Cleobury Clarion



SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

MAY 2014

A MINISTER CALLS



Nick Davies of Hobsons (left) welcomes Rural Affairs Minister Dan Rogerson to the brewery.

Rural Affairs Minister Dan Rogerson visited Cleobury Mortimer on April 2nd, to officially open the new Hobson's Visitor Centre at their Tenbury Road brewery. It fitted in very neatly with English Tourism Week - had you heard about that? - and the minister proved to be a real who could fan, penetrating questions when shown the production area.

The work was done by the Bate Brothers, Mick, David and Paul, who hadn't built walls with outer gabions before. These metal cages contain stone from the Clee Hill, in line with the brewery's policy of keeping everything as local as possible. Heating comes from the deep bore hole that is the centre of the Hobsons complex. And the fine ash bar is hand made from a fallen tree taken out of the river at Bishops Castle and worked into a really attractive unit here, by Paul Bate in the nearby Woodtappers works.

The Department for Rural Affairs gave a grant of £50,000 towards the very attractive Centre, which we described in the April issue. The occasion also saw the launch of the new Oldfields Orchard Worcestershire cider that Hobsons are marketing with their well known logo on the label. More about that when the editor has sobered up from testing it. Have a look at Page 9 to learn a little more.

WONDERFUL RESULT



Rosemary Abbiss of Nightingale Nursing Fund with Jay Uddi (centre) and The Lamp staff.

The Charity Evening at The Lamp Restaurant on the High Street was a huge success, with every table booked and every customer smiling.

Manager Jay Uddi had promised to donate half the evening's takings to Nightingale Nursing and with the management topping it up a little, the result was a cheque for £1,000 for this vital cause. "A wonderful atmosphere, with all enjoying good food and good company," reported Rosemary Abbiss.

The Lamp really is making its presence felt and building goodwill in the community.



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The Cleobury Clarion. May 2014



Sue Henderson of Macmillan Cancer Support. Looking for a few more volunteers. See Page 7.



A great local talent who works hard to help other young musicians, Aaron Booton.

See Page 51.



In Business. William Henry at Simply Fresh - a strong success story.

See Page 55

And On Other Pages....

5: Big Hearted Cleobury

9: Hobsons Selling Cider!

11: Junior Band Success

13: Gardeners' Question Time

15: The Clarion Jobs Page 1

17: Shropshire's Cycling Festival

19: The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

21: Explorers to Gambia

23: Happening on High Street

25: A Facial For Men!

27: Philip Dunne MP

28: Monthly Calendar Part One

29: ...And Part Two

33: Clarion Coppers

37: Farming - Jenny Everingham

39: The Medical Centre

41: Clarion Jobs Page 2

43: A Community School

45: The Weekly Social Calendar

47: May in the Wyre Forest

49: Vote for CoCo - Please!

53: Busy Day in Town

57: An allotment, anyone?

59: Local Information

The Clarion on the Web: www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk



Cleobury Country Centre

Courses running





Email:

• Emergency First Aid at Work, Wed 7th May 9.00am -4.00pm

• Forecasting Cash flow & Breakeven Analysis, Mon 12th May, 9.30am—4.00pm

• Defib User Course, Thurs 15th May, 9am—12.00 noon.

• Manual Handling, Thurs 15th May, 1pm—5pm

Health & Safety Level 3 - 19th, 20th & 21st May 9.00am—4.00pm
 Free Business Networking —Wed 21st May, 6—8pm at the Centre

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THANK YOU

I want to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours who attended my 90th birthday gettogether on March 9th at the Sports and Social Club. It was kindly arranged by Melvyn, Ann, Alan and Lorraine.

Instead of presents, donations were made to the Bone Cancer Research Centre at Oswestry, a sum of just over £400.

Cyril Breakwell

BIG HEARTED CLEOBURY Roger Gittins has the proof:

The Sunday League Charity Fund last year donated 80 percent of the funds raised to the MacMillan Cancer Support and the Nightingale Nurses. They each received a cheque to the value of £1469.

My thanks go to the captains and players of the team at The Bell, Stable and the Sports and Social Club. The Lottery players at The Bell donated £780 to the fund

Not bad for a tidily little league on a Sunday night in Cleobury.

The Poppy Appeal has so far raised £5918.84 with still some more to come in. May I pass on the thanks from the Appeal to all the businesses who allowed us to place collection boxes on their counters.

One business refused to have a box, returning it to a street collector; another could not be bothered to put the box supplied on their counter!

My thanks to the collectors, schools and all that did a grand job in raising such a magnificent total.

Roger Gittins

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

May for many gardeners is one of the best months in the garden, with the freshness of spring and the promise of an even better summer full of colour. A wide selection of summer bedding plants will be on show at the nurseries and garden centres. But, as in April, resist buying too early unless you have a frost free greenhouse, conservatory or cold frame to keep them in as the majority of these plants are still quite tender.

At the April Quiz, four teams were represented. Winners were Teme Valley, 2nd Clows Top and 3rd Abberley. The winning team went home with prizes of summer flowering plants for their gardens. The Club would like to thank Derek Walker for judging the show, compiling and hosting the quiz.

This year's Spring Show had some very good exhibit entries, spring bulbs this year have been absolutely fabulous. The Show winners were Joint 3rd Bob Marriott & Suzanne France, 2nd Kath Thornton, 1st and Best Exhibit won by Marion Wilson.

If you're not a member, then come along and join us at one of our monthly meetings. It's a lovely social evening and you don't even need to have a garden to enjoy the company and talks.

Please come along to our Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday May 17th, 10 till 12 noon.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 28th May and the speaker for the evening will be 'Vivienne McGee' on the Hardy Plant Society.

LOOKING AHEAD...

There's a Charity Challenge at Highley's Severn Centre in June, raising funds for Breast Cancer Care. It's on Saturday June 21st and offers a range of seven exercise classes, from Boxercise to Zumba, for a half or full day.

So you work out, maybe try a new discipline under instruction and the charge goes to a very good cause. Put it in your diary, please, and you can call Nadia Dodd on 01746 860000 for more details or to book a place. Sounds like a great idea.

IN PRAISE OF....

Juckes of Worcester is the wine company that took over the old Inspired Wines of Cleobury. Our established habit of a case of mixed red wines every month has continued with them. Great value, too.

But we wanted a change for the warmer months, a choice of dry whites for those lazy summer evenings. Ever forgetful, the editor didn't phone until April 17th, asking them to change the order but accepting this was very late notice.

On the 18th the usual case arrived and I assumed it would be all reds. Until I looked at what we'd got and found they'd done what we asked, including a bottle of Gavi Conchetta la Battistina amongst a good range of whites. And as usual there was a 13th bottle, free of charge.

Good people to deal with, they're on 01299 890113 and do put themselves out to help. A service that keeps customers.

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

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT NEEDS YOU

Macmillan Cancer Support is one of the best known charities in the country and in 2013 the Shropshire branches raised a total of £460,000. Cleobury Mortimer is a small but vital part of that effort, raising about £4,000 a year, money that is all pledged to come back into Shropshire.

Last year they helped 218 families with grants for fuel, clothing and transport help. There are two Macmillan funded GPs helping support people affected by cancer and cancer specialist nurses working in our hospitals, plus seven funded therapists. As they put it: "It is our aim that no one will face cancer alone."

The Cleobury branch faces a problem, with its volunteer numbers falling from 10 two years ago to seven in 2014. The work to help others goes on, but they need new blood, with fresh fund raising ideas and new energy. They get support for coffee mornings and the street collection that will be on the High Street on the 10th of this month, plus bequests and the generous Dominoes League donation; a little extra help would be very welcome.



Sue Henderson, secretary of the Cleobury branch for ten years and an inspiration with her quiet work

The task is not a huge one, just help with the established events and maybe add to the list if you have a fresh idea. The contribution you'll make to the community will be far, far greater. Talk to Sue Henderson on CM 270597 or email t.j.henderson@virgin.net

METHODIST PRESIDENT VISITS CLEOBURY

The Reverend Ruth Gee, President of the Methodist Church in Britain, visited our chapel on March 29th to join a coffee morning, meet members of the congregation and admire the work being done in The Hub. That's where there are regular evening sessions for young people to meet, greet and relax.



Revd Helen Roberts (left) with Methodist President Revd Ruth Gee in the Youth Hub.

Clearly impressed by what she saw, Reverend Gee spent some time chatting to local people as she briefly walked around eastern end of town, taking in The Wells before moving on to complete a busy day at Farlow and Ludlow.

This month, on the 31st, the church celebrates the 75th birthday of a Methodist presence here. It will be open from 12.00 until 4.00pm, when anyone with past connections will be welcome, along with . On Sunday June 1st the 11.00 am service will be conducted by Reverend Deanne Evans, when again new and past faces will be made very welcome.





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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

HOBSONS CIDER? IMPOSSIBLE, SURELY



The recommended way to see Hobson's Cider: a sunny day and the bottle emptied.

It was officially launched on April 2nd and came as a surprise from an established brewer of fine ales. Hobson's cider!

It's made from apples picked from the Oldfields orchard and pressed Oldfields Farm in Frith Common, just across border in Worcestershire. As the label will tell you, they use traditional Harry Masters Jersey, Dabinett and Yarlington Mill apples to produce a very smooth taste. We chose the Medium Dry; there is a Sweet alternative if you prefer.

It's in the shops now and your favourite pub should be able to satisfy any curiosity this news may arouse by serving you with a bottle or two. Cheers!

AN UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL

We've all been there, moved to a new area, lots of work to be done but how do you find really good trades people? We were in that position around 10 years ago and came across Graham Gardner and Glenn Broadbent, who expertly built a stone garden wall for us. They even went to the quarry to handpick the materials needed to best match the existing section. We have asked them back almost every year to carry out numerous jobs and have found them courteous, unassuming, highly skilled, meticulous and wholly professional. We recommend them very highly, as do our neighbours who employed them in 2012 after part of their roof was swept away in the July flooding. Graham moved to Cleobury around six years ago, so he's a local man.

They haven't asked us to write this piece about them, they are too unassuming for that. But we feel that anyone looking to employ good local people might welcome an honest recommendation

Contact Graham on 07976 714604 or Glenn on 01746 762494

Flo Hadley and Peter Straughan

POUND THE BOUNDS

Sunday May 4th sees the traditional Pound the Bounds around Rock village. Once more the event is raising funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance.

It's based on Rock Village Hall (OS Ref 735713) and registration starts at 8.00am for walkers on a choice of six routes. These range from an easy three-miler for younger children and for the rest there's a choice from six miles up to a demanding 25 miles around the Parish boundary. There is a registration fee, varying for each distance.

Bacon sarnies will be available at the start, water at stations along the way, plus hot drinks and cake at other points. You have a choice of guided walks or be independent and there will be a choice of meals when you get back.

Further details from Henk Buzink on 01299 832496 or e hands.buzink@btinternet.com. And did we mention the lovely countryside? Do we need to? It will be a great day.

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The Cleobury Clarion - May 2014 - Page 10

Clarion Clippings -- The Local News

CLEOBURY'S JUNIOR BAND SUCCESS

The training band took part in the Much Wenlock Live Arts festival at William Brookes school. They have learnt and practised two pieces over the last six weeks to compete against other young performers. We had some really good results: 1st place in the primary school trios, a 2nd and 3rd in the solo competition, a 2nd in the overall ensembles and a 3rd in the secondary school trios. We are so proud of what they have achieved over the past few weeks and are now working on a programme for the summer. Jack Martin

BROWNIE UPDATE

Thank you to all those who took part in the Thinking Day lights on February 22nd. We had a great response, and would love to make this a Cleobury tradition on Thinking Day every year, so warn you all in good time for next year.

Both Brownie units are going from strength to strength, and are at full capacity. We have short waiting lists for Wednesday and Thursday units, so girls would not have to wait too long if they would

like to join. Please speak to me on CM 272945 if you are interested and I will guide you through what to do. We would make you most welcome.

We have now moved both units from our old home in the Pump House to the wonderful surroundings and comfort of the Market Hall, so that is where you'll find us from 5pm until 6.30 on both evenings. Because of the great kitchen facilities in our new home, we have been inundated with great treats as a result of completing our Cooking badges too.

The girls have all recently completed their Big Birthday Challenge badges, which involved them all raising some money for a charity. The one they chose was Little Hearts in Birmingham, which we all know has with local connections a family. They did this, believe it or not, by being silent.

Rebecca Barnes

THE LACON CHILDE LOTTERY

Congratulations to Nigel Hopkins, winner of the April draw, which brought him a cheque for £62.00.

Not a bad return for an investment of just £10.00 and

the more people who support the draw, the bigger the prize. Call the school on CM 270312 if you fancy an inexpensive flutter.

ANOTHER SHINDIG NIGHT AT CLOWS TOP

Shindig - that's a good old word for a wild night - have a show coming up at Clows Top's Victory Hall on the 17th this month. It presents 'Bowjangles' with an evening of music, song, dance and comedy, with the doors opening at 7.00.

Adult tickets at £10.00 include a supper, or £8.00 without the grub. Under 14s get in at half price. There will be a bar, a raffle and much fun.

Mandy on 01299 832546 or Roger on 832044 can tell you more and sell you a ticket.

CHEESE AND WINE

There's a Cheese and Wine Evening in Billingsey's St Mary's Church at 7.30 on May 31st. All to raise funds for Headcase, the only charity dedicated to research into brain tumours. Founding trustee Andy Johnson will talk about their vital work.

No entry charge, just a donation, and there will be a raffle including prizes from Sainsbury's in Bridgnorth.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME IS COMING

Stottesdon, renowned for its Open Gardens weekend, has done it again.

Somethin' Else Sound is coming to Stottesdon on Monday June 16th to make a recording of Gardeners' Question Time for BBC Radio 4. It will be a fascinating experience, not just keen gardeners, though Under 16s are not allowed.

It will take place in St Mary's Church, which has superb acoustics, between 6.30 and 7.45 p.m. The doors will be open between 5.30 and 6.20, to allow people to submit questions and enjoy light refreshments. The cost of these are included in a small entry charge which covers any expenses. There will be space on the tickets for people to submit questions before the recording.

As soon as the tickets arrive, we will be advertising extensively and arranging local ticket outlets. Since they will be sold on a first come first serve basis, it is unlikely that any will be available at the door. Any queries to Tina King 01746 7 1 8 5 4 3 .

AND TALKING OF OPEN G A R D E N S ...

We have been opening assorted gardens under the aegis of the National Gardens Scheme for over 25 years. This year it will take place over the weekend of June 21/22nd between 11.00 and 6.00. The Scheme supports a number of charities, mainly

cancer related, and provides funding for trainee gardeners. We have kept the charge to £5 each, with children under 16 free. The theme of the pot competition this year is The Horse, real or fictional. Think what you can do with Red Rum, Warhorse or My Little Pony. Pots should contain at least two plants, though allowance will be made for vivid imagination. Pots, of any size, should be taken to the Manor car park in the Bullring by 10.00 am on Saturday. There will be further information in the Cleobury Clarion. Any queries contact Tina King 01764 718 543

STUNNING



You'll have to go and look in the window of the Severn Hospice Shop to appreciate the work in this dress. Fashioned entirely from men's ties, it took Joyce Manning about 200 hours to make; a tribute to her needlework skills. She's one of the Craft Group who work magic there.

BIDDING FOR A SHARE



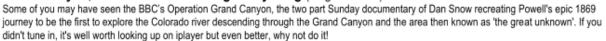
Beth Lacey (spectacles) makes her point about one of the Lacon Childe School exhibits to a visitor.

The Market Hall was crowded on April 19th, with the show of ideas bidding for the Capital Receipt fund. There were 11 to look at, discuss with the people behind them and then vote for your choice. The place was busy for most of the seven hours it was open, with Councillors there to talk and listen. They were delighted with the response and no less than 362 people voting. The final decision council's to make, paying attention to the public opinion shown. Most popular ideas were from The Sports and Social Club, Scouts and Guides, the Skate Park and the Bowls Club. That list may reflect who had most members to turn out and vote, of course Whatever, the Council does deserve praise for another successful idea that got people involved.

WORLDWIDE ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

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

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



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

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Shropshire's Cycling Festival

It's coming to Cleobury Mortimer on June 7th, based at Lacon Childe School and offering a wide range of cycling activities to try, watch or just wonder at. Cycling is really on the up in Britain after our tremendous success in the Olympics and the Tour de France; this is Shropshire's way of introducing it to the family. All thanks to Sarah and Richard Robertshaw of organisers Step Out, a community interest company based in the Wyre Forest.

The main participant event of the day will be the 50 mile Sportive, a ride around the lanes and beauties of Shropshire for all ages and ambitions, but definitely not a race. You have to pay an entry fee and formally enter for that test of your two-wheeled stamina, and it all gets under way at 9.30, long before the Festival opens its gates to the public. Just expect them to come riding back into the school in the afternoon.

At 11.00 the public Festival starts, with a huge range of attractions. Like a four-bike BMX start gate practice session or the one kilometre TT Challenge. There are competitions, like the Trackstand or the Tyre and Tube - if that's about changing tyres, only enter if you're prepared to be humiliated by the skills of the professionals.

There will be an Under 10s practice course and displays by sponsors Bewdley Outdoors and Pearce Cycles of Ludlow. And if you fancy trying a test ride, Pearce Cycles will have a range of bikes to try and lots of good advice to get you started. Don't forget what a wonderful range of tracks and scenery is on offer to you in the nearby Wyre Forest, and it all helps to keep the family fit. When the organisers say that this will be a fun day for all of the family, they know it's true because they have laid on such a variety of two-wheeled things to do.

Where else in this area can you get a Keiser intro to spin sessions (the mind begins to boggle at this stage), dual coaching sessions or TRX/Training sessions, all for free? Yes, for the public it all comes at no cost, all you have to do is come along and enjoy.

Without getting commercial, we should thank sponsors Urban Fitness GB, Pearce Cycles and Bewdley Outdoors.

Saturday June 7th, at Lacon Childe School. It all kicks off at 11.00 and keeps on running until 3.30. See you there.

More information: Richard Robertshaw at 07962 428418.

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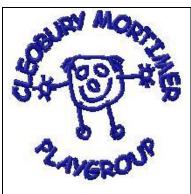


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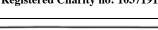
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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

We have been planting seeds at home, ready for the warm weather to get the veg patch underway. Bubbles was very intrigued, and thought that the seed trays needed a little extra investigation, presumably to check that we had planted them to his exacting standards. Upon returning home, four of eight trays were upside down, and there was compost all over the utility floor. Needless to say, now there beansprouts growing out of the carrot tray, and sweetcorn where leaks should be. How frustrating!

If Bubbles had gone to live with my parents in the countryside, he wouldn't have been tipping seed trays over, rather chasing baby bunny rabbits around the field. Unfortunately the wild rabbits around Ribbesford can suffer from Myxomatosis. This is a deadly disease of rabbits that causes swelling of the eyes and other areas. The virus is spread by direct contact with affected rabbits, or by being bitten by infected fleas or mosquitos. While the virus does not affect cats, it is deadly to domestic rabbits and there is nothing that we can do to help once they have caught the disease. There is, however, a vaccination available for domestic rabbits that will also protect them against myxomatosis and viral haemorrhagic disease in the same injection.

Rabbits are the fastest growing pet population in the UK, and thankfully, usually if you get their environment right, and feeding correct, they can live for many trouble free years, to become much loved pets. Throughout May we are offering 15% off myxomatosis vaccination for pet rabbits as a little helping hand to get them covered. We then recommend annual booster vaccinations to keep them protected into the future. Of course we will give every rabbit a full health check with every vaccination. Also during May we are offering 10% off any flystrike prevention treatments for rabbits.

All rabbits are also invited to come and see our nurses (by appointment) for a free wellness examination, and advice about diet and husbandry. Our fully qualified veterinary nurses are full of useful hints, tips and advice – always keen to see you and your pets – even if it is just for a bit of advice and to give them a fuss. Simply speak to our reception team to book your appointment.

As always, Thanks for reading.

Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS



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Clarion Clippings - The Gambian News



Cleobury's Explorers are the older Scouts, 14 to 18s, with Davis and Chris Andrews their leaders. They clearly enjoy a challenge and February headed Gambia, to do missionary work and set up a Scout group in the village of Madina Salam. That was after a lot of fund raising and 12 injections that took eight weeks plus a six hour flight that stretched to twelve with the delays. And there was no luxury when they did arrive - they all slept in tents.

A day looking around ended with a meal of local benichin, and on Days Two and Three they got down to painting a block of classrooms and the medical centre while one member set about getting some local bicycles into working order.

Day Four was relaxed, buying provisions in the local market and taking a bike ride down to the local reptile farm. Day Five was a rest day, spent on a boat trip through the mangroves and Six was spent buying food for the final party and a bike ride across the border into Senegal, crossing the border river in a dugout canoe. Then a beach party, with much singing and dancing.

Seven was departure day and an evening flight home. New friends were made, many vowed to return to help the new Scout group. Before leaving, they arranged to buy two bikes for the Scout leaders to cycle to work. Both leaders are full of praise for the Explorers' behaviour: "... a real credit and a pleasure to be with." And one of the Explorers described the trip as "an amazing experience and I shall never forget it."

EMILY'S ON FORM



Lacon Childe head of sport Kristian Wood with Emily.

Emily Price has featured on these pages before, a prize winning schoolgirl golfer. And her first tournament this year was the Shropshire Schools Girls event, where she conquered bad weather and some strong opposition to take the 2014 title.

It was organised by Kristian Wood of Lacon Childe School and held on the demanding course at Cleobury's Golf Club, where Emily is a member. A real talent to be proud of.

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Happening on High Street

THE LIME TREES

We hope you agree the lime trees that have graced High Street for almost 120 years are looking fabulous following their recent pruning. The work was done by local company Lewis Arborcare, the team always headed by Lee who has taken these magnificent trees to his heart. You will see that vertical ropes have been put in place to train new shoots and branches so that, over time, the upper and lower lines grow and join form together to a solid pleached structure that is unique to Shropshire and much of the rest of the UK. The work funded by Shropshire Council, who contributed half the cost, Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council and local people, including Cleobury Mortimer Horticultural Society.

The Society also maintains the gravel borders around the trees, keeping them weed-free: many thanks to members who weeded and tidied the gravel borders recently. Thanks, too, to those who keep the trough outside The Talbot looking colourful, spruced and well watered. However, we think it's time for a new planting scheme

so look out for the lavenders, thymes and so on that we shall be putting in. This is a great example of local people helping their town look attractive and well cared for. Thank you! Flo Hadley

Chair, The Horticultural Society

WASH HOUSE TO OPEN SOON

More details about the Cleobury Wash-house that is to open in the premises previously known as Cleobury News. Quite a turnaround, you must admit.

Andrew and Sharon Wakeman confirm that they will be running the business and hope to have the doors open for business by May 12th. It's been a big task getting the place kitted out for a totally different use and we've seen Andrew in there, grafting away at 7.00 in the morning. If effort deserves reward, they get it.

EDNA MAES CHANGES

A new owner at the Edna Maes salon in Talbot Square. Gemma Newton, who started there as an improver, has taken over the business. One of her first moves was to put out an Aboard telling the world that the place will be open on Mondays in future. That is a good move, as opening hours have seemed a trifle erratic in recent months.

We wish Gemma the very best of fortune in this, her first step into running a business of her own.

EXCELLENT



What an improvement the work on the town's Historic Core has made. Traders at the April Farmers' Market were full of praise, the appearance of the Parish Church itself is improved and control of parking means an easy access for essential vehicles. All that needs to be sorted now is that rickety fence.



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Another Page of Clarion Smalls

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The Cleobury Clarion - May 2014 - Page 24

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A FACIAL FOR MEN! CAN THIS BE SERIOUS?

It was Jo Apperley's idea. We were talking about her advert Clarion and she the suggested tidying up editorial locks. Recognising that I was close to qualifying for the Old English Sheepdog class at Crufts - where they'd throw me out after one glance at the pedigree - I decided to let a lady with a lot of style try her skills on me.

"Do you fancy a facial while you're about it" she added, to my slight amazement. "It'll take 20 years off your appearance." Well qualified as a coward, I said I'd think about it. The hair trim got me thinking, Jo getting just the right touch with the minimum of instruction, one of the best cuts I'd had in years. I opted for a facial next time.

Facials are the province of Lily, hidden away in the back of the salon. There I lay on an electric blanket and let the warmth soak in as Lily gently applied a lemon cleanser before examining my skin and deciding it was a touch dry and began a process of layers of moisturiser, specialist masques and finally a chocolate mousse facial that smelt good enough to eat. "Guilt free chocolate" as she put it. Definitely non fattening, too.

I will admit I lost count of the different layers she applied, as the warmth took its effect and I dozed off. It is a very relaxing experience, but whether it took 20 years off me is arguable; my much better half still recognised me.

Gentlemen, it's a very good experience, with a wide range of liquids and balms to choose from. And all of them organic, chemical free and very easy on the skin and the sense of smell. And the staff are great at making you feel special. I can recommend it. *IR*

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

We have begun Summer term in earnest. Oldest children are readying themselves for transition to school and younger ones are finding their feet.

This term our 'Little Tiddlers' parent and toddler session sees a couple of small changes. Session times are moving to 9.00-11.00am, in line with our normal opening time, and of Kinlet School, for parents with older children. And the session will now be

open to children from birth to five; for more information, please call 07794 166514.

Playgroup sees another change this month, as Shirley Lewis moves on to pastures new, to work with Severn Edge Vetinerary group. We would like to say 'thank you' to her for everything she has done over the years.

THE WINE WALK IS COMING

June 27th is the date of the Friends of St Mary's popular Wine Walk. 7.30 to 10.30pm, with a programme to include details of venues and four drinks, all for £9. The walk is an opportunity to enjoy a stroll around the town, solo or in a group, and visit some or all of the venues for a glass of wine or soft drink. There will be something different to sip at each venue.

More information and tickets from Alec Osbaldiston on 01584 891351.

SILLY BITS

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Police say that details are sketchy.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer.

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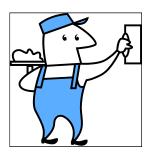
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Letter from Westminster -Philip Dunne MP

On June 4th Her Majesty will be delivering her Queen's Speech to assembled members of the House of Lords and as many MPs from the House of Commons as can squeeze into the Upper Chamber for this most colourful of state occasions, which marks the start of the new parliamentary through the state opening Parliament. Her Majesty has opened every session of Parliament at Westminster since her accession, except when pregnant in 1959 with Prince Andrew and 1963 with Prince Edward.

This prompts me to reflect on the extraordinary achievement of Her Majesty, a year on from her Diamond Jubilee, in the constitutional life of our nation, as well as in serving her subjects in so many other ways across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

Over the course of her reign she has worked tirelessly to represent Britain as head of state. In 61 years, the Queen has undertaken more than 261 official overseas visits, including nearly 100 State Visits, to more than 116 countries. She has received well over 100 state visits since 1952. This year the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have already visited the Vatican and will visit France this summer, as well as hosting the President of Ireland and Prime Minister of Singapore.

In an average year, the Queen hosts more than 50,000 people at banquets, lunches, dinners, receptions and garden parties at Buckingham Palace, as well as more than 8,000 people each year at garden parties and investitures at Holyroodhouse. Her Majesty has been supported enormously over these past 60 plus years by her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. The Duke has resumed state duties at the age of 92, having made a remarkable recovery from ill health which followed last summer's Jubilee celebrations. His notoriously mischievous sense of humour has often provided good copy for the media, but epitomises the dry wit and good grace with which he has always performed royal duties.

The succession is secured for three generations through Prince Charles, Prince William and his young son Prince George. Last month the infant Prince joined his parents the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on an extremely successful visit to New Zealand and Australia. The impact of this visit is hard to overstate. It was brilliant for Britain and helps raise the profile of our historic ties throughout all nations of the commonwealth.

The respect in which the Royal Family is held overseas, thanks in large part to Her Majesty's exemplary role over so many years, gives the United Kingdom a unique position in the world. Britain's constitutional monarchy provides much more than the colourful pageantry of state occasions and a proud part of our historic heritage. It allows us to enjoy stable political structures and the democratic rule of law.



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The May Clarion Social Calendar

| Date | Time | Details | Contact | Telephone Number |
|--------|-----------|--|----------------|---------------------|
| Thu 1 | | GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY | | |
| | 7.00pm | A Rock Pathfinders' evening walk starting from Childe Road car | Alan | 01299 400304 |
| | | park here in Cleobury. Check which one. | | |
| Sun 4 | 8.00am | Registration starts for the Rock Village "Pound the Bounds". SEE PAGE 9 | | |
| Sun 4/ | | Discover Bewdley Spring Fair | | |
| Mon 5 | | | | |
| Mon 5 | 8.00am | Faith in the Pub meets at the KA to listen to a speaker, ask | Roger | CM 270843 |
| | | questions and exchange views. No longer a male province, the meeting welcomes ladies. SEE PAGE 35. | Skelhorn | |
| Wed 7 | 10.00am | Walking for Health meet at the Sports Centre for a stroll and refreshments | Mandy Smith | 01299 270312 |
| | 2.30pm | Cleobury WI garden party at 10 Church Street. SEE PAGE 49 | Judith Sant | CM 270983 |
| | 8.00pm | Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Good parking. | Sonia Pearsall | 01584 890874 |
| Fri 9 | | BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES | | |
| | | EMPTIED TODAY | | |
| | 8.00pm | Bingo Night, Cleeton St Mary Village Hall. Proceeds to | | |
| | | Silvington Church. | | |
| Sat 10 | 9.00am to | MacMillan Cancer Support street collection on the High Street. | | |
| | 2.00pm | Please dig deep for this wonderful charity. | | |
| Mon 12 | 7.00pm | Cleobury Parish Council's Annual General meeting, in the | Matt Sheehan | CM 271154 |
| | | Market Hall | | |
| Wed 14 | 10.30am | CoCo Coffee morning in the Market hall | Katja Jones | CM 270018 |
| | 7.30pm | Neen Savage WI meet in the Village Hall, where Mrs Perks will | Angela | CM 270318 |
| | | talk about Rag Rugs | Flowers | |
| | 8.00pm | Cleobury branch of the Royal British Legion meet at The Bell | Ron Breakwell | CM 270380 |
| | | Inn, Lower Street | | |
| Thu 15 | | GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY | | |
| | 10.30am | Rock Pathfinders walk out from Gardeners Meadow car park on | Alan | 01299 400304 |
| | | Severn Side South OS Reference 790750 | | |
| | 7.45pm | Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane | Alan Evans | CM 270114 |
| Fri 16 | 8.00pm | Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. | Sonia Pearsall | 01584 890874 |

EVENT ORGANISERS

Your local happening can reach a wider public through the Clarion's 800 monthly copies, distributed throughout the area. Calendar entries are free, just get details to the editor by the 20th of the preceding month. Contact details on Page 59.

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The May Social Calendar - continued

| Date | Time | Details | Contact | Telephone Number |
|--------|---------|---|----------------|---------------------|
| Sat 17 | 9.30am | Cleobury Farmers' Market, on the town centre Historic Core. | | |
| | 10.00am | Plant Sale at Clows Top Gardening Club in the Victory Hall | | |
| | 7.00pm | Shindig presents "Bowjangles" at Clows Top Victory Hall. SEE PAGE 11 | Mandy | 01299 832456 |
| Wed 21 | 10.00am | Walking for Health meet at the Sports Centre for a stroll and refreshments | Mandy Smith | 01299 270312 |
| | 8.00pm | Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Good parking. | Sonia Pearsall | 01584 890874 |
| Thu 22 | | BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY | | |
| | 7.00am | The Polling Station at the Market Hall opens for the European Parliament Election and doesn't close until 10.00pm. Please do vote – these people get lonely if you don't. | | |
| | 2.00pm | The Cleobury branch of Macmillan Cancer Support hold their AGM in the Market Hall, quite apart from the election stuff. Come and hear what they do, then agree to help. | | |
| Wed 28 | 10.30am | CoCo Coffee morning, in the Market Hall | Katja Jones | CM 270018 |
| | 7.30pm | Vivienne McGee talks to Clows top Gardening Club about the Hardy Plant Society, in the Victory Hall as usual. | | |
| Fri 23 | 8.00pm | Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. | Sonia Pearsall | 01584 890874 |
| Fri 30 | | GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY | | |
| Sat 31 | 12.00pm | The Methodist Church will be open until 4.00pm as part of its 75 th birthday weekend. Refreshments will be served. | | |
| | 1.30pm | The Royal British Legion and the Bowling Club combine to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal. SEE PAGE 49. | | |
| | 7.30pm | Cheese and Wine Evening, fund raising for Headcase Cancer Trust. SEE PAGE 11 | | |
| | | AND LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE | | |
| Sun 1 | 11.00am | 75 th Birthday Service at the Methodist Church will be conducted by Rev Deane Evans. SEE PAGE 7. | | |
| Wed 4 | 10.00am | Walking for Health meet at the Sports Centre for a stroll and refreshments | Mandy Smith | 01299 270312 |
| | 8.00pm | Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Good parking. | Sonia Pearsall | 01584 890874 |
| Thu 5 | | BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY | | |

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2 Moorfields • Mamble

Four bedroomed detached house set in a desirable village setting with glorious views over the surrounding countryside with the added benefit of a garage conversion to make it suitable for multigenerational living. Four bedrooms, master with en suite. Two reception rooms and conservatory. Energy certificate TBC.



The Sidings • Newnham Bridge

This award winning, 3 bedroomed, semi-detached property built in 2006 using reclaimed roof tiles and brickwork. The property comprises of: living room, kitchen, conservatory, downstairs cloakroom, master bedroom with ensuite, two further bedrooms and family bathroom. Double glazing throughout, LPG gas central heating and a log burner. Energy rating C.



Corbett House • Cleobury Mt'r

Well presented one bedroom flat conveniently located in Church Street of Cleobury Mortimer, close to all local amenities. Offering light and cosy accommodation the property is ideal for investors or first time buyers. Energy rating F.







Grove Meadow • Cleobury Mt'r

A modern detached 4 bedroom property. Having been improved and updated over recent years to provide comfortable family home. Garage and gardens. Energy rating E.



Dudnil Bungalow • Cleobury Mt'r

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Clarion Coppers With PCSO Nick Morris



Although it has been mentioned many times previously, the area where we live has a very low crime rate. Nevertheless, when someone is a victim of any crime, it can be at the least very upsetting, like the first one on this month's list. A young tree which had sentimental value was mindlessly uprooted from a front garden of a house in Cleobury Meadows on March 26th/27th and destroyed in the process. At a property in Oreton approximately 250 litres of heating oil was stolen between March 10th and 31st. Four hub caps were stolen from a car parked on a driveway in Childe Road during the night of March 30th/ 31st. During the same night a vehicle parked on Love Lane car park had audio speakers stolen, but luckily no other damage was caused. Between March 29th and April 4th thieves broke into a detached garage in Clee Hill and stole a yellow Suzuki quad bike and a trailer onto which it was already loaded. Three Edwardian vehicle radiators (two Wolsley, one Art Austria) were stolen from a workshop at a domestic property in Boraston Lane, Burford, sometime during the three weeks prior to the discovery of the theft on April 7th. A chainsaw worth £450 was stolen during the two weeks prior to April 10th from a farm building at Whatmore which had been left insecure during the daytime. In the early hours of April 10th damage was caused to a metal portacabin used as an office at a roadworks site near Kinlet. Nothing was stolen and it is thought that the offenders were after power tools to steal. At Clee Hill Quarry a burglary took place just before or just after midnight on April 10th. A workshop had been forced open and the CCTV disconnected before thieves stole a DeWalt grinder and a Britool wheeled toolbox worth about £700 in total. For those who want to know

more about crime figures in any police area in England, Wales or Northern Ireland, you can google 'police.uk', click on 'Find Your Neighbourhood', then enter the area you're interested in and navigate around the subjects.

I'm still having to ask too many drivers not to park on the pavements where they could impede the safe progress of disability scooters and pushchairs by not allowing more space. If a driver is worried about having damage done to his or her vehicle by passing traffic on a busy road, then I suggest that the vehicle be parked elsewhere, rather than have disabled people and children put at risk by having to enter the road. Please report any such obstruction immediately with details of the vehicle for us to attempt to issue a fixed penalty notice.

It's a valid reason to complain when drivers go too fast in built-up areas or when they exceed the speed limit or drive inconsiderately or dangerously, but I think slow drivers are also worth a mention. A lot of car drivers do not seem capable of going more than 40mph on an open road even when it is perfectly safe and legal to go up to 60mph. They seem to be oblivious of the fact that they are holding up other drivers causing frustration with a possibility that dangerous risks may be taken in order to get past. I will stick my neck out now and appeal to these '40mph maximum' drivers who even brake when negotiating the slightest hint of a bend in the road, to pull over as soon as possible to let drivers who want to arrive at their destinations today get by. Be aware that the comments about slow drivers are my own and not of West Mercia Police.

Nick Morris

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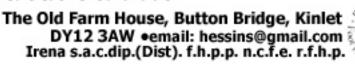
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

FAITH IN THE PUB



Bob Lillyman, much travelled man

Ex policeman Bob Lillyman had an interesting tale to tell in the KA's Faith in the Pub Night in April. He joined the force as a cadet and at the age of 17 was involved in the biggest drugs raid in West Mercia's history at that time. The record's moved up a bit since then.

He's been a Christian for many years and in 1993 was invited to travel to Philippines and join in Revivalist meeting. journey there took hours," he recalled. "Then I realised that some people had walked for longer than that to hear us speak; that put it into perspective."

He's been there ten times since that introduction, and to Kazakstan, Uganda, Kenya and Israel amongst others. "It's an exciting life, a privilege to be involved," he says

Experiences include a visit to a mountain village in the Philippine Islands where they'd never seen a white man before. "We were invited to a wedding, a four pig occasion. They had to slaughter four pigs to feed all the guests." On another visit they got Burundi Captain, the mayor in effect, to allow their pilgrimage to visit a remote village where there feuding and violence. "An old lady thanked us for mending the village." You got the feeling that people on such missions soon learn humility in the face of such simple faith. As one priest told him: "Christianity in India and Africa is not an addon, it's a way of life."

Another look at life, more food for thought.

A RECORD PAYMENT

The Clarion comes to you because our advertisers pay their bills and I in turn can pay the printer. Some pay promptly, bless 'em, while others struggle to remember and need a little reminding. That's life.

So I would like to thank one regular advertiser for setting a new record. On March 27th I emailed an invoice to Mike Longmore at Newbridge Computer Services at 3.10pm. At 4.57pm he emailed back to say he'd just paid the bill! JR

WHATEVER NEXT

It's a recent addition to the main street, at 8 Church Street. A little more about the people behind the title:

Healthy Friendships is a mental health charity based in Mid Wales and Shropshire, focussing mainly on older people with mental emotional issues like dementia, memory loss, anxiety and depression. They also have Whatever Next shops Welshpool. Newtown and These raise funds to carry out work like befriending and group activities. To enable all of them to remain open, we need volunteers. If you would be interested in helping in the shop please call in or call 01686 626221. We aim to be open 9.30 to 4.30 Monday to Friday and Saturday mornings but this depends on our volunteers. It be very rewarding, providing work experience, social interaction and a boost to self-esteem and confidence.

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SILLY BIT

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The Farming Page - Jenny Everingham

From The Farmhouse

Spring has sprung! The countryside is decked in fresh green growth, and fluffy lambs skipping in the meadows. What a difference a few weeks can make. We thought the rain would never stop, but it did, and though there are still places where it's quite soggy, steps can be taken to repair the winter damage and catch up for summer. Field drains bore the brunt of the deluge and need a little T.L.C. in places. Ploughing and planting is underway on fields too wet in the autumn, and re-planting where the autumn sowing simply drowned. Nature has a way of catching up, but farmers could do without having to do the same job twice.

Lambing is slowing down now, and the dry spell has made it a different experience from last year. It's been mainly outside with just the tricky ones being brought in. So far I have had only a few "Aga cases",

and there are none being totally bottle-fed. This is a first!

One of the crops we grow is field beans. These go into the cattle feed over the winter, so a good level of pollination is vital. Many insects act as pollinators, but legumes like peas and beans need something heavy to open up the flower and do a proper job. Bees are good! However, some researchers are suggesting that bees don't thrive on mono-cultures, so if all they have on offer in their area is oilseed rape, it's a bit like asking us to live on cabbage soup! friendly garden is brilliant, and a wildflower meadow isn't just pretty. already blossom in the There's hedges and old orchard remnants, and soon the verges will be awash with Queen Anne's lace (hedge parsley) and rose campion. Let's not be too eager to tidy it up, and be a bit less weed- and insect-averse. I like my fruit and veg! *Ienny*

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The Cleobury Clarion - May 2014 - Page 38

The Medical Centre - as the handover of the new Centre draws near, some useful advice for hay fever sufferers.

This is likely to be the last entry before planned move to the new Centre around May 27th. Currently all is going to plan and those of us that have seen inside the new building are excited to be moving. Dr Powick formally retired at the beginning of April and having reduced her hours to part-time, her so appointment availability has diminished. Dr Lyne, who started at the end of April and Dr Palmer, who starts early June, helping to fill her shoes provide some additional GP time over and above that which we previously had.

This seems an appropriate time of year to touch on hay fever. A common medical complaint, which for people living locally can be difficult to avoid and for

have which we a significant number appointments. Hay fever is seasonal allergy. It includes allergy to tree from pollen February onwards, which is then overtaken by grass and pollens, before mould spores cause some patients significant problems in early autumn. When trying to minimise the impact of hay fever, remember that pollen rises as the day's temperature increases and descends as it cools towards night. So keeping widows closed around breakfast and towards evening can reduce the number of pollens, or allergens, that enter the house.

Sunglasses tend to minimise direct pollen contact but certainly don't remedy the problem. Medical treatments involve antihistamine tablets, some of which are more sedative than others and a potential problem for those taking exams at this time. Nasal steroid sprays can be used for periods of time and seem to help both the nasal and eye symptoms and as a third line patients can use eye drops. Both eye and nasal treatments are best started before the symptoms commence as it takes several days for them to become effective; strategy worth bearing in mind if you know the time of year your symptoms begin. Bycontrast, antihistamines tend work briskly on the same day. The NHS Choices website has an excellent page covering hay fever similar symptoms, which may be worth a look for any additional advice that could help.



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CONTACT DETAILS

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Clarion Jobs - Page Two

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The Cleobury Clarion - May 2014 - Page 41

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A COMMUNITY SCHOOL

It's good to see Cleobury's children being taught the meaning of Remembrance Sunday and the reason why the town gathers to honour the memory of men who lost their lives. At the Primary School they are developing a Memorial Garden, their Legacy Project as they call it, due to open at the end of July.

The Royal British Legion have donated poppies that were planted in the garden in April, so that they will be ready for the commemoration of the outbreak of war 100 years ago in August. The Friends of the School, who organise events the raising like Christmas Fair, have also donated.

Acting head teacher Carmel Mayfield has a lot to deal with apart from running the busy school. The kitchen is being redeveloped with further investment as part of the Government's school meals initiative.

Amongst the extra work that is designed to help working parents, there's an Early Bird class that will take children in from 7.30am, a good thoughtful touch. And to give the children confidence from that daunting first day at school through to their introduction to Lacon

Childe, Mark Greaves of the St Mary's Youth Project is involved and works with Ayesha Myrie to provide a link with Lacon Childe, so that children moving on to The Big School find a friendly, familiar face when they walk into the next stage of their development. A special bid for extra funding made that invaluable work possible for the next three years.

There's a friendly feeling about Cleobury Primary, where Fiona Calderwood is now Artist in Residence and encourages youngsters' talent in a variety of ways. And parent governor Jane Weaver, who has helped a lot with planting and developing the garden, has the unofficial title of 'Gardener is Residence.' Not as serious as it sounds, just a little appreciative recognition of her help.

Whoever is appointed head teacher in the coming months will find a willing, devoted staff to work with.

A FUND RAISER AT KINLET HALL

Sarah Wilde reports: Three impressive reception rooms were the venue for a St Mary's Youth Project fundraising evening. This beautiful house, built in the 1700's, overlooks miles of rolling countryside and was the perfect setting for our event. Following drinks in the grand entrance hall, 80 guests enjoyed a four course dinner in the oak panelled ballroom, decorated with spring flowers candles. Entertainment throughout the evening was by harpist Hannah Coleman & "Highly Strung", a Bridgnorth duo playing violin piano. a n d auction An of generous donations took place.

We thank all who attended and made this evening so enjoyable, and kindly donated prizes. In all we made £1600 for the Youth Project. Tickets sold out for this evening, so make sure you do not miss next year, when we hope to arrange a summer event. SMYP relies solely on small charitable grants, personal contributions and PCC support from churches in our benefice. Fundraising is a vital part of the work of the small volunteer management support team.

Sarah Wilde

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Saturday 28th June - A NIGHT OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT with Brilliant Duo - SUNSET HARMONY

Saturday 20th September - COUNTRY & ROCK 'N' ROLL NIGHT with Alan Williams

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Friday 17th October - **ABBA NIGHT**

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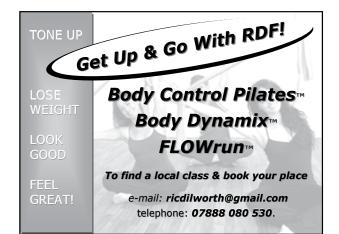
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The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

| 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 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 | | 0.55=15: |
| | 20.00 | 11-16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre | | CM 271317 |
| | 21.00 | Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre | <u> </u> | 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 May In The Wyre Forest



With each passing day there are new delights as the year progresses now towards summer. May blossom decorates the hedgerows, taking its turn from the blackthorn and damson of last month. The white flowers are tinged with the softest pink and have a heady aroma which passing insects won't fail to notice.

Early May is the usual time for 'Dawn chorus walks', where dedicated people leave their beds ridiculously early (sunrise is at 5.30am at the beginning of the month and 4.50am by the end) to be rewarded with the delicate and varied offerings of our songbirds as the grey woods emerge into the dawn.

Many songbird species are in trouble, lacking feeding grounds free of pesticide sprays and nesting sites undisturbed by agriculture or recreational activities (that's us with our feet, dogs and mountain bikes). The Forestry Commission aims to cater for the public's recreational and educational needs mainly at the Callow Hill site, and by doing so in one area of the forest to minimise any damage to more sensitive areas. There has been talk recently of attempting to reintroduce, or attract, the nightjar back into the Wyre Forest. Its strange, churring call used to be heard around the heathlands of the forest at night – it is a nocturnal hunter with a wide, whiskered mouth adapted to catching flying insects. Well-managed heaths reappearing, but the bird also needs to be free from disturbance to its ground level nesting sites. Like the woodcock, it relies on its superb

camouflage to evade predators. Wouldn't it be fine if we could again listen out for this mysterious bird when it arrives from Africa in May?

Regular **Health Walks** continue to meet at the Forest Cafe at 10.30am on Tuesdays or Sundays to register before the 11.00 o'clock walk. These walks are led by volunteers and there is no charge. Forest Friends meet at 10.00am each Thursday for an hour of forest activities for preschool children and their carers. On the first Thursday of the month this is led by the Discovery Centre team and on May 1st they will be inviting participation by 'Forest Fairies'! (See www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6frek4 the themes for other months). 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).

Thank you, by the way, to the person who commented on the appearance of the new pond at the Discovery Centre to my fellow-volunteer, Val. Many are the hours we have spent planting aquatic and marginal plants, removing duckweed and minimising the effects of unwelcome inputs from the water treatment system, so it was good to know that someone had noticed! I'm glad to say that the amphibious forest residents have noticed too.

Linda Iles

ADRIAN SATTERLY FUNERAL DIRECTOR

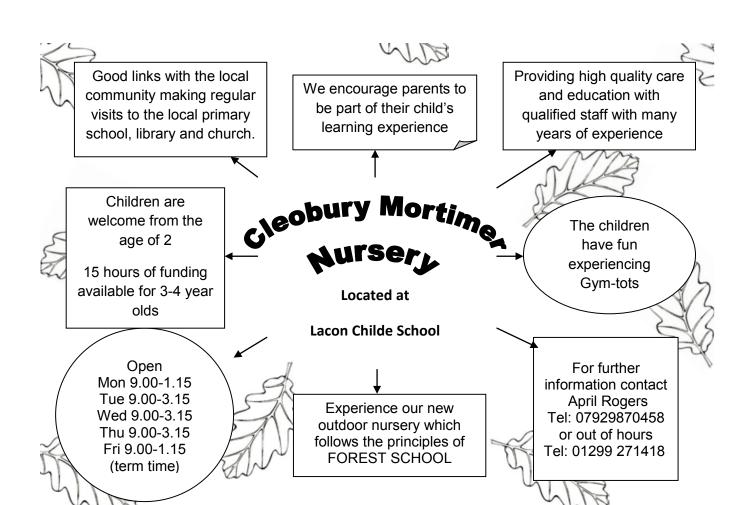
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

POPPY BOWLING DAY

You must admit, it's a bit different. On May 31st the Royal British Legion and the Bowling Club will cooperate to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal with a Bowling Day.

It starts at 1.30 and everyone can play; complete novices paired be with experienced hand to form Teams. **Entrance** charge and raffle tickets cost £1.00 each, refreshments will be served at 3.30 and the Club would like to know how many will be going, so that they can organise the like of teas and cakes. All proceeds will go directly to the Poppy Fund.

Dave Harley is the man to talk to, on CM 271311.

VOTE FOR COCO

This is a pretty serious matter. Please help if you can; Catherine Evans explains:

Could you ask your readers to vote for Cleobury Compassionate Communities on line a twww.engagemutual.com/foundation. Unfortunately it is quite a convoluted voting process as you need to register first, but if we can get enough votes we are in line for a grant of £4000.

How to Vote:-

- 1. Register Go to www.engagemutual.com/foundation/login-logout/ and click "register"
- 2. You will need to enter name, location and email address, you will also need to choose a display name and password, then check the relevant boxes you will get a 'nearly there' message!
- 3. Check your emails and follow the confirmation link

(you may have to log in again!) and now you can vote.4. From the Home page go

4. From the Home page go to Foundation tab and use search box to find Cleobury Compassionate Communities. Click on VOTE. Thank you.

If you need further information please ask me on 01299 270647.

Editor's Note: As Catherine says, it is a convoluted process, but I followed the guide lines and got through, then voted with a little further guidance from her. Do please try it.

JR

GOOD COCO NEWS

The Diminishing Tea Parties have raised over £300 and the drive continues. Our coffee mornings, in the Market Hall on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month are still well attended.

CoCo recently had a cheque for £300 donated by Stourport Monday Night Group, from their production of Humpty Dumpty. A photo was supplied, but the Taste Police took one look at the man's suit and banned it.

CLEOBURY W.I.

We had a very informative April meeting, learning about the work of Cuan Wildlife Rescue. Their purpose is to help and treat injured wildlife with a view to returning the animals to the wild. We saw them hand rearing orphaned hedgehogs, freeing swans from discarded fishing lines and treating some that had been poisoned by weights. They perform valuable service for wildlife.

The competition for an Easter table decoration was won by Monica Downes and the flower of the month by Liz

Smurthwaite. Our May meeting will be a talk by Gaynor from the Hospice shop, about the crafts group there. Everyone welcome.

Meet the WI event:

Cleobury WI are having a garden party at 10 Church St on Wednesday 7 May from 2.30 to 4.30pm and everyone is welcome; it will be indoors if wet. Raffle proceeds to the air ambulance. Just come along or call Judy Sant on 01299 270983 for more information.

Gillian Senior

THE CHILDE ENDOWMENT FUND

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

Details and application forms can be obtained from Lloyds Bank in Cleobury Mortimer, Lacon Childe School or F P G Hill, Clerk to the Trustees of the Fund, at Adam House, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcs. DY10 2SA. The closing date is June 24th.

VERY SILLY BIT Gran's Health Remedies

"For better digestion I drink beer, in the case of appetite loss I drink white wine, in the case of low blood pressure I drink red wine, in the case of high blood pressure I drink scotch, and when I have a cold I drink schnapps."

"When do you drink water?" "I've never been that sick!"

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Clarion Character - Local Talent Aaron Booton



The man in action, Aaron pleases the crowd at The Royal Fountain.

It's obviously in the Booton blood to make music. Ten years ago Aaron's dad Dave formed a band with his mates after singing along with a karaoke and getting sucked in. Dave got his children involved and Aaron was up there singing with his old chap and enjoying it.

At the tender age of 15 Aaron formed The Theory and soon wanted to play as well as sing. Dad showed him three chords and suddenly this prodigious kid was everywhere with a guitar, learning, learning, learning. "He never had the thing out of his hands," recalls mum Lindsay.

Proud parents could see talent and entered The Theory in the Bridgnorth Battle of the Bands. They won, this bunch of amateurs from down the road. And it just took off from there: "The second gig I ever did was in front of 2,000 people at the Shifest in Stottesdon," he smiles at the memory.

He went to Kidderminster College, where Robert Plant was involved in developing young talent; Aaron sorted out the star's guitar with a mechanical overhaul. Another self taught talent, buying cheap quality guitars and getting them sorted.

Today he's in demand for local musical evenings, like the Beer Festival at the Golf Club. His mates come, like Sean Worrall, studying and playing in London, who travels up to little old Cleobury Mortimer every year. If you missed that event, you missed great local talent on parade.

When 24 year old Aaron plays gigs, he brings some serious kit, literally thousands of pounds worth. His favourite guitar is a Fender Stratocaster Custom Shop 60s Relic, the sort of instrument you aspire to after years of buying lesser stuff, getting it sorted and swapping to move on up. And he's always looking to move on, driving the

family Rebooted band to greater efforts, tackling a challenge like Dire Straits' complex 'Sultans of Swing' for weeks on end until it's right.

All this as a hobby: "To keep pleasing people and staying up to date with what's happening," as he puts. "Having a great time." That's his driver, the wish to be better, but to enjoy doing it

He works as a self employed painter and decorator, with the same standards and always in demand. He's in a long term relationship with Becky and they are expecting their first child, which adds another dimension to his thinking: "I could have gone down to London to try to make it there, but I'm close to my family and I'll be happy if I can provide for my child and Becky."

All this and he gives time to tutor local young musicians and bands, guiding them and trying to get them avoid the mistakes he's made "Better if they can learn from my mistakes," as he puts it.

We don't have much space to mention that he's an award winning golfer, too. Aaron Booton, Cleobury's complete package.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A BUSY DAY IN TOWN There really was a lot happening on April 16th, quite apart from The Lamp's big fund raising night. THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY A.G.M.

Quite a crowded gathering, with 25 library users filling the place and the library service staff visibly impressed at such a show of support. The very nature of a library is of a quiet place, but there was a vibrant atmosphere at this evening, with whispers of the service suffering big cuts. Not closure, it seems, because the County have signed a 25 lease for the library to live in Cleobury Country Centre and there are 22 years still to go.

The central committee of three were all standing down after some years, with little activity to report beyond the annual Mavis Cartwright Competition to encourage reading and writing in young children, which has been offered to the Primary School to run. There had been no fund raising events in recent years and £550 of the funds had been made over to the school, with £115.55 remaining in account.

There were several requests to let library manager Elaine

Moss speak, but the chair insisted that the AGM business be completed first. This was done with the election of Jim Reynolds to the chair, Robert Hodge to the treasurer's post and Aileen Hood secretary.

Elaine Moss was then invited to speak and explained the 30 percent budget cut that will affect staffing. Just how the service will be run is not vet established and there are meetings pending to discuss this. She wished the new committee well, promised cooperation and explained that events can be run to raise funds and recruit more members to the Friends of the Library.

An open discussion drew out many ideas about fund raising and to support the three earlier elected members volunteers were also elected: Suzanne Thomas, Ceri Little, Gill Guest, Graham Simpson and librarian Vicki Alexander. The committee agreed to meet the following week to begin work. The meeting ended at 6.40

Down the road in the Market Hall, 7.30 saw the start of THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

Parish Council chairman Sean Thorogood introduced guest speakers, beginning with Robert Hodge, who described the work of the History Society and its current project, a book telling the story of all the Cleobury men lost in the 1914-18 World War.

Shannon Chiles then spoke in praise of the Youth Forum's work and the help they had given her, with thanks to Richard Morley and Sandra Edwards. Bill Duley and Steve Knott then described the Walter Pullan collection of local paintings they would like to see exhibited. The Council agreed to look into the matter.

Councillors Madge Shineton and Gwilym Butler reported on their work and Val Breakwell on the Parish Hall, now booked every weekday. Their committee rent a room at the Market Hall, as they let the Parish Hall at a profit! Canny stuff. There were other reports delivered but no delegate to read them.

Without wishing to be cruel, as not everyone is blessed with erudite powers, it does seem obvious that a person giving a report would at least have notes and an idea of what they were going to say. Standing in front of the public and saying "Errr..." impresses nobody at all.





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IN BUSINESS: William Henry at Simply Fresh



William at the deli counter, one of the busiest in the store.

"I've worked in food nearly all my life, since I was eight years old." William Henry was working for his father at a very early age and hasn't stopped since.

From a range of retail jobs he moved into the hospitality business, rising to run the restaurant at the Hilton Metro in Birmingham, with 100 staff. He moved on to The Belfry at Sutton Coldfield but there was an itch to run his own shop and an advert for the Talbot Store in Dalton's Weekly caught his attention: "I said to my wife 'Let's go and look at this.'"

It was a long way through the Wyre Forest, but when they came over the hill at Mawley and looked down on Cleobury Mortimer his only word was "Wow." When they walked around Mrs Henry caught the atmosphere: "I feel at home here," she said.

"It was the feeling of community, everyone knows everyone else," William explains. "And on the first day Janet Moss came in and said: "We're here to help and support you." You can see why he stayed.

What was Talbot Store has grown and become Simply Fresh. with a range surprises visitors. He's taken on the newspaper business that operated out of Cleobury News and recruited Jo Bargman to look after that side. But Jo's off having a hip replaced, so it's back to William to open up at 6.00 every morning and sort out the paper rounds. His family home is in Bearwood, on the Birmingham fringe, and he's currently leaving at 5.15 except on Friday, when he's Birmingham Produce Market at 4.00. "Such a lively, buzzing place," he enthuses. "I came away last Friday with the Transit absolutely full with fruit and veg, flowers and stuff like fertiliser. We sold the lot over Easter, it was incredible."

You don't do that sort of business by sheer luck and William is full of praise for his staff. "Bridget is brilliant, and so are Steve Knott and Betty people come in here to se her.
We don't stop laughing, I'm
joking with my staff and the
customers." Quite something
for a man who leaves home at
5.15 in the am and doesn't get
home until 9.00 in the evening,
seven days a week if necessary.
"Yes, it's about 100 hours a
week and I'm getting by on four
or five hours sleep a night, but
only until Jo gets back."

He is a significant employer, with eight paper boys and girls, nine shop staff and Rita the book keeper. 18 people in all, including daughter Alcina, a teenager with signs of being a chip of the old block with her efficient touch at the till.

Is he happy with the location of the store? "Oh yes, I did look at the High Street, but decided to stay here." With the car park convenient for customers and unloading vans easier than on the main road, it does make sense.

And the switch to Simply Fresh? "I looked at all the marketing groups and they fitted what I wanted best. It is a fantastic concept."

Best sellers? "Ashley's rolls, Mawley Milk, local cheeses and gammon ham - we can get through one of those in a day."

And the future? "Build it up." You can bet he will.



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> Opening hours: Mon—Sat 7am—9pm Sun 8am-8pm

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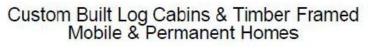
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

STOTTESDON W.I.

Living to the north of Catherton Common, a bike ride into Cleobury is a summer delight, travelling quiet lanes to visit to friendly shops. And now, for several years the Severn Hospice Charity has enhanced the amenities that lie in the shadow of the crooked spire. Our readers know that WI members like nothing better than a just 'cause', with the added bonus of craft and recycling.

So we welcomed the shop's manager Gayna Woodland and Craft Club organiser Catherine Evans to April's meeting. We were amazed at the scope of their local projects and the funds raised through creating beautiful quilts, bags, aprons, cushions, from clothing that doesn't meet the high standards of items for sale in the shop. In its twenty-fifth vear delivering care to people in Shopshire, the Hospice deserves our support for the work of its band of volunteers and committed staff.

Our next meeting is in Melville Chapel, where Juliette Best will talk us through 'Aromatherapy in the Home'. Join us on May 21st at 7.30 pm. *Marian Wootton*

CLEOBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Derek Walker made propagation by seed and cuttings look so easy! Many of our members are used to sowing seed but Derek had many tips that would help us to be more successful. Together with containers and compost he deftly showed us how best to plant seeds. A miniseeder is the item to look out for next time we go to a garden centre, adjustable to the size of seed and avoids waste. When it came to cuttings he quickly pinched off shoots from plants we might use for hanging baskets and troughs. He suggested cleaning off the lower leaves and planting the shoots around the edge of the pot, spraying with water, then covering with a polythene bag and placing in a shady spot.

We asked about rooting hormone but David said use it if you want but at this time of year you shouldn't need it as plants are keen to grow.

Our next meeting will be a talk about Flowering Plants of the Gambia but before that we hope for support on May 3rd at our Spring Plant Sale in the Market Hall. Liz Smurthwaite

THE READING GROUP

Richard Mabeley's pocket sized 90 pages of 'Turned Out Nice Again' provoked more comments about value for money than literary merit. Was it a mere pot boiler, written more for money than passion for the subject? Opinions were divided and no firm decision emerged.

In May we will be reading Jane Borodale's 'The Knot' and hope that a more detailed work will produce a clear majority recommendation when we meet at the library on Monday May 12th to discuss the work. All readers - who can borrow the work from the library - will be welcome.

ALLOTMENT, ANYONE?

Cleobury Mortimer Horticultural Society manages

the 23 plots at Green Barns allotments on a piece of land kindly rented to us by David Robinson. They are accessed either across the field at the bottom of Eagle Lane or along the track by Hobson's Brewery. Currently, two full plots and five half-plots are vacant: the annual rent for a half-plot is £22.50 and a full-plot is £35, which includes membership o f t h e Horticultural Society and access to all its events, insurance, water rates and provision of spent hops and manure. So if you want to grow your own, get fit and cut your food bills, contact Doug Smurthwaite on 01299 271194. Flo Hadley

GOOD COURSE

Cleobury Country Centre is quite famous as a venue for good training courses. There's a very useful one coming up next month, the Practical Fire Safety and Fire Marshall Course, with the provision of an extra hour's tuition if you want to add the Fire Marshall to your qualifications.

The Fire Safety course covers liaison with the Fire Service on site, principles of fire extinction, four classes of fire, correct use of extinguishers, practice of fire assessment, preventing smoke travel in a building and how to protect yourself and others. It's on Tuesday, June 4th, starts at 9.00 and finishes early afternoon.. All in comfortable Centre facilities, at an affordable price and when you finish you're assessed for a Cognet certificate. Clare Todd can tell you more on CM 272300 or clare@cleoburycountry.com

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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page May 2014 - Volume Twelve - Edition Two

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E-Mail: editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk

Printed by: Linda Fowler at Glint Print 01299 266657

The Clarion On The Web:www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk The Clarion is owned and published by Cleobury Clarion Media Limited

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Or Out in Cleobury Country at: Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood; Clee Hill Post Office; Cleobury North Village Store; Clows Top Post Office; The Sun and Slipper at Mamble; Hopton Bank Service Station; Ludlow Library; Mawley Oak Garage; The Fighting Cocks, Stottesdon; The Duck Inn, Chorley; The Live and Let Live, Neen Sollars; The Eagle and Serpent, Kinlet; Parker Motors, Ditton Priors and McCartneys Estate Agents, Tenbury Wells. Missed your Clarion? Cleobury Mortimer Library keeps the current month's copy on file.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE IS MAY 22nd

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails

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 COMMUNITIES (CoCo) - 01299 270018. Katja Ward is the contact; office hours 10.00 to 12.00 noon Wednesday only.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY - 01299 272301. Vicki Alexander is our librarian. Open 9.00 to 5.00 Monday to Friday and 10.00 to 1.00 Saturdays.

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 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. 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.

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5 Paper Mill • Cleobury M'tr

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