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# The Cleobury Clarion

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## MARCH 2013

### CHAMBER OF TRADE DISSOLVED!

### ELECTIONS

In a shock announcement, the executive committee of the Cleobury Mortimer Chamber of Trade has advised members that the long established body has been dissolved. The unanimous decision was taken on January 15th by the four committee members still serving.

They then met with Cleobury Country who agreed to take on the chamber's role and the Chamber's funds of about £4200 will be transferred to Cleobury Country and ring-fenced to promote trade in the town. They will produce the popular Trade Card this year and continue in future if it is self funding.

There was no consultation with the Chamber's members, even though the Constitution revised in 2005 states that the Chamber can only be dissolved by a decision of the

Executive Committee confirmed at the Chamber's Annual General Meeting. There has not been an AGM this year.

The Chamber has promoted events to promote the town, the most notable the Christmas Lights that adorn the main street, the fireworks display and Father Christmas's tour of the town, handing out sweets to the children. In the past they organised the annual Shropshire Shout competition for town criers that was shown on BBC TV Midland News. More recently they have supported the monthly Business Networking meetings at Cleobury Country. They seem to have simply run out of steam, with appeals for help not producing more committee members and the remaining four worn out.

We have elections on May 2nd, for a new Parish Council and for two Unitary Authority councillors to serve at County level. If you think you could make a positive contribution to the future of our community, why not stand for the Parish? Common sense and an ability to think clearly are the principal needs and it's an interesting challenge. Hard work too, at some times, but very rewarding at times. Matt Sheehan at the Market Hall has the necessary forms.

County Councillors have a big job to do and need lots of time and energy to do the job properly. CANDIDATES FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL POSTS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR MANIFESTOS FOR PUBLICATION IN THE APRIL CLARION. NO MORE THAN 400 WORDS, PLEASE.



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A modern, spacious first floor apartment, open plan with 2 bedrooms, shared garden but own parking.



# The Cleobury Clarion. March 2013

## In This Issue



*One day's litter picking.  
See Page 9.*



*Raj Singhera, looking might  
happy in the smart new Spar  
Store interior on Church Street.  
He looks good on 20 years of  
early morning starts.  
See Page 23.*



*We call him Elite Eddy, but his  
real name is Marzalek. A man  
who knows his stuff and keeps it  
clean when he sweeps.  
See Page 57.*

## And On Other Pages....

- 5: Walking for Health
- 7: Big Darts Do at Sports and Social Club
- 11: The Jobs Page - all of them here in Cleobury.
- 13: Big Sale for Animal Lovers
- 15: Star of the Small Ads - Alan Price
- 17: The Parish Plan - Madge is concerned
- 19: Severn Edge Vets Pets Page
- 21: The Bayton Primary School Page
- 23: Happenings on High Street
- 25: The Local Joint Committee meeting.
- 27: Brownies News. Brown Owl writes.
- 28: The Month's Social Calendar Part One...
- 29: ...And Part Two
- 33: Free Money Saving
- 35: Agencies Day at Cleobury Country
- 37: The Farming Page
- 39: Charity Ball payout
- 45: The Weekly Social Calendar
- 47: Clarion Coppers
- 49: Linda Iles' March in the Wyre Forest
- 51: £2,500 to the Happy Hedgehogs
- 53: Cornbrook to the rescue
- 59: Local Contact Information

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## CLEOBURY W.I.

Our February speaker was Jenny Vanderhook, who does sterling work for the children in Kyrgyzstan, organising the filling, collecting and delivering of shoe boxes as gifts. She explained how it all started 10 years ago with a chap who saw Anneka Rice on TV, visiting the children there. He and his wife started this charity, now growing nation wide with thousands of boxes taken abroad in March every year when they celebrate their Christmas. Jenny couldn't do the slide show as promised but did provide some very heart tugging photographs of her visit over there. She will only have one more trip, as she is finding it harder to cope with the cold out there. The evening finished with Jenny winning Flower of the month and Liz the photograph prize.

Our famous Soup Lunch in the Parish Hall is organised for March 14th from 12.00, with a choice of soups with bread plus choice of sweets followed by coffee or tea.

A new volunteer organisation has started, to encourage visits to housebound people in the area; a two week course will be given to those volunteering. Contact Ms Jones in the Market Hall or the Medical Centre.

Anyone wishing to join our happy group, please contact Jill Chesterman on 01299 271671 Everyone is welcome.

*Angie Gregory*

## CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

March can be a tricky month weatherise, but the daylight hours are getting longer and the ground is warming up. Daffodils and spring bulbs are giving fabulous displays. If time and weather permits, try to do some weeding, you will benefit from this early start later in the year.

Unfortunately snow and ice meant that the January meeting was cancelled. Our speaker will be rescheduled for another time.

Our next meeting on Wednesday March 27th, is the Spring Show & Quiz. Quiz master for the evening will be Derek Walker.

## WALKING FOR HEALTH

Cleobury Walking for Health begins its new season of local walks on March 6<sup>th</sup> starting from the Sports and Fitness Centre at 10.00am, every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Walks of between 30 and 60 minutes, led by trained leaders, are free and open to all abilities. We particularly welcome folk who do not take much exercise. The walks are an opportunity for a social chat with post walk refreshments kindly

supplied by Lacon Childe School. No need to book, but if you require further information please refer to posters around the town or contact Mandy Smith on CM 270312 or Mazella Witts-Hewinson on 271258.

Support is given by Shropshire Council and CMFA who are removing or replacing local stiles, with landowners' permission, to facilitate easier footpath access. CMFA also regularly run longer walks. The most important benefits of walking are improved physical and mental health. The Department of Health recognises health walks as an effective way of improving the nation's health. However, please seek advice from your GP or nursing staff if you have a medical condition that is affected by physical exercise.

*Alan Kimber*

## THANK YOU

Doreen Dixon and her family would like to thank friends and neighbours for their kind sympathy and cards sent on Ray's death, and all those who attended his funeral.

Thanks too go to all those who made donations for the Air Ambulance and the British Lung Foundation.



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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### DRIVERS WANTED FOR CLEOBURY VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME

Do you live in or very near to Cleobury? Can you spare up to two hours on weekdays? Not every week but willing to be on call? You can say 'no' if you have other commitments.

Please contact me if you think you can help: Val Simpson on 01299 666119 or mail me at [cleoburyval@googlemail.com](mailto:cleoburyval@googlemail.com) I look forward to hearing from you.

### BIG DARTS 'DO' AT THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL

The Sports and Social Club on Love Lane have a big Easter Darts Singles Knockout coming on Easter Saturday. The entry fee is £5.00 each and the minimum prize for the winner is £100 - even more if the entry is big. That could make it a very happy weekend for someone with good eyesight and a steady hands for the arrows. There's also a prize for the highest placed lady, which means the fairer set will be shooting for two prizes if they're good enough to go for a win.

Registration starts at 3.00, the competition at 4.00 it will be double-in and double-out for 401. Best of three games until the semi finals, then it gets really serious with five games. It's open to anyone, and you can bring the family and friends to cheers you on. More details from

the Club on CM 271448 or from Razz on 271437.

### PENSAX THRIFT SHOP OPEN AGAIN

Based in the Pensax Village Hall, on the B4202 Clows Top to Abberley road, the Thrift Club opens for 2013 on March 6th. They'll be raising funds for the Help for Heroes charity, with a raffle and a Bring and Buy table. If you have items you want to donate to the cause, please drop them off at the hall on the day.

### CROOKS LOVE

#### CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

Parish Council clerk Matt Sheehan advises a growing theft of catalytic converters, particularly from 4x4 off-roaders where access to the exhaust system is easier. The converters contain precious metals that can be sold on at a good price.

Such nice people. If you find someone lying underneath your new Rangie, busy with the spanners unbolting something, please try not to run them over, won't you.

### A GOOD FRIDAY PASSION PLAY IN BEWDLEY

Keeping alive an ancient tradition on a very important day in the Christian calendar, there will be a Passion Play performed in Bewdley's Load Street on Good Friday. It will start at 2.30, at Severnside by the bridge and end at about 3.00 by the east end of St Anne's, the church that is such a feature on that route through the town.

The tradition started in Austria and Germany about a thousand years ago and continues there to this day, with the world famous Oberammergau performance every ten years. More recently, actor Michael Sheen starred in one at Port Talbot two years ago.

The street will be closed to traffic from 2.15 to 3.15 to give visitors room to stand and watch. In the best tradition, the whole show is free and will be performed by local people. A little piece of Olde England brought back to life.

### COUNTY FIELDS FUND

This is a national funding opportunity, encouraging people to use local fields for community purposes. It's run by Fields in Trust, and you can email them at [info@fieldsintrust.org](mailto:info@fieldsintrust.org) or look at their website on [www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org). A very nice touch is their slogan: "Please play on the grass." Much more friendly than those telling you to keep off.

There are funds available now for local people to develop ideas, and the trust has a list of fields available. There's a deadline of April 5th for applications, so prompt action is needed. If your local community could use such a leg-up, here's a good chance.

### HOBSON'S SPONSOR HOLE IN THE WALL

Keeping it local. Hobson's are sponsoring this year's Hole in the Wall gig, scheduled for July 12th to 14th with a big line-up.



### Cleobury Country Farmers Market

Cleobury Country Ltd have made an application for a Premises License for the sale of alcohol and regulated entertainment at St. Mary's Church, Church Street, Cleobury Mortimer, from 9am to 1pm on a Saturday morning.

Any person wishing to make comments must do so in writing to the Licensing Department, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND or email: [licensing@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@shropshire.gov.uk)

within 28 days from the date of this notice. Applications can be viewed during normal office hours at the above address ([www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)).

Dated: 18.02.13

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200g/8oz broccoli, cut into small florets  
3 tbsp olive oil  
2 garlic cloves  
Handful roughly chopped parsley  
Grated zest and juice 1 lemon

### Broccoli & Walnut Spaghetti

#### Method:

1. Rear the bread into chunks, then whizz with the walnuts in a food processor to make coarse crumbs. Cook the spaghetti according to the pack instructions. Four mins before the end of cooking, throw in broccoli.
2. Meanwhile, heat 2 tbsp of the oil in a pan, add the crumbs and fry until lightly toasted. Stir in garlic, parsley and zest. Drain the pasta, the toss with the walnut crumbs and remaining oil. Squeeze over the lemon juice and serve.

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### HORSE MEAT

Rev Bill Elliott has been digging in the History Society's files and found this very pertinent piece of old news:

In the 19th century, a worker at the tannery opposite Purslow's coal yard stole a piece of horse meat to feed his family. He was sacked and his mates rioted.

The magistrate read the Riot Act and sent to Kidderminster for the Yeomanry to quell the riot.

You could have quite a good riot while you were waiting for them to arrive!

*Bill Elliott*

### DO WE REALLY NEED TO THROW AWAY RUBBISH THAT COULD DO HARM?



*Stroma Lennox with the 'harvest' of one day's litter picking.*

Sadly, this rubbish is not from our streets, which would be bad enough. It was collected by members of Neighbourhood Watch from a field used for sledging during the recent snows. As that field is used to graze cattle, it means careless

throwing away of rubbish becomes a threat to farm animals.

We are fortunate that local land owners do not keep walkers off their property, largely because the Footpath Association has built a good relationship with them. But those who respond to the rare treat of snow and rush to get the old sledge out may have little idea of the damage discarded rubbish can do to animals. Please, if you're out to enjoy a downhill dash, remember that the land you're on is part of someone's living.

### THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our February meeting was preceded by one for allotment holders, when a good discussion was had regarding future development. The new container for tools etc. will be erected as soon as the weather improves; this will also allow us to work our plots and turn the compost bins.

We then welcomed Roy Mantle to talk about 'Wild wild flowers.' Not a typing error, as Roy explained: flowers we grow in our gardens are 'tame', those in fields and hedgerows are 'wild'. Flowers found in Special Areas Of Scientific Interest are 'wild wild.'

He then showed pictures and explained where we might find these flowers. He began with those we might see on Clee Hill; very beautiful and difficult to imagine they were in this country, as they looked so exotic. We also had to remember that many of them were very small so the untrained eye would probably overlook them. Roy began in Shropshire and took us up Welsh and Scottish

mountains where he had got into some very precarious positions to film these plants. We were transfixed by the beauty and resolved to be more observant when walking in these areas in future.

Our next meeting on March 11th will be about growing fruit organically. *Liz Smurthwaite*

### LIBRARY SALE

**Vicki our librarian writes:**

We have a 'Big Book Sale' on March 16th, in the library, with ex-library stock going on sale including 'spoken word books' on CD and some DVDs too. They are along with children's books, adult fiction and non fiction books. All going at low prices, so don't miss out on a bargain! It starts at 10.00 and finishes at 1.00pm.

### COUNTYWIDE FUND RAISING FOR THE DISABLED

On March 15th there's an evening of Magic, Music, Comedy and Impersonation on offer at Bayston Hill Memorial Hall, near Shrewsbury.

It features entertainer Paul, who's renowned for a good, clean fun and magician Geoff, a man who's been around magic and tricks for many years, and it gets into action at 7.30.

Tickets are £7.00 a head and include nibbles, tea and coffee. If you prefer something a little stronger, please bring it yourself. Book your place by calling Ruby Hartshorn on 01743 340832.

All money raised will go to the Shropshire Disability Network, who expect their telephones to get busier and demands on their services to grow as the benefit cuts start to bite.

More on their website: [www.shropshire-disability.net](http://www.shropshire-disability.net)

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# The Clarion Jobs Page

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Please send CVs to [emma@gpc-land-water.com](mailto:emma@gpc-land-water.com) and we shall contact you by return.



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**Karen Anderson, Hospitality Manager**

**Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer**

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## MARION'S SALE FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

Marion Parsons of the Newbridge Cat Rescue is getting together with Sue Hammond and taking her campaign onto the main street with a Grand Sale of a wide range of products at the Market Hall on Saturday the 9th of this month. It starts at 10.00 and runs through until 1.00, which means you can get home in time for lunch. Or you may prefer the refreshments that will be on offer in the Hall.

She has a range of good quality clothes, Mother's Day gifts, some great computer deals and other items due to be there on offer. Admission is free, too. All proceeds to the local charity that helps rescue and rehouse cats.

## JAZZ AT ROCK

On Saturday March 16th I am putting on my favourite jazz band, The Sussex Jazz Kings, in Rock Village Hall to provide great entertainment and raise money for a great charity - The Save the Children Fund.

All proceeds from the evening will go to the charity and to maximise the fund raising I have already secured generous sponsors, so the cost of the band is now covered. Sponsors include: Rock & District News,

Pitman-Tozer Architects, Ralph Round, Maureen Pitman and Martin Stancer of M.J.S. Builders. If anyone else would like to sponsor this event, please give me a ring .

The evening will include a meal and there is a licensed bar and raffle. Tickets are £10.00 each and the evening starts at 7.30 pm. To secure tickets please call me on 01299 832294.

*Leonard Pitman*

## BIG CHANGES AT THE KNOWLE

The 20 year history of weekly furniture, clothing and bric-a-brac sales at Knowle Sports Ground on Clee Hill is coming to an end. The dynamic Audrey Taylor takes a small step back to conserve her energy a little, but will still be chairman of the organising body.

In place of the sales come clothing banks where you can still donate to the cause with cast-offs. And there will be just one sale a month through the summer, starting on Saturday May 18th and running from 8.00 to 11.00 in the a.m.

Their regular advert will keep you advised of any other changes, and we'll also tell you via the Clarion's news pages. We wish Audrey Taylor the very best and thank her for her

dynamic leadership.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

At the Branch's February meeting, the Chairman announced that the total raised for the 2012 Poppy Appeal was £4841.61. The Branch would like to thank all collectors and donors for this excellent result.

Our next event will be the Annual Luncheon, at the Sports & Social Club on March 17th, 12.30 for 1.00 pm. Tickets are now available, at £13 each. The speaker will be Group Captain Mark Brown, a serving RAF officer, who has recently moved to Cleobury Mortimer.

In April, the Branch is running a coach trip to Malvern to visit the Morgan Motor Company's factory and museum. The cost for this outing is £17, which covers the coach and a factory tour; tickets are available from the Bookshop (01299 270110).

The Branch always welcomes new members. Ring CM 270110 for a membership form.

*Mark Baldwin*

## SILLY BIT

'Lawyers believe a man is innocent until proven broke.' *Robin Hall*

'We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea.'

*W H Auden*

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## Star of the Small Ads - Alan Price Direct Travel



*A man happy in his work. Alan with his new six seater Vauxhall.*

In September 2009 Alan Price was made redundant from his job as transport manager at a local firm he'd been with for 32 years. He'd grown into that post after years as a lorry driver, when he could be on the road at 4.00 in the morning to get a delivery in on time.

He was looking around for work to fill his days and joined the Voluntary Car Scheme, where his quiet style of chatting made friends. As he enjoyed the work and helping people, it was a natural move to set up in the taxi business; Alan Price Direct Travel was born on September 9th, or 09.09.09 if you prefer.

He laid down basic standards from the beginning, concentrating on local service and always arriving in a reasonably new car that is clean and properly serviced. His chosen make of car is Vauxhall, changed every two years and covering about 40,000 miles a year. "The last one had done 91,000 when I changed it," he admits. "But the garage kept it for their own use because it was in such good condition. They did that with the one before, too."

That's a clue to his success. This is no tearaway, he's a mature man who enjoys a chat and makes time to do the job without rushing. He carries magazines for customers to read, including the Clarion, and does his best to fit in with their needs. "If the car's in for service in the morning after a school run and somebody wants to go shopping, I'll ask them if it's OK for me to pick them up at 12.00, so I can get the service done and still help them."

He does a little courier work, but concentrates on the taxi side, which gives him some long hauls to airports; he admitted he'd got home at 2.45 in the morning on the day we talked. It must be those years of lorry

driving that hardened him to late hours and still looking fresh.

Long distance work has included taking a wedding party to Portsmouth and bringing them home at the end of the same day. Journeys to other distant spots include Hayling Island in Hampshire and Hull on Yorkshire's east coast.

When Alan decided to register as a taxi service, there were lots of hoops to jump through. Like written exams to test his knowledge of driving and geography before a real driving test around Shrewsbury and having the Police run a CRB check and the DVLA in Swansea checking him out. He doesn't list all those to moan about it, and accepts that authorities should check that drivers and their vehicles meet a decent standard. If you want to experience the other side of that, take a ride in a Shanghai taxi...

Does he still enjoy this life? "Oh yes. It's not just a pick up and drop business, there's time to socialise and get to know people. I don't want to get bigger, or I'd lose that personal touch." So he's a small business, and very good at what he does.

And Alan now has a website: [www.alanprice23@live.co.uk](mailto:www.alanprice23@live.co.uk)

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## THE PARISH PLAN

**Councillor Madge Shineton, always concerned with getting the best for the community, would like to see more interest in our future planning.**

Do you want to be part of Cleobury Mortimer's Future? The Parish Plan Group have now received the initial results of the Questionnaire which went out to you all in September/October last year

The Group need more help in getting this information translated into an Action Plan for Cleobury's future. If you would like to get involved please contact Michele on 01299 271659 or me on 271186 for more information and the dates of the next meetings.

*Madge*

## THANK YOU'S

Thank you to everyone concerned with the Cleobury Sunday Night League, who donated £1655 to help us here in Shropshire. We are very grateful for this local support enabling Macmillan to carry out its work. Thank you to Pat Williams, Bev Pearce and Karen Butler who presented us with a cheque for £922 raised at the Charity Ball they organised. And to everyone who donated and attended and made this possible. We cannot thank you enough.

*Sue Henderson*

## THE READING GROUP

Two books to review this month, as January's meeting had to be cancelled.

"One Day" by D. Nicholls met with mixed reactions, the two main characters being followed on one particular day over

twenty years, an interesting concept.

This month we read "Dancing Backwards" by Salley Vickers. Set on a transatlantic cruise in present day with reminiscences of 1960s from Violet (the main character) this was an easy read and a well-constructed novel. Not everyone thought it was a great read but many enjoyed the nautical facts at the start of each chapter!

We next meet at Cleobury Library, 7.30pm on March 18<sup>th</sup> when we will chat about a non-fiction book by Robert MacFarlane, "Wild Places". Further information from me on CM 271754

*Deana Kimber*

## THE LIBRARY REPORT

**Vicki Alexander with an interesting evening in prospect;**

Another Speaker of Interest event on April 15<sup>th</sup>, when Jenny Vanderhook will be talking about her work with the 'Samaritan's Purse , Christmas Child' operation.

She and colleagues gather around one thousand shoe boxes to fill with little gifts for children living in extreme poverty. She has been to Kyrgyzstan to help distribute them, and seen at first hand what happens within the orphanages and communities to whom they are given. The event will be called, 'A Story of Philanthropy, An Evening with Jenny Vanderhook, The Shoe Box Lady'.

Kyrgyzstan is in central Asia with a population of around five million, a third of that number living below the poverty line and that percentage is rising every year. It is a largely rural landscape with an emphasis on farming and food production,

but most people are just surviving.

Jenny gives a valuable insight into her work and shares heart-warming stories about her efforts to bring some joy to the lives of children who have almost nothing.

Please register your interest at the library event April 15<sup>th</sup>, Monday at 7.00 pm. *Vicki*

## STOTTESDON W.I.

The year has begun quietly, with inclement weather putting paid to the January meeting. But in February we had a fascinating and informative presentation by Ben Upton of Aston Botterell, whose work as a Psychiatric Nurse with dementia patients and their carers, also ties in with his involvement with supporting beneficiaries of the Royal British Legion.

We have a varied programme of monthly meetings ahead, plus social events. Our Lunch Club has become increasingly popular, and non-members are very welcome to join us. Our first event of the year took place on a fine early Spring day at Radbrook Catering College in Shrewsbury, where 14 of us enjoyed a three course meal in the visitors' restaurant Beautifully cooked and presented by first year students, this was unbeatable value at £6.95 a head, and is certainly worth a visit.

Our next meeting should be of interest to those already planning for the Show season. Mark Hall will talk on 'Growing & Showing Millenium Class Vegetables' on Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup> at Chorley Village Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

*Marian Wootton*



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# The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

**This month, it's Bubbles and the Water Butt Adventure. The family cat has been out roaming again.**

Oh how I wish I had a pet camera. Something that follows Bubbles on his explorations and tells me where he has been. I know you can get them, but, unfortunately, with Bubbles being a stunted little cat the weight would, I fear, be too much for him. It would certainly require extra calculations when jumping up onto the fence.

I don't want the pet camera for any over protective owner reasons, rather to find out what he had been doing 2 weeks ago. We came home from the shops to hear the usual squawks from behind the utility door, opened the door like any other day, only to find a dripping wet cat, and soaked walls, floor, dishwasher, worktop, everything. He had fallen in something – a pond? Or water butt maybe? Managed to scrabble out and return home looking frail and bedraggled. There was even a collection of neighbourhood cats around the house – as if they had either pushed him, or had turned up to laugh him home. Poor Bubbles. So I wish I had a pet camera – I could almost certainly make £250 on a certain famous funny clip show!

On a serious note however, please make sure your water butts have lids on. If they are anything less than brim full, animals can fall in and drown.

So he spent the rest of the evening on the radiator grooming and grooming until he was finally happy with the results. Anyway, I am pleased to report no long term damage!

Now you may, or may not know, that the law has recently been changed on dogs microchips. From April 6th 2016, every dog in England will need to have a microchip implanted. The Government has taken this decision in an effort to cut down on the large number of lost and abandoned dogs that cost our tax fund in excess of £57 million every year. Dogs found without a readable microchip after 6th April 2016 could land their owners an expensive fine of up to £500.

Not all microchips are the same. There will inevitably be numerous offers floating about for 'cheap chipping'. Please be cautious, and get all

of the facts before taking your pet to one of these inevitable pop-up chipping parlours.

Severn Edge Vets use Petlog microchips. The Petlog call centre is based in the UK, and is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, meaning it is always easy to contact. Petlog's database of microchip numbers is linked to 32 European databases – working together to ensure that your pet can be found wherever they are lost – even abroad.

Petlog microchips conform to all standards required by the pet travel scheme, to allow your pet to travel abroad on identification provided by its chip. And the new Petlog microchips have a special coating to lessen the chance of the implant moving about under the skin of your pet after it has been implanted. Chips that stay where they are placed are easier, and more likely to be found, scanned, and re-unite you with your lost pet.

Throughout March, Severn Edge Vets will be offering discounted microchipping to all of our clients, old and new, meaning a microchip will only cost £9.99.

We will, of course, still be able to microchip your pet at any time, but after March, the price will return to our usual charge in the region of £17.50.

Thanks for reading, and do remember to put a lid on that water butt...

*Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS*

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Every Thursday, Bartholomew's Church in to put on Open the Book very popular assemblies out for the children willing child volunteers contribution. The success of Open the Book assemblies is that they offer interactive learning, incorporating all children's learning styles through visual representation of bible stories thus bringing the bible to life and making it accessible to all children.



members from St. Bayton come into school assemblies. During these Bible stories are acted often with the help from

who receive a sticker for their success of Open the Book assemblies is

To continue the RE theme through the school, one of our teachers runs a popular lunchtime Bible Club. In Bible Club the children look



at a story from the New or Old Testament and produce artwork that links to the theme of the story.

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## Happenings on High Street

### BIG SPRUCE-UP AT SPAR



*Raj Singhera, looking very happy with the revitalised Spar store.*

Spar Grocers on Church Street have joined the movement to improve the image of shopping in Cleobury. They actually closed the shop for a week to have the old fittings stripped out, a new floor installed and then new lighting and display units right through the shop.

Raj Singhera was looking very happy when the Clarion called, and reported new faces coming through the door. He was warm in praise of the contractors, who did a good job on schedule, so that the doors were open again for the Saturday rush.

The Sanghera family have been a strength on the main street for many years, bringing early opening and late closing to the town. Raj is the new generation

in the store that his parents took on and this is another step forward for a friendly, hard working family.

### SPREADING GOODWILL



*Top brass from Tuffins join local cheque collectors for a big collective smile session.*

The Harry Tuffins group have a fund raising tradition at their Churchstoke headquarters that new owners the Midland Co-op are continuing. It's a Family Day on the first Sunday in August, with cash from admissions and donations from suppliers totted up and passed on to good causes local to each of their branches.

In 2012 the result was no less than £41,000 raised and that has been used to give a little help to 190 causes in the region. Early in February it was Cleobury's turn and Tuffins's General Manager Mark Williams along with Mark Taylor of the company's new owners Midlands Co-operative

and Area Manager Neil Edwards hosted a happy gathering in the aisles of the store.

Big smiles all round as both Lacon Childe and the Primary School, the Scouts and Guides, the Medical Centre and other local groups collected cheques as a Thank You for their work in the community and to encourage their further efforts. A community like ours works really well because of the efforts that a lot of people put in, both professionals and volunteers. Big thanks to manager Rob and his friendly staff at Tuffins, too, for fitting their busy day around the party.

### CARROT TOPS RECIPE

#### CARDS ARE BACK

Rachel at Carrot Tops has got her neat little recipe cards back on display in the shop. We picked up Number 10 in the series, for Three-Fish Fishcakes with Tartare Sauce. The fishes are smoked and unsmoked haddock plus salmon fillets, all of them available from the shop, of course. As are the range of vegetables and herbs that will add zest to the finished dish.

It's a clever idea, that provides a cook with another dish for the family menu and reminds us all of the range she now offers. And you're guaranteed a laugh when she's there.



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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## FOCUS ON YOUTH



*Joe Lacey with Aysha, the Youth Project's part time worker.*

Our youth project would not be able to run clubs and out of school activities without the help of volunteers. One of them is Joseph Lacey, who has helped since he left school. He joined Saint Mary's Youth Project when he was 12 yrs old and, living four miles from Cleobury, understands some of the problems associated with rural living; he used to cycle to the youth club meetings when he could not get a lift, as he had no other way of getting there.

Joe says he volunteered to help because he had been inspired by both Mark and his wife Bev, and was motivated to help because of the fun he experienced himself with these "great leaders".

I met him at the Tuesday club for younger members and it was obvious what fun everyone was having and how this project affects the community. Studying physics and maths at Ludlow College, Joe is applying to universities to study integrated engineering this year. He hopes to carry on with youth work on a volunteer basis wherever he studies. He is open minded about his future, as he enjoys youth work; who knows where the future lies? *Sarah Wilde*

## LOCAL JOINT

### COMMITTEE MEETING

It was Cleobury's turn to host the LJC meeting on February 21st, when it was located at Lacon Childe School. It was the first time new Police Commissioner Bill Longmore had visited the town, but the big issue for the public was to hear what was happening about the new Medical Centre.

Mr Longmore outlined the coming closure of local police stations, with Cleobury on the future list and the promise that another base for the service would be found, probably sharing space with another service. CSO Nick Morris will continue with his duties.

He also promised more of a police presence that we have seen recently, and a front line presence is now the priority. All officers will be equipped with iPads to send incident reports to base and not have to travel back to type the paperwork up.

Sue Humphries reported that the new Medical Centre is to go ahead. Building is estimated to start in the autumn and the plan is to open the new Centre in September 2014. There was applause at this stage.

Further details of the facilities that will be available in the new Centre are not clear at this early stage, because the changes at the Primary Care Trust are delaying decisions. The new commissioning body will decide what services will be offered when it is operative.

The representative of contracted builders Matrix said the work on the Centre would go out to tender in May. The plans

for the building will be available on the Shropshire County website.

For the Youth Forum, Billy Van Cleek reported that the skate park is in need of refurbishment.

Karen Roper of the National Association of Local Councils explained the importance of the elections of both the Parish Council and Unitary Councillors on May 2nd. These bodies are becoming more important in the running of the country and there is a need for a good turnout of voters to support their work and selection.

There are 153 town and parish councils in the Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin area. A question from the floor revealed that just 13 of these have been given Quality Council status. In this area, Kinlet and Stottesdon and Sidbury are the successful bodies.

### JACK CASTLE

Every seat in Cleobury's Methodist Church was taken on February 15th, when we said goodbye to Jack Castle. This was his church, where he and Chris worshipped and Jack had taken classes at the Sunday school, a staunch member of the congregation, recognised by Rev Helen Roberts in her tribute.

He came to Shropshire from Coventry, met Chris at a dance in Ditton Priors and soon knew she was his life's partner. They lived in Childe Road and Jack was a long term employee at Muller's Engineering works. He was 85 and died in hospital with his family around him.

Our sympathies go to Chris, Annette and Martin, along with his grand children, for their loss.

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## NEW MARKET GETS

### EARLY SUPPORT

The new Cleobury Country Farmers' Market, due to open in the Parish Church on April 20th, is attracting interest from both local traders and producers who haven't been seen in the shops on the main street.

The team at Cleobury Country are playing this one carefully and don't make any exaggerated claims for how big it will be, but the signs are good. The pews in the Parish Church will be converted into table tops to show off whatever the farmers and traders have brought along to tempt your wallet or purse open, thanks to some thoughtful planning and experimentation.

That two days in April certainly look like being a busy weekend for Cleobury Mortimer, with the St George's Day Parade on Sunday closing the High Street. Which could well be a blessed relief for those recovering from the Saturday part of the thrash.

Whatever, there will be a lot going on and that's a good enough reason to cancel any other engagements and save fuel by just being here and enjoying something unusual.

## BROWNIES NEWS

Rebecca Barnes , Brown Owl, reports:

Since Christmas, Brownies have met every Wednesday and Thursday, and not even the snow has stopped us.

We have had a very varied and action packed half term during which we have had a Ceilidh to celebrate Burns Night where we all learnt a new dance from a real live Scottish lady in full clan regalia. We have iced biscuits to look like teddy-bears, we have tasted different breads from around the world, and celebrated the Year of the Snake at Chinese New Year amongst many other activities.

We are busy training young teenage leaders in both units, who take a large part in helping out Leaders and Brownies during meetings. In the background, Leaders are constantly updating and expanding their own training too so that the girls are always getting the best Brownie Adventure possible.

During this half term we have planned a get-together between both units, and we are all looking forward to 'Brownies Got Talent' which will be part of their Entertainers Badge. After this we are attempting

Circus Skills when a clown will come and teach us all he knows.

Both units are full, however any girl aged between 7 and 10 is welcome to join the short waiting lists for either unit. Please contact me on 01299 272945 for more details or go to [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) to register your interest.

*Brown Owl*

## EARLY WARNING

**This is the appropriate place to tell you about an event next month that will affect traffic on the main street:**

**Cleobury Mortimer Scouting St George's Day Parade Sunday 21st April.**

**Please note that the main street will be briefly closed for the Parade from school to Church and return.**

**More detailed information in next Clarion.**

*Kate Pearce*

## SILLY BITS

'A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.'

*Emo Philips*

'Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.'

*Harrison Ford*

'Kill one man and you're a murderer, kill a million and you're a conqueror.'

*Jean Rostand*

**The Clarion on the web, on the 4th of the month.**

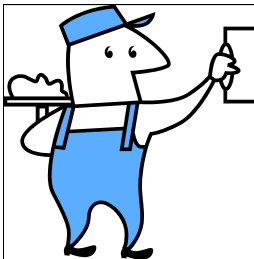
**[www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk)**

**brings you every page, including the adverts that are so helpful to newcomers to the area.**

## The March Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 6	10.00am	Cleobury Walking for Health starts from the Sports Centre. All abilities welcome	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
	10.00am	Pensax Thrift Shop opens for 2013 and will be there every Wednesday.		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 7		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.00pm	Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St Mary's. All welcome		
Sat 9	10.00am	Grand Sale in aid of local animal rescue fund. Loads of stuff not sales before. SEE PAGE 13.		
	4.30pm	Create a Cupcake Party in the Market Hall, for children and parents. £5.00 per child, tickets from Cleobury News or Spire Hairdressing.		
Mon 11	7.00pm	The Creative Writing Group meet in the library to exchange reading and comment .	Vicki Alexander	CM 272301
	7.30pm	Cleobury W.I. meets at the Parish Hall, to hear about organic fruit growing		
Tue 12	7.25am	St Mary's Breakfast Club gather at Lacon Childe School to eat well and hear about the Macmillan Nurses Fund		
Wed 13	12.00pm	Cleobury WI Spring Lunch in the Market Hall.		
	12.30pm	Cleobury Ladies Luncheon Club gather at Addisons to dine and chat	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	7.30pm	Neen Savage WI meet in the Village Hall to hear Kate Jones talk about Reiki.	Catherine Evans	CM 270647
	7.30pm	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn. Lower Street		
Thu 14		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 15	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874

**The Cleobury Clarion is on the Web  
On the 4th of every month, just type in  
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## The March Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sat 16	10.00am	Big Book Sale in the Library. CDs and other stuff at good prices		
Sun 17	12.30pm	The CM Royal British Legion branch lunches at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Mark Baldwin	CM 270110
Mon 18	7.30pm	The Reading Group gather and talk in the Libtary	Deana Kimber	CM 271754
Wed 20	10.00am	Cleobury Walking for Health starts from the Sports Centre. All levels of ability welcome.	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
	7.30pm	Stottesdon WI meet at Chorley Village Hall to hear Mark Hall talk about Growing and Showing Vegetables		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Wed 20 / Fri 22		"Guys and Dolls" musical at Lacon Childe School. Great value entertainment. SEE PAGE 33		
Thu 21		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 22	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sun 23	10.00am	The Footpath Association gather at the Parish Church for another stride out amidst wonderful scenery. Details: rupedunkley@yahoo.co.uk		
Wed 27	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall for their Spring Show and Quiz.		
Thu 28		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Good Friday 29	2.30pm	A Passion Play takes over Bewdley's Load Street to keep an ancient tradition alive. SEE PAGE 7		
Sat 30	3.00pm	Registration starts for the Big Darts Tournament at the Sports & Social Club in Love Lane.Details: SEE PAGE 7.		CM 271448
		<b>AND LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL</b>		
Wed 3	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Fri 5		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.30pm	Annual General Meeting of the Parish Hall Committee, open to all residents. Guess where it's being held!		

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### 7 Tenbury Mead • Cleobury M'tr

Spacious and well-presented three/four bedroom detached house. Located within walking distance to the local amenities of Cleobury. Garden and driveway parking. Double glazing and oil fired central heating.



### Forge Cottage • Bitterley, Ludlow

Located on the slopes of the Clee Hill this Character Detached Cottage is set on a generous plot of just under 1 acre. The property retains many original character features. With Hall, Breakfast Kitchen, Dining Room and cosy Sitting Room. Garden Room and Ground Floor Shower Room. Three Double Bedrooms. Garage, various outbuildings. Gardens and Orchard.



### Rose Cottage • Silvington Hill

Rare opportunity to acquire two detached properties 'Rose Cottage' and 'The Cottage'. Rose Cottage is a three-bedroom cottage full of character and charm. The Oak Barn is a quaint one bedroom property. Sitting on a plot of approx 1 acre to include a paddock.



### Brookside • Cleobury Mt'r

Brookside is a light and spacious family home located within walking distance of the centre of Cleobury Mortimer yet set within a quiet and private setting. There are gardens to all sides with views to open countryside.



### 17 Orchard End • Cleobury Mt'r

Much improved and extended four bedroom detached house in desirable location. Close to local amenities of Cleobury, with both primary and secondary schools. Well presented throughout. Garage, garden and stunning views over the surrounding countryside.



OIRO £315,000

### Wayside • Hopton Bank

A most impressive five bedroom property with breathtaking gardens, occupying a total plot of approximately half an acre. Large gardens, complete with stocked fish pool, veg patch, orchard, greenhouses, shed, undercover barbecue area, patios and decking. Double garage with driveway and ample parking.



OIRO £285,000

### 4 Hill House • Farlow

Smallholding in private location with a two bedroom cottage and a parcel of land totalling ten acres (approx) having numerous outbuildings including a stable block, summer house and double garage. Space for a ménage, fields being hedged and with water supply. Grazing rights onto common land and direct access for riding onto bridle paths.



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# Clarion Clippings - the Local News

## KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

It's the beginning of March and after a few unsettled but fun weeks in the snow, hopefully Spring is on its way.

The children will be learning about growing and be planting with Mrs Lewis. We will also be thinking about baby animals and life cycles and hopefully seeing some new lambs.

Before half term we had a very busy Tiddlers session. It was lovely to see some new faces, the next generation. Our parent and child group runs along side our normal child care session, and at only £2.50 per child with babies free of charge, it's a lovely chance to see a working Playgroup and to have a chat to other local parents.

Zoe Pearson

## THE FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S

In March we have two events, the first our Annual General Meeting on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7.00pm in the Market Hall. It is open to non members.

On Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> is the Create a Cupcake Party for young children, aged from five. 4.30pm in the Market Hall, with a tea party followed by the making of a basket to hold their decorated cupcakes. These could

be given to someone special the following day, Mothering Sunday.

All materials are provided, including 2 cupcakes to decorate. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Children may wish to wear protective clothing or just get messy. A ticket only event and the number of places is limited. £5 per child and £1 for accompanying adults.

Tickets from Cleobury Pharmacy, Cleobury News, Spire Hairdressing or members of The Friends committee.

Alec Osbaldiston

## FREE MONEY SAVING!

If you have an oil fired central heating system, as most people in the area seem to do, this is for you.

The Community Council of Shropshire is having a recruitment drive for its Fuel Buying Scheme and the first 100 people who sign up before March 31<sup>st</sup> can join for free. There are already 650 people on the scheme, who see an average saving of 4.5 per litre on their oil, which is worth having over the course of a year.

Lyn Young is the local contact and can tell you more. She's on CM 271506 and will be very glad to help.

## LACON CHILDE GET ALL MUSICAL

The annual production by pupils of Lacon Childe School is always good to see, and this year they're going musical with 'Guys and Dolls.'

Set in 1950s New York, it's based on a Damon Runyan story, with accents and language to match. Music is by Frank Loesser, including standards like 'Luck be a lady tonight' and 'Sit down, you're rocking the boat', so an entertaining evening is almost guaranteed.

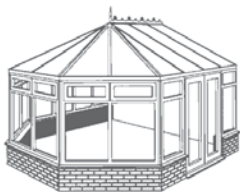
It's in the school hall, starting at 7.30, on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Tickets are £6.00 - not a lot for the standard of production Lacon Childe offers - and are available from the school on CM 270312.

## WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

When the CM Chamber of Trade was very young, it launched the annual Trade Card. Printing was entrusted to Ritter Seymour of The Hurst, who had worked for the press in London and still used old fashioned lead type.

It took three years to get the card printed, because dear old Ritter didn't have enough 2s and 7s in his numbers to cover all the local traders, and they had to wait until he could afford more.

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## Sea kayak & Sea food Safari (also suitable for non-sea food lovers!), 26th May - 1st June 2013

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# Special Event at Cleobury Country

**Centre Manager Clare Todd explains:**

Cleobury Country Centre is hosting a special event on March 20th. We are calling it Agencies Day and it features representatives from Local Authorities and Business Advisors, here to listen, to talk and to advise.

There will be people like Shropshire Council's Business Support, offering advice on finance and grant schemes, the Trading Standards department, plus Environmental Health and Planning. They represent a big fund of knowledge and experience, there for any local business to ask advice.

The Federation of Small Businesses have also booked space, as have the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce. And Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will be there, happy to give advice on VAT Registration and your obligations on filing tax returns, whether as a company or a self employed individual.

British Telecom is another service provider with a lot to offer and they'll be there, as well

as local training organisations like County Training, who can give advice on apprenticeships. And the Marches Environmental Support Network can help any ambitions you may have to serve the expanding demand for developments that reflect concern for the environment's future.

The event starts at 3.00 and will run through to 8.00pm. It will combine with the regular Business Networking Session from 6.00, when a fresh influx of local business interests will bring more questions to the final discussion session that promises to be a very lively one until the 8.00 o'clock finish.

The whole experience is free of charge, but if you could let us know you're coming, it does make the provision of drinks and snacklets run more smoothly.

I hope we'll see you there.

*Clare Todd*

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01299 272300; [clare@cleoburycountry.com](mailto:clare@cleoburycountry.com)

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# The Farming Page

## Catherine and John Evans of Broome Park report

Hopefully Spring is just around the corner and one of the traditional indicators is lambs gambolling in the fields. In reality lambing for us starts soon after Christmas in the hope that early lambs earn a premium at market as it is often traditional to have Spring lamb for lunch on Easter Sunday. The ewes (or rams!) at Curdale didn't realise this and most of the early lambs came in the last week of January. The main flock – around 800 – are due to start the last week in February.

Lambing is very labour intensive, with the sheep kept inside until they lamb and they then need to be checked regularly in case of problems. Many ewes seem to lamb in the early hours of the morning, so lambing patrols continue 24/7. Once a ewe has lambed she is put in a small pen with her lamb (or hopefully lambs) and they are all sprayed with the same number, making it easy to identify which lambs belong to which ewe. Occasionally

something goes wrong and the mother dies then there are two options – ideally a lamb will be given to another ewe who has lost her lamb and she will adopt it, otherwise the lamb will have to be bottle fed. I usually have a few lambs on the bottle here at Broome Park and they are always popular with the B&B guests who love to help with feeding.

I currently have two lambs, neither of which was orphaned but whose mothers didn't have enough milk for them. They have been named Artie and Speckle and are a big hit with guests. A constant worry this year has been the Schmallenberg virus and we think some lambs have been lost to the virus, although fortunately so far, not too many.

As we move into March there are long days ahead as we try to catch up with the planting. The weather was so bad at the end of last year that only about 60 percent of the Autumn planting was completed and some of

those crops have failed to germinate, been eaten by slugs or washed out of the ground. Quality seed is also hard to come by as the harvest was poor last Summer. Fortunately much of our seed is home grown but it has to be cleaned and dressed with a special dressing to help the germination process and protect against diseases before it is ready for planting.

The soil is prepared for planting by first ploughing, then 'working down' to reduce the large clods of soil into a fine seed bed ready for the drill which plants the seeds. The drill is four metres wide, mounted behind a power harrow which cultivates the soil prior to the drill planting the seed. Every 24 metres two rows at a wheels width are not planted – these are called tramlines and can be seen as lines in the field as the crop grows. This then allows the tractor and either sprayer or fertiliser spreader to treat the crop at a later date without squashing growing plants.



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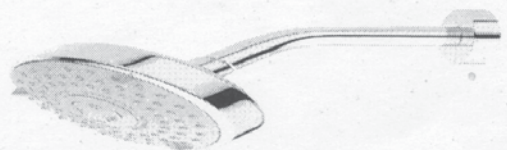
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## CHARITY BALL PAYOUT



*Big smiles all round as Pat Williams presents a cheque for £922 to Lesley Leach (left) from The Haven Breast Cancer Centre in Hereford. On the right, Bev Pearce lists businesses who helped with the fund raising drive.*

**This is Pat Williams's story, so we'll let her tell you all about it:**

On October 24th last year, I got together with Bev Pearce and Karen Butler. We wanted an occasion to dress up with our families and have a fun evening. One month later on November 24th, we held the first (hopefully one of many) Charity Ball at the Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club in aid of The Haven Breast Cancer Support Centre and Macmillan Cancer Support Care. Through the generosity of the local shops, traders and friends, lots of raffle and auction prizes were

donated, local bands Whateva Treva and the Mandolin Orchester of South Shropshire played for free and Justin Parker volunteered and chaired the auction. It was an amazing evening with over a hundred friends and family attending. The evening was such a success with overall £1844.00 raised we were very happy to hand over to both charities a cheque for £922.00 each. A Big THANK YOU to everyone who donated and attended the event. It was a brilliant evening because of all of you.  
Love  
Pat Williams

## A LITTLE EXTRA FOR THIS GOOD CAUSE

Most of us have lost friends or relatives to this awful disease, cancer. As more people have recognised that it can be cured in some cases, and made more bearable in others, we have begun to talk about it and face up to the basic matter of dealing with it. More than enough tragic cases have been shown on television, with brave people determined to carry on life in the face of it.

They inspire others, especially those who have seen the effects close up, or maybe been diagnosed early and been cured. If you can ever be completely cured of this disease, because it remains a threat after the patient has been given a clean bill of health.

The efforts of people like Pat Williams, who rise above the misery of analysis and fight to find a cure in the future, are humbling. So when Eddie Marsalek of Elite Sweeps said he would happily pay £2.00 for every sweep booked from the Clarion advert in the next two months, it was an opportunity to add a little to this ongoing cause.

We haven't told Eddie what we're going to do with the money, but we're sure he won't mind. Read about him on Page 57 and if you need your chimney cleaning, please remember that this man will be helping the cause. If that sounds like a blatant plug, it isn't meant to be; it's one man's generosity being turned around to help others.  
Jim Reynolds

From: Jim Reynolds <jimreynolds@mopro.freeserve.co.uk>  
Subject: **Turner Advert**  
Date: 25 November 2010 18:44:24 GMT  
To: editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk  
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Email: [admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net](mailto:admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net)

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# The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

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

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## Clarion Coppers - With CSO Nick Morris

I'm pleased to report that there have been no more burglaries in our area nor any vehicle crime. However, in Burford, Clee Hill and Ludlow there has been a spate of catalytic converter thefts, and a garage in Bitterley was broken into in mid February and expensive tools stolen, so be aware.

We have had a few reports, one in Cleobury and three in Doddington, of dogs attacking sheep. We know that on occasions even the best looked-after dogs may escape and go walkabout, and that the softest of dogs may find attacking sheep comes naturally. If you own a dog which tend to escape, please take extra measures to ensure this stops. It could result in sheep badly injured and having to be put down, or aborting their lambs at this time of year. If your dogs are caught in the act of worrying sheep, they could be shot by the sheep owner or land owner.

There have been reports in the Shropshire area of a scam where motorists or other passers-by are stopped and offered jewellery in exchange for money. It's usually two males who appear to be of Eastern European origin, (sometimes claiming they are German or Russian), who they have run out of petrol and have

no money. They drive a silver Mercedes car and the 'jewellery' they offer is worthless. If you are approached by them please inform Police straight away on 101.

The Community Safety Partnership in South Shropshire has embarked on a crime reduction campaign, and made several security products, including Smartwater, available for residents to buy. You can find out more details of these products and where to obtain them at any South Shropshire Police Station or by contacting Tracy Johnson, the local Community Action Officer, on 07582 004 016 or email: [tracy.johnson@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.johnson@shropshire.gov.uk)

On February 13th a local resident lost his black leather fold-over wallet containing his driving licence, credit cards and personal business cards. He thinks he lost it in the area of Tuffins between 7:00 and 10:30am. If you should find it, please either return it to him or bring it to the Police Station.

And on a light note..... a man came into the Police Station recently who had a parrot on his head. I asked what he wanted and the parrot said, "Will you get this man out from under my feet, please?"

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*John Masfield*

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## March in the Wyre Forest - Linda Iles writes



*The blue tit, one of the many species to be spotted in the Wyre.*

After the long winter things are moving again. I wonder what kind of year we will have? If you feel that you are in need of a bit more sunshine and friendly weather this year you are in good company. I'm not sure that conditions over the last few years have allowed many species in the plant, animal or other kingdoms to thrive, and for some of the rarer ones which face all kinds of threats another year of bad weather could be disastrous.

Many farmland birds such as the skylark and lapwing have been declining for decades, mainly because of the more intensive use of land, with pesticides and excessive tidiness seeing the end of those organisms and habitats not central to our food production. See

[www.rspb.org.uk/advice/helpingbirds/decline/nationaltrends](http://www.rspb.org.uk/advice/helpingbirds/decline/nationaltrends) for more on this.

More recently numbers of some woodland species have also been hit. The rapid hammering of the lesser spotted woodpecker can still be heard occasionally in Wyre, but it has been put on the Red List of species which are the most seriously endangered in the UK. It has suffered a national decline of 73% since the 1980s and has been the subject of a research project to find out why. You can read more about this by looking at the articles from the Wyre Forest Study Group at [www.wyreforest.net](http://www.wyreforest.net). The RSPB website tells us that "it tends to frequent the tops of trees, searching for larvae, spiders and wood-boring insects on smaller branches". Mature oak trees with a large amount of dead wood are particularly good habitat but orchards and stream sides, and even gardens, are used for foraging too. Now is the time to look for it, before there are too many leaves on the trees. They will continue to drum until they mate and

start to nest halfway through April.

Accurate information is vital for conservation work. Your results from the Big Garden Birdwatch in January are an example. Bird ringing also provides data on the size and health of populations and the movement of individuals. If you would like to see how it is done come to the Forestry Commission's Discovery Centre 2 (by the ponds) at Callow Hill on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March between 8.45 and 9.45am when local members of the British Trust for Ornithology will be checking the nets set up the night before. The birds are handled gently by trained ringers and released unharmed.

Younger children may be more interested in visiting the forest on Good Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, between 10.30am and 2.30pm for the Easter Eggstravaganza – a challenge to search the woods and solve clues to earn a chocolate egg! It costs £3 per child and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Happy Easter!

*Linda Iles*

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News



*They're in the money! Fay Vass, CEO of the HedgeHog Preservation Society (left) looks very happy to receive a donation of £2,504 from Kate Pearce of Hobson's Brewery*

### **HOBSONS HELP THE HEDGEHOG SOCIETY**

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society was delighted that "Old Prickly", the beer brewed by Hobsons to celebrate the charity's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, raised £2,504.05 to help hedgehogs.

At the beer launch in March 2012, Hobsons pledged a 5p donation for every pint of "Old Prickly" sold, and a cheque was handed over to the charity on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The "Hibernation Party" for the beer was held at the Golden Cross, Clee Hill, renamed "The Cross Hedgehog" in honour of the charity's work. There was a shiny new pub sign welcoming those who attended. A raffle was held, with prizes donated by some of the Patrons of BHPS.

Guests were entertained with traditional folk music and food was provided. Swifts the local bakery had produced and donated hedgehog shaped bread for the occasion and landlord Aaron Jeffs produced hedgehog butter!

Fay Vass, Chief Executive of the BHPS said "We are very grateful to Hobsons for coming up with this fantastic beer and of course for the huge donation which will greatly help our cause. The launch and hibernation parties were lovely evenings with the Golden Cross and Swifts bakery really entering into the spirit and supporting our charity too."

You can find out more about the work of the charity on [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk).

### **TRACING A LOCAL FAMILY**

It's a measure of the way people move about today that you talk to someone in a distant place and they have a Cleobury connection. Ron and Margaret Booker were at a musical weekend and a lady they met there asked if they could help fill in some Cleobury Mortimer shaped gaps in her family history.

Her name is Jane Davies and her great aunt was Fanny, who married Edward Henry Potter. He was a baker, they lived in Lower Street and had two sons, Ernest Joseph and Edward John. They also had a daughter, Frances Jennie, born about 1903, who married Thomas Butcher and lived on Clee Hill.

Joseph Potter married Mary Ann, Jane Davies' great grandmother, and they lived at Rookery Farm.

We have already advised Jane that Margaret Gadd of Lower Street was Margaret Potter before she married Brian, and her father was a baker in that part of the town. But she would like to hear from anyone who can give more family history.

Jane lives at 84 Stafford Road, Shirley, Southampton SO15 5ED. Her telephone number is 02380 332 467 or you can email her at [jmd178@talktalk.net](mailto:jmd178@talktalk.net)

### **SILLY BITS**

'Give a man a fish and you'll feed him for a day. Give him religion and he'll starve to death while praying for a fish.'

*Timothy Jones*

'Men are like linoleum floors. Lay 'em right and you can walk all over them for thirty years.'

*Betsy Salkind*

'After the game, the king and the pawn go back into the same box.'

*Italian proverb*

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News



*"Welcome home." Andy Breakwell of Cornbrook Construction says it with flowers as David and Beryl Underhill return to their bungalow in Tenbury Road.*

### CORNBROOK PUTS RIGHT THE FLOOD DAMAGE

David and Beryl Underhill have moved back into their Tenbury Road bungalow after a comprehensive rebuild by Cornbrook Construction. The building was seriously damaged in the serious flooding in July last year and lived in temporary accommodation for seven months while the work was done.

It was quite a task after flood water swept through bungalow and garage. The making good included new floors, waterproof insulation in

external walls, replastering the walls and replacing the fitted kitchen and bathroom. As an extra precaution, the electric plugs were moved up the wall.

Outside flood defences were installed to combat future rains and the whole place was repainted. "Cornbrook has done a wonderful job and their staff couldn't have been more helpful. I am worried that their excellent work could be in vain if there's another flood."

Flood defences will help in that event and we hope lessons have been learned.

### CHANGES BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE CLARION

Next month the Clarion enters its ninth year of publication. It's been quite an interesting ride so far, with lots of friends made and lots of changes in the Cleobury Country area.

The Clarion won't change much, but there will be a fundamental move behind the scenes as the name behind the product will become Cleobury Clarion Media Limited. There's nothing ominous about the move, which is made on legal advice at a time when people are persuaded to rush into legal action on sometimes very flimsy pretexts. This way, there is less at risk if someone should take offence and decide to sue the title. Not that we set out to be rude or offensive but some folks are like that.

Advertisers will get bills from the Media company, for the same rate we've been charging since 2006. Not much talk of inflation in this office

**Knowing that many readers have busy lives that can't be ruled by the simple matter of picking up your Clarion, we've put it out on the internet. Just type in [www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk) on the 4th of the month. It's all there, 60 pages of it, including the advertisements.**



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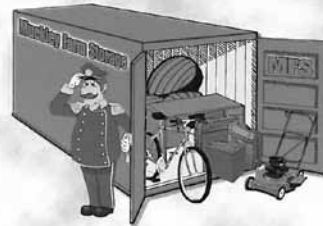


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# IN BUSINESS: Eddie at Elite Sweeps



*Elite Eddie, proud professional*

"I don't look like most people's idea of a sweep. My hands and face are clean and so are my clothes. When I come into your house I take my shoes off, so you don't worry about me treading dirt into your home." Eddie from Elite Sweeps is proud to point out that he's professional.

He's been in the trade just two and a half years, after quitting a well paid position in the IT business and discovering the real man behind the expensive suit and big car. He financed his intensive training course from his own pocket, passed both the theoretical and practical exams first time, before being accepted as a member of the Guild of Master Sweeps.

"You could say I'm a Fire Prevention Officer as well as a sweep," he smiles. "My job is to

maintain chimneys and guard the health and safety of people living in the house."

He's much more than a sweep, with technical knowledge of his trade and a helpful attitude that includes leaving you with a Good Fuel Guide to what is best for your stove or fire and the Fire and Rescue Service's leaflet on preventing chimney fires.

"Before I go near the stove, I take a look outside at the chimney, to see if there's a proper chimney pot and if it has a cowl on top," he explains. "I make sure the chimney is properly firm before brushing it and examine the fire before I select the brush to use, then seal the fireplace with sponges, or sheets if it's a large aperture. The vacuum goes inside the fireplace and when I've finished I examine the soot and show it to the customer if there are any potential problems." He's very thorough, as anyone dealing with an open fire should always be.

"The chimney should have a cowl, to prevent intruders like birds or whatever, and keep the rain out. The soot should be dry, and if there's not enough flue effect you can get smoke in the house and possibly an asthmatic reaction from people." When he's swept a chimney, he gives

the customer a certificate to state it has been cleaned by a qualified professional, so if there should be a fire there's no insurance quibble about maintenance.

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# **The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page**

## **March 2013 - Volume Seven - Edition Twelve**

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### *Where can I get it?*

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Missed your Clarion? Cleobury Mortimer Library keeps the current month's copy on file.

### **THE DEADLINE FOR EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE APRIL ISSUE IS MARCH 25th**

#### **Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers**

**CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR** - 077 039 65064 Mrs Theresa Parfitt.

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

**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 **WPC Anne O'Leary** direct at: @westmercia.pnn.police.uk

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

**CRIMESTOPPERS** - 0800 555 111. Free Police contact. You can talk in confidence, to report any crime. You do not have to give your name.

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**JOB VACANCIES** - 01299 272300..See the local list in Cleobury Country Centre.

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**MEDICAL CENTRE** - 01299 270209. At weekends, the Shrop Doc Service.

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**NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND** - 01746 718210. Rosemary Abbiss is the contact.

**PARISH COUNCIL** -Clerk Matthew Sheehan is in the Market Hall from 9.00 'til 2.00, Monday to Friday. 01299 271154. The Council meets in the Market Hall on the first Monday of the month; meetings are open to the public, who may address the Council in the Democratic Session before the business starts. Website: [www.cleobury.org.uk](http://www.cleobury.org.uk)

**POST OFFICE** - 01299 270201. Many services in Cleobury: car tax, foreign currency cash point

**SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT** - Mark Greaves 07828 116810, [mark.stmarys@live.co.uk](mailto:mark.stmarys@live.co.uk)

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL** - 0345 678 9000

**SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM** - E-mail [richard@ssyf.net](mailto:richard@ssyf.net).

**VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME** - 01299 666119. Mrs Val Simpson is the new coordinator.

**WASTE DISPOSAL** - 0345 678 9007. The contractor is Veolia

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### Edgeway Cottage • Cleobury Mt'r

Delightfully situated equestrian property on the fringe of Cleobury Mortimer, so very convenient to the town with approximately 4 acres, stabling and ménage. Stone built residence offers traditional 4 bed accommodation in very good order throughout.



### Overdale • Clows Top

Quaint semi detached cottage located in a small rural village. Well presented throughout, this three bedroom home has a number of attractive features including an inglenook fireplace in the lounge and an open fire in the dining room. Kitchen with Rayburn and utility room. Garden and parking.

