# Cleobury Clarion

The Historic Core project next to the Parish Church gets under way on Monday the 3rd of this month. Contractors will be working on the south western corner of the churchyard and on the footpaths around the street side of the church. They will be paving the area and upgrading the footpaths, which means access will be closed at times.

The official order is to close the paths for 28 days, but there will be access for church other services and urgent events. Contractors Philips and Curry promise flexibility and understanding, but it does mean access will not be easy while they are working on the site. There will be times when you just won't get through; please be patient

This is all part of an imaginative development at the town's heart, that will give an attractive area in which events can take place; another asset for the community.



The South West corner of the churchyard, soon to become an even more attractive centre.

Architect Lesley Lloyd will oversee the job, which is the realisation of an idea formed by County Councillor Gwilym Butler, Tom Brettell and Cleobury Country. They had seen the effect of this area used as part of the Farmers' Markets and realised the future potential. The Parish Council got involved and the result is a project under way, with almost all the finance in place. There

will be up to £2,000 more to find, as delays have resulted in the contractors' quote rising by some four percent.

The paved area will match the War Memorial Gardens, the old stone coffin will be retained and the sundial relocated. The church noticeboard will remain in place.

Retractable bollards around the area will allow traffic access only for special occasions, and the contractors are aware that they will have to allow traders in for the March 15th Market. The architect is the sole site administrator, a very straight, no-nonsense lady.

#### WE'VE DONE IT AGAIN!

We're delighted to say that the Clarion brings you two pages of local jobs. GPC74 at Talbot Square had such a response to their job advert in the February issue that they're back again and Lacon Childe have a post to fill in their office. It all amounts to jobs available, a good sign for the community. **See Pages 15 and 41.** 



## **Farlow Estates**

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2 HCP02553 26 Lower Street £159,950 Charming Terraced cottage.Beautifully presented.Two bedrooms. Woodburner.Long garden to rear.Energy rating D



3.HCP02385 1 Cinema Court £118,000 Apartment,Two bedrooms,Parking,Shared garden,Close to amenities,Energy rating C



**4. HCP02475 Toll House £275,000** Grade Two listed,Walking distance to local amenities,Four bedrooms,Family room,Living room,Dining room,Landscaped gardens to rear,Garage /workshop to side, Energy rating E



5. HCP02453 Clearview £379,000 Detached 4 bedroomed executive home,Spacious accommodation on four levels,,,,Three reception rooms,Landscaped garden,Lovely views,EPC E



6 HCP02524 36 Lower Street £195,000 Character town house,Grade II listed at front,2 bedrooms,Deeds date back to 1600's,Parking and courtyard to rear,Energy rating E



## The Cleobury Clarion. March 2014



An astonishing result for the fund raising effort in support of Kidderminster Hospital's Breast Unit. See Page 5.



Shelley Roberts and her million kilometre Volvo truck. Local veterans of the road. See Page 25.



Mark Williams, will writer. A source of honest good advice See Page 53.

## And On Other Pages....

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- 9: Cleobury CoCo Clobbered
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#### **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**





Michelle Mallan, consultant breast surgeon at Kidderminster Hospital and a very proud Shaunah Murrell with one big cheque.

Shaunah Murrell's fund raising for Kidderminster Hospital's Best Unit was rather like Topsy. It just growed and growed.....

She explained to a Market Hall gathering of those involved how she wanted to raise funds for the Unit because of the excellent treatment she had there. Her target was £1,000, a handy sum to help the vital work they do. When she announced her plans, the response was amazing and when the money was counted up after Christmas it amounted to about £3,600. That was the figure we quoted in the February Clarion, but the story didn't end there. "I don't think the ink was dry when someone called and said they'd round it to £4,000," up Shaunah explained. Then another £30 came in. The cheque she handed over to Kidderminster Hospital Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon Michelle Mallan had growed a bit more, to £4030.26.

The audience included a number of ladies who had been patients of Miss Mallan and the high regard she is held in was there in the vibrant atmosphere. She was a relaxed and charming guest, who explained that the money will purchase a special machine that will take excess flesh from another part of a patient's body and process it to re-establish the shape of a breast when a tumour has been removed.

Shaunah has asked us to list the groups who helped raise the funds: Diminishing Tea Parties, a social success as well as a financial one; a Post Card Evening organised by the Cricket Club; a dancing group who donated their Christmas card money; Tenbury U3A Reading Group; coffee mornings, wine & nibbles; a Pink Day at Stone Manor and personal donations by people giving because they had treatment at the Breast Surgery Clinic or knew someone who had. Lloyds Bank will be adding to the total, and the aim is to fully purchase that machine on behalf of Cleobury Country patients.

Final word from Shaunah: "I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of Cleobury Mortimer and District. Well done and Thank You."

#### CHARITY FASHION SHOW

The Severn Centre in Highley hosts a Charity Fashion Show on Friday the 7th this month. It's promoted by Boutique Lily of Bridgnorth and Wild Heart Women's Boutique and will include ranges from Fat Face and Shiny Pony.

It starts at 7.00, tickets at £5.00 look like a bargain as that covers both wine and cake and all proceeds from the evening go to Ronald McDonald in Birmingham.



#### The Clarion is on the web from the 4th of the month. www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk

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#### **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**

#### THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

'Prairie Plants' was the talk by a very knowledgeable Robin Pearce of the Worlds End Nursery at Hallow. Beautiful slides of the American Prairies made us feel warm on a wet miserable night. The prairies are vast and colourful and, depending upon the area, a mix of flowers and grasses. These North American plants grown in our country have a long season, are very low maintenance and attract a lot of wild life.

Robin showed us many English prairie gardens; people have achieved a really natural look which made you feel you were in another country.

Our next meeting is on March 10th, at 7.30 in the Methodist Hall, Church Street, when we will be finding out how to get the best out of a cold greenhouse.

We also have a few allotment plots available; any enquiries should be made to CM 271194. Have any of you an old motor mower hibernating in your garage? If so, please could you let us know as we could make good use of it at the allotments.

Liz Smurthwaite

#### METHODIST MATTERS

Rev Helen Roberts with details this month's events at the popular Hall in Church Street:

On Monday the 3rd, at 12.00 o'clock we have a Three Course Lunch of main course, dessert and cheeseboard on offer at the hall, for just £5.00. Booking is essential, please; call Sandra on CM 272930.

Then on Saturday the 15th we have a return concert by the very popular 49ers folk trio from Brimfield. 7.00 o'clock start, tickets just £5.00, call 01584 819649.

To round the month off, on Saturday morning of the 29th we welcome Rev Ruth Gee, President of the British Methodist Church. This is part of her tour of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District.

#### SPECIAL OFFER AT THE CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE

The Training Room at the Centre in Love Lane has had an overhaul and now comes with a flexible layout that can be changed to accommodate almost any meetings demand.

To give customers the best test, the room is available for half the normal price on all booking for March and April. And that includes coffees and teas - quite a bargain. Call CM 272300 for full details.

#### **CLEOBURY W.I.**

Cleobury Mortimer WI was pleased to welcome visitors to the February meeting to hear an interesting and informative talk on how to take care of vour back. **Chiropractor Sue** Brown showed us the workings of the spine using a model. This was followed by advice on sitting positions, a lively question and and answer session. The flower of the month was won by Liz Smurthwaite.

On March 11th Liz Vanegas de Quickenden will talk about the use of the defibrillator.

Visitors are welcome at 8.00pm, in the Parish Hall, £3 admission. *Gillian Senior* 

#### BETTER BROADBAND IS COMING

Connecting Shropshire and BT sent a press release out on February 7th, detailing 25 where improve areas Broadband access is due to be up and working by April 2015. It includes the Cleobury Mortimer exchange area, plus Tenbury Wells, Much Wenlock and Highley. Great news for local businesses and all who do work from home.



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#### **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**

#### **OPEN MORNING**

Moffats School will be holding an Open Morning on Tuesday March 11th, from 9.30 to 12.30. Informal tours will include Little Moffats and the Kindergarten (for boys and girls from the age of 3) and the main school (for children up to the age of 13). All are welcome. For more details, visit <u>www.moffats.co.uk</u> or call 01299 841230.

#### CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

March can be a tricky month weatherwise. Sunshine one day, hard frost the next and often very windy. However, the daylight hours are getting longer and the ground is warming up; daffodils and spring bulbs are giving fabulous displays. If time and weather permit, try to do some weeding; you will benefit from this early start later in the year.

At our January meeting Rachel from Wild at Heart at Mawley Oak Garage, gave a demonstration of hand tied bouquets. It was lovely to watch an artist at work, she made it look so easy and explained everything at each stage of the arrangement. It was very inspiring to try something ourselves at home. Congratulations to the Clows Top team for winning the Jim Greenhow Shield at the Inter-Club Quiz in Kidderminster. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday March 26th and features the Spring Show and an Inter Club Quiz, hosted by Derek Walker. *Pauline Bowen* 

#### EARLY EASTER EVENT IN TALBOT SQUARE

Simply Fresh are having another of their friendly special events on Saturday, April 5th, from 10.00 'til 2.00. Expect a wide range of free tastings, home made curry on sale, free goody bags for the first 50 customers and a charity raffle in aid of the Air Ambulance.

#### TABLE TOP SALE

The Nippers toddler group have a Table Top Sale booked for Saturday 15th at the Parish Hall. Very handy too, as it's the same day as the Farmers' Market. It starts at 10.00, ends at 2.00 and as well as the table of stuff will offer a tombola. If you would like to take a table yourself, it will cost you a modest £5.00 and can be booked through Fiona Phillips at CM 271675. The whole event will be working to raise money to buy new equipment for the children who attend this well established and friendly place to keep the younger children amused and learning.

#### HAPPENING AT HOBSON'S

The much delayed opening of Hobson's Visitor Centre is now scheduled for March 13th. In the established Hobson's style, it's a sustainable development and includes a kitchen to prepare food for what will probably become a range of events. The Clarion had booked the Centre for its correspondents' get together in November, but that fell victim to a wrong measuring for the windows that couldn't be remade for something like ten weeks. We're just glad it's happening, as one of Cleobury Country's most progressive businesses keep moving forward. Report next month.

#### THANK YOU

Many thanks to John Hands of Hands On Printing, who took a family photo of Francis Fletcher, scanned it and sent it on to the less than competent Clarion editor to use in the

obituary for this Falklands veteran on Page 21.

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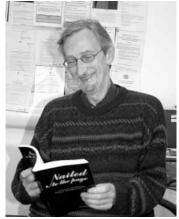
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#### **Clarion Clippings -- The Local News**

**BOOK LAUNCH** 



Chris Newman with his book, happy to have his own work in his hands at last.

Cleobury cabinet maker Chris Newman has a book launch at the library on Saturday the 15th of this month. It starts at 10.00 and runs 'til 12.00 noon, with book signings as well as Chris reading extracts and talking about a work drawn from a journal he's kept for over 40 years. As you'd expect, there's a lot of life experience on the 160 pages, a really broad mix of verses, events, mild rants and even getting himself through a nervous breakdown without any medicines or medical help.

It's titled 'Nailed to the Page' because a friend who read some of the words told him: "I reckon you've just about got it nailed there, Chris." But he admits that the subtitle ' E x t r a c t s f r o m a n Undisciplined Mind' reflects his thoughts more accurately.

It's been a three year labour of love getting to this launch point, and Mr Newman is not very happy with publishers who resized the pages and left carefully laid out pages all over the place: "160 errors and only eight of them were mine! I am not impressed." But it's here, even if the cover is not what he wanted and he's had to finance the whole operation from his own pocket. No mean achievement, one that deserves credit and some books sold.

It's one of those works you will dip into occasionally, one you could open at any page and fill time easily. It's on sale f r o m p u b l i s h e r s <u>AuthorHouse.co.uk</u> at £19.99 hardback or £11.95 soft back. If you prefer it in e-book format, it's £2.55.

Or the price at the launch, when you can get your own copy signed by the author, is £12.00 hardback or £7.99s in soft covers. Bargain.

#### KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

After the wet end to last half term, we're hoping that Spring will bring some drier days, and opportunities to look out for new life around us. We will also be starting to grow things ourselves soon, adding to our sensory area in the garden.

Before half term, we bought some lovely new dressing up items using money from our fundraising. The children loved the new additions, including a 'Gruffalo' outfit, and it's great to see these funds being used to bring joy to the children's faces.

We are now collecting the Active Sainsburys Kids vouchers, and hope to buy gardening equipment with you don't them. If have anywhere to donate your vouchers, please pop them in the post to us at Kinlet Family Playgroup - we will appreciate every one.

#### FIONA'S FLOWERY TIP Flowers by Fiona proprietor offers a little advice:

If your roses are starting to droop a little and looking soft, change the water and cut stems at least two inches off the bottoms. Don't put in direct day light or by heaters...

#### FRIENDS' AGM

The Friends of St Mary's Church will hold their Annual General Meeting in the Market Hall at 7.00 o'clock on Thursday March 13th. All are welcome.

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#### **Bayton Church of England Primary School**



Bayton C of E Primary has recently become "alive to the sound of music ..."

Our years 3 and 4 class have been fortunate to take part in the Play2Learn scheme, whereby they enjoyed flute lessons with Ms Huber each week. After the first four lessons, the children were allowed to take their flutes home to practice, which caused many children great excitement! Ms Huber's skills and patience was really put to the test as the class has 30 eager children, but in time, the whole class learned how to look after their flutes, assemble them and to play some tunes in harmony, and some of our year 4 girls played a Christmas

tune for the school play in December. The fifteen week

course ended with a concert which the children put on for the rest of the school, and their proud parents. We're hoping that this experience has inspired our children to either continue to learn to play the flute or want to learn another musical instrument ....



Last term our years 5 and 6 class attended two musical

demonstrations at Lacon Childe School, which included strings and woodwind. These demonstrations were performed by the Shropshire Youth Music.

Our own choir has enjoyed tremendous success this school year. Although they are small in numbers, they are huge in the musical department! Run as an afterschool club by parent Mrs Helena Evans, they performed during the school Christmas play, sang at the Bayton Pensioners Christmas Lunch, performed in the Bayton church Christingle



service and took part in Carol Singing in the community, raising over £900 for the MS and Phillipine charities.

As well as running our Choir, Mrs Evans also teaches keyboard to a number of our children, aiming to help them progress to passing their grade examinations.

For further details about our school, contact the office on 01299 832393. Alternatively, visit our website at <a href="http://www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk">www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk</a>

## WORLDWIDE ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

One of our up and coming overseas holidays and expeditions...

#### Grand Canyon, Colorado River Rafting & Kayaking (August 2015)

Some of you may have seen the BBC's Operation Grand Canyon, the two part Sunday documentary of Dan Snow recreating Powell's epic 1869 journey to be the first to explore the Colorado river descending through the Grand Canyon and the area then known as 'the great unknown'. If you didn't tune in, it's well worth looking up on iplayer but even better, why not do it!

Live The Adventure Director, Anthony, will be guiding his 3rd trip along this 280 mile journey in the summer of 2015 – aimed at complete novices through to experienced rafters and kayakers it will be the adventure of a lifetime! Unlike Powell's trip this has great food, top quality guides and equipment, plenty of intervals from the river to explore the side creeks – but an equal share of adventure and whitewater!

If this sounds like an adventure for you, check out our website for full details of this and other forthcoming adventures to Sweden, Nepal and Bhutan.

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#### The Clarion Jobs Page - Number One See Page 41 as well.

Job Title / Company	Job Requirements	How to apply
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EZSolar, CM	heatpumps & biomass systems.	
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	BPLEC or LOGIC qualification in	
	renewables, min 3 yrs	
	experience.	
Multi skilled general	Experienced multi skilled general	Applications to
builder	builder required in Cleobury	sandra.dodd@cornbrookconstruction
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#### On-Call Firefighters Cleobury Mortimer (Retained Duty System)

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

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- Demonstrate a high level of physical fitness;
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For an information pack please contact us on 01743 260220, or email <u>HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk</u>, **stating your name, address and quoting Cleobury Mortimer** 

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

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Registered Business

#### Star of the Small Ads - The Ever After Nursery



It's a happy place, as you can see from the Pyjama Day they had when the Clarion called. Sarita Smith (left) with manager Lorna Yapp and smiling children

The Ever After Nursery opened its doors in October 2011 with a big welcome. The whole place had been refurbished and upgraded by owner Sarita Hilton's dad's company. It still looks new, with some excellent tableaux added to the stairway and lots of special features to make young children feel at home. And the place has grown steadily, with seven staff and vacancies for more.

From the beginning Sarita and manager Lorna Yapp chose staff with good qualifications - Level 3 or a foundation degree in Early Years. They are all local, so no panic about getting to work in bad weather and they know the parents and their children.

They open Monday to Friday, from 7.30 in the morning and don't close until 6.00 in the evening, essential to parents with a job to go to with an easy mind. And they only close on Bank Holidays. Breakfasts are available, lunches too if parents prefer. And they also look after Primary School children, taking them as a walking bus to school, or in the six seater people carrier if the weather's bad.

The building has been well adapted to accommodate the very youngest children on the first floor, with separate areas for the very young to sleep while older children still work or play. The youngest a child can be is three months, the oldest 11 years. The older ones get a weekly visit to the Forest School at Hopton Wafers, an opportunity to begin to understand the area in which we live.

It's a long week for both Sarita and Lorna, but they thrive on it. "We all work as a team, that helps a lot," says "All the staff Serita. are brilliant. If you're having a bad day, you come here and the happy atmosphere makes you feel better." All this happiness and an Ofsted 'Good' rating explains their success. And easily accessible parking is just another plus that helps busy parents see their children safely



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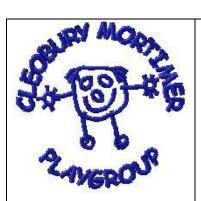


Minimum Age 8yrs

90 minute Session £11 per person Minimum 10 people

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## **The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page**



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#### **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**

#### FRANCIS FLETCHER



Francis as his friends will remember him, a Falklands veteran and family man.

Francis Fletcher died on February 2nd, just two days before his 61st birthday. He was a much travelled local man, born in Wolverley and moving to Hopton Wafers to educated Ludlow be at Grammar School before joining the Navy at 17. His school reports gave no hint of the responsible man to come; he served on the ice patrol ship HMS Endurance as a Leading Stores Accountant. He was also part of the British forces involved in the recapture of the Falkland Islands from the Argentine.

He left the service after the Falklands and took up a post in Saudi Arabia, advising on the operation and costings for British built Tornado jets during the Desert Storm campaign.

His life ended too soon, a victim of cancer of the sarcophagus. Ironically, his father Samuel died of the same disease 47 years before; he too was a war veteran, wounded at Dunkirk.

Francis leaves his wife Philip, Elvira and sons currently at Kidderminster College, and Peter, who is reading Physics at Rotterdam University, and mother Daisy, a Cleobury Mortimer resident. The funeral was at Wyre Forest Crematorium on February 27th and at Francis's request his ashes are to be scattered like his father's, along the stream side near Ditton Mill, where they both enjoyed the peace and tranquility.

#### STOTTESDON W.I.

As daffodils bud amongst the snowdrops in my garden, and rain clouds clear to blue skies, I emerge from hibernation with the prospect of a trip to Orkney in April. With perfect timing, our speaker this month was Eric Davies, recounting his own recent stay on North Ronaldsay, a glimpse into Nordic history and more recent use as a naval base in the World Wars. set the geographical scene for the unique Orkney bird life. Off north east Scotland, these isles attract Scandinavian rarities, birds blown off migration routes, including a first ever Brown Shrike and northern breeding species. Waders mingle on the shoreline with the ancient breed of Soay sheep that have grazed the kelp for thousands of years. Thanks Eric for a lovely talk, and for the tipple of local Highland Park whiskey.

We were delighted to have 24 members and visitors in February and hope to welcome a good crowd for 'Clog Dancing' with Linda Small at Farlow Village hall on Wednesday March 19th at 7.30 pm

Marian Wootton

#### MAMBLE CAR BOOT SALE

Fast becoming a favourite, Mamble's annual boot sale is on April 5th this year. Starts at 9.00, but boots and trailers allowed in at 8.00. Boots pay £6.00, vans and trailers £10.

The great strength of the sale is the refusal to have traders there - it's strictly private folks clearing stuff. On the A456 near Clows Top, all proceeds to local charities. Hazel West on 01299 832796 can tell you more and take your booking as well.



The Cleobury Clarion - March 2014 - Page 21

#### More Clarion Smalls. No Big Company Policies Here, **Just Local People Willing to Help**



Residential youth centre and adult meeting venue. Self catering residential centre avaiable for use by youth groups, uniformed organisations, schools and Duke of Edinburgh Award groups. Located in Far Forest village. Basic warm self catering accommodation for small or larger groups. Ample car parking space £10 per person per night for up to 25 people £9 per head for groups of 25 or more. Booking enquiries to Mrs Edna Mills 01299 266742



#### **Happening on High Street**

#### CLEOBURY COCO Katja Jones reports from the Market Hall based charity:

Last month CoCo received disappointing news that its bid for Lottery funding has been refused, and we are now looking elsewhere for muchneeded funds.

The trustees of the Market Hall are being extremely supportive letting us continue to use a room for our monthly meetings, training, regular Coffee Mornings and the Volunteer Coordinator to use as an office, on Wednesday each week.

The role of the Coordinator now has to be reduced, and the volunteers are taking on extra responsibilities. CoCo is a voluntary group and to keep it functioning we rely on grants, donations, and support for our fundraising. Our community have shown wonderful support for our regular Coffee Mornings held in the Market Hall, our most recent raising almost £100. If an individual or group would like to make a donation, please contact Katja on 01299-270018 or email: cleoburycoco@hotmail.com

#### MORE MUSIC AT THE ROYAL FOUNTAIN

Al and Helen at the Royal Fountain do seem to be getting it right to get the Fountain firmly back in the public eye. Their latest special offering is three nights of free extra live music to sip and sup to. Great idea to have music to add to an evening meal with a special friend. Aaron Booton will be offering an acoustic evening on the 6th, starting at 8.30, then Paul Raymond adds to the Saint Patrick's Night atmosphere on the 20th from 7.30 and Sean Saye will round it off on the 20th with a selection of old(ish) favourites from 7.30. It all sounds a great idea - must be worth a look in.

#### DAISY MOVES ON

Changes at The Old Lion, that has enjoyed a revival since Clive Evans acquired the property and spent money on a refit before installing Andrew 'Daisy' Davies to run the joint. Now Daisy has decided to move on and we wait to hear who the new face behind the pumps will be.

#### TAKEAWAY WAR?

Not quite, more a bit of a battle between the established Old Guard and the upstart Newcomer. Hostilities (of a sort, nothing violent) broke out when The Lamp opened its doors, offering Indian and Bangladeshi cuisine and a take away service with a difference - free delivery to your place. Not earth shattering stuff, but in the seriously soaked early weeks of the year it offered the chance to keep your boots dry. And there was a new range to choose from, unknown flavours to try.

The Spice Express response was to offer their own Free Delivery and when you collected the curry there was a free beer. Now that offer is matched by The Lamp. So two outlets, who both offer good food and value, are locked in battle. Free Delivery within a reasonable distance, plus free beer. What you and I can do is sit back and enjoy two ranges of flavourable food without leaving that haunted fish tank in the corner and opening a free beer when the food comes.



#### **Another Page of Clarion Smalls**





#### **A Cleobury Character - Shelley Roberts**



## Shelley Roberts at work. On the road, putting in the miles.

It's still quite a surprise to see a lady at the wheel of a tipper truck. But Shelley Roberts passed her Heavy Good Vehicle test in 2003 and has been driving her 'little Volvo' ever since.

They each have quite a history. Shelley passed her driving test at 17 and has been enthusiastic about the art ever since. Let's not call her mad about driving, this is a lady who rises far above that level. The truck has been in the Roberts family from new in 1996, and covered 1,080,000 kilometres. A million kilometre truck. "Most go to Africa at about half that," she smiles .

No cosseted little toy, it's a working vehicle that carries up to 11.2 tonnes of whatever is needed, most of it delivering stone from Clee Hill or one of the area quarries. Most of their big trucks are eight wheelers with a 20 tonne payload, but Shelley's four-wheeler can get into tighter areas where the big boys cannot squeeze. That pleases the customer, with the load dropped wherever it's needed on site; saves labour and time.

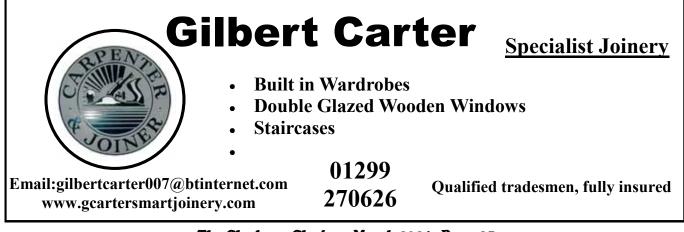
The Volvo's long life is a tribute to its drivers, more particularly Shelley in recent years. In those 675,000 miles the equivalent of 27 times around the earth - it's had one new clutch. Contrast that with the customer at West End Garage when Shelley worked there, whose poor little Ford Fiesta had a new clutch every 1,500 miles.

The cylinder head came off last year, at around the million kilometre mark, when a head stud broke and Mike had to fit a new head gasket and bolt. It's actually quite quick by truck standards, with a 6,000cc six cylinder engine deep breathing via both a turbocharger and a supercharger; the result is a healthy 260bhp, or Jaguar territory if you prefer; that all gets to the rear wheels through an eight-speed gearbox. And some people think a six-speed is cool! "It does go well, it drives like a go kart ," says Shelley. "And I've seen boy racers off at the lights!" Could that have been the reason for a gear breaking up and two bearings needing replacement? Probably not. And it's had the fuel tank replaced after a leak developed around seam and the. It's not a lot

Mike looks after servicing, his standing as an experienced mechanic subject to spot checks by a VOSA inspector. His own 20 tonner stands in the yard; it's another Volvo, of course.

It's not an easy job, and she has taken a pickaxe to a frozen load of gravel to get it shifted. So does she enjoy it? "I keep going back to it," she admits. "But it's hard physical work, not really a woman's job." She is building her own stone supply business, her customers including Severn Valley Railway, who know and trust her and like the flexibility of a small load service. Looks like she can't give up yet.

truckershelley@gmail.com



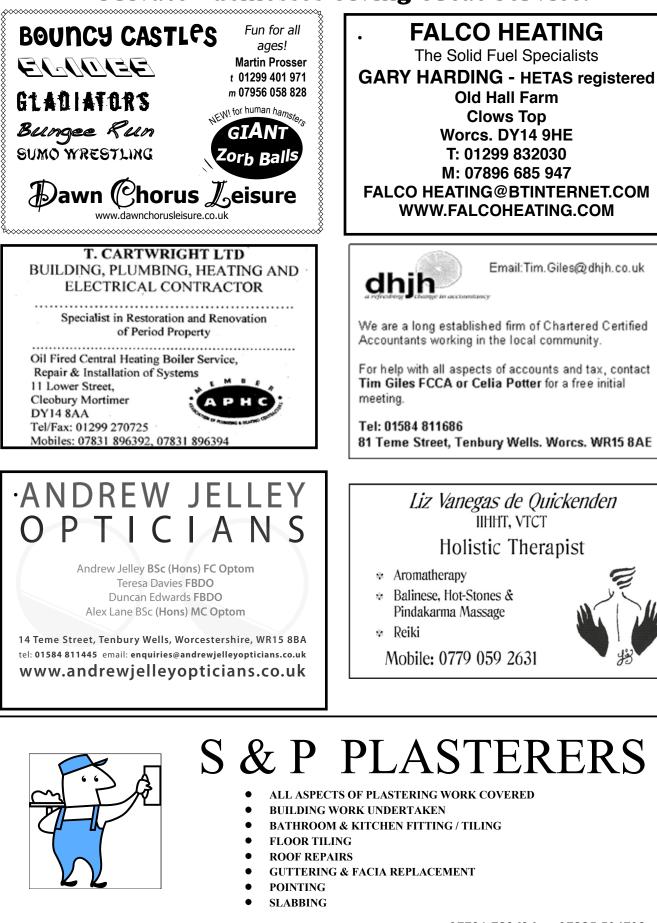
#### **Clarion Smalls - Local Skills, Knowledge and Value. Private Businesses Giving Great Service.**

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## Letter from Westminster -Philip Dunne MP

We have had the wettest January since 1766, and in February the highest tidal surge for sixty years. Strong winds led to widespread power cuts. We cannot control the forces of nature at work around us, but the Government has been completely committed to provide help to those who need it now and funding for the future to help protect households in coastal and rural areas against winter storms.

When Duty Minister for the Ministry of Defence, I joined discussions last month to provide help to the worst affected areas. We offered military personnel who were deployed to provide support in flood affected areas as part of multi-agency efforts. Royal Marines from 40 Commando helped in Somerset; specialist vehicles and boats were provided by fire services and the military, including along the River Severn in Worcestershire. Military planners supported the Environment Agency, local councils and emergency services in county command centres set up in flood affected counties across Southern England. The RAF flew surveillance flights to monitor the extent of flood damage.

The Prime Minister announced new measures to help people put their lives back together as the waters subside, including changing the rules so local authorities could claim back 100 per cent of their flood costs from central government. Home owners affected will be eligible for grants to build better flood protection, and businesses will be eligible to defer local taxes to ease the pressure of resuming trading. A new fund has been established to help farmers recover from flooding. All of this will be complemented by investing more than ever before to build up defences against future winter floods.

Local residents know the devastation flooding can cause a local community. River levels in Shropshire remain high, ground is waterlogged, the Severn has burst its banks in Bridgnorth and flooding in Shrewsbury has affected some residents and businesses. Thankfully Shropshire has not seen flooding to the extent seen Somerset and the South-west, or along the Thames. But only a few years ago severe flooding in parts of Ludlow, Much Wenlock and elsewhere forced people to leave their homes and many lost possessions through water damage. The images of Dawlish, where erosion left train tracks swinging in the wind, reminded me of the holes blown under the Severn Valley Railway by flash floods in 2007. But the consequences of cutting rail links to Devon and Cornwall are clearly even more serious. Damage to other infrastructure links has made it difficult to provide assistance to some of the worst affected areas. I urge anyone who is in a flood risk area to use the Environment Agency's early flood warning service as well as advice what to do before, during and after a flood, available at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/ homeandleisure/floods . Shropshire Council has an excellent flood advice section on its website at <a href="http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/flooding-advice">http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/flooding-advice</a> for updates on school and road closures.

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#### **The Clarion March Social Calendar**

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sat 1	7.30pm	Disco at Cleobury sports and Social Club, Love Lane		
Mon 3	Early	Work starts on the installation of the Historic Hub in the Parish		
		Church grounds. There will be limits to access along the paths		
		at times; please be patient.		
	12.00pm	Three Course Lunch for £5.00 at the Methodist Church Hall.	Sandra	CM 272930
		Booking essential. SEE PAGE 7.		
Tue 4	10.30am	Cleobury Carers' Club gather at the King's Arms for a coffee	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
		morning		
Wed 5	10.00am	Walking for Health start their walks for the year from the Sports	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
		and Social Club		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 6		GREEN WHEELIE BINS	Veolia	0345 6789007
	10.30am	The Rock Pathfinders gather on Bringsty Common for their	Jan	01299 832571
		walk. Park by the A44 at sign for the Live and Let Live Inn. OS		
		Ref: 698851.		
Fri 7	7.00pm	Fashion Show at the Severn Centre in Highley. Admission £5.00,		
		free wine, proceeds to Ronald McDonald House, Birmingham.		
Sat 8	7.30pm	"Flicks in the Sticks" at the Parish Hall presents "Philomena", a	Val Breakwell	CM 270283
		popular feature film so do book early.		
Mon 10	8.00pm	The Horticultural Society meets in the Methodist Hall, Church Street		
Tue 11	7.25am	St Mary's Breakfast Club meet at Lacon Childe School, where	Gill Chapman	CM 270575
		Sue Brown will explain all about chiropractic. Members only.	1	
	9.30am	Open Morning at Moffats School, Kinlet. SEE PAGE 7.		
Wed 12	7.30pm	Neen Savage WI meet in the Village Hall. Miss Charman will	Angela	CM 270318
	Ĩ	talk about "Thyme to be Healthy"	Flowers	
	8.00pm	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	Ron Breakwell	CM 270283
Thu 13	•	BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
		TODAY		
	7.00pm	Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St Mary's Church. In		
	-	the Market Hall, everyone welcome.		
Sat 15	10.00am	The Farmers' Market is back in the Parish Church. You'll		
		struggle to find better quality and flavours than some of these		
		fine people can provide.		

'HOT FINGERS' JAZZ NIGHT AT CLOWS TOP VICTORY HALL Hot Jazz, Swing, Jump Jive and more. SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD at 7.00

£10 with supper, £8 without. Under 14s Half Price. Bar and Raffle. Tickets: Mandy on 01299 832456 or Roger 832044.



#### The March Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	10.00am	Table Top Sale at the Parish Hall, in aid of the Nippers toddler group. Tombola, lots of toys, clothes and household stuff. SEE PAGE 6	Fiona Phillips	CM 271675
	7.00pm	The A49ers folk trio in concert at the Methodist Hall, Church Street. Tickets £5.00	Call	01584 819649
	7.30pm	Sheryll stars at the Sports and Social Club, with music from the 50s through to the 00s.		
Tue 16	2.00pm	The Carers' Group meet at St Mary's Place, Love Lane	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
Wed 17	10.00am	Walking for Health meet for the second monthly walk	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
Thu 19	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890674
Thu 20		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	Veolia	0345678 9007
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders hold their AGM at Rock Village Hall, then clear the air and their lungs with a short walk. OS Ref: 725712	Jan	01299 832571
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan	CM 270114
Fri 21	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. Very good parking facilities.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Wed 26	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club Spring Show at Victory Hall. Following by a quiz with Derek Walker. SEE PAGE 9.	Marion Wilson	CM 270745
Thu 27		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 28	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington again	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 29		Rev Ruth Gee, President of the British Methodist Church, visits in Church Street as part of he District tour		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO APRIL		
Wed 2	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 3		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 4	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington again	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 5	7.30pm	Family Disco at Cleobury Sports and Social Club, Love Lane		
Wed 9	7.30pm	Special Open Evening for Neen Savage WI at the village hall. Mrs Williams will be talking about Idle Women – the real Yorkshire ones.	Angela Flowers	CM 270318

#### 'MAKE A GIFT' PARTY

4.00pm, Market Hall, Saturday March 29th. Children aged 5 or over, enjoy a party tea and then make and decorate a picture frame to give to someone special on Mothering Sunday, the 30th. Materials provided, you bring the photo or picture. £5.00per child, £1.00 accompanying adult. Tickets from: Pharmacy, Spice Hair Dressing, committee members.







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#### 27 Whitcombs Orchard • C Mt'r

Ideal opportunity for first time buyers. Shared ownership property offering 50% share for £81,500, with the opportunity to purchase up to 95%. The three-bedroom family home is well presented throughout. Garden and parking for three cars. Energy rating C.



#### 2 Church St • Tenbury Wells

This Grade II listed character town house originally dates back to 1725. With accommodation to include: two bedrooms, family bathroom, kitchen, living room, dining room and outside store. Benefiting from gas central heating and also a dual fuel burning stove in the living room. Energy Rating D.

## 

#### 4 Larks Rise • Cleobury Mt'r

A modern style, four bedroom, detached property on the outskirts of the popular market town of Cleobury Mortimer set back from the road on a private driveway with lawned fore garden to the front, gated access to the rear. Energy Rating D.



#### 10 Hartmann Cl • Cleobury Mt'r

Two bedroom bungalow located close to local amenities of Cleobury Mortimer. Double glazing and oil fired central heating. Garden and parking for two cars. Energy rating C.



 
 78 High St. Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 4DS Tel: 01746-767488 Fax: 01746-767081
 31 Worcester St. Kidderminster Worcs DY10 1EQ Tel: 01562-822244 Fax: 01562-825401
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#### 7 Hartmann Close • Cleobury Mt'r

Situated to the top of a cul-de-sac in a souht after well established location is this provide semi-detached two bedroom Bungalov are and accommodation comprising, kitche antting room, family bathroom and the advocument Garden & stream to rear. Propried and the advocument parking.



#### Wayside • Hopton Bank

A most impressive five bedroomed property with breath-taking gardens, occupying a total plot of approximately half an acre. Wayside's accommodation encompasses porch, kitchen, dining room/snug, sitting room, cloakroom, conservatory, office/utility, family bathroom and five bedrooms (master having en-suite). Double garage with driveway and ample parking to front and rear.



#### 11 Castle Close • Tenbury Wells

Three bedroom detached property set in a quiet cul de sac location. Having generous living accommodation, garage, ample parking space, low maintenance rear gardens. Having doubleglazing throughout & gas central heating. Energy rating C.



#### Norbury • Tenbury Wells

A unique beautifully presented detached five bedroom residence. Set in exceptionally large mature gardens enjoying privacy and offering versatile accommodation. Having double glazed windows & cavity wall insulation. Energy rating E.



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#### **Clarion Coppers** - with PCSO Nick Morris

Here are the reported crimes in our area since those mentioned in the last issue.

There was an attempted burglary at a house in Rock between 10:00pm Pound Bank, on January23rd and 11:00am on January 27th. Nothing had been stolen and it is thought that the criminals may have been deterred by the alarms. On January 23rd between 3:00pm and 4:30pm the rear passenger windows of a 4X4 vehicle parked near The Blount Arms Caravan Park were smashed while the owner walked her dog. Nothing was stolen. There was a burglary at a property in End between January 22nd Orchard and January24th whilst the occupant was in hospital. Entry was gained by the forcing of a back door and the smashing of the lounge window before it was ransacked. Cash and jewellery was stolen from a safe. Catalytic converters were stolen from a parked vehicle in The Crescent, Clee Hill on January 25th/ 26th, and from a parked vehicle in Three Crosses, Clee Hill on January 29th/30th. Power tools were stolen during a burglary at an outbuilding of a farm on the outskirts of Cleobury between January 26th and January 28th. A theft of an I-phone occurred at Ben's Barbers in Church Street, Cleobury, after the victim had been distracted by a foreign-looking couple. This happened during the afternoon on January 29th.On February 1st at just after midnight in Cleobury Meadows, two males were seen stealing a Landrover by the owner who looked out of the window having heard a suspicious sound. The owner quickly dressed and followed the thieves in another car. After a short chase, the thieves abandoned the Landrover and got into a waiting Ford Transit type flat bed recovery vehicle where a third male was waiting. That vehicle drove off in the direction of Kidderminster. One of the males was later arrested on suspicion of the crime and is now on bail. A high value camera with associated equipment, and a coat, were stolen from a vehicle parked at The Crown, Hopton Wafers, overnight on February 1st/2nd after a rear window had been smashed. Power tools and keys were stolen, and locks damaged, at a break-in to a

workshop at Clee Hill Quarry overnight on February 3rd/4th. A burglary took place at a house in Millpool Place, Cleobury Mortimer, whilst the occupants were on holiday, between February 7th and February 15th. A large amount of mostly silver and gold jewellery and antiques were stolen. Between the afternoon of February 17th and 7:30am the following morning, £150 worth of damage was sustained to a baby changing unit and door handles in the new gents' toilet in Childe Road. During the evening of January 25th, two males were arrested in the Leisure Centre car park for possession of illegal drugs, and one of them for also possessing an offensive weapon.

There have been several successful drugs warrants executed over the West Mercia area recently. A man was jailed for two and a half years for running a cannabis factory in a garage at the rear of The Steps pub in Stourport. £40,000 worth of plants were discovered. The landlord of the pub was given a suspended sentence and 250 hours of unpaid community work after admitting to producing cannabis. Both offenders were ordered to pay £600 costs as well. A little bit further afield in Worcester, several people were arrested on suspicion of supplying heroin. These arrests follow an investigation after information has been received by police from members of the public. If any reader has any information, however little, about the drug activity in and around Cleobury, please let Police know. All information is collated and will make a big picture from little ones, and sooner or later the offenders will face justice. By passing on information you help to put a stop to this activity and the possible ruination of young people's lives. Question your children about what they may have found out at school and pass it on discreetly. Information about drugs activity or any other criminal activity can be reported to Police directly on 101, or by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. You can complete an online form by logging on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org All information is treated confidentially. Nick Morris

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#### **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**

#### THE READING GROUP

It must have been a good book, with a dozen readers ignoring pouring rain and unfriendly winds to gather and give their opinions on Hillary Jordan's "Mudbound". An appropriate title for this winter, it centred around a family struggling to survive the clinging mud of the mighty Mississippi in flood. With added early Post War racial prejudice and a young negro back from fighting in Europe and experiencing a more tolerant society, it has all the elements for high drama.

Everyone enjoyed the way the author gave a range of individuals' views, though the savage final treatment of the young negro was too strong for some. Only one voice was raised to offer criticism, all other were full of praise and would recommend it as a good read.

Into March and we are reading Elena Gorokhova's 'A Mountain of Crumbs'. It's a the story of a young girl's early life and influences in Russia, from the late 30s through the 1939-45 World War. A glance at the family black and white photo album suggests it may not all be light hearted. But we will learn more when we meet at the Library at 7.30 on the 17th of this month. New readers and opinions very welcome; talk to Deana Kimber on CM 271754.

#### IN PRAISE OF.....

We've all had those "Why didn't I think of that?" moments. I had a collection of them recently, when a number of niggling little electrical problems cropped up. One source tried to cure and had limited effect. We'd heard very good reports of Andrew Wakeman from some friends and a phone call some him on the doorstep very quickly.

Frankly, I'm too embarrassed to detail some of the problems that weren't problems at all. Andrew listened quietly, produced his multimeter and cured two problems without any work. He then addressed the more complex matters and cured the lot in a very short time.

So if you want an electrical puzzle sorting out, I can recommend Mr Wakeman. And keep well clear of that fool of an editor....

#### WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

This is not a spoof. I heard it described twice by a guest of honour at a recent show.

**IREN** 

Apparently the government of the Isle of Man are considering introducing а Toilet Tax. Very simple formula - if you have a toilet in your house, you pay an extra £50 on your rates. What houses with more than one loo would pay is not clear.

The explanation for this novel measure is that there is a shortfall in the money paid on to the National Treasury from the Island in respect of VAT collected. Anyone who's dealt with VAT can tell you it's not far short of a minefield and that interpretation of some parts is down to the individual inspector or their superior. So it may be that the Isle of Man, where direct taxes are very low and people who've made more than a few pennies in England tend to move, will have its very own Toilet Tax. It shouldn't be too much of a for the burden average billionaire

If it does happen, dare we ask if you'll only have to pay if you're feeling flush?

#### SILLY BITS

1. England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

2. There's a school outing to a Coca Cola factory. Hope there's no pop quiz.

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------T------

TO BOOK THE HALL, PLEASE CONTACT DAVE ON 01299 271070

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# The Farming Page - Catherine and John Evans Explain the Effects of the Wet, Wet Winter

There has only been one topic of this conversation winter the \_ weather. Rain, rain and more rain! I think everyone sympathises with the plight of those living in the Somerset Levels who have been flooded for weeks on end, with no sign of improvement. The argument still rages over the cause and solution but one thing is sure, the impact on peoples livelihood will be huge. For farmers, livestock have perished or been moved off the farms, watching the anguish and stress on the TV has been heartbreaking and the longer the water remains the greater the personal, financial a n d environmental damage. The submerged plants will rot, trees will die and it will take months for the land to recover. Grassland will need ploughing up and reseeding and arable plants will not have survived the wet conditions so the impact will continue far into the year.

On a more personal level, all the fields are waterlogged and we were unable to put the early spring lambs out into the fields until the last few days, as they were too wet. The ewes due to start lambing in March have been brought inside as it has been too wet to get around the fields to feed and check them. Arable land remains uncultivated as the soggy ground means we can't get into the fields with heavy machinery. Muck is building up in the sheds as it can't be taken out and spread on the fields, winter maintenance such as fencing and hedge cutting has been delayed and we still have maize, spring barley and spring oats to plant once the conditions improve and the ground warms up. On a positive note the B&B guests are enjoying bottle feeding the early lambs and collecting eggs now the hens have started laying again! Iohn and Catherine Evans



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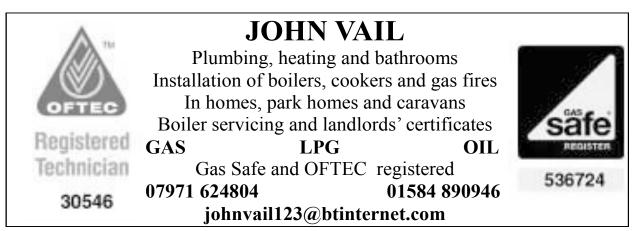
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# **The New Medical Centre - Further Progress**



Work on the new Centre has been delayed by the rains, but is only a few weeks behind schedule. The building right will be the new pharmacy, the farther section will house consulting and treatment rooms and between will be reception. There are areas not yet allocated to a particular service; they are for future expansion. This is going to be a very impressive Centre for our local medical services, with good parking space on site and outside. Site manager John Hutchinson and his crew have made great progress despite the handicap of so much rain that slowed work. With one section of the roof to be completed when we called in mid February, the essential fitting out inside the building was already under way and Mr Hutchinson estimated the work was just three weeks behind the original schedule.

Local services will be accommodated in the Centre, making life easier for patients who have had to travel elsewhere in recent times. And it would be reasonable to expect extra services to be offered as professionals realise that patients can reach them with little inconvenience. This whole project really has grown quickly once work started. JR

### THE WORK OF THE SURGERY

Primary Care is the first port of call for most people with health problems, 90% of all NHS contacts across all the services offered. Cleobury's Medical Practice has a large team, from Health Visitors to Midwives a n d Counsellors who work from our base or а community hospital. These services change people regularly; some may recall having physiotherapy in the Market Hall, which was Ludlow: moved to а similar story exists for other such staff. It's hoped that some of these will be able to use both a clinic

site and the medical centre, as a base.

The reception staff deal with incoming calls, prescriptions and a multitude of tasks like organising future clinics and appointments, liaising with hospitals and community Much of their providers. time is spent scanning, filing and coding blood, x-ray, MRI results and hospital letters into the patient records. Sue Arrowsmith is the Practice Manager, who oversees finance and is dealing with all aspects of the New Build.

Most of you will know practice nurses Adele and Donna, who provide nursing care for patients who come to the surgery. They also administer immunisations for children and for travel and run our chronic disease clinics. Health care support worker Mandy is responsible for taking blood samples, ECG's and asthma and bronchitis breathing tests.

The practice doctors are partners Allsop, Thompson and Powick. Dr Powick is due to retire to a part-time role in April and we are recruiting a new partner. We have always been involved in training and Doctors Powick and Thompson trained here.

More recently we have been involved in training final year medical students, with whom patients are offered a 30 minute appointment; 20 minutes with the student and ten with the GP too. This has been well received and we thank patients who have been willing to see the students.











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CONTACT DETAILS Cleobury Mortimer Primary School Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Nr Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PE Tel: 01299 270313 Email: admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net Website: cleoburymortimerprimaryschool.ethink.org.uk

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### The Clarion on the Web

### Every copy of the Clarion goes out on the web at: <u>www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk</u>

# every month, on the 4th, including all the adverts. We have readers in New Zealand, Singapore and California. We even have one in Cheeky Independent Little Scotland! Truly worldwide.



# **Clarion Clippings - The Local News**

#### THE TRADE CARD

The Local Trade Card that was once produced by the old Chamber of Trade, has been taken over by Cleobury Country. And a really cracking job they've made of it, with a colour cover for its 12 pages of local information and contacts.

It was delivered to every household in Cleobury Mortimer, while out in Cleobury Country it's available from the usual Clarion outlets. If your source has run out, please tell them to ask for more, and we will deliver. There will normally be a small supply in the Clarion van when we deliver the newsletter.

#### JO GROWS

Jo Bargman's dog training and breeding business has taken a big step forward and up. She's now in league with local man Steve Tolley, retired policeman and long time dog handler, and together they run Mannerly Mutts.

It's all about dogs, as the title suggests, offering training and behavioural advice, and just about anything to help the responsible dog owner get the most enjoyment out of the relationship with their pet. As a recognised breeder with her prize German Shepherds and Large Munsterlanders, Jo is something of a local canine star. With the sort of equable temperament you expect from her dogs! We wish Jo and Steve the very best in the new venture.

#### NETWORKING AT THE CENTRE

It's a monthly feature of the Cleobury Country Centre's calendar. So far over 200 local businesses have joined in the informal face-to-face meetings, led in a relaxed and affable style by Peter Roper. This time there were more new faces as people introduced themselves and explained their businesses. The exchange element is strong at these gatherings, as local traders do business with other local people. Makes a lot of sense.

The Centre has encouraged individuals to come along and talk about their business. At February's meeting it was Ian McIntyre from Highley, whose pictures have appeared in the Clarion and in the brochures of a number of people there on the night. Not unlike his very own supporters club.



Ian McIntyre talked about photos and looked happy doing it.

His message was that a proper photo does far more to boost a company's image than one the amateur might take. In truth, that depends upon the amateur, but there's little doubt a good professional will do it better. He charges a reasonable rate, helped by a modest ten mile working distance, with a bit of flex. Less miles, less time, less cost. Anyone in business should see the sense in that.

These evenings work well, with members finding a few pounds to sponsor the chips that are served. Friendly and informative, the next is on March 19th, starting at 6.00.



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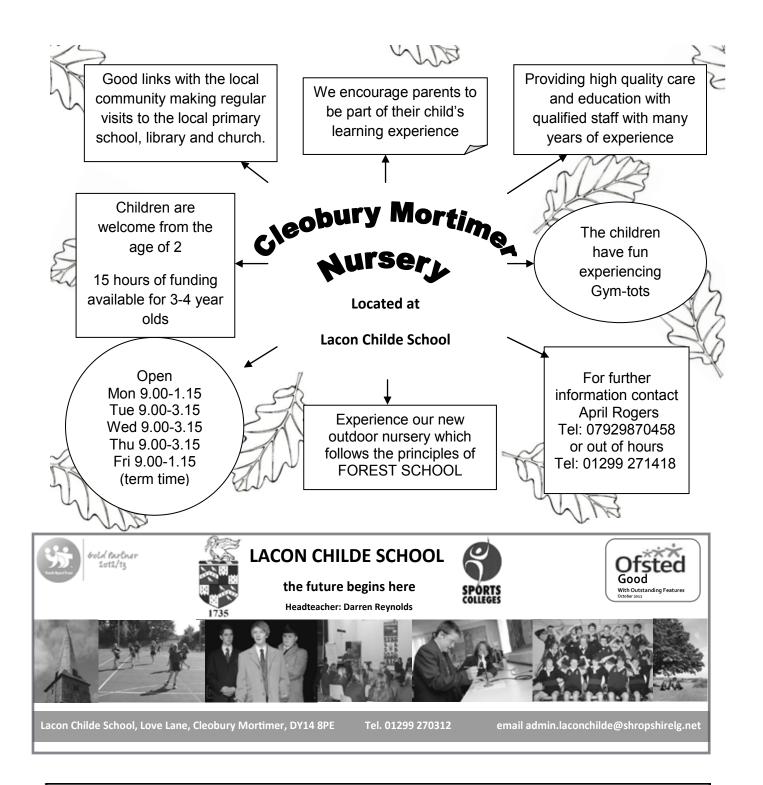
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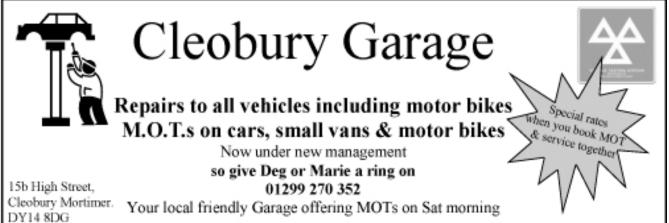
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<b>Cleobury Country Centre</b>					
Courses running Book Now	Tel: 01299				
ency First Aid at Work, Wed 12th March, 9.00am 2 Day Refresher, Thurs 20th & Fri 21st March,					
esting Expert, Tues 18th March, 9.00am—4.30pm	in in the second				

- Adobe Photoshop, Wed 2nd April, 9.15am-4.30pm
- Food Hygiene- Level 2, Mon 7 April, 9.30am—4.30pm
   Even Business Networking Wood 10th March 6pm 8pm

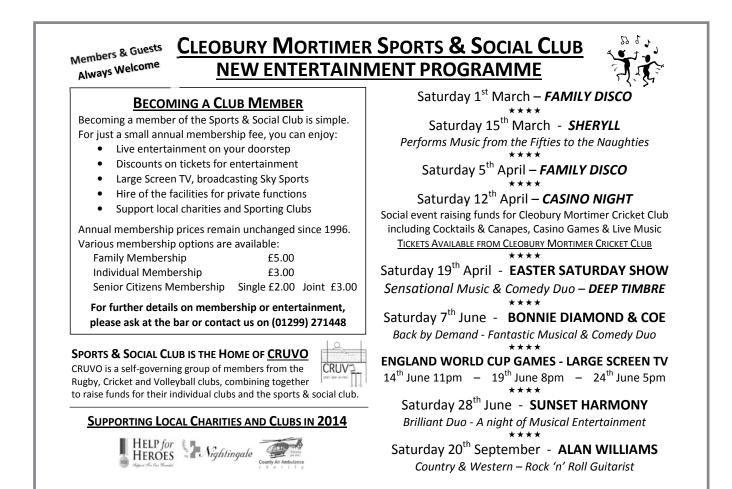
<u>Free</u> Business Networking —Wed 19th March, 6pm—8pm at the Cleobury Country Centre Tel: 01299 272 300 Email: business@cleoburycountry.com. www.cleoburycountry.com The Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8PE (Adjacent to Lacon Childe School)





# **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 718769
	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	CM 272638
	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 Wafters Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
	19.00	Bell Ringers' practice night, St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808
	19.30	Chas Beale Dance Club, Lacon Childe School	Betty Ladek	CM 270332
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	Rebecca Barnes	CM 272945
	19.00	Guides Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Dorothy McBride	CM 272717
	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
	19.45	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 718769
	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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# Linda Iles March In The Forest



Round about this time of year a small number of people take part in the Wyre Forest frogspawn survey. For me this involves setting off through the forest to find my allocation of 10 ponds, some easy to find, one mysteriously evasive despite my having done this for the past nine years. When there, I gaze intently into the water at various points, counting clumps of frogspawn. A few clumps are easy to count but in favoured sites I resort to desperate estimates: 200? 500? On a warm day there may be obvious frog activity ("croak", "plop") and I will know that I'll have to repeat the exercise when they've finished. They may even stop due to cold weather and start again when it gets warmer. I may look too early (nothing there) or too late (clumps of spawn sinking and starting to merge into each other).

A friend keeps a log of the first day of spawning each year. The dates range from February 24<sup>th</sup> in 2011 (after the coldest winter in 25 years) to March 12<sup>th</sup> in 2005. She doesn't have a date for last year – probably gave up, though it wasn't too bad a year for frogs or us in the end. The data are collected by the Wyre Forest Study Group, who were recently featured on BBC 1's "Countryfile". The survey doesn't tell us how many of the eggs survive to adult frogs but should indicate trends in population numbers.

#### Forestry Commission events this month:

**3rd to 9th March - Climate Week.** A family-friendly trail takes you see how trees and forests can be part of the solution to climate change. The Wyre Forest Discovery Centre is offering a discount for schools to who come on their 'Trees and Climate Change' programme that week. Also see www.climateweek.com to see how this nationwide occasion will be encouraging all of us to do our bit, small or large, to help create a secure future.

**Sunday 30th March - Forest Discovery Day.** This will include a forestry and timber trail accompanied by forest-themed activities for families in and around the Community Discovery Centre at Callow Hill.

The regular **Health Walks** continue to meet at the Forest Cafe at 10.30am on Tuesdays or Sundays to register before the 11am walk. These walks are led by volunteers and there is no charge.

**Forest Friends** meet at 10am each Thursday for an hour of forest activities for pre-school children and their carers. On the first Thursday of the month this is led by the Discovery Centre team and 6<sup>th</sup> March will see the creation of works of Forest Art (see www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/ infd-6frek4 for the themes for other months), while Forest School practitioners from "Step-Up" will run play-based sessions on the other Thursdays. There is a charge of £3 per child (plus £1 for other participating siblings).

Linda Iles

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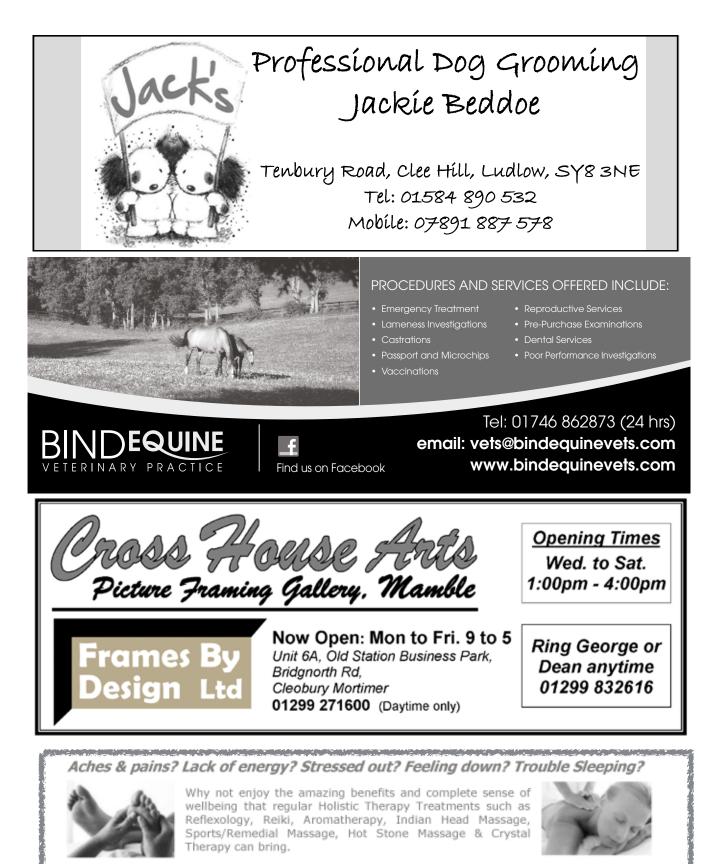
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# THE ROAD TO SUCCESS...



The Cleobury Clarion - March 2014 - Page 48



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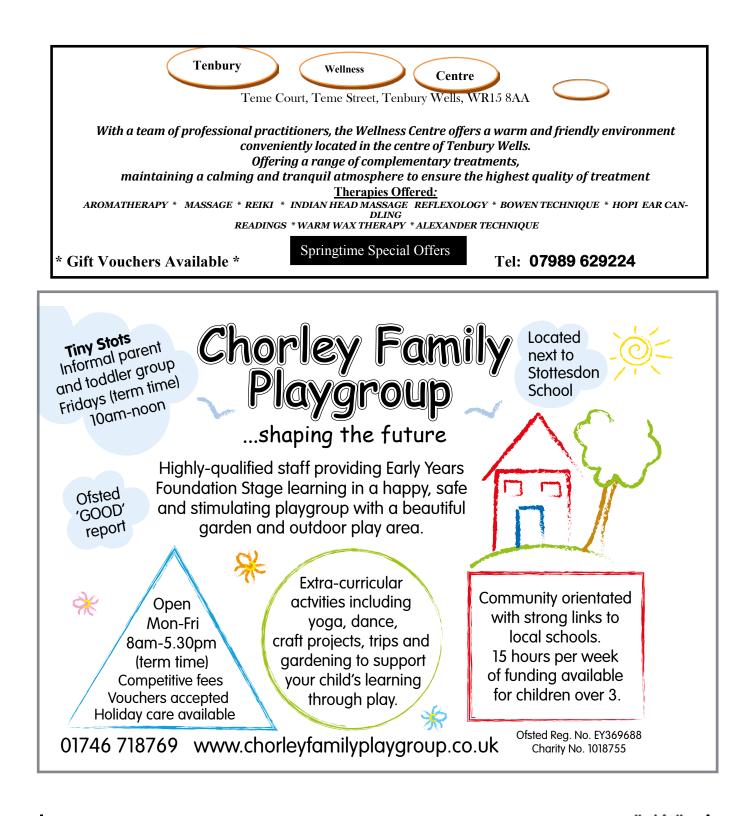
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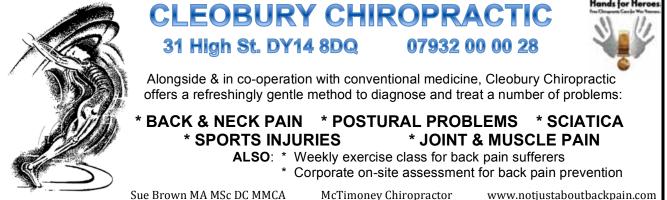
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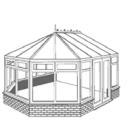
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# **IN BUSINESS: Mark Williams, Professional Willwriter**



Mark Williams at home. Or he'll call at your place, whichever suits you best.

Born into an Army family in Tanzania, it was natural that Mark Williams would work in the services. His choice was the police, starting in Hampshire in 1979 and moving up country to West Mercia in 1986. He retired in 2009 as a Detective Superintendent, having covered the local area and worked mainly from Kidderminster. and Telford stations. He knows the territory and its people well.

"When I left the Police, I wanted to get back to some sort of face to face work, it was the best part of policing," he says. He chose to become a willwriter, which meant extra training and passing a two-stage exam before being accepted as a member of the Institute of Professional Willwriters. Much r e spected in the legal profession, as he makes clear: "The only legal body with a Code of Practice approved by Trading Standards."

The standards he offers are impressive: "I set a deadline for a job, with a guaranteed fixed price." And when he's not in his busy period from January to May ("At this time of year, I'm probably working a 60 hour week") he's taking time to catch up on his training and developments in the law. Part of the requirement to belong to his professional body is updating his knowledge every year.

35 years spent dealing with the law and people reflect in his interview technique: "I don't rush someone, it's the same fee regardless of the time it takes, and as people get older they're still sharp but it just takes them a little longer to follow things. You need to speak clearly and slowly." Anyone who's taken a phone message from a call centre, where a 250 miles an hour jabber means they can hit their target, will appreciate how much easier Mark's mature and experienced approach is.

There are frustrations and occasional challenges in the job, but he never gets tired of it. "Not at all. Every will is different, every person is, too, and you're meeting so many people."

"I don't think that enough young people starting a family think about making a will. It's an important part of ensuring their child's future if a tragedy should occur. And some families don't arrange a lasting power of attorney until it's too late, then find that member of the family has lost the capacity to do it. Not just through dementia, though that is the most common reason for seeking it, it can be a stroke, an accident, whatever...." It's not a very happy subject to discuss, but the simple logic of what he says cannot be denied.

He's in a delicate but vital business, as anyone who has experienced the loss of a parent or close relative who never quite got around to making out a will can tell you. And the matter of probate, or recording in detail the inheritance a departed relative is leaving behind, is an area where he is happy to leave it to the family: "I always encourage people to do their own probate, so far as they can."

His knowledge is recognised in the work he does organising willwriting sessions for the West Mercia Police and sometimes their neighbouring forces. And with a good reputation across a wide area, will he look to expand the business in the years to come? "No. I enjoy seeing people face to face and if you get too big you lose contact with that side." It's a lean operation: Mark, wife Lyn with specialist personnel knowledge and a part time secretary. Still personal.

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### The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page March 2014 - Volume Ten - Edition Twelve

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### Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR - 07703 965 064 Theresa Parfitt; theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE - 01299 272300 In Love Lane. Open 09.00 to 5.00, Mon to Fri. CITIZENS ADVICE - 08444 991100. Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00.

**CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE CARERS (CoCo) - 01299 270018**. Katja Ward is the contact; office hours 10.00 to 12.00 noon, Monday to Friday.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER POLICE. WPC Anne O'Leary; ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS AND GUIDES: Iain Smith CM 271809

**CRIMESTOPPERS - 0800 555 111**. Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime. **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE** - Women's Aid, 24 Hour support: **0800 783 1359** 

HOME FROM HOSPITAL - 01584 878046. Help over the first few weeks back home from Age UK. JOB VACANCIES - 01299 272300. See the local list in Cleobury Country Centre.

MARKET HALL- Dorothy CM272717, 07761 976650 mobile, or dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk MEDICAL CENTRE - 01299 270209. At weekends and out of surgery hours, the Shrop Doc Service. SHROP DOC - 08444 068888. Service available evenings and weekends.

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

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. Website: 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 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - 0345 678 9000

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM - E-mail richard@ssyf.net.

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

WASTE DISPOSAL - 0345 678 9007. The contractor is Veolia

WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCIES - Severn Trent on 0800 783 444.





www.mccartneys.co.uk

### 36 Housman Way • Cleobury M'tr

A well-appointed new build property presented to a high standard. With kitchen diner, living room, three bedrooms, ensuite facilities and family bathroom. Allocated parking and a single garage. Small pets considered. Sorry no benefits or smokers. Energy Rating C.



## 7-8 Paper Mill • Cleobury Mt'r

Two bedroom cottage located in a peaceful area on the outskirts of Cleobury Mortimer. Finished to a high standard the property benefits from double glazing and oil fired central heating. Energy rating D.



### 5 Paper Mill • Cleobury M'tr

A terraced one bedroom cottage, located in a quiet no through lane with pleasant outlook over fields. Accommodation includes Lounge, Kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. To the front of the property is a small fore garden area and parking for one vehicle. Energy rating E



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