

The Cleobury Clarion

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MAY 2019

DOGS WORRYING SHEEP

There have been incidents of dogs worrying sheep recently. In most cases, where the owner is nearby and has proper control, the dog responds and whilst the sheep may be a little worried there is no real danger.

But dogs running loose do offer a threat, even if they are not naturally vicious. One instance like this saw sheep chased by the dogs for some time before they were stopped. The result was lambs stillborn and ewes dying. The loss of sheep like this is a costly business. Do you know where your dog is at all times? Are your fences really secure?

Farmers have approached the Footpath Association looking for help, but that body has firm rules that dogs accompanying walkers must be on the lead at all times. With an estimated 500 dogs in the community there will be occasional problems, but all owners should recognise their responsibility and take proper care. With a little more care, we can live together.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

The Town Council are launching Community Champion Awards at the Annual Town Meeting at 6.30 in Lacon Childe School on May 17th.

The Community Champion is for the person or body that over the last five years has gone the extra mile to promote a sense of community or represented our community positively to the outside world. You can vote using the form in the Town Council Report on Page 59 in this issue, or via either the Town Council or Cleobury Country Facebook sites. The deadline for your vote is midnight on May 12th.

There are also Environmental Champion and the Business/Organisation Champion awards that will be presented on the same night. These will be judged by a committee, working to objective criteria. It sounds like a great idea, to have people who do good work for the community publicly recognised.

CHANGES AT MAWLEY HALL

Following talks with the Town Council, a page of information about work in progress and future plans for Mawley Hall and its grounds is on Page 7 in this issue. It's written by Estate Manager Peter Williams and we hope that this is just the first of a series of bulletins about work happening in and around the Hall.

This report states quite clearly that public footpaths are being repaired. So any suggestion on social media of paths being closed is without foundation. Please ignore it. JR

THEY'RE BACK



See Page 55 for details

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The Cleobury Clarion, May 2019
Volume Fourteen - Edition Two



Walking out on Clee Hill, spotting and recording local bird life. Volunteers needed to help locate and protect rare species whose numbers are reducing. See Page 31.



A new Car Wash service, just down the road at Nineveh Care Farm. Steve's 22 years experience gets great results. See Page 51.



No messing, this is the place for building materials. Thompson and Parkes, Page 61.

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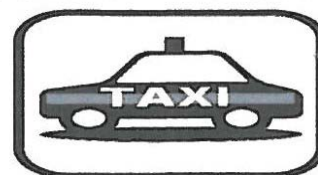
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CRAFT DABBLE DAY

An unusual title for an event that's part of the national Get Creative festival. It's organised by the Menith Wood W.I. at Lindridge Parish Hall, which you'll find at WR15 8JL if you're not familiar with that corner of Worcestershire.

Wednesday May 15th is the date, the doors will be open from 11.00 to 3.00 and admission is free. You can try your hand at a variety of crafts under the guidance of those who know, plus exhibitions of flower arranging, sugar craft, iris folding, patchwork, gift boxes and petit fours. You can also buy greeting cards and cakes, or look in at the pop-up cafe for bacon butties, home-made cakes with tea of coffee. It does sound like a good way to spend a midweek afternoon.

LOOK OUT FOR THIS SCAM

Paul Barrett writes:

I received two phone calls from "BT Technical Support" saying that my internet connection was being disconnected today and that I should press 1 to speak to an agent.

This is similar to the so called "Microsoft scam" but has migrated to "BT". The intention

is to talk you into granting access to your PC or hub so that malicious software can be installed. Do not enter into conversation with these people.

The second call was not a withheld number so I reported the 01152 number to the websites who-called.com and BT.com.

Paul Barrett

I'll confess to being almost taken in by one of these calls, coming at a time when I was having lots of problems with my internet connection. Having warned others many times about such scams, I thought I knew enough to not be taken in. Wrong! It was the vigilance of Lloyds Bank staff that saved me a lot of grief. JR

SUCCESS BREEDS

SUCCESS

Adrian Satterly, whose Cleobury Funeral Directors business has earned such a good name, has expanded to offer his service in Highley.

Highley Funeral Services is at Number 1, Garden Village in Highley. Telephone number is 01746 866577.

COLLECTING YOUR CLARION

There's a new addition to the places where you pick up your monthly Clarion. The Larch

Barn, that interesting and busy meeting spot on the Bridgnorth road, will now have a delivery on the first morning of every month. Take the time to enjoy their excellent coffee and maybe a cake as you catch up with the local news.

THE SHROPSHIRE

KIDS FEST

This is the fourth Kids Fest, due to happen in the Shrewsbury Quarry Park on the weekend of 11th and 12th this month. Lots of activities on offer, and once you've paid to get in all the rides are free.

More information and bookings on shropshirekidsfest.co.uk or call 01952 432175.

GOOD VALUE FLICKS

This month's 'Flicks in the Sticks' film sounds interesting, even if you hadn't heard of it.

'Tortoise in Love' is about Tom, gardener in a big house, who falls for a beautiful Polish au pair who comes to work at the same place. We won't tell you what happens, but will reveal that the film was made in an Oxfordshire village with the cast and support drawn from local inhabitants. In the Parish Hall, 7.30 on the 18th, adult admission now just £4.00 a head.

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MAWLEY HALL ESTATE - INFORMATION

It is clear that much is happening within the Mawley Hall Estate since it changed hands last year. The new owners have committed to a very extensive programme of work to restore both the buildings and landscape – to bring them back to how they would have been many years ago, and to ensure that they are preserved for generations to come.

Although Mawley Hall will once again be a private family home, the Estate's new owners recognise and welcome the fact that the local community is able to share what the Estate has to offer by way of public footpaths and bridleways, all of which are being repaired.

Those who take advantage of the public routes through the Estate will have seen the commencement of a great deal of maintenance work in the woodlands. Many hundreds of new trees have also been planted, which are visible because of the tree guards which are being used to protect them. This new planting is of predominantly native species. Later in the year there will be a large amount of new woodland planting which will replace forestry plantations introduced to the Estate towards the end of the last century. These forestry plantations have proved damaging both to the landscape and to biodiversity.

There has been an increase in site activity connected to various building works. A dedicated works compound has been created

just inside the Estate, where plant and materials will be stored, and which will accommodate the temporary site offices whilst the works take place. This activity will increase further as the work progresses, but it is intended that traffic movements will be minimised, and that all storage will be contained wherever possible within the compound itself.

Walkers through the Estate may have spotted diggers at work in the vicinity of Lenches Pond. These are engaged in the re-dredging of the pond, which has silted up to such an extent that it was only about a quarter of its true size. Work has commenced on Mawley Hall itself, and on the Stables. This work is being conducted to the highest conservation standards, an approach which is being applied to other buildings within the Estate. As this work progresses, more information will be available.

Finally, a planning application has been made for the installation of retractable security bollards at the North Drive Entrance to the Estate. These will prevent unauthorised vehicular access to the Estate, especially out-of-hours. Their installation will have no implications for access to public footpaths and bridleways.

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THAT HIGH STREET LETTER BOX

Mrs Zillah Pain writes:

Re. "Who painted the letter box?" in the March Clarion. In 1985, when the Post Office decided not to use the post box in my wall any more, I bought it off them, for which transaction I have a receipt for £45 and a letter dated 3.2.85. This stated that:

1. The box must not be put to any use whatsoever.
2. The aperture must be permanently blocked off.
3. The box must be so disguised that there is no risk of it being mistaken for a public posting box in use. (I suggest that in the latter case it is repainted in a different colour)
4. For security reasons the lock is not allowed to remain on the box.

For various reasons I never got round to doing anything about it, but some time ago Matthew Sheehan, on behalf of the council, approached me about the box and I said they could do whatever they liked about it - and I promptly forgot about it! Until recently I found Roger Potter scraping away at the paint. I got in touch with

Matthew and showed him the receipt and the letter; he got in touch with the Post Office on behalf of the council. The Post Office gave the council permission to paint the box red and the rest is history.

And very good it looks, too!

Best wishes

Zillah Pain

ROCK PATHFINDERS

Two Pathfinders walks in May. The first will be on the 2nd, starting at 10.30 from Cleobury Sports and Social Club on Love Lane, where there is plenty of parking. DY14 8PE or SO reference 671759.

The second outing is on the 16th, again a 10.30 start, this time from Neen Savage Village Hall, where again there's plenty of parking space. DY14 8JU on your satnav or SO reference 657722.

More information from Alan on 01299 400304.

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.

The March meeting was also the Spring Show and the Club would like to thank Derek Walker for judging. The results were 3rd Chris Cowdell, 2nd Bob Marriott, 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. A great opportunity to share your ideas and advice with other members. We have a great programme of speakers as well as evening visits to local gardens. Membership is only £10 p.a.

Please come along to our Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday May 11th, 10.00 till 12.00 noon in Clows Top Victory Hall.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday May 22nd at 7.30, when the speaker for the evening will be David Morgan with a talk on the NGS Scheme in Worcestershire.

Pauline Bowen

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Mary's Page - She's struggling with technology and a new language.

R U K ?

Reading an article I was struck by the phrase "technology's tyranny". This seemed to me to be a rather harsh, if at times understandable way of describing modern progress. Whilst there can certainly be trials and tribulations associated with today's technology it has brought us many benefits not least in advances in medicine and medical procedures.

Take the ubiquitous mobile phone, for example. In Paris at the Louvre I was dismayed to find that nobody was admiring Da Vinci's portraiture. Members of every nation, it seemed, merely wanted to align themselves alongside Mona for a selfie. Selfie, the word says it all. We seem to be becoming increasingly introspective. Bet Leonardo didn't anticipate that.

"In time to come, my lovely, no-one will want to look at you but don't fret. They will all want their photo taken with you." Encroyable!

On the other hand, the mobile can prove most useful at times. On one occasion we text the grandson who is returning from a school trip to let him know that we will be there to meet his coach. The reply comes back:

"K".

"K"?

For goodness sake, I groan. Okay is only a four letter word already reduced to the two letters OK, and you can't even be bothered to write the O?

Grandad and I decide to have a go at this new lingo. When we get split up as a family at an event I proudly text the others.

"Where R U?"

We start to enjoy this and away on holiday, texts fly back and forth between us and the family in Cleobury. I sign off each time with LOL. On our return the boys and their mum ask me what I think LOL means. Then they laugh out loud. At

me. Suddenly I feel like I'm in that recurring dream where I have ended up in Russia and nobody understands me and in turn I am unable to understand them. Why would anyone want to finish a text with "Laugh out loud"? "Lots of love." is so much nicer.

Have any of you had fun yet with the new parking meters in Ludlow? We arrive one evening for an event which means the place is crowded and parking at a premium. We head for a back road, find a space and encounter the new style meter. We try to discover how much we need to pay having arrived before the golden hour when parking becomes free. When we touch the screen a tariff appears but then disappears before we have time to read it. Grandson informs us that it is not Touch Screen. We feel all round it for buttons. It must be Touch Screen. Everybody starts jabbing away at it and shouting suggestions. Amidst all this, the children's parents who have travelled in a different car text. Grandson texts back. Suddenly the furious jabbing results in us seeing the tariff and being able to work out how much to pay. Progress. But now the coins will not go in. The machine keeps rejecting them. Family feuding erupts. The mobile rings. I try to explain the delay to our daughter. She orders me to put the grandson on. I hear her demanding:

"What are they doing?"

I suddenly see that we can pay with a contactless card. To everyone's relief, this works. A man appears jiggling coins and we relate the difficulty. He says confidently that he is used to these meters as they are in Bridgnorth. He informs us that the public toilets in Bridgnorth are now contactless. OMG! What if? Let's not even go there. C U.

Mary



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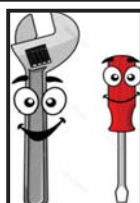


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A Farming and Golf Family - Graham and Robert Pain

Way back in December 1991 during one of farming's crisis moments the two local farming brothers Rob and Graham Pain decided they had to think radically about their farming business and its future. At the time they farmed 400 acres producing milk, fat lambs and beef cattle. They were thinking they should increase their cow herd but like many dairy farmers at the time were alarmed by the EU's proposals to regulate milk production, with milk quotas in order to reduce the size of the Milk Lake. Like many businesses they decided to look at diversification and were drawn towards the creation a golf course. Planning permission was sought in January 1992 to build a nine hole course (Deer Park) on Lower House Farm. Rob and Graham are fast and determined learners. They had to be. With interest rates rising to 12% and having to learn new methods and techniques of golf course construction – landscaping, grass species, drainage and irrigation with only 24 hours in each day, it was not time for the faint hearted. However, they stuck it out, determined to produce a high quality golf club that was friendly and relaxed with good golf for all.

They milked their last cow in December 1992, then opened the nine hole Deer Park course in July 1993 with 202 members, quite a few of whom are still members today. They teamed up with Ray Baldwin, a regional development officer for the England Golf Union. He helped, encouraged them and steered the brothers through the new diversification period. The first nine holes of Deer Park worked well and permission was sought to expand with a further nine hole course, Badger Sett, which brought Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club up to 18 holes by 1995. From cows and milk in 1992 to an 18 hole golf course with club house in

1995, with a rapidly expanding membership, was a huge and remarkable achievement.

With further land swaps, sales and purchases there was just room and funding to build an interesting and exciting final nine hole course. Again, with the guidance of Ray, this proposal eventually got planning permission and despite some really rotten weather, the new nine hole course, Fox's Run, was finished in 1999. Cleobury Golf Club now has the full 27 holes of high quality with a friendly ethos and informality rare in many other golf businesses. This was achieved through hard work and determination to retain their original objectives. The brothers now have a club that is not only good for golf but also for members and for the environment. In building the courses they planted over 24,000 trees, dug eight lakes and big ponds, established woodland and orchards as well as planting wild flower areas.

A recent survey by the Wyre Forest Facilitation Group of butterfly experts showed a good biodiversity and a healthy collection of bio systems of birds, insects and mammals. Recent additions to the club include the lodge development which has strengthened the product especially for visiting golfers and their families. The club house has been enlarged and boasts a good bar and restaurant with social space and the ability to host events centred around raising money for charity. Last year over £60,000 was generated. From relatively simple beginnings in farming Rob and Graham have, through hard work and determination, developed a thriving Golf Club in a new and much used and appreciated environment.

Kit Smith



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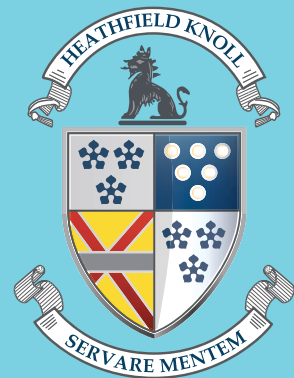
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THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Inspirational Gardens was the topic for Brian Skeys who gave a presentation on the gardens that have inspired him. His love for gardening started when he was very small and spent a lot of time with his grandparents, who had a typical English garden producing fruit and vegetables. He has been influenced mainly by the designs at Hidcote Manor, Great Dixter and many of the Royal Horticultural Society gardens that are open to the public.

We took a tour of the country through the slides he showed us of such gardens. Many of them now feature garden rooms of single colours or plants. White seems to be a favourite colour everywhere he visited and there were so many plants arranged for effect in parterres within the rooms. Long borders with vibrant colours and swathes of plants also featured, these are often bordered with a hedge to afford protection from the weather. A whistle stop tour of the country finished by showing us his own garden, influenced by the many gardens he has visited. He has created his own small Japanese garden as well as a white room and a border to lead you down the length of the garden, all very impressive. Oh to have the space to try out some of the ideas!

May I remind all members of the Spring Plant Sale and Coffee Morning in Cleobury Market Hall on May 11th, 10.00 til 11.30 am. Our next meeting is 13th May in the Methodist

Hall when Neil Cook will tell us all about Hanbury Hall Gardens which belongs to the National Trust. *Liz Smurthwaite*

GOOD SERVICE

A complimentary letter to the Footpath Association shows what a good job they do for the reputation of the town:

"I am a member of a Derbyshire walking group who enjoy occasional weekends away, and this last weekend a few of us stayed at the Talbot Hotel in Cleobury Mortimer."

After describing the paths they walked, the letter finishes:

"I would like to thank you for both the leaflets you have produced and for the many hours of work you put in to maintain the local footpaths to such a high standard. We had a very enjoyable stay. S Parnell"

VILLAGE HALL FUNDING

Philip Dunne MP advises us that there is a government scheme offering funding for improvement work on village halls. It will fund up to 20% of costs, with a minimum of £10,000 and a maximum of £75,000. Projects must aim to improve health and wellbeing, reduce loneliness, make a positive impact on the environment or support the local economy. New build projects are not eligible.

The scheme is managed by ACRE on behalf of Defra and applications can be made online. Information on how to apply from <http://acre.org.uk/our-work/rural-hall-improvement-fund.php>

OUT OF ACTION

Barry Taylor, whose Bumperscuff service keeps a lot of cars in the area looking better than their drivers's skill reflects, is out of action. In his words: "It's a tale involving a small dog, a clumsy fall and a hard immovable object."

The result was the upper bone in his right arm being in three pieces (ouch!) and he'll have to wait until it's back in working order as a single unit until he can come to anyone's rescue.

THE SOROPTIMISTS

If you would like to meet the Soroptimists and learn more about what they do, they'll have a stall at Kidderminster General Hospital on Thursday, May 9th, from 10.00 until 4.00.

HOPTON WAFERS CHURCH NEWS

We held a Spring Supper on April 6th in Doddington Village Hall to raise funds for our Church Fabric Fund.

Many thanks to all who supported the evening by purchasing tickets, giving prizes and buying raffle tickets on the night. It was a great local community get-together once again, with many villagers and friends attending.

The PCC held their AGM on April 9th and a number of social events were arranged, including:

Sunday May 19th:
Working Party in Churchyard,
followed by a picnic.

Marilyn Wood

SILLY BIT

"The zebra doesn't normally change his spots."

Al Gore, showing off his wildlife knowledge.



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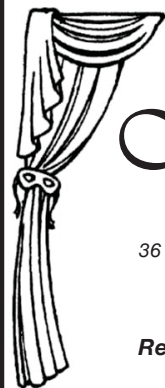


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Carolyn & Keith Balmer support a number of people who are involved in charitable activities. So we are always looking for soft toys and teddies for the "Teddy Trust". www.teddytrust.org.uk . Also if possible new, or very good quality, pens, pencils, note books, school bits and pieces, anything that would be useful for deprived children.

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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice

Services, Events and Activities throughout the Benefice-May 2019

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Cleobury Mortimer.

Services: 5th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 11.00am The Eleven O Clock Service.

12th, 19th & 26th -8.30am Said Eucharist & 9.45am Parish Eucharist.

Events/Activities:

Cleobury Mortimer APCM-Monday 1st. 7.00pm Eucharist followed by the AGM. All welcome.

Coffee & Chat-Tuesday 7th. All welcome at 1 Ralph Jones Terrace, hosted by Angela Drennan.

Farmers Market-Saturday 18th. In and around St Mary's Church, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Messy Church-Sunday 26th. All welcome at the Hub at 3.00pm for crafts, stories, games & meal.

Safari Supper-Saturday 1st June. Please contact Angela Drennan for details. 270636.

St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kinlet.

Services: 5th-10.00am Eucharist, 12th-6.30pm Evensong, 19th-10.00am Matins, 26th-6.30pm Evensong.

St Mary's Parish Church, Neen Savage.

Services: 5th-6.30pm Evensong, 12th-No service, 19th-6.30pm Evensong, 26th-9.00am Eucharist.

Events/Activities:

Fordante present Romance to the Movies-Saturday 11th. 7.30pm. Tickets available from the Church Office and Library.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Hopton Wafers.

Services: 5th -10.00am Eucharist, 12th-10.00am Eucharist, 19th-10.00am Family service, 26th-10.00am Eucharist.

Saint John the Baptist Parish Church, Doddington.

Services: 5th-No service, 12th-11.00am Eucharist, 19th-No service, 26th-3.00pm Evening Prayer.

Events/Activities:

Pancakes at Doddington-Saturday 18th. 12.00 noon. Quiz Night. All welcome.

All Saints Parish Church, Neen Sollars.

Services: 5th-No service, 12th-11.00am Eucharist, 19th-No service, 26th-11.00am Village Worship.

St George's Parish Church, Milson.

Services: 5th-6.30pm Evensong, 12th-No service, 19th-11.00 Eucharist, 26th-No service.

The Church Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings from 9.00am-12.30pm

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LACON CHILDE TREADS THE ENCHANTED ROAD

It's always a pleasure to visit Lacon Childe School for their annual drama presentation. You know there will be a remarkable standard of presentation by the students, with the school band, this year rejoicing in their new title of The Incredible Lacon Childe Show Band, providing accompaniment.

Before the show opened, Head of Drama Arthur Short reminded us that we would be watching children from 11 to 14 perform, followed by the usual request to switch off mobile phones. What we saw was an adaption of the Brothers Grimm's famous fairytales adapted to a modest school stage and a cast with only their talents and basic clothes to convince us we were on a journey into a magic forest.

The band (no room for that long title twice) were a perfect fit with the cast, opening the evening with a strong drum intro and obviously well rehearsed in the short passages that both added to dramatic effects and carried suspense on through silent periods. It's the best I've ever heard this band and Musical Director Ben Craig is to be congratulated on raising their standard.



The cast and band, happy and smiling at a job very well done.

It's worth reminding you that this youthful cast filled the extended stage with some of the fighting scenes with no stage settings beyond random tiles of small logs. They are not allowed a prompt; only if they learn their lines and are word perfect do they get the chance to perform. It's a demanding task to fit in with all the work in the current school curriculum, but their willingness to take on

such a challenge and end the run of three nights with a standing ovation shows how thoroughly they had been prepared and had then responded. Head of Drama Arthur Short sets these young people a difficult task every year and they never fail. Some of them even took on double roles.

It is customary to pick out individuals for special praise, and while I may have some names in mind as possible future stars, it would be unfair to do that and not praise others. For me, they were all great.

Jim Reynolds

THE CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

We welcomed Simon Morton, a new member, to our April meeting and hope he will be a regular when business pressures allow. Willow Honeybourne was once more our youngest visitor, as peaceful and charming as ever.

The theme was 'Sleep' but that only attracted one such contribution. Edwin Sayers, our veteran author, offered an extract from his latest work; "Magenta" is not published yet and is an entirely new style that promises well. Peter Hill had a copy of his first novel "The Ravine" which you'll find reviewed elsewhere in this issue. He explained that there is very little romantic fiction written by men, so is trying to adjust the balance. We wish him every success in a brave venture.

Vicky rather stunned the group by offering a conversation between herself and her conscience, which earned a rare round of applause. Willow slept on through it.

We meet on the 13th this month, 6.30 in the library on Love Lane, when the chosen subject is 'Marches'. If you think you can put together no more than 1,000 words on that subject, you'll be welcomed and listened to on the night.

BIRD SONG WALK

The Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group have a special Bird Song Walk scheduled for May 12th. They'll be meeting at The Novers car park, on the B4214 south of Clee Hill village for a 7.30am start, to get the best chance of listening to a variety of birds in early morning song in The Novers Wood.. The Ordnance Survey reference is 598739.

The walk will be led by Gareth Thomas and will end at about 9.15, but that may vary if they find some outstanding songs to listen to. In the manner typical of this friendly group, refreshments will be provided at the end of the walk.

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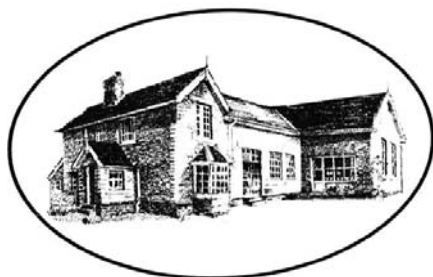
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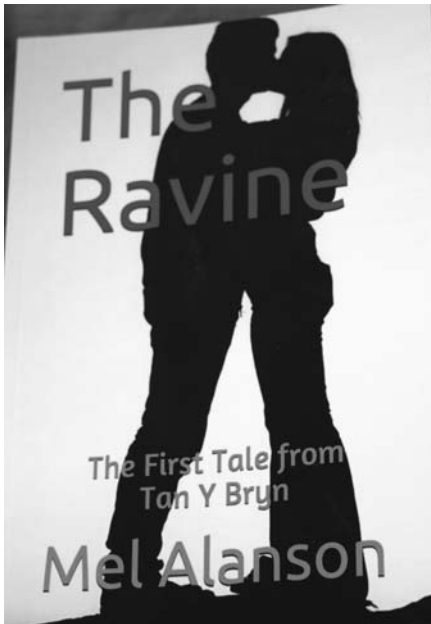
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BOOK REVIEW

'The Ravine' by Mel Alanson



Mel Alanson is the pseudonym of a local writer, whose first novel this is. Rather bravely, he sets out to show that men can write romance stories and this one is described as 'The First Tales from Tan Y Bryn'. So we can assume there's more to come.

The story builds gently from Jason Garrington looking for a place to escape the recent stress of a collapsed marriage and messy divorce and finding a retreat in the remote Tan Y Bryn (Below the Hill) farm in Mid Wales. There he finds Glyn and Cerys Edwards, assuming they are a married couple until it emerges that they brother and sister.

There's an attraction between Jason and Cerys, spoiled by the jealous plotting of the very available Elin that splits them up and sees Jason returning to his frigid parental home in Birmingham. He can't take too much of that and heads west to try to persuade Cerys that the stories told about him are simply lies.

As you'd expect of a romance, he gets through the web of lies and prejudice and wins the lady over. It rounds off as a "Lived happily ever after" ending, but what the Second Tale from Tan Y Bryn will reveal we'll have to wait and see.

An easy read that holds your attention through to the end. If you like romance, well worth the modest £4.83 price for the paperback from Amazon, or £2.50 if you prefer the Kindle version.

This copy will be presented to the town library and will appear on the Local Authors Shelf once it's been put through the system.
JR

A DELICATE SUBJECT

This is a difficult matter for a mere man to write about, as all I can claim is ignorance and a mixture of indignation and revulsion. It's female genital mutilation.

The Kidderminster branch of Soroptimists are addressing the matter and have arranged a public meeting on the morning of June 22nd, in Bewdley's Saint George's Hall, in Load Street, starting at 9.30 and scheduled to finish at 1.00.

There will be speakers from the Police, health and safeguarding, with the keynote speaker Gillian Squires, Home Office advisor on the subject..

Tickets are £7.50, which will include tea and coffee and are **b o o k a b l e o n kidderminstersorop@gmail.com** or by calling 07817 808320

We will remind you of the event in the June issue and plan to publish a report in July, subject to printing deadlines being met.

NEEN SAVAGE W.I.

Our April meeting was organised by the members and the speaker kept a secret from the committee! What a great talk – we were entertained by Mike Paterson, ably assisted by his wife Liz, who spoke about Relationships, exploring animal relationships with humans. Mike was keen to speak up for the animal kingdom, stating that how we behave around animals affects how they relate to us. Mike is now living in Neen Sollars but spent most of his life in Africa, growing up in Zimbabwe, before moving to Tanzania to undertake conservation farming, minimising the impact on the natural environment. He ended up organising photographic safaris with Mount Kilimanjaro as a backdrop. The strong message that came through is that animals understand that they rely on humans for help and protection so if treated properly and with respect they are not dangerous. We also thought Liz an understanding wife, welcoming all manor of exotic animals into their home and in some cases their bed!

Our next event on May 8th is our Open Meeting – meaning anyone (men included) can **a t t e n d .** Shropshire photographers Mike and John Hayward will be showing their amazing pictures celebrating the stunning Shropshire landscape we live in. The evening starts at 7.30pm and visitors are charged £4 to include a raffle ticket and light supper. If you would like further information please contact our President, Catherine Evans on 01299 270647.



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South Shropshire is a great place to retire. But over time this does create challenges, as the proportion of elderly people living here increases. Over 65s now make up 28.6% of our local population, compared to just 18% nationally. Remarkably, this has increased from 20.9% when I was first elected.

The welcome reason for this increase is that we are living longer, healthier lives. The number of people aged 90 or over in South Shropshire has almost doubled since 2005, particularly driven by more men becoming nonagenarians, reflecting healthier lifestyle choices including reduced smoking rates. But clearly as we live longer, we are more likely to need health and social care support.

Challenges around an ageing population are not unique to Shropshire, though are more pronounced in rural areas, given additional pressure around workforce planning and transportation. So a national approach is needed to ensure the most vulnerable receive the support they need in old age.

At the end of March I met the Social Care Minister to discuss the Social Care Green Paper, which will consider a range of options to ensure our social care system meets the needs of our ageing society and is sustainable for the long term.

I emphasised the need to 'rural proof' any policy changes, given the additional cost of providing services in rural areas, particularly pressing for social care providers. For example, in cities carers can move between appointments quickly, whereas in rural areas carers will be available for fewer daily appointments given time needed to travel between them.

It is clear we need to be open to new ideas, and the Minister will invite responses to a consultation on the Green Paper. I shall work with rural groups and other rural MPs to

make a powerful case for a more balanced system.

We have already seen some recognition from government of the growing scale of the problem. Councils have been allowed to raise social care precepts to meet local statutory obligations. In the wider system an extra £650 million for social care in 2019-20 was included in last year's Budget: £240 million to help people leave hospital when ready and receive the right care to meet their needs; and £410 million to improve local councils' care offer for older people, those with disabilities, and children.

But funding alone will not solve this significant challenge for any future government. Reform is needed to ensure health and social care services are better joined up, and that social care changes to meet the needs of an increasingly elderly population. Fortunately, technology opens up a world of possibility in delivering improved care at reduced cost.

For example, Shropshire Council is one of the leaders in looking at innovative ways to meet the growing social care challenge. I am pleased it has launched a pilot in Broseley using technology to combat isolation, through schemes than do not replace human interaction but rather facilitate it. This type of innovation in care has led to national award nominations, showing Shropshire at the forefront of best practice.

I know innovation through technology is a passion of the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care, so I hope that with his encouragement to embrace new thinking, coupled with local innovation here in Shropshire, we will adapt well to meeting health and social care needs of current and future generations.

Philip Dunne

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IN SEARCH OF RARE BIRD SPECIES

The Clarion has carried a range of appeals asking for help in both defending and tracing rare bird species in the area. The curlew is the outstanding variety, but there are many others whose survival bodies like the Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group work to help.

I wanted to follow one of their members and report what the regular check on species and numbers is like. Chris Bargman offered good advice: "Go out with Leo on his April training day - he's very knowledgeable." I had met and talked to Leo at the Clee Hill Group's recent AGM and he was welcoming. At 9.30 on clear but chilly Saturday we met in Cleeton Saint Mary.

Others joined us, volunteers with an interest in watching over and preserving wildlife on Titterstone Clee Hill.

Leo distributed map sheets that regular volunteers use, their chosen local area shown as a two kilometre square with roads and footpaths clearly marked. There were six of us plus Leo, me as an observer, the others there to learn. All of them clearly experienced, properly shod for hillside walking,

carrying field glasses and clip boards to hold their maps.

After a briefing from Leo we walked towards Doddington, Leo stopping and explaining how different terrains suited the habits of different birds. We then branched off along a footpath and had covered no more than 200 metres when a curlew flew past, followed by what we presumed was its mate. The two landed in a nearby field, visible through field glasses and blending with the background if you didn't have that vital tool.

We watched them for some time, feeding quietly as our silence was broken only by soft speaking to prevent disturbance. When they flew off we moved on, stopping to watch other species, including a red kite high up on the hill, circling in what seemed to be a lazy style as it searched for its prey. But that easy and silent way of moving swiftly becomes a stunning swoop if they spot their next meal.

Another curlew flew across the hillside. One of the pair seen earlier or a fresh sighting? Leo cautioned against enthusiasm, knowing that it might be one we'd already seen, or an intruder from a neighbouring area. Both sightings recorded.



Leo Smith (centre) a great source of wildlife knowledge.

The A4 recording sheets on the back of the area maps are a great example of maximum information on minimal space, with abbreviations for all the species you're likely to see and a simple code to explain their actions. There are four periods to be covered, so walking out and spotting is not a demanding job. Volunteers then post them off to Leo for him to collate information and help to build the fund of knowledge.

Walking on Clee Hill is never going to be boring with a job like this. If you would like to join in this work to help protect rare birds, call Chris Bargman on CM 270514 or email chcwgs@shropacwgs.org.uk

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Wed 1 st	10.00	NHS Hearing Aid Drop-In Clinic, Community Room, St Mary's Place, Love Lane		
	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thurs 2 nd		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30	Rock Pathfinders step out for a walk from Cleobury Sports & Social Club PAGE 9		
Fri 3 rd	7.00	Ladies Night at the Sports & Social Club, all for charity. PAGE 37		
Sat 4 th		Sale of Household Goods at Know Sports Ground. Great bargains to be had!	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
Sun 5 th	10.00	The Parish Walk starts from Parish Church, with everyone welcome to join! Sensible shoes, please, as it can get muddy out there. PAGE 35		
Wed 8 th	10.00	Walking for Health steps out from the Market Hall & gets back for coffee & cake		
	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall, Coffee and Cake for £1.50!		
	7.30	Neen Savage WI meet at village hall for their Open Evening, open to all! PAGE 25		
	8.00	Royal British Legion meets at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	M. Hermolle	01299 271384
Thurs 9 th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.00	Kidderminster Soroptimists have an information stall at Kidderminster General Hospital. PAGE 19		
Fri 10 th	10.30	Rhyme time at the Library for tots, led by Ever After Nursery		
Sat 11 th	10.00	Clows Top Gardening Club Plant Sale & Coffee Morning, Victory Hall, Clows Top PAGE 9		
	10.00	Horticultural Society's Spring Plant Sale, Cleobury Market Hall. PAGE 19		
	11.00	Cleobury Community Hub Open Day at the Methodist Church. PAGE 49		
	6.00	Lempen Puppet Theatre's "Cardboard Carnival", Clows Top Victory Hall. PAGE 32		
	7.30	Fordante present an evening of Romance from the Movies in St Marys Church, Neen Savage.		
11/12 th		Shropshire Kids Fest at Quarry Park, Shrewsbury. PAGE 5		
Sun 12 th	07.30	Bird Song Walk by Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group, starting at Novers Car Park on B4212. Page 23		
	09.00	Charity Car Boot Sale at Perry Riding for the Disabled in Much Wenlock		
	12.00	Family Fun Day in memory of Jack Edwards at Sports & Social Club, Love Lane. Proceeds to charity. PAGE 37		
Mon 13 th	6.30	The Creative Writing Group meet in the Library, Love Lane. PAGE 19		
	7.30	Horticultural Society meet at Methodist Hall, Lower Street. PAGE 19		
Tues 14 th	07.30	Breakfast Club meet at Cleobury Café to hear Dorothy McBride talk about "Shropshire to Sangam". PAGE 41	Angela Drennan	01299 270636

Something rather different will be appearing at Clows Top Victory Hall on the 11th this month. It's the Lempen Puppet Theatre's presentation of "The Cardboard Theatre" with a particular appeal to children, hence the 6.00 starting time. Read a little more about it on Page 32, but don't fight your curiosity - go and see for yourself.



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Tues 14 th	2.00	Doddington Friendship Club meet in the Village Hall		
Wed 15 th	11.00	Menith Wood Craft Dabble Day, in Lindridge Parish Hall. PAGE 5		
	7.30	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Good parking available.		
Thurs 16 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30	Rock Pathfinders start their walk from Neen Savage Village Hall. PAGE 9		
Sat 18 th		Coach Trip from Clee Hill to Liverpool.	Book on	01584 891464
	09.30	Cleobury Country Farmers Market in and around St Mary's Church	Clare Todd	01299 272300
	10.00	CMFA step out in Shropshire Hills before lunching at Aston Munslow		
	7.00	Quiz Evening at Doddington Village Hall. PAGE 57		
	7.30	Flicks in the Sticks in is Parish Hall, Church Street. Great Value. PAGE 5		
Sun 19 th	2.00	Working Party in Hopton Wafers Parish Churchyard		
	2.00	Twisted Spire Cycling Sportive starts at Sports & Social Club. All for charity. PAGE 37		
Mon 20 th	7.30	The Reading Group gather in the Library for exchange views. PAGE 35		
Wed 22 nd	10.00	Walking for Health start & finish at Market Hall, Church Street		
	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning, get in early for the best choice of cakes!!		
	7.30	Clows Tops Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall to hear David Morgan talk about the National Gardren Scheme. PAGE 9		
Thurs 23 rd		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
		The Royal British Legion visit Hobson's Brewery	M. Hermolle	01299 271 384
Fri 24 th	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 25 th	1.30	Horticultural Society visit Wind Ridge Garden, Little Wenlock		
Tues 28 th	7.30	The nearly Dead Poets Society gather in the Library, Love Lane	Jim	01299 270642
Wed 29 th	7.30	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall		
Thurs 30 th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 31 st	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JUNE.....		
Wed 5 th	7.30	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
5-8 th		English Hayden Festival fills Bridgnorth with wonderful music		
Thurs 6 th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 7 th		Horticultural Society have a coach outing to Royal Horticultural Society Flower Show at Chatsworth House.	Carol Franklin	01299 270632

The Twisted Spire Cycling Sportive on Sunday the 19th is a great opportunity to see the countryside at pedalling pace. It's also a chance to get in some miles if you're thinking of joining the party heading for the French Alps later this summer and tackling some very serious climbs. We have hills, the French have mountains, big ones.

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THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

Please join us on our next Parish Walk – Sunday May 5th at 10.00 from outside St Mary’s Church.

CMFA held its 28th AGM (how time flies!) in April and we had 18 members attend – maybe because we keep the meetings as short as possible. You can read the minutes on the website.

One topic discussed was the continuing problem of dogs worrying livestock with two serious incidents involving ewes and young lambs. Affected farmers have asked for our help, but, sadly, all we can do is provide extra signage. The solution lies with dog owners in keeping their dogs on the lead at all times when in a field with stock.

Our members will be out and about keeping our footpaths clear of the rapid spring growth. A path can go from being clear to a jungle in a week or so. Work parties are for the larger jobs and as individuals, going for a walk armed with secateurs and possibly a slasher. It takes a lot of effort from our small band, but without it, some paths would become unusable within a couple of years and others unpleasant to use. If you value our footpath network, why not contribute to keeping it open by

joining in – see “snip and slash” on our website. Please contact us to discuss: Footpaths@cmfa.co.uk

The Estate Manager for Mawley Hall tells us that no decision has yet been made about the permissive path along the riverside at Sadlers Barn. It is currently still permissive and they are not restricting anyone’s ability to use it. They will notify us if that changes.

Graham Simpson

THE STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

The March meeting of the Stroke Support Group was a celebration of our 1st birthday. We invited all those who have helped us through the first year, including individuals and organisations who had supported us with donations. Homemade cakes from group members were on offer plus the official birthday cake made for us by Claire at the Golf Club. The group has a full programme for 2019 including some interesting trips – we will always welcome new members who have had a stroke, their carers and volunteers. Contact Katja Jones at the Medical Centre.

Val Simpson

THE READING GROUP

‘A Wedding in December’ by Anita Shreve was not a big success with our group. The novel, set in a New Hampshire inn, explores the relationships of a group of people. Having been at college together, their reunion is for the wedding of two old friends. One of the guests has just started writing a novel about the 1917 explosion in Halifax, Nova Scotia. A good proportion of our readers thought this a better story than the main one. Overall views varied from; an easy read and enjoyed it, to not very exciting, predictable and not for me. It did remind us not to make judgements about people when you don’t know their circumstances.

A biography for this month, ‘The Invisible Woman’ by Claire Tomalin, the story of Nelly Ternan and Charles Dickens. We will meet on Monday May 20th, in the library, to exchange opinions.

Deana Kimber CM 271754

SILLY BIT

Heard on BBC1’s Judgemental:

Question: What was the name of Bill and Hilary Clinton’s cat?

Answer: Was it Monica?

Ed’s Comment: Actually, Monica was Bill’s pet. Allegedly.



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DEMENTIA SERVICES BIRTHDAY



Support Officer Gina Bedding and Respite Service member Len Nevett celebrate.

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin's Dementia Respite Service in Shrewsbury gathered for afternoon tea on April 15th to celebrate the body's first birthday. The place was filled with chatter and laughter as service users and families came together for the event.

Emma Wilde, Day Services Senior Co-ordinator of Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin, thanked everyone who made the first year such a success: "It's

been a special year, full of people doing amazing things. We've received a lot of support from a variety of people and had a lot of fun along the way, creating wonderful memories."

Emma gave special tribute to the first users of the service, several of them present: "It's been a privilege and a pleasure to get to know you and gratifying to see you here, one year on. Thank you."

The scale of the dementia challenge in the UK makes sober reading: Over 850,000 people are living with it and this is predicted to increase to one million by 2021. Figures collected by GPs indicate that there are around 70,000 people over 65 living in Shropshire, with more than 3,400 diagnosed as living with dementia. Current projections will see this figure rise to 6,000 by the end of the decade.

Heather Osborne, Chief Executive of Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin, said: "The people gathered for the birthday celebration are testament to the success of the service. What a positive atmosphere! I'm delighted and heartened by their feedback and kind words."

Tina Erskine

THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The Club is hosting three great charity events during May, starting on Friday the 3rd with a Ladies Night combining curry, prosecco and Ann Summers! Organised by Sharon Wakeman, and raising money for local youth charities. 7.00pm start, tickets £15 each, from Sharon on 07772 233963.

On Sunday the 12th, Chrissie Woodhouse is organising a Family Fun Day starting at 12.00, in memory of her son, Jack Edwards. Money raised will go to Ronald McDonald House and Post Pals. Stalls, food and drink, plus a raffle with great prizes. Chrissie is looking for teams for a Tug of War competition, contact her if you wish to enter. Chrissie is on 07890 795053.

Sunday the 19th sees The Twisted Spire Cycling Sportive, starting at 9.00. Organised by Guy Turpin and Rich Robertshaw, this is a 45 mile ride through South Shropshire and raises money for the charity, Astriid (www.astriid.org.uk) For more information please contact Guy on 07779 427814 or sign up at www.britishcycling.org.uk Twisted Spire Velo.



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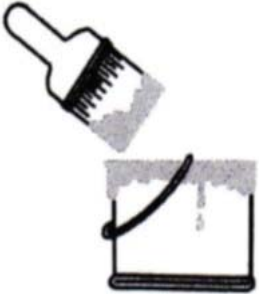
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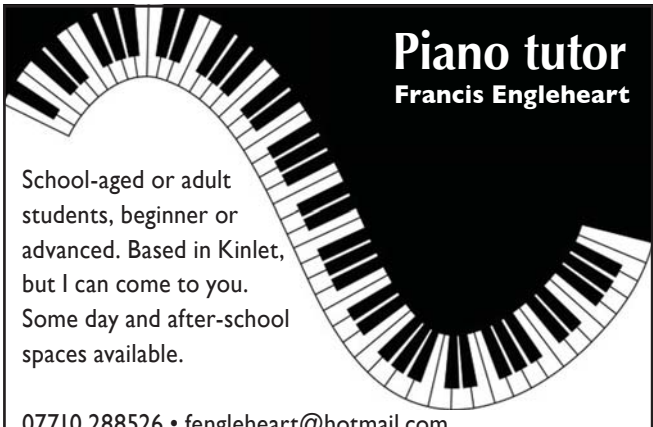
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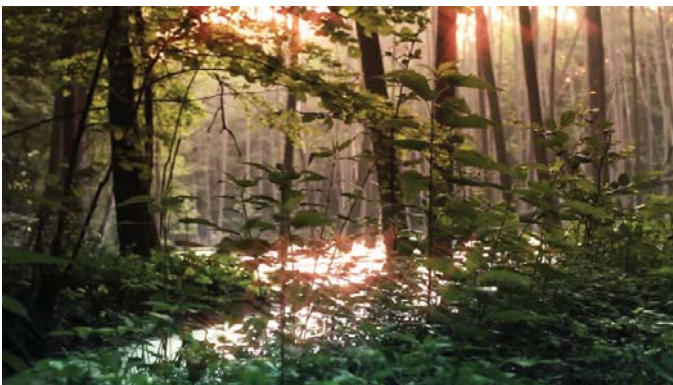
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The first Sunday of the month is International Dawn Chorus Day, often marked by special walks. However, you don't have to join an organised event to hear a free, virtuoso performance somewhere near your home. Setting the alarm in time to be out in the woods ready for a 5.30am sunrise may take grim determination but the reward is memorable. The build-up of birdsong and the effect of the gathering light among the tall trees is uplifting and magical. You can stand still and let yourself be blessed.



'Dawn Forest' courtesy of Shutterstock

The dominant songs will probably be those of Blackbird and Song Thrush. They perch as high as they can to broadcast their melodies: the Blackbird repeating them twice; the Song Thrush rather more varied in its repertoire and repeating each phrase three times. If, like me, you struggle to identify the other songsters, you can listen to recordings on websites such as www.rspb.org.uk to become familiar with them. Or you can just enjoy the occasion and make up your own mind whether you are experiencing a behaviour

that is purely functional - an establishment of territory - or an outpouring of joy.

I have only heard Nightingales a few times and sadly never in the Wyre Forest, where they were last noted in the 1940s, but I can re-read and enjoy Keats' 'Ode to a Nightingale' to recapture the wonder of the elaborate song or hear three hours of it courtesy of YouTube! The Nightingale favours coppiced woodland and scrub, which used to be common enough in Wyre and other woodlands in the past. The forest also incorporated much more heath in the past and efforts have been made recently to restore and extend this habitat so that many species threatened with local extinction can hold on.

Norman Hickin's 'The Natural History of an English Forest', published in 1971, talks of the Nightjar still being numerous in areas of heath and bracken despite a decline from the earlier years of the century. He describes watching a Nightjar performing aerial acrobatics as it hunted moths at dusk, silhouetted against the sky. The bird's mouth is wide and fringed with bristles to aid it in catching its food and its brown cryptic-patterned plumage allows it to avoid detection during the day. I was amazed to hear its loud, 'churring' song (like a clockwork toy winding down) on the RSPB website. Wouldn't it be wonderful to welcome this fascinating former resident back to our forest?

Linda Iles

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THE BREAKFAST CLUB

We met at the Talbot Hotel on April 9th. Steve and Val Wilson, who are managing the hotel, delivered a joint presentation – ‘Cooking Up a Life’ – telling us how they have ended up in Cleobury.

Steve started off working in Claridges in London, then moved to Newcastle, and later to Saudi Arabia working for the US military, living in a Portakabin in desert surroundings for eight years. Another change brought him back to UK, working for Scottish & Newcastle Brewery, including supervising chef training in Dundee.

Val joined the industry in 2005, and accompanied Steve on his return to Saudi Arabia, where they ran a catering operation for three years, based in a well-defined compound. Inside the compound, Western rules applied, but outside, behaviour had to conform to strict Saudi legal and religious practices. They had plenty of opportunity to make friends in the international community, but she didn't like being treated as a second-class citizen when outside the compound.

On their return to UK, they ran the George Hotel in

Eccleshall for two years, leaving this to work in Eastbourne, and finally made it to Cleobury Mortimer. They also have a daughter in Cleobury, working as a hairdresser, and a son who runs the greengrocer's shop next to the Talbot.

The Breakfast Club next meets on May 14th at the Cleobury Café, to hear Dorothy McBride on ‘Shropshire to Sangam’. Those wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (270636) to book places.

Mark Baldwin

IN PRAISE OF...

It was one of those “Oh,no...”mornings. A note from my early rising son that the boiler was not working. I thought the shower had been rather cool.

A call to Nick at N J Heating got the explanation that he doesn't work on gas fired systems, but I should call Dan Morgan at Vortex. Gave me the number, too. Dan is Cleobury based and had calls in the area; he could come later that morning. Good news.

Dan and Tim arrived about an hour later, got straight on with the job and repaired a leak that had closed the system down. There was some sediment in the system, so did I want the boiler serviced? Yes please to that.

Within an hour the boiler had been revived and serviced for another year. Should I phone him when I next needed his service attention? “Don't worry about that, you'll be on the email system and we'll contact you about six weeks before it's due.”

He'd found a weak fixing in the flue through the loft and sorted that out as well as the other work it needed. Prompt and thorough service, by two smartly turned out professionals. 07531 387 336 or email dan@vortexplumbheat.co.uk. Definitely recommended. JR

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It's that time of year again when my daughter Laura and myself take on the challenge of pounding the streets of London through the night in our decorated bras for the 26.2 mile challenge, all in aid of breast cancer. This will be our eleventh year and Laura's partner Jason will be joining us and around 17 thousand other women and men. 11 days after the walk they will be getting married! Please support us and this great cause. Julia Woodison.
<https://moonwalklondon2019.everydayhero.com/uk/julia-lauren-jason>

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'SAVE OUR CURLEWS' NEWS



The Clarion last October carried an article describing the results of a project in 2018 to find Curlew nests on Clee Hill, protect them with electric fences, and radio tagging the chicks to find out where they go and what happens to them. One, probably two, chicks fledged. The project was successful, as we learnt a lot, and we are repeating as much as possible this year.

Farmers with Curlews on their land in previous years have been contacted already, or will be soon. A leaflet, "Curlews need farmers", which describes the project in more detail, is being distributed in the area. Curlews started arriving back during March, and landowners and everyone else are requested to report the locations of any that you see or hear to Chris Bargman on 01299 270514, email chcwg@shropscwgs.org.uk as soon as possible. These reports are very important, as they help us find where the Curlews are breeding. Please don't assume we already know about any you come across.

Members of the Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group have been out looking for them since late March onwards. If you want to help with this, or find out more, it's not too late. Contact Chris (details above) for this too. We've a large area to cover, and all help is welcome. See article on what's involved on page 31.

The Group has been looking for Curlews since 2012, and during that time the population has declined from 13 breeding pairs to only 7 or 8 now. We don't have much longer to save them from local extinction.

A full report of the 2018 nest finding and protection project can be found on the Community Wildlife Group website www.ShropsCWGs.org.uk (Clee Hill section). More information about the *Save our Curlews* campaign can be found on the Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) website www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/

The campaign is funded by a joint appeal promoted by Shropshire Wildlife Trust and SOS, and the Clarion made a donation last year. We need to raise several thousands more to complete all the work that we need to do this year. The fate of the Clee Hill Curlews lies in the hands of local residents, so please make a donation if you are able to. See www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/appeals

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Diamond buses has announced that they will compensate users (as required by the Traffic Commissioners at the last hearing) by giving one week's free travel on the No 3 route only. Although this was judged to be the worst route Diamond operates in Worcestershire, this does nothing for everyone else that has been disadvantaged and as there is a 15 minute service on this route, one missing bus does not involve a very long delay. Nothing is said as to whether the Commissioner has approved this scheme but as it has now been formally announced, I assume he has.

Shropshire Council have announced a consultation on the funding of the passenger transport services they provide. Is this in an attempt to improve them? Er no, just an attempt to save £405,000 next year plus £50,000 on the Shrewsbury Park and Ride service. The consultation document lists all the services they currently support and guess which number is at the bottom of the list? Yes, the dear old 292. A footnote justifies this by pointing out that this service is run by Worcestershire on behalf of Shropshire so may not reflect priorities. In addition it says that as this is the case, it will

not form part of the review. Having said that, Shropshire stump up most of the subsidy on the 292 route and it appears that Worcestershire are looking for even more cash so where will that come from? Replies are needed by 6th May so you have time to comment if you wish. Contributions should be sent to www.Passtrans@shropshirecouncil.gov.uk. I have done so and have tried not to be too rude.

No more news on the 292 service. Shropshire Council have been unable to contact anyone in Worcs Council who might possibly know anything about the position and time is going on. The current contract expires at the end of June and will apparently just roll over unless proposals are made to improve the service. There are thoughts that travelling could be simplified by a 'Cross Ticketing' arrangement with Diamond which would enable travellers to buy just one ticket for a through journey say from Worcester to Ludlow but this needs some form of contact to enable it to happen. If you want to express your concerns, you can Email Worcestershire Council (www.worcestershire.gov.uk) for the attention of the Bus Travel section.

The BT Bother saga continues. The lady in question has repeatedly received bills of around 10 times the usual figure and, as ever, has had great difficulty finding anyone with half a brain to sort it. At one point, she thought she had made a breakthrough when a helpful young man gave her his name, said he would sort things out and told her when to ring back as he would be sure to be in then. She did and he wasn't. She rang a number of times and not only was he never there but no-one else answering claimed to know him. The cynic in me wonders whether this is just a cunning ploy to avoid talking to the punters. Just give a name that nobody in the team has and you can sit back in the certain knowledge that none of the pesky customers will ever be able to bother you. If so, this is a brilliant wheeze although possibly not in the best traditions of customer service... Another friend has had problems with his internet since - wait for it - December 2017!. In the 15 months since, he has had visits from no less than 7 'skilled' BT engineers, none of whom has been able to fix it. He is now waiting for a visit from a 'multi skilled' engineer in yet another attempt to sort it out.

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WASH HOUSE

The Cleobury Wash House is celebrating five years since first opening its doors on the 12th of May 2014. And what a wonderful and thriving five years we've had.

We started off as a small team and over the years have grown to become more like a family. Our very loyal regulars as well as new customers are always welcome even if it's just for a chat. Our services remain varied and customer focused - from service washes to ironing, we clean duvets as well as pet bedding and equine rugs. We now have a delivery and collection service that has been well received by our customers near and far. It saves our commercial customers time so they can get on with running their businesses and it also assists domestic clients that aren't able to commute to our shop.

To celebrate our birthday, for the whole month of May we are offering 10% off any pet bedding and equine service wash. Even our four legged friends deserve a fresh bed! Please check out our Facebook Page @The Cleobury Wash House for our offers and regular updates about the shop.

Finally, we must say a big "Thank You!" to all of our customers who have supported us. Without you our business wouldn't be what it is today and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

Chloe Colquitt

COMMUNITY HUB

As you will know from previous Clarion articles,

SMYP's project to transform the Methodist Church building into a focussed community facility is well underway. Whilst a major grant application was unsuccessful, with crowd-funding, other donations and lots of local support, we are able to press ahead.

We plan to be up and running by this summer with a community café, dance studio, live music facilities, soft play area and more, open to the people of Cleobury Mortimer and surrounding areas.

Our young people have been working hard to design and create this facility with the whole community in mind and many people have asked how they can help. Certainly we will need skills to complete the building development, and then help to keep the project running. There are lots of ways to get involved and we will need: Café volunteers, musicians, artists, cooks/bakers, cleaners, gardeners, maintenance people plus any other skills you think you could contribute to our community project

Whether you are interested in getting involved or would just like to come and see what is going on, then please come along to The Methodist Church building on Saturday 11th May. We will be open from 11.00 'til 2.00, when you can see what we are planning, have a chat to those involved, with refreshments provided. We look forward to welcoming you.

Roger Brown

CMFA STEP OUT

The Footpath Association have a special walk on May 18th, starting at 10.00 from the Broncroft Castle layby. You'll

find that on Explorer map 217, reference 545 864.

It will cover about six miles of the Shropshire Hills, in good company, before lunch is taken at The Swan in Aston Munslow. If you want to join, let leader Russell know on russellknapper@gmail.com and advise your lunch choice after looking at the menu at www.theswaninnastonmunslow.co.uk

SEVERN HOSPICE

The Stottesdon and Cleobury Severn Hospice Support Group held their AGM on April 17th. The following Officers were re elected: Chair - Rose Abbiss 01746 718 455; Secretary - Den Ingram 01746 718114; Treasurer - Shaunah Murrell 01299 270386 Funds raised of £1,500 will be presented to the Hospice at a Coffee Morning in the home of Shaunah Murrell, 8 Catherton Close on June 8th from 10.00 to 1.00

THE ENGLISH HAYDN FESTIVAL

Bridgnorth will be hosting the 26th English Haydn Festival from June 5th to the 8th. A wide range of very talented musicians will fill the town's churches with wonderful sounds to celebrate this great composer's talent and that of his closest friends.

The festival website is www.englishhaydn.com, you can call the booking office on 07547 289704 or write to them at Morville Farmhouse, Morville, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 4RJ.

Much of the music will be performed in St Mary's Church, built by the great Thomas Telford in 1792. A perfect setting for the occasion.



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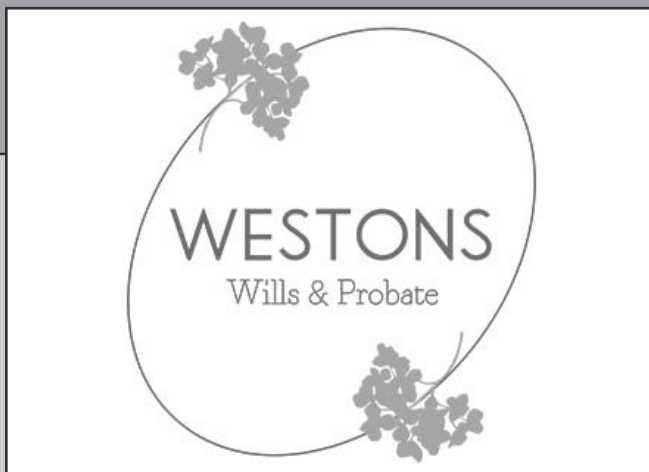
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CLEOBURY MORTIMER SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Friday 3 May Ladies Night	8pm	£15	
Fundraising Ann Summers evening. Proceeds to local youth projects. Ticket includes curry supper and glass of Prosecco. Tickets from Cleobury Wash House or Sharon Wakeman.			
Monday 6 May Bingo	8pm		
Every Monday at the Social Club. Eyes down 8pm. Cash prizes; over 18 only please.			
Saturday 11 May CMCC v Burghill & Weobley	1pm		
Sunday 12 May Jack Edwards Charity Fun Day	12 noon onwards		
Afternoon at the Social Club and Playing Fields to raise funds for Ronald McDonald House and Post Pals. Huge raffle, juggling workshops, stalls, food and drink. See posters and Facebook page for full details.			
Thursday 16 May Whist Drive	6-8pm		
Friday 17 May CMRFC Dinner & Awards Night	7pm		
Sunday 19 May Twisted Spire Velo	9am	£25	
75km cycle ride around Shropshire's country lanes. Starts and finishes in the car park. Refreshments and music in the Social Club afterwards. Raising funds and awareness for Astrid, helping those with long term illness find flexible employment opportunities.			
Friday 25 May Family Bingo & Raffle	6-8pm	50p per card	
Fundraising for Charlie Brown's charity expedition to Tanzania in July. All cards 50p, buy as many as you like. Watch out for posters and see Charlie Brown's Fundraising Events page on Facebook for prize details.			
Saturday 25 May CMCC v Bredon	1pm		
Sunday 26 May Clothes Swap	1-4pm		
Bring your unwanted clothes and swap them for something new to you.			
Friday 31 May Volleyball Club Quiz Night	7.30pm	£15 per team (max 6 people)	
More information on the Volleyball Club Facebook page or from Karen Gallagher & Lyndsey Potter			

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GREAT CAR WASH

This car wash is rather special, with its location at Nineveh Ridge Farm on the outskirts of Bayton. None of that queuing to get a chance to use the more conventional type of wash and all the grumbling of impatient kids in the back. This is place where everyone smiles.

A new member is Steve, now living in Bewdley with his brother after their dad died last year and Steve had to move out of his native Brum into the country. He used to work for a large car showroom, washing cars and being paid a lot less than a living wage. We're not going into that part of his story at this stage, but the fact that he held down the job for 22 years tell you he knows what he's doing.

Mark and Pippa Bannister at Nineveh Ridge have seen how hard he works, their staff all have clean and gleaming cars thanks to Steve and he's being encouraged to run his own car wash business. It all sounded rather good to this occasional car cleaner, so we spoke to Pippa and arranged to put the service to the test. A gentle cruise down the road to Bayton, which was no hardship at all, and at the farm

I was told to just park the car and leave the rest to the man.



First stage. Wash off the grime with soapy water, bucket and large sponge.

A brief few words with Steve. Did I want it cleaned inside and out? Just outside, please, because I hadn't put a lot of bits and pieces from a recent meeting away.

Did he want the money now? "No, wait until it's done." Thank you Steve, I'll leave it with you. With not even a hose, just buckets of water carried to the car, he set about it.

Thorough soaping all over, wash off with buckets of clear water and then he did the wheels separately. The final touch was a chamois leather cleaning off until he stood back again and I was reminded

what a smart car I have under the day to day dust and grime.

No wonder he smiles when he's finished a car. Those 22 years of experience in a garage, where he was expected to keep the stock looking really well, shows through in his simple pride in his work and knowing that the car owner is in for a very pleasant surprise. And all it cost was a five pound note; the last time I had hand car wash was three years ago and that cost me £9.00. I shall be going down the Bayton road more often in future.



Finished job. Love it!

Steve works on Monday, Thursday and Friday, starting at about 10.30. Book your place to be sure of his service, by calling Pippa Bannister on 01299 832864 or 07971 528513. Highly recommended.



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THE MEN'S SHED GETS SERIOUS

Anyone who may have thought the Men's Shed was a light hearted time filler for a few men with not enough to do should take notice. At the first Annual General Meeting of the group, the progress made in little more than a year made impressive reading.

From a tentative meeting in October 2017 and an agreement to get on with it, the Shed has become a registered charity, leased land to build the shed on, got planning permission, made a Lottery application and seen the foundations for the shed laid. Big thank to Hylton Smith and the crew for all that work and materials supplied free of charge. And to David Chance of Bayton Building Company for lots of detail help and advice.



Jamie Taylor of Hylton Smith's Specialist Foundations gives the new concrete a good start before it's finished with power floating.

This laying of the foundation was done on the morning of the group's AGM on April 17th. Nice timing, to go with lots of other progress to report, like the decision to lay on power for the site. There's a long list of very generous people who've given

donations or help and we'll publish their name in a later issue, when we have more room.

Meantime, the Shed progresses and donations of tools and equipment are still coming in. It's Cleobury at its big hearted best. Will the shed itself be built this year? Watch this space.

LOCAL HONEY FROM AN EXPERIENCED HAND



David Moule, properly dressed to handle bees, with his hives on the edge of woodlands. "They like the shade in the hot weather," he explained.

David Moule has been involved with bee keeping and the production of honey for more than 40 years. Knows his stuff, this man.

He learned from his dad at first and later worked two spells at a big honey business with 600 hives to watch over. He learned from that experience and his modest collection of 27 hives at present "I did have 37, but the Beast from the East took a lot of them," he explains.

Cleanliness is very important. "I've seen hives in a really bad state. That's when you can get disease in, and that's a real

headache." He watches the hives very carefully in the busy summer months, when the bees move on from feeding on the natural fruits in the hedgerows to rape seed. Keepers know when rape seed is the favoured crop, when they see "Yellowheads".

What's a Yellowhead, David? "When they're gathering in the rape plants their heads are yellow with the pollen."

Watching over his charges means being down with the hives at 4.00 in the morning, checking that all is well and that the bees are calm.

If it's wet and they can't get out and gather pollen, the bees become bored and decide to look for a better lodging. That's when they swarm, which is a natural migration, but rather unpleasant if it's your garden they choose. Does it happen very often? "Me and dad dealt with seven in one day a while back."

He dressed us both in proper keeper's outfit, made in Neath in South Wales and costing £169 each time. Better than being stung...

David and his mum do all the processing, from draining off the honeycomb to filtering through the settling tank before filling one pound (454grammes) jars or neat little Teddy Bear 340gms jars. Well, teddy bears do love honey.

It's a lovely sweet and entirely natural treat - try it on toast. Hmm. Sales are being handled for David by uncle

Reg Moule, who can deliver quickly. He's on 01299 401609 and can deliver to your or shop. They've got it in store just out of town at the Larch Barn.



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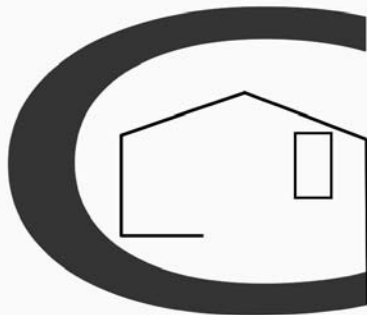
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**CLEOBURY'S CO-OP
STORE**

The place opened 18 months ago, in November 2017, a £1.9 million investment in this community. It has brought a new level of service to the town, with fuel available from 6.00am to 11.00pm and food and other services from 7.00am.

Part of the Shropshire and Wales Co-op group, it employs 32 people at present, 10 of them all properly First Aid trained by the local First Responders group.

The man with responsibility for this very impressive place is 33 year old Elliott Cook, a product of the Coop staff training and way of trading. As a school leaver in Sedgeley, he started out pushing trolleys ten hours a week and has progressed to manage the Cleobury store and serve as deputy to the Area Manager. His own deputy is Joyce Price, who along with several others transferred from the old Harry Tuffins store that took over what used to be West End Garage.



Man in charge: Elliott Cook. He's advanced from pushing trolleys to running Cleobury's Co-op store, where you find him stacking shelves.

The friendly manner of staff and their ability to take on any job that needs attention is part of

the training scheme in the company. New recruits get a two days introductory course at Stourport, then they're out in store with seven qualifying standards to meet before they're fully fledged.

The place carries the wide range you'd expect of a store this size. The best seller is Hobson's beers, with grocery and fuel sales equal second. For me, the range of salads and vegetables appeals, helped by fresh deliveries seven days a week.

The store has made a lot of friends with its support of local events and a week after we talked Elliott and six other locals were due to contest the Gung Ho five kilometre run over inflatables, raising funds for the Homestart charity in Kidderminster.

Looking ahead, does Elliott see changes coming to the store? "I don't think there will be, it's a winning formula," was the reply. And a real asset on our main street. JR

CLEOBURY W.I.

We gave a cheque for £270.00 to Nightingale Nurses once we finished our business in April.

Robin Conway, ex police detective, then started his talk on 'Witnessing a Crime, an interactive presentation' with a fake robbery. Everyone was shocked and when asked to fill in a form and remember what we saw, it was surprising to find a wide range of observations. Turning into detectives and trying to help with our suggestions, made us realise that it is not as easy as it appears. Hopefully, we will never be tested in real life. The meeting on May 14th is going to be better for our blood pressure as we are

discussing the 'National Resolutions for 2019' and have a Quiz. Please do have a look at our Facebook page.

Gabby Franklin



Back by popular demand. The third series will start in Saint Mary's church, Cleobury Mortimer, at 7.30pm on May 23rd when the Rector will give a talk on one of history's most celebrated couples, known for their love affair and the tragedy that separated them: "Abelard and Héloïse – the intent to love".

Followed on June 6th by Robert Hodge, with the story of Bessie Blount, of Kinlet, mistress of Henry VIII, and their son. Then on June 20th, the History Society will raise some interesting questions about the trial and execution of William Handley, of Bayton, in 1833. All in aid of St Mary's Youth Project. www.cleoburymortimerlectures.uk.

ANOTHER SCAM

There is another scam message doing the rounds asking people to verify their account details. Its quite plausible and found its way through my spam filter:

"TV Licence - Payment error

We noticed that your last payment could not be processed. To prevent your account from being suspended please verify your information details.

To verify your details, please follow the link below to login into your account."

Paul Barrett

Thank you for that, Paul. We have been warned.....JR

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KESTRELS

If there is a bird of prey hovering over a field it is almost certainly a kestrel. They are officially the most common British bird of prey but in Cleobury Mortimer they are out hooted and out numbered by owls. We probably have up to two pairs of kestrels nesting on the boundaries of our woods. Two or three new nest boxes are being made in order to encourage the spread of this wonderful bird.



It is regrettable that there has been an incident of live trapping of kestrels within the town area. A Larsen trap baited with pigeon was found last month by a member of the public. The kestrel was released and the trap may now be collected by the unknown owner by contacting Mercia Police on their 101 number. Owl Watch welcomes interest in all birds of prey but not the trapping of them.

Kit Smith

PLASTIC - NOT SO FANTASTIC

Keeping your leftover consumables protected is important in the fight against food waste; cling film has

become a popular way to do this. But as we try to reduce our use of plastic, this single use, throwaway product is something to avoid. Cling film is difficult to reuse and can end up in the household rubbish, a potential hazard for wildlife in the environment.

Instead of buying another roll of film, here are some alternatives that could be used. Further details can be found at myzerowaste.com):

- 1: Reusable plastic box with lid.
- 2: Dishes or containers covered with a saucer or plate.
- 3: Lunch boxes with individual compartments.
- 4: Reusing bags you already have
- 5: Parchment paper made from unbleached paper.
- 6: Recycled aluminium foil uses a twentieth of the energy normally needed to smelt aluminium from ore.
- 7: Beeswax wraps; we have our own local producer of these. Lucy Shier regularly sells her Bee Biotic "Bee-Fresh" Beeswax Wraps at the Cleobury Country Market. Lucy is happy to discuss with you the many ways you can use her product, made in Shropshire!

If you're a local business doing something to reduce plastic, we would love to promote what you do. Please contact us, Plastic: Not So Fantastic, by email: Neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk

DODDINGTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Club reopened on March 5th and on the 19th Dr Mark Baldwin explained the history of post cards. Amazing how many words people were able to write.

On April 2nd David Eve took us on a trip back to the days of steam ships and days out on

them from seaside towns. April 16th saw an unusual game of Bingo followed by skittles. Our next meeting is at 2.00 on May 14th in the Village Hall. New members and guests always welcome.

SAINT JOHN'S, DODDINGTON

The tragedy at Notre Dame has reminded us of the importance sacred spaces at the centre of communities have to the people who expect them always to be there. This is as true for a local church as a grand cathedral. We need to repair St John's and make it sustainable for the future. We have been fundraising for our project to do costly work, and applying for grants. We heard last month that we had been unsuccessful with our bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund, but HLF have encouraged us to apply again. This, added to the fact that we have already been successful in grants from other bodies, means we remain on the same road. We planned to break the work into two phases, but we will now work on doing everything in one go, and the access difficulties of our steps will be addressed. We plan to install an information area inside the church, and hold events and talks to share the fascinating local history with people living here and visitors to the Titterstone Clee Hill AONB. We will improve facilities by adding a toilet and kitchen, making the church more usable for a range of activities. If you would like to contribute to our fund, please do contact us.

Meanwhile, our programme of events continues: May 18 at 7pm Quiz Evening. Teams of 4 £10. Book with Celia on 01584 318036



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May 2019 Clarion Report

The Town Council is getting even busier than normal now with your Parish Annual meeting, more projects and the upcoming **Cleobury Festival on the 29th June**, as well as all the normal day to day work.

The main event is the Annual Town Meeting at Lacon Childe School Hall 6.15-7.30pm on Friday 17th May. Also again at the Cleobury Primary school in the afternoon which starts at 3.15 and ends at 4.45pm.

There will be a range of stalls by community groups representing a cross section of Cleobury Society as well as the Council itself where we exhibit our achievements over the last year and our plans for the coming year. **New this year will be the Cleobury Community Awards x 3**, consisting of Community Champion, Business/Organisation Champion, Environmental Champion, to give recognition for their efforts.

Cleobury Community Champion Awards Shortlist

(For the person or organisation over the last 5 years that has gone the extra mile to promote a sense of community, social inclusion and care or who has represented our community positively to the outside world.)

Please cut out and highlight your choice from the list below, then post this voting slip in a box at The Market Hall or The Library or look out for voting via Facebook or the Council Website from 1st -10th May.



-
- Saint Mary's Youth Project (SMYP) – work with Youth and Families – Establishing the Youth Hub, Climbing and active education programme.
 - Sarah Barnsley and Kate Pearse – The poppy church waterfall display
 - Steve Todd – Cleobury Festival, Horticultural Society, Historical Walks, Tourism
 - Cleobury Primary School – Supporting Dementia Friendliness, Primary Expo, and active school council
 - Nineveh Ridge Care Farm – Runs activities, animal care and horticulture for a range of people with physical, learning or social issues.
 - Angela Drennan – Friends of St. Mary's, Flowers for church, Lunch Club
 - Sports and Social Club – Supporting community events
 - Cleobury Running Club – Getting Cleobury fit and healthy, raising funds for local causes, 120+ members. England Athletics Volunteer award 2019
 - Jim Reynolds – Award winning Cleobury Clarion editor and promoter of everything in Cleobury
 - Cleobury First responders – Established award-winning team saving lives in Cleobury and surrounding area, self-fundraising equipment.



More information on what these people/groups have done and what the criteria for success are, can be found at the voting point. or on-line via Facebook and the Council Website. Award presented at Annual Town meeting Lacon Childe Friday 17th May 6.30pm.

One vote per person only please.

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IN BUSINESS - Thompson and Parkes

Because the buildings are set back from the road, you can easily drive past Thompson and Parkes' Oreton branch and not realise how big the place is. But park up and walk into the main showroom and you're in for a big surprise.

The stock is amazing, the rows and rows just go on. Not on a hypermarket scale, but for a rural building supplier this is a very serious operation. And outside there are stacks of timber, wrapped packages of bricks and building blocks, sand and whatever else you want delivered to your garden or building site.



Loose materials come to your site in big bags that leave you in no doubt whose they are. The "Proud to be Local" slogan works well for their business.

A modest storage building, about the size of a large garage, is part of the company's history. That's where the late Ken Morris and his wife Jean started Oreton Building Supplies in 1987; today it's used for storage of materials that need to be kept dry, such as plywood and plasterboard.

The young start-up business in 1987 grew and grew, Ken and Jean setting a standard that

really worked well. So well that in 1997 the company bought out Thompson and Parkes in Kidderminster and the two businesses combined under that name in 2006.

Steve Bounds arrived nine years ago to run this Oreton branch, having worked for a branch of a big company in Much Wenlock. So why the move to Oreton? "I wanted to work for a family business," he explains. "Ken Morris was a really good gaffer, a great bloke."

Steve runs a tight ship, the large stock handled by just four busy staff. "We try to stock everything our customers will need," says Steve. Then walks outside to show off the stacks of timber, some of it up to six metres long, bags of aggregates, drainage piping, steel cavity lintels up to 4.8 metres long, roof tiles and Indian sandstone paving. Twenty percent of this business is serving farming.



"Do you stock much timber, Mr Bounds?" Steve took us out into the yard to show just how much.

The neat trading slogan they use is "Proud to be Local" and that reflects in the area they serve, travelling as far as Craven Arms,

Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Tenbury Wells, Highley and Far Forest. We can take Cleobury Mortimer for granted as part of that list, they are the obvious source of supply for any builder in or near this town.

So what's their secret, this family business that's survived and grown through good times and bad? "Second to none for integrity, stock availability and price," is Steve's answer. And can they compete with large companies who have big buying power? "We have to be competitive or we wouldn't be here." Good logic.

Thompson and Parkes offer the complete package, whatever you need for anything from a new house build to a new patio. And with the move to a cleaner operation with bagged aggregates, they can serve any customer quicker and just collect the bags when the job's finished. Much less mess left to clear up.

They're open from 7.30 to 4.30 Monday to Friday and 8.00 to 12.00 on Saturday. Deliveries are made on their own wagon, with local lad Marlon Bache at the wheel, who knows the area very well. What they have to offer from the unlikely location in rural Oreton is over half a million pounds worth of building and maintenance materials. All watched over by closed circuit television cameras and an alarm system.

This is another local success story, quietly getting on with business by knowing what their customers want and how to supply it. It's not rocket science making the place work, it's just good old fashioned common sense.



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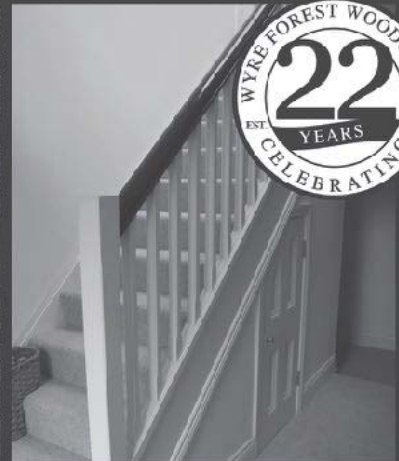
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Community Contacts for Clarion Readers

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR	Theresa Ray	07703 965 064	theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk
CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE		01299 272300	In Love Lane, 9 to 5 Mon to Fri.
CITIZENS ADVICE		08444 991100	Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00
CLEOBURY CARERS	Wendy Duley	01299 270562	
CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES	Katja Ward	01299 270018	10.00 to 12.00 Weds
CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY		01299 272301	Open 9 to 5 Monday to Friday and 10 to 12 Saturday
LOCAL POLICE	Constable Anne O'Leary		ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES	Dorothy McBride	07761 976610	
CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Iain Smith	01299 271809	
CRIMESTOPPERS		0800 555 111	Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE		0800 783 1359	Women's Aid, 24 Hour support:
HOME FROM HOSPITAL		01584 878046	Help over the first weeks back home from Age UK
MARKET HALL	Ali Sheffield	07752 542 853	markethall@cleobury.org.uk
MEDICAL CENTRE		01299 270209	Out of surgery hours, use the Shrop Doc Service.
SHROP DOC		0333 222 6655	Service available evenings and weekends
THE PHARMACY		01299 270219	Closes for half day on Saturday. Delivers prescriptions
NEWLIFE CHURCH	Pastor E Stirrup	01562 630595	Sunday services at 10.30
NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND	Rosemary Abbiss	01746 718451	
TOWN COUNCIL	Clerk Matthew Sheehan	01299 271154	Cleobury Country Centre 9 to 2 pm, weekdays. www.cleobury.org.uk. Council meets in the Centre on the first Monday of the month
POST OFFICE		01299 270211	In the Spar Grocery Store, Church Street
SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000	
SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM			richard@ssyf.net.
VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME		01299 666119	for bookings
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Copies are also available from the Parish Churches in: Cleobury Mortimer, Bayton, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, Milson, Neen Savage and Neen Sollars.

Missed your Clarion? Cleobury Mortimer Library keeps the current month's copy on file and all back issues are available to read as pdfs from www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE IS MAY 22nd

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