the stock had been removed. But I was interrupted and couldn't finish the joke."

So no books. What he's looking to do is develop the fine old building as a gallery to show off his own antique stock, possibly with areas rented to local crafts people to show off their own skills. It all depends upon what he's allowed to do to make the place more attractive. The old

police cell is still there, Victorian grimness showing through the cream paintwork, but at some stage the original door has been removed. He'd like it back, please.

"It depends how the money goes, but I'd like to put a gallery in," he says. What he has done is change the name and it's officially listed as The Old Court. "It was listed as The Municipal Library and I didn't think it was a good idea to have two of those here," he grins.

If you are a local craftperson and want some more details about his evolving plans, have a word with Roy on CM 270960

THE SNOWDROP WALK



Beyond the weir, the floor of the woods is carpeted in white.

The Snowdrop Walk had been postponed from the wintry chills of February 9th until the 16th, a very sensible decision. The sun shone, it was cold enough to see people's breath 100 metres away, and a walk through the Mawley Hall woods was a great way to spend an hour so.

It was organised by the Friends of St Mary's Church, who charged a mere pound for the privilege of seeing English springtime from a choice of routes. The generosity of the

Galliers Pratt family made it possible, and it was good to see Mr Rupert G-P and at least two of his children patrolling the paths and directing the parking.

The snowdrops were just about at their best, spreading across patches of both lawns and woodland floors. The routes were clearly signed, when the snowdrops weren't visible the countryside was breathtaking and after a gentle, friendly stroll we didn't have time left to visit the tea room.

Later that day a call advised that the day had raised over £600 for the vital business of keeping the Parish Church in good repair. At £1.00 a head, that was a lot of people enjoying wonderful sights.

Just one downside. Why on earth have banners made that give a name few could recognise, and then put Snowdrop Walk in brackets underneath? Why the day couldn't just have an easily understood title remains a puzzle. Simplicity always works best in such a situation



Such a lovely flower, whose arrival reminds us that Spring is just around the corner.

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Community Cooperation

The Cleobury Clarion gives our Parish Council space to keep you up to date with their work and plans.

Clerk's Progress Report' February 2012

I am working with all concerned departments to make sure that as soon as the New Streetlights for Steeple Close and Church Walk are delivered they will be in operation with the minimum of delay. The Church path will then be closed for a few days.

Shropshire Council advise the streetlights on the path by Lacon Childe School should be repaired by 23rd Feb.

Work on the Closed Circuit TeleVision camera installation has started. We are just waiting for Western Power to put in electricity supplies.

The Parish Council Subcommittees have been busy this month as detailed below. Thank you to them for helping to get things moving quickly, as without volunteering their time and effort things would take a lot longer to get done.

Parish Council Land & All Parish Assets

Cllr M Reiner, Cllr D Brown, Cllr S Thorogood, Cllr G Hainsworth, Clerk Reserve Cllr G Butler.

- 1) Exchange of signed contracts with Matrix Medical completed on 16th February for new Medical Centre.
- 2) Solicitor Justin Parker of MFG is to work with the Clerk to look at all Parish Assets and produce proposals for Parish Council to consider.
- 3) We are moving forward with the new toilets and a meeting is to take place to agree plans.

Parking Review

Cllr S Thorogood, Cllr D Brown, Cllr B Davies, Cllr M Reiner, Clerk

The proposal Plans are available at the Market Hall until the end of March 2012.

Please give all comments to the Clerk.


Streetlights

Cllr G Hainsworth, Cllr M Reiner, Cllr D Brown, Clerk, Reserve Cllr S Thorogood.

Payment has been agreed for new streetlights in Steeple Close and Church Walk.

Also Cllr S Thorogood and the Clerk attended a meeting at Church Stretton, to meet with other Clerks, Chairs of councils in South Shropshire and the leader of Shropshire Council Keith Barrow, for an informal chat to discuss issues we may have. This will be done again in November.

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THE HAPPY JAM MAKERS



Proud prize winning jam makers at Oak Farm, Ditton Priors. Robert Childs rear left, Paul Sutton on right and Carla Forrester front.

Ditton Priors' Oak Farm is one of the unknown hero places that seem to flourish in Shropshire. This is the working farm owned by the county, managed by Stuart Toulson and working with young adults with special needs. On average there are 30 workers on site every day, their work led by just four front-line staff.

And the results are astonishing. The blackcurrant jam they make here was the overall winner at the W.I.'s 2010 Real Jam Festival. The certificate shows a score of 20 out of 20 with the judge's one word comment: 'Perfect!' (It's in stock at Talbot Stores) And last November they were the National Community Recycle Champions for their work on

site and collecting compost materials locally.

The workers all come from the local Shropshire area, arriving by the farm's own minibus or taxi. "We lead by example and working with them," Stuart Toulson explained. "It's very different from formal teaching, and when we're outside we all work side by side.

There's a lot going on here. 30 hens produce free range eggs sold locally and lambs are bred, reared and prepared for market. There are four acres of land given to growing domestic vegetables and fruit crops - that's what their jams come from.

Future growth? "My 2012 project is to convert a building into an industrial unit and produce jams and chutneys on a bigger scale," Stuart explained. "In the long term we might launch our own company."

They enjoy a very friendly relationship with the Ditton Priors community, and the Country Fair and Dog Show is held on the Oak Farm site, with more than a thousand people visiting. The Fun Dog Show alone attracts 200 entries.

Long term security of the operation in these straitened times? Possibly Community Land Trust status and management handed over to the community of which they are a part. It's a place run with love

and imagination, deserving all the support we can give

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We enjoyed our trip to see Dick Whittington at Stourport Civic Centre, followed by a meal at the Brinton Arms. This was kindly made possible by a grant from the Community Chest.

On Valentine's Day the ladies all received a red rose and the men a packet of sweets. Heart shaped biscuits from Liz Smurthwaite were served at tea time, together with other treats organised by tea lady Pat Price. Naturally, pancakes were served at tea time on Shrove Tuesday.

The club's committee are making plans to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in June and summer outings beyond then.

A warm welcome is extended to all Senior Citizens. Our meetings are held every Tuesday, from 2.00 to 4.00 in the Parish Hall. Transport can be arranged for you if necessary. For further information, please ring me on 01299 270353.

Janet Rolston

DID YOU KNOW?

That Doddington Lodge Nursing Home was in the results at the recent Shropshire Care Awards? Support Employee of the Year was Margaret Turner, Carer of the Year (Dementia) Lucille Oliver and the Lodge was a finalist in the Healthy Eating category.

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Cleobury Patients' Voice and the Medical Centre

Medical Centre Patient Satisfaction Survey, Findings, Results and Actions:

The survey was anonymous, carried out by members of Cleobury Patients Voice. The results were presented to CPV'S Annual General Meeting in January and to the practice on January 26th. The results have been published on the practice's website www.cleoburymortimermc.co.uk along with this action plan.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

1. Ease of getting care scored high at 85% but getting to see a preferred doctor scored 80%.
2. Patients were happy with how doctors and nurses dealt with them although a couple of comments were made about GPs communication style.
3. There was a low uptake of comments about Registrars (Trainee GPs) and Medical Students
4. Patients were happy with Reception staff but we did not score as high for getting through on the phone with only 67% rating this average or above. Staff were found to be welcoming, helpful and answered questions.
5. Issues of confidentiality were raised, mainly around being able to hear conversations when patients are in the waiting room as the consultation rooms are next door. Patients asking for test results at the front desk and other patients being able to overhear the conversation
6. The building itself did not score high. Patients commented on access for disabled, privacy in reception, toilets and moving round the building.

The results were discussed at practice on January 26th. The following action points have been agreed: -

1. Getting to see one doctor is known to be a problem but this is not easily addressed, as they already work full-time. The Practice will look at how many extra doctor sessions it may need once we move into the new building but at the Pinkham Lane site we do not have rooms available to increase sessions.
2. We will explore with CPV tailoring the survey to allow us to drill the results down into individual clinicians rather than one heading for GPs.
3. Medical Students are relatively new in the Practice but we will ensure Reception Staff make patients aware they are seeing the medical student and explain their role.
4. Reception staff will inform patients that they cannot give results out at reception because of confidentiality and patients will be asked to phone. We will have an interview room in the new building but we don't have a separate room to take patients to at the moment.
5. We would like to have extra staff answering the phone between key times 8.30-10.00 and 1.30 to 2.30 but within the current building we do not have space to take any more on and we try to answer calls as quickly as we can. It is a staff priority during these times
6. We play music to minimize patients hearing conversations from nearby rooms and have advised staff not to talk too loudly. This problem will be addressed in the new building, as no consultation rooms will lead off the waiting room.
7. All staff have regular updates on confidentiality and any breaches should be reported to the Practice Manager.
8. All comments about the building will be resolved in our new centre.
9. **For further information contact: Jenny McCrorie, CPV Chair, 01299 271383 or Sue Arrowsmith, Medical Centre Manager, 01299 270209**

Cleobury Patients' Voice would like to invite members of the public to the talks at the beginning of our meetings, which are from 7.00pm to 7.30pm. After the talk, we proceed to our monthly business meeting, to which only members can be party due to the requirement for confidentiality when discussing health issues.

All members of our community are invited to our next talk, which is:

**Poverty, Deprivation and Health: Shropshire and Parish Councillor Gwilym Butler
On Thursday 15th March 2012, starts 7.00pm finish 7.30pm, Upstairs Room, Market Hall,
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IN BUSINESS **Stottesdon's Old Vicarage Adventure Centre**



Anthony Eddies-Davies. The power behind a family business much bigger than it seems.

You could tell this was no ordinary place from the first phone call "Anthony's not here today," explained a very polite lady. "He's doing a Swift Water and Flood Rescue course with Glasgow Airport Fire Crew." So the Old Vicarage Adventure Centre has a reputation good enough to draw trainees from that far away; they obviously don't do boring and ordinary around here.

Then I met Anthony. "Oh yes, we're one of five centres approved to train for that. We're the recognised training centre for the Shetland Airport Rescue and South Wales Police, too." Just a small part of the work they do here in the heart of Stottesdon. Another Shropshire surprise.

It started back in 1984, when Brian Eddies-Davies converted a room in the Old Vicarage to board under privileged kids. In 1989 Anthony left Ludlow College and opted out of university. He knew he wanted

to work in outdoor training and what his father had started was the stepping off point. He learned to graft on the farm and he learned to guide and train others in outdoor pursuits.

Today he runs The Old Vicarage Centre and his wife Steph the Country Treks horse and pony riding facility that takes riders out into the South Shropshire Hills with about 200 miles of trekking to choose from. Walk into the Old Vicarage grounds and you're struck by the way the place has been extended with living and office accommodation, plus classrooms and other facilities, most of it built by local Tim Preece Timber Buildings. Outside is a climbing wall, eager students waiting to be roped up and given a chance to tackle the challenge. If you include the cottage nearby in the village, they can accommodate 50 people here.

Nearby is Ginny Hole, 27 acres with one of their stables and a huge range of activities. There was a Riding for the Disabled session there when we called, with the students on obedient ponies and an instructor close at hand all the time. They were also taking a gentle trek through the adjoining woods, with smiles all round.

Canoes and kayaks occupy the nearby lake, everyone in a lifejacket and under careful watch. Towering above this was a network of rope walks, where everyone is secured to a safety line before being allowed to walk out along a variety of challenges. "We operate safety checks at all times, whatever the activity," I was told. In the nearby woods you can try paintball or laser

combat, and on the right weekend you'll see youngsters crawling through mud like commandoes.

The list of activities is almost endless, catering for the disabled, school groups, BTEC students, and adults who want an adventure weekend, or professionals seeking to improve their own skills and qualifications.

What you don't expect to find is an overseas adventure holiday programme, but they have it. And again it's done thoroughly, with all trips led by their own trained staff, to such exotic places as Bhutan, Nepal, North and South America, India and New Zealand. White water rafting in the Himalayas must be quite a change from the River Severn. And let's emphasise the thorough approach again - they do not contract holiday parties out to a local operator. They do the job themselves. It's that safety thing again.

It remains a strongly family business, a close knit loyal team whose smiles are almost part of the uniform. They employ 20 people full time, they're recognised by the official bodies of every area of their training activities and they even run eight week courses to train up outdoor instructors.

They can sleep 50 in the dorms, another 50 on the tented village campsite and have a self catering cottage in the village for family holidays.

How many hours does Anthony work a week? "Don't ask," he grins, ready for the next job to enjoy.

Check out www.ovac.co.uk for more details of what this quite

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Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers

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

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

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

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

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS AND GUIDES - 01299 270215. Robin Borns is the contact.

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THE PHARMACY - 01299 270219. Closes for half day on Saturday. Delivers prescriptions.

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

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SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - 0345 678 9000

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