Cleobury Clarion



NOVEMBER 2012

THE VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME IS SAFE

The invaluable Voluntary Car Scheme, which does such a good job helping those without transport, has a new controller.

Val Simpson, already a volunteer driver herself, is taking over the hot seat from Pat Smith. Val knows the way the scheme works and has experience organising events and services. And when Val takes a holiday, Pat Smith has agreed to cover for her.

So a new name to remember, but the contact number remains the same at 01299 270833.

NEW TOWN TOILETS

Hooray! We understand that work is due to start this month on the new public toilets, sited at the entrance to the Childe Road West car park. No completion date available as we go to press, but all should be up and working to welcome in Spring 2013. The old toilet block in Eagle Lane is to be sold off.

THE CHRISTMAS POST

Our thanks to Postmaster Gwilym Butler for details of the Christmas post deadlines:

HM Forces Air Mail to Operational BFPOs: Nov. 30th HM Forces Air Mail to Static BFPOs: December 15th

Second Class Inland Mail: December 18th.

First Class Inland Mail: December 20th

Special Delivery: December 21st

NEEN SOLLARS BRIDGE IS REOPENED

Neen Sollars bridge, damaged in the July floods so that only pedestrians could use it, is open. There's been some good work done with minimal delay and the ancient ramparts now look a lot younger and stronger. There also been slight reprofiling of the approaches, but the important fact is that the community is no longer split by traffic having to take a seven mile detour around to get to the other side of the River Rea.



Part of the new ramparts of the bridge, with bigger side apertures to provide extra flow in extreme conditions.

Graham Wilkinson, chair of the Parish Council, was very pleased. "I think the County have done a very good job to get it open again, just a week later because of the extreme weather we've had," he said.

"We could still walk up to the Live and Let Live and some people would bring cars down and give you a lift up there." You know who your friends are in such a situation.



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Vaughan Road, Cleobury Mortimer £175,000 A beautifully presented bungalow occupying a large corner plot, 2 beds, 1 en-suite, parking several cars.



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Bransley Cottage, Cleobury Mortimer • £269,995 Renovated to a high standard by the current owners with far reaching views, cottage garden, 3 bedrooms.



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But-n-Ben, Oreton • £525,000
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The Cleobury Clarion. November 2012

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Emma Purchase runs the admin centre for GPC Land and Water.

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Would you work unpaid for a year to learn a trade? That's what Julie Guest of His n' Hers did.

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IN PRAISE OF... MATT SHEEHAN

There are things that get done around the town without fuss and bother. In some cases at no cost to the community.

A good example is the pathway from the churchyard up to Childe Road, where contractors working for the Highways Department have recently cut, trimmed and cleared to make access easier. Clerk to the Parish Council Matt Sheehan had helped with advice on another job and this was the quid pro quo.

Because of the same good relations, the road surface at the bottom of Mortimer Gardens is to be attended to and the potential for flooding removed or reduced. And along the Tenbury Road, where the footpath past the electricity substation was overgrown, a phone call has put that on the list of 'To Be Done' jobs.

Finally, the footpath past the boundary of Mawley Oak and on down to The Blount Arms is to be cleared, again to give easier access. A number of requests to Mr Sheehan at the council's Market Hall offices provoked this action, and he brought together the Highways Mawley Department, Oak Estates and Street Scene to get the work done. It is good to know that minor jobs like these can be dealt with quickly and effectively.

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

At our September meeting, Pam Pittwood, gave a talk entitled 'Not All Leaves Are Green'. The slide show had some excellent pictures showing a wide variety of plants, shrubs and flowers from her own garden in Clun.

It was also the club's Autumn Show and the winners were: 1st Austin Fletcher, 2nd Marion Wilson and 3rd Bob Marriott. Best Exhibit: Austin Fletcher. Many thanks to Anne for judging the show.

If you need fresh ideas or advice, why not join us at our next meeting on Wednesday November 28th, the AGM & Members Social Evening. Clows Top and District Gardening Club meet on the 4th Wednesday in the calendar month at Clows Top Victory Hall.

Further details telephone Marion Wilson 01299 270475. Or email: clowstopdistrictgardeningclub@hotmail.co.uk.

Pauline Bowen

A VERY SPECIAL LUNCH

On Remembrance Sunday there will be a lunch in the Zanzibarn, Neen Sollars, in aid of a very worthwhile charity, the Royal

Centre for Defence Medicine Patient Welfare Fund, based in the University and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals in Selly Oak.

The RCDM's Clinical Unit is the primary receiving unit for all military patients from overseas. Many wounded servicemen arrive at the hospital with no possessions, and the Charity helps with everything from basics to somewhere for the patients' families to stay military families often live many miles away.

The lunch will be £15 per head, and £10 per child. All the proceeds will go directly to the charity and all the food is being cooked by Neen Sollars chefs ready to rival any Master Chef/ Great British bake-off! There will be a short talk by Kelvin Price, wearing his ex Green Jacket beret, or by a representative of the charity.

Booking and payment in advance please, as numbers are limited. Please contact Emma on emma@thehoustons.me or 07866 454497.

We do hope you will come and support this worthy cause, helping not only our brave servicemen and women but also their families. We look forward to welcoming you at 12.45 p.m. *Valerie Wilkinson*

www.RCDM-patientwelfare fund.com for more information.

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CAN YOU HELP THE CHAMBER, PLEASE?

An appeal from Lesley Burnside, chair of our Chamber of Trade:

As you are aware, the Chamber Trade arrange for Christmas Lights to be put up every year, but we are struggling for helpers to enable this to happen. As in previous years, Alan Guest has very kindly offered to help us, but he needs support as it is quite a mammoth job.

We are proposing to put the lights up on Sunday November 25th, weather permitting, and would welcome any hale and hearty men or women who want to join our happy band. You can also join us in the excellent Cleobury Cafe, where breakfast is on the Chamber. Please give me a call at Cleobury News on CM 270279 if you can help add the town's to Christmas appearance.

THE DODDINGTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

If you want a good laugh, then Paul McGuire is your man. He was our speaker on October 2nd, on being a BBC warm-up man. He gave a good insight into what happens behind the scenes in the studios and was able to tell about various 'stars' their foibles. A verv enjoyable afternoon and we look forward to another visit from him next year, when his subject will be "I was a Red Coat Boy', recalling time at Butlin's.

Visitors to our meetings are always welcome. Look in the Social Calendar for our dates. *Alison Osborne*

CLEOBURY W.I.

We had a full house for our A.G.M. and at the beginning of the evening Jill Chesterman

presented silver W.I. brooches to Heather Williams, Monica Downes and Stella Wilcox for serving over 50 years.

Jill received a vote of thanks for another wonderful year as president and in turn thanked the committee. She was then elected President for another year.

The existing committee was voted in and the Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President will be selected by a committee vote at their next meeting. There have been two resignations: Stella Wilcox, our secretary for many years, and Jenny Vanderhook.

Our speaker for this special evening was Mr Clark, who gave а slide show "Shrewsbury's Curiosities". He showed us buildings ranging from the Saxon period up to the 1930's, and ended with his old infant/junior school which had been moved piecemeal from Stirchley to Blists Hill where you can all visit it. The two teachers who taught Mr Clarke during his time there certainly did a good job with him as he really knew his history.

Flower of the month was won by Betty Davies and prettiest cup and saucer by Gill Senior.

As said in our last report, anyone with a link to our W.I. who would like to join our 90th Birthday Party, December 11th at 7.00, please contact President Chesterman on CM 271671.

Our next meeting will be on 13th November at 7.00pm when our speaker will cover "Son of a Village P.C. in the 1940's."

THE ART AND CRAFT FESTIVAL GROWS

Following the success of last year's inaugural Art Festival at

Cleobury Methodist Church, this year's on November 24 and 25th is set to be bigger and better. Like last year there will be a wide range of work by local artists available to view and to buy over the weekend. But a new addition will be a Craft Fair in the hall during the Saturday, offering a range of special gifts for your Christmas shopping.

This is a celebration of local skills and creativity, and your chance to see and own some unique pieces. The gallery will be open on Saturday from 10.00 to 5.00 and on Sunday from 1.00 to 5.00. Admission £1 including refreshments whilst the craft fair will run from 10-4 on the Saturday.

To exhibit your work contact Simon on 07989 475589 or festivalofart@gmail.com

To have a stall at the craft fair contact Helen on 01584 819649 or helen goolwa@hotmail.com Helen Roberts

WATCH IT WITH THE WHEELIES

The Green wheelie bins that are emptied every fortnight have a particular job to do. They are there to take your garden waste, a little shredded paper and food waste. The food can be wrapped in newspaper, but please don't put loads of any paper in there.

Veolia are tightening up on what they collect, and if they find stuff like cardboard in there, they won't empty the bin. They do leave a note explaining why, but it's easier to get it right first time and not have the hassle.

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THE READING GROUP

Our latest book, "Bury Me Standing" by Isabella Fonseca, was very well researched but we wished it could have been shorter.

One quote described it as an "anthropological testament" and we all found it quite a difficult read, rather fragmented but enjoyable in parts. We did learn much about the gypsy communities of Europe and a good discussion ensued, especially as one member brought in a recent copy of the Geographical magazine which featured a group of Roma.

For this month's meeting, 7.30pm on the 19th at Cleobury library, we will discuss "A Week in December" by Sebastian Faulks. New members always welcome.

Deana Kimber 271754

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Few members attended the October meeting about organic composting. Sue Wilson and her husband came with a computer presentation and homemade composting aids.

The whole session was like a conversation where everyone contributes and we all learnt from one another. The Wilsons have undertaken a lot of training in techniques and were in a position to correct or praise the methods we employ.

At the conclusion Sue showed us two of their inventions for collecting liquid compost. One used a drain pipe, funnel, large plastic container and a lemonade bottle full of water; the liquid collected makes very strong fertiliser. The second was their wormery, made from a small plastic dustbin and a few lids

with holes punched in various places. This cost only £7.00 and was as good as manufactured versions. We were all so involved that time flew by and we almost forgot to close! Liz Smurthwaite.

MURDER, MUDDLE AND MAYHEM ON OFFER

Cleobury Players next production is 'Murdered to Death' by Peter Gordon, directed by Mike West. An Agatha Christie spoof set in a country manor house in 1936.

The owner of the house has a niece/companion, who has invited guests for the weekend; they were all together in Paris two years previously. Colonel Charles Craddock and his wife drive down in his Bentley. Pierre Marceau, art dealer and a high society friend both arrive by train. Opening the door to them is a surly butler, Bunting, and an unexpected guest is Miss Maple.

After the inevitable murder the police come to investigate. Inspector Pratt, the name says it all, and his assistant Constable Tomkins, arrive to investigate. The inevitable emisunderstandings happen.

The play is full of fun and suitable for all ages. Tickets are £8, £7 for concessions obtainable from Cleobury News or Deana Kimber on 01299 271754. Come along and enjoy a night's lighthearted entertainment in Lacon Childe School on November 1st, 2nd and 3rd at 7.30pm. As usual at these very social occasions, there will be a bar.

COOPERATION WORKS

Working together, Clerk to the Parish Council Matt Sheehan and Warden Jo Booton have arranged for the bungalows in Mortimer Gardens and St Mary's Place to have their roof insulation inspected and upgraded. Lower bills for the residents, lower carbon output for the town. A result all round.

STOTTESDON W.I.

Our September 'Memorabilia' evening proved to delightful reunion of members past and present, some of whom joined the group back in the mists of time, half a century ago. Much enjoyment came from identifying friends in old photos newspaper cuttings, and revisiting past occasions and show entries, with even the wooden guillotine that featured in 'A Tale of Two Cities' one Burwarton summer, long ago. Thanks to all who made the effort to come and join us.

By way of contrast, the theme for October was Indian Cookery & Spices: we were certainly in for a real treat with Tahira Paul's demonstration of chicken and vegetable curries, effortlessly whilst talking created, through the stages, with all the fluency of a Nigella or a Nigel. The proof of the cooking was in the tasting, and we all sampled a plateful after the final flourish of which coriander, gave delightful fresh piquancy to a combination of ingredients that suited all palates.

Our AGM on November 21st is followed by a Quiz and time to chat, at Chorley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Marian Wootton

SILLY BIT

"Somebody was telling me the other day about a French Army rifle on eBay. The description was "Never shot. Dropped once."

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THE LEGION HONOURS OUR WAR VETERANS Dr Mark Baldwin explains a rather special event:

This year, November 11th coincides with Remembrance Sunday, which provides Cleobury with a fitting occasion to honour the few surviving local men and women who served during the Second World War.

British Legion Vice-President John Tranter has launched a move to invite any local exservice men and women who served before 1945 to attend Remembrance Parade. They and their friends will be stationed on the widened pavement by the pedestrian crossing and will be saluted by the passing parade. After taking this salute, the veterans will be able to attend the Act of Remembrance, and following church service itself. Whether or not they do this, they will all be invited to lunch in a local hostelry, paid for by the RBL. It is hoped that this event will be a reminder to these brave men and women that we still value their loyalty and service.

John has already found and invited several veterans, and hopes that any others whom he has not yet contacted will make themselves known to him, (ring 01299 272957) so that they may also take part in this ground-breaking event.

Mark Baldwin

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

And the goose may or not be getting fat, but what is certain is this year's St Mary's Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday December 1st from 12.00 noon util 4.00. Note the earlier starting time, which will enable you to check out all the bargains before Father Christmas arrives at 1.00.

The Fair will be held in St Mary's Church and there will be a number of activities including Santa's grotto, plus a range of stalls. All proceeds will be divided between the Church and the Friends of St Mary's so please come along and support this worthy cause.

When the Fair finishes, Santa will switch on the town lights at 4.30.

If you are looking for that elusive Christmas present, why not come in and have a look? You might be surprised at the variety of items to suit all pockets. Steve Todd

CARERS' SUCCESS

Many thanks to everyone who helped, supported and sponsored the coffee morning on October 20th.

The next Carers' Meeting is on November 13th 2.00 - 4.00 at St Mary's Place .Please note change of date.

For further info please contact me on CM 270562

Wendy Duley

FROM THE BANDROOM

Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass has had a very busy and successful summer season.

The highlight was taking part in the National Brass Band Championships under the musical direction of Steve Pritchard-Iones. The band competed against 23 of the best bands in the 4th section from across the Country. Out of just four bands from the Midlands it was placed higher than two of them. Overall, the band finished in the top half of the results, which was excellent. A achievement proud Cleobury and Shropshire.

Socially the band has played in parks and for Festivals at Pershore, Ironbridge, Shrewsbury and of course in Cleobury. The training band is doing well and an Open Evening took place on 24th October. Recently the band has retained Russell Lock to be its new Musical Director/Condutor.

Preparations are now under way for the annual Christmas Concert in the Parish Hall on Sunday evening 16th December. Stella Wilcox

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MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Sue Henderson reports:

We would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who supported us at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning . We raised a wonderful £408-90.

We are holding a slightly smaller Coffee Morning on Saturday November 24th in the Market Hall. 10.00 until noon, and there will be cakes, preserves, christmas cards, gifts, tombola and raffle. Everyone welcome.

Sue Henderson

HOLIDAY CARE AT CHORLEY PLAYGROUP

Chorley Family Playgroup is now offering full time holiday club provision, which will be starting in time for this next half term on 29th October. It will also cover a week at Christmas, February half term and the Easter 2013 holidays. The need for provision will then be reviewed, depending on the level of support received.

Holiday club cover will begin from 8.00am and continue until

5.30 at a cost of £3.25 per hour, per child. Parents have the option to choose the amount of hours they would like to place their child into holiday care each day and all children between 2 and 11 years are welcome. You will need to provide your child with a packed lunch and appropriate clothing.

If you would like to book your child/ren into the setting, please do so as soon as possible as spaces will be offered on a first come first served basis. We are now taking bookings for half term and Christmas holidays; to ensure your space please telephone Playgroup on 01746 718769. Claire Burton

HOPTON WAFERS COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

As part of the community led plan effort improve communication. the Hopton Wafers website (www.hoptonwafers.org) now has a community noticeboard. Community notices, parish council notices and other important information will be posted here. Anyone can register to post event notices, or advertise items and services for sale, or wanted. There are no charges. Visit the website, or go d i r e c t l y t o w w w w h o p t o n w a f e r s . o r g / noticeboard.

AN INVITATION

Saturday December 1st. 3.30 – 7.30pm. Singing by Candlelight at Cleobury North Village Hall.

Come and learn simple and beautiful sacred songs, in rounds and harmony, mainly from Taizé. No singing experience needed and all songs will be taught by ear.

Everyone welcome. £12 in advance, £14 on door, £5 for children.

Jane Read 01584 891656 j ane@songshops.co.uk

NEW WEBSITE

St Mary's Youth Project has a new website: www.smyp.org.uk. Good way to keep up to date with what the young people are doing for both themselves and the community.



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FAMILY FIRM MOVING INTO THE AREA



Emma Purchase looks after the admin centre in Talbot Square.

A well established family run business with strong agricultural connections is moving into the area. GPC Land and Water Solutions Ltd was started by Gordon Cork in 1974, from a country farm at Codsall Wood, Wolverhampton.

The company title tells you what their basic business is all about, but as their reputation grew they have moved into other areas. The first was agricultural contracting and land drainage, which expanded to work for landowners, Severn Trent Water Farms and a number of local councils More recently they have been providing maintenance, development and ground works for a nationwide garden centre chain. They've outgrown their original base and when the family moved into Cleobury Mortimer six years ago, they naturally wanted the business in

Subject to planning consent, this will be on the old pig unit at Baveney Lane, Neen Savage, which has stood unused for years. Its first stage of recovery will see some of the old buildings renovated to provide storage for plant and materials. They will also move the admin centre from its temporary Talbot Square base out to the company hub.

That will use about half the site and the long term plan is to develop the rest into starter units for local businesses. The site will be landscaped to be unobtrusive.

Running the local office is Gordon Cork's daughter, Emma Purchase, whose husband Louis is also a director of GPC. This is a growing business, currently employing 15 people full time, plus up to 25 sub contractors who they prefer to draw from the local area.

A newcomer who brings work into the area at a time of recession is very good news, and we wish them every success and continued prosperity.

THE NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND

The A.G.M. of this fund met to agree the accounts and to plan fundraising for 2012/2013.

Secretary Debbie Brown agreed to continue. Gill Shorter has been treasurer since the inception of the fund and although she has kept the finances in perfect order, she expressed her desire to hand the finance on to someone who would be willing to take over. If anyone is prepared to take this on would they either contact Gill on 01299 270826 or Rosemary Abbiss who has taken the Chairman's position for yet another year, on 01746 718210.

THE LIBRARY Vicki Alexander reports from the Wonderful World of Books:

November is going to be an important month for the library

with the first meeting for our new Creative Writing Group on the 19th. There are currently eleven signed up, and I am hoping for a relaxed and fun evening discussing our love of writing and sharing short pieces of work with one another. Next month we will be focusing on a few small exercises to get the creative juices flowing and inspire us to produce some new and interesting work, in a supportive environment.

The Speaker of the Month night on the 12th at 7.30pm is going to be a fun evening, with a retired police officer speaking on a career which has seen him working in Undercover Intelligence, policing riots, and on Royal Protection Detail amongst other things. There is still an opportunity to get your ticket from the library for just £1.

I am preparing for the Winter months and fundraising opportunities. Anyone out there who has any 'pre-loved' books they want to donate to a book sale in the next few months? All donations gratefully received.

I was told recently there are still people in our community who don't realise the library exists! I am going to work hard on changing that, with your help it will be even more successful, *Vicki*

MADGE'S SURGERY

Councillor Madge Shineton will be holding an open surgery at the Market Hall on Saturday the 17th of this month. Opens at 9.30 and is due to close at 11.00, but she's not the sort to turn you away if you're been waiting and the time's run out.

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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

The first article I have written since becoming a married man. I won't bore you with details, we had an amazing day, the weather was fantastic, and everyone seemed to have fun! Perfect.

Bubbles survived his stay in a luxurious room with a view, and has come home chilled out and peaceful! You might be fooled for thinking that he has grown up a bit over the last few weeks.

How do you cope with moving house with a cat? Anna and I have got onto the property ladder in Bewdley, and will be moving from our Cleobury semi. Bubbles has lived here since he was four weeks old. We reared him on the bottle, feeding every couple of hours all through the night, and he knows no different. My mind has turned to making the move to Bewdley as stress-free as possible for him, who's never been outside the house. At the new house we have a small garden, and hopefully he will have the chance to potter about outside when he chooses.

Moving house is always going to be a stressful situation for any animal. We plan to make it as easy as possible for the young man by moving him last. A friend has offered to look after him for a week or so as we move, and then, when ready, Bubbles will come down into a house populated with all of the furniture that he has seen before, and marked as safe. He will have the chance to move around as he pleases, and we will have a quiet evening sitting around so that he always has us to come back to if he gets worried. We will also plan to plug in a pheromone diffuser to help him feel at ease with the new place.

He will stay indoors for a few weeks to learn where everything is, and that the new house is 'Home' (in cat terms... Where the food is...). After this we will have to start on the long task of teaching him about the outside world. Some good advice that I have heard when trying to train your cats to go out is to let them out when they are hungry. Let them have a few minutes, and then allow them back in for food and keep them in. Repeat this step as necessary. This again reenforces the 'where the food is' issue. The cat flap training will have to wait for next month's issue! Wish him luck when you pass the window!

November brings us dangerously close to Christmas, so Severn Edge have wrapped up a couple of early presents for you all. Across all branches we are offering 20% off Neutering operations (including cat castrates, spays, dog castrates and bitch spays of all sizes)

November will also see free urine tests for cats and dogs (for information on obtaining a urine sample off a cat, speak to one of our nurses or reception team. It is not as difficult as you might imagine, hardly any squeezing involved at all!) If your cat or dog has trouble urinating, seems to drink a lot more, or wee a lot more than they used to, a urine sample is always a good starting point and can give us a lot of information on what may be going on. Take time to think ,and speak to others involved with the care of your pet. A common way of noticing excessive drinking is having to fill water bowls more often, but this can be missed if more than one of you fills the bowl up! We always need a fresh urine sample, so please don't bring in last weeks offering as the test will often be useless on old urine. Keep samples (clearly labelled!) in the fridge until you can bring them to us, and don't mistake them for apple juice.

Don't forget that we still have our Flea treatment promotion on selected products. This closes on 21st November, but until then it is buy 3 get 1 free, or buy 6 get 2 free. Time to stock up. Please remember that the flea and worming treatments that we provide can only be sold to you if we have seen your pet recently and have an accurate weight recorded on the system. If we have not seen your pet in a while, no worries, we just need to see them for a FREE nurse check, and you will be allowed worming and flea treatments again.

Thank you for reading.

Jeremy Hall BVMS Hons MRCVS.



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Bayton - A Happy and Peaceful Place for Children

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

This term children at Bayton Church of England Primary School have been learning about and celebrating Harvest. Children in our Reception class have been learning about the story of Handa's Surprise which links in with the Harvest theme.

The whole school have been rehearsing with gusto for their Harvest Service which was held at Bayton Church on Friday, 12th October. During the service the children told why we celebrate harvest by telling the story of the Harvest Mouse and the service was complemented by singing popular harvest songs. Our school PTA did an excellent job of decorating the church with harvest produce which they then boxed up as raffle prizes to raise funds for the school.

THE LITTLE LEARNERS NURSERY. Ofsted Report 2011: 'Outstanding.' Open 8.00 to 6.00, 50 weeks a year, children from 2 years. 2-11 Holiday Club. Call Stacey or Jemma on 01299 832855

The fact is the recession is still with us all and a majority of people are continuing to find it hard to make ends meet. The cost of everything appears to soar, leaving less in people's pockets for luxuries and treats.

Childcare costs are often targeted in the news, they are highlighted as being unaffordable despite the fact the government provide some help towards them. I feel the public believe the childcare providers to be greedy due to the additional costs the parents have to find in order to provide them with the hours of care for their children in order to allow them to continue their own employment. I would like to raise the public's awareness of the running costs of a children's day care centre and enlighten everyone to the pressures such businesses are under.

Little Learners' Nursery must bring in £1500 per week in order to meet running costs, this is without any profit margin. These costs are due to electricity, insurance, business tax, staff wages, food for children, purchases of toys and consumables etc. The hourly rate we currently hold is just under £4.00 per hour. You may calculate yourselves that we need to sell 374 hours of childcare a week to break even, (this is every week of the year, not just term time!). I sympathise with parents having to

give money each week from their hard earned wages to ensure their children are cared for while they work to provide their families with a comfortable lifestyle, or even a basic lifestyle we have learnt to expect in this country. However, the staff in the nursery also deserve a reasonable wage for the physical and mentally exhausting job they do, not to mention the qualifications and regulations they have to acquire in order to do the job to meet the standards the government demand. I'm sure I am being a little controversial regarding my comments and I would welcome feedback from readers on this subject, or indeed any solutions for us all.

To my mind parents get excellent value for money at Little Learners Nursery, evidenced by the children voicing their love for the nursery, parents reporting back satisfaction to staff and teachers sharing with nursery staff the fact that children leaving us to go into school well prepared. I hope that we, and other childcare businesses are able to ride the storm of the current financial situations and are able to continue to provide quality, professional care for parents who wish or need to work after having a family.

Judith Bunn



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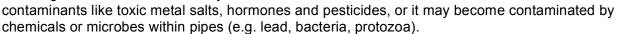
What's in your drinking water?

Many prominent scientists are alarmed by the content of some drinking water and actively seek to change the processes involved. The practice of making water safe to drink actually involves adding large amounts of extremely poisonous chemicals to it. Key scientists are now providing evidence that long-term ingestion of small amounts of chemicals like these could be the cause of some major health problems. Here is a list of just a few of the chemicals routinely added to our water supply:

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Happenings on High Street

THE WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN

The railings around this garden were replaced as part of a planned refurbishment in 2009, which Sir Colin Terry officially declared open in November that year, on a proud day for the town. As one of the focal points in the town centre, it was a job that needed doing.

But reports of the railings loose provoked working reexamination of the site early this year, and it was found that the retaining bolts were not properly secure and the railing moved. With the passage of the Olympic Torch through the town in May, that area was going to be busy, and with a risk of the railings collapsing, measures were taken to avoid crowding there. A Parish Council letter to the contractor, Mr P did not result Iordan, in corrective action and we understand there has been no such action since then.

At its October meeting, the Parish Council considered quotes from other local contractors to put the work right and this will be done in time for this month's British Legion Remembrance Sunday ceremony. Quite right too, that is one of the reasons for the memorial.

NEW FACE, NEW SERVICE



Adding to the services available on the High Street is Sue Brown's Cleobury Chiropractic, handily established next to Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty Salon.

She'll open for business this month, offering the gentler McTimoney version of the treatment and prevention of muscular and skeletal problems.

The family moved into Cleobury six months ago after looking for a good place to settle. Her son is at the Primary School while husband Mark moves around the globe as a Group Captain with the RAF.

Sue served as an RAF chopper pilot herself, working in Search and Rescue until she opted for family life. She'd realised how good chiropractic could be when an injured colleague couldn't work properly and found no solution until he tried this treatment. It worked, he was back flying and a seed was sewn in Mrs Brown's imagination.

On leaving the RAF she trained for four years at the Chiropractic College in Abingdon and started her practice at Shawbury, where her husband was still based. Now with twelve years practical experience, here she is.

The service goes well beyond having a High Street base. She happily gives talks on how best to avoid back strain, from the Chamber of Trade's networking evening to big companies. They recognise that back pain and strain affects people's work and that a basic knowledge on sitting comfortablycan mean prevention of injury. Common sense.

The surgery will offer a treatment room and a separate place to give instruction and talk about back problems. Opening hours will be 9.30 to 3.00 initially, and if another chiropractor wants to share the facility the hours will be extended. Sue will run the operation as a one woman enterprise in the early days, with plans to recruit a receptionist later.

Contact Sue on 07932 000028 or www.notjustaboutbackpain.com. Ask anyone who's tried it - you have nothing to lose except pain.

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Star of the Small Ads - Julie at His n' Hers Grooming

Julie Guest learned her skills at dog grooming the hard way. She was working at Midland Shires Farmers and not seeing the road ahead as an exciting prospect when she got talking to Vicky and Mike Ambrose.

They had a dog grooming business in Cleobury's Wells Place and Julie loved dogs. They were looking to sell the business, so Julie quit her job and worked with them for a year, learning the business of grooming from very experienced people. She wasn't paid for that year, and served behind the bar at The Talbot to earn enough to pay her bills.

When Mike and Vicky sold, she soon moved into a main street shop in Church Street, where the sight of her grooming dogs in the window drew people's attention. The local kids loved the free show.

Six years ago she needed a place with easy parking and more focused facilities, and moved out to Clay Farm on the



Herself and happy customer Jasper Clows Top road. Her unit there was fitted out as she wanted it, with a bath large enough to wash the biggest dog, separate cages for dogs waiting to be seen to and smaller portable cages above. Her grooming is done on a proper table, with a lead to keep the dog in place.

Her love of the dogs shines through in the way she can handle awkward customers. Like the Schnauser that was beaten by its previous groomer (can you believe such a thing?) and is a happy customer now. Or the grumpy spaniel only she could handle, driven in from Wales by its grateful owner.

She only uses hand dryers. "You can get cage dryers, but there was a case of someone leaving a dog to dry, forgetting about it, and the dog died," she explains. Couldn't happen here.

It's busy without being crowded, and Julie's mum helps with the washing while two year old Sienna supervises the grooming when she's not asleep. A happy place, where dogs are treated with care and little touches come out, like her pointing out a mysterious lump on our spaniel that the vet removed. It was benign, but Julie spotted it early, so what might have been a lot worse was avoided. That's why she's successful - she really cares.

She's on 07790 796 027 but please don't give her too much work in the normally quiet January. She's refurbishing the whole parlour then.

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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

In October crime figures were released with the welcome news that crime has fallen across the country by 6percent. In the West Mercia police area the fall in reported crime was even more marked, down by 12.9percent. 4,000 fewer crimes were reported in the six months April to September 2012 compared with the same period a year ago.

In Shropshire there were 6,384 crimes reported for the six months to September, 717 fewer than a year ago. Other good news was the detection rate for solving crimes in Shropshire is up almost 6percent.

This positive performance by local police and others in the criminal justice and rehabilitation services is encouraging, although there is no room for complacency. It reflects a focus on reducing crime rather than meeting arbitrary targets imposed by Whitehall. This is especially important as it has been achieved during a period of tightening police budgets.

West Mercia Police has to find significant savings and do this at the same time as protecting front line services. A major contribution to these savings is expected with the announcement in June 2012 that Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police had agreed to form an alliance enabling both forces to meet the challenge of reducing budgets and provide greater operational and organisational resilience in the years ahead. It is encouraging that cuts to policing budgets in Shropshire and West Mercia are not preventing crime reduction.

The Government is determined to introduce local accountability to policing: crime maps allow people to find out about crimes in their area and outcomes, beat meetings give people the chance to question local officers, and compel the authorities to take action against anti-social behaviour when local people complain.

This month local residents will have the opportunity to elect a Police and Crime Commissioner for our area. Empowering the public is a central theme of police reforms. The police are a public service and they should serve and respond to local people.

The Police and Crime Commissioner will have the mandate to set the police force budget and priorities in response to local concerns. He will have the power to hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the force, while maintaining the long held principle of operational independence. The new Commissioner will sign the same promise of impartiality as does the Chief Constable, but will have no control over operational decisions.

I urge everyone to vote on Thursday 15th November to introduce local democratic accountability through a Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia.

Philip Dunne



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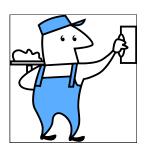
Sun 25 Nov 5.30pm The Forum Theatre • Malvern • £10-14 Child half price

To help our readers who can't get to their local Clarion distributor on the first of every month, we now put the whole 60 pages on the web:

www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk will let you browse at leisure.

The November Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Thu 1		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
		PLEASE CHECK CONTENTS ARE RIGHT – SEE PAGE 7		
10.30am		Rock Pathfinders Walk from St Peter's Church, Martley. OS Ref 756598	Alan	01299 400304
Thu 1 /	7.30pm	Cleobury Players present 'Murdered to Death', a comedy to	Tickets	CM 271754
Sat 3	_	keep you laughing, at Lacon Childe School. SEE PAGE 9		
Sun 4	11.00am	Bewdley Local Produce Market, Load Street. Local food and crafts		
Wed 7	7.30pm	The History Society meets at Neen Savage Village Hall		
77647	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 8	0.00pm	BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED	Borna i carsan	01001070071
Fri 9	7.30pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall, in aid of Silvington Church		
Sun 11		REMBRANCE SUNDAY – PARADE AND SERVICE		
Juli 11	12.45pm	Special Lunch in aid of the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine at		
	_	The Zanzibarn, Neen Sollars. SEE PAGE 5.		
Mon 12	7.30pm	A retired senior police officer talks at the Library in Love Lane	Victoria	CM 272301
		about his days as a policeman.	Alexander	
	7.30pm	The Horticultural Society have their AGM at the Methodist Hall.		
Tue 13	7.30am	Breakfast Club, Cleobury Cafe, High Street – Robert Hodge talks about Witchcraft in the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries		
	2.00pm	Carers' Meeting at St Mary's Place.	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
	2.00pm	Doddington Friendship Club, Village Hall 'Make Your Own Christmas Cards'	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	7.00pm	Cleobury WI Parish Hall. Talk: "Son of a Village PC in the '40's – SEE PAGE 7	Jill Chesterman	CM 271671
Wed 14	12.30pm	Ladies Luncheon Club meet at The Crown, Hopton Wafers.	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
Thu 15		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30pm	Rock Pathfinders Walk from Rock Cross Inn. OS Ref: 735712	Alan	01299 400304
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, raising funds for OAPs		
Fri 16	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 898414
Sat 17	9.30am	County Councillor Madge Shineton has a Surgery in the Market Hall, Church Street. If you need help, just call in and see her. Open till 11.00am		
	7.00pm	Skittles Evening at Pensax Village Hall. £6.50 includes a fish and chip supper – tickets	Marc	01299 832075
Mon 19	6.30pm	The Creative Writing Group meets for the first time in the Library – where better?	Vicki Alexander	CM 272301
		Library - where better:	MEXALIUEI	



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The November Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	7.30pm	The Reading Group gather in the Library in Love Lane – SEE PAGE 9		
Wed 21	6.00pm	Chamber of Trade Networking Evening, Cleobury Country		
		Centre. Open chat and exchange, ably hosted by Peter Roper		
	7.30pm	Stottesdon WI AGM at Chorley Village Hall. SEE PAGE 9		
7.3	7.30pm	The History Society meets in Neen Savage Village Hall		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia	01584 890414
Thu 22		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
	4.00pm	Champagne Shopping Event at Estivals, Cleeton St Mary. SEE PAGE 33		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Neen Savage Village Hall	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 23	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 898414
	4.00pm	Champagne Shopping Event at Estivals, Cleeton St Mary. SEE PAGE 33		
Sat 24	10.00am	Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning, Market Hall		
	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks is back at the Parish Hall, featuring the award		
	1	winning "The Artist". Refreshments available		
Sat 24/		Art and Craft Fair at the Methodist Church, Church Street		
Sun 25		10.00am to 5.00pm Saturday, 1.00pm to 5.00pm Sunday. SEE		
		PAGE 7		
Tue 27	2.00pm	Doddington Friendship Club, Village Hall. "Curious Christmas	Alison	01584 890414
		Customs"	Osborne	
Wed 28		Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall for their AGM	Marion Wilson	CM 270475
		and a Social Evening. Non-members welcome.		
	8.00pm	The British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thu 29		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED		
Fri 30	5.00pm-	Cleobury Primary School Christmas Fayre, a gret event for the		
	7.0pm	kids, with lots of stalls to spend a little Christmas money with		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890414
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER		
Sat 1	12 noon	The Christmas Fair is in the Parish Church and Santa will arrive		
	2.20	at 1.00pm to open his grotto and meet the children		
	3.30pm	Singing by Candlelight at Cleobury North Village Hall. SEE PAGE 17		
	4.30pm	Santa Claus switches on the town's Christmas Lights. Lovely		
		family event, with sweets for the children. Everybody smile,		
		please		
	8.00pm	Party Night at Rock Village's wonderful Hall, all in aid of the	Rachel	01299 841032
		Trust Lewis charity. Tickets only adult night.		
Sun 2	11.00am	Bewdley Local Produce Market, Load Street		
Wed 5	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890414
Thu 6		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		



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



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22 Barnfields • Cleobury M'tr

Detached family home located in desirable area, with a very impressive size garden. Spacious accommodation comprising two receptions, kitchen / diner, cloakroom, master bedroom with dressing room and en-suite. Three further bedrooms, family bathroom and double garage. Viewing highly recommended.



27 Vaughan Rd • Cleobury M'tr

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Worthmoore • Mamble

Spacious three-bedroom bungalow set in a lovely village location. Generous gardens with a greenhouse, driveway parking and double garage. Worthmoore has a master bedroom with ensuite, separate utility, open fireplace in the living room, oil central heating and is fully double glazed throughout.





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KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

We return after our half-term break on November 5th, and will be doing lots of fun activities related to bonfire night in the first week back, then moving on to think about numbers for the remainder of the month.

Last half term we had a very successful topic revolving around colours. All of the children created a 'Colour of the Week' table, and brought in items in the weeks' colour, or wearing appropriately coloured clothes. The children loved this highly interactive topic, and it was good to get families involved.

Zoe Pearson

A CHAMPAGNE SHOPPING EVENT

Martine Lee is running a rather special shopping event on November 22nd, to raise funds for the 'Little Hearts Matter' charity that helps young children with heart defects and their families. It is difficult to imagine a more deserving cause.

It will be based at the Estivals Country Beauty Retreat in Cleeton St Mary, running from 4.00 to 9.00pm and the entry fee of £5 will go to the charity and also get you a glass of champagne, entry into the raffle and a free file and polish. As well as her own range of Christmas gifts, Martine aims to have local companies in support offering a wide range of tempting items.

It's also a chance to look around the Estivals salon and if you're an early arrival you can take in the breathtaking local scenery. Estivals is on 01584 891037 or www.estivals.co.uk



On September 2nd a cheque for £2362.50 was presented to Air Ambulance, some of the proceeds from the Charity Football Match Memorial Day in memory of Dave Broome and Dereck Martin. Left to right: Sue Broome, Maria from Air Ambulance, organiser Derek Pearce and Gill Martin.

MORE FOOTBALL FUNDRAISING

A meeting will be held at Cleobury Social Club on Sunday November 4th, 8.00pm to discuss the possibility of another Memorial Match between Springvale Rovers and Clee Hill, and a Junior match [under 14's] taking place next year. THis will be in memory of Dave Broome and Dereck Martin and aid of Midlands Air Ambulance in conjunction with Nightingale Nurses. interested parties are welcome to attend. Further details can be obtained from Derek Pearce. Gill Martin

WHOOPS!

The Party Niight on December 1st, in aid of the Trust Lewis charity support, was described in the October Clarion as based at Kinlet village hall. How wrong can you be? It is actually happening at the wonderful Rock village hall, one of the finest venues in the area and bound to add to the party atmosphere. Humble apologies to the organisers from the editor, who was sent to bed without cocoa as a punishment.

ROCK BRIDGE CLUB

Rock Bridge Club has started its winter season. New members are welcome whether on their own or with a partner. We meet every Sunday at 7.00 pm in Rock Village Hall. The meetings are very sociable and relaxed, and not competitive. We do not play duplicate Bridge.

We are holding an Open Evening on December 9th and all are welcome to come along. C o n t a c t me a t lukegrant@live.co.uk or on 07854 951 330.

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A new column - Kate Pearce brings us up to date with the Cleobury Scouts and Guides

Cleobury Scouts and Guides have come together with renewed enthusiasm to restore and improve the building and facilities at the Pump House.

There are currently around 150 young people using the Pump House each week as well as going out on regular activities such as camps, walks, water sports, swimming, golf and local community visits to services including the Fire and Police services. We currently run Beavers and Rainbows for the youngest children up to 7/8 years, Cubs and Beavers up to 10, Scouts and Guides up to 14 and Rangers and Explorers for young people over 14 years.

The Scouts and Cubs recently took advantage of the Wifi at the Market Hall to join in the 16th Annual Jamboree on the

Internet (JOTI) on Saturday 20th October. This is an annual event when Scouts and Guides all over the world make contact by means of the Internet. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting. One of our cubs came away with a new pen pal in Vietnam.

An inaugural meeting of the new combined Pump House committee has been held and the response is very positive.

To ensure that all are fairly represented and the views of all are taken into account, a new constitution has been agreed. Rev'd Justin Parker is Chairman and Iain Smith the Treasurer. We are still looking for a permanent secretary so if

you are willing to give up a short time every couple of months to assist the uniformed organisations in the town we would love to hear from you.

Steps have been taken, through Rev'd Kelvin Price, to survey the building and assess work that needs to be done. Watch this space as we report further and if you can offer any help, skills, assistance or time, you will be received with open arms.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact me on CM 272745 for more detailed information.

Members of the Scouts and Guides will be out in their finest to support the Remembrance Day Parade in town on November 11th.

Kate Pearce



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Some Agricultural News

CLIVE DAVIES

Clive Davies, for some years our voice from the farm, can no longer provide his excellent columns every month. His circumstances have changed drastically with his lease of Westwood being ended - quite legally - and him having to find land to accommodate his renowned stock.

He has promised to provide occasional columns, but obviously has more pressing priorities to address. We have been lucky to find two new recruits to fill this important page and will introduce you to the first of them in December.

Meanwhile, I would like to publicly thank Clive for his work in providing an interesting insight into farming that helped to inform the uninformed like me.

Jim Reynolds

LUDLOW MARKET REPORT Wendy Mawer of McCartneys provides some

late October sale prices at Ludlow:

FINISHED CATTLE - 332

Despite many firms dropping prices back this week our cattle would be as dear as ever. Nice company of buyers with some buying for different firms following changes in abattoir ownership in Scotland. All sorts met firm competition. Bulls would be dearer this week.

Some sample prices :-

MEDIUM BULLS To 217.0p average 178.3p. HEAVY BULLS To 223.5p average 191.7p.

BARREN COWS & OVER 48 MONTHS CATTLE – 65

A more difficult trade. Buyers complaining of a lack of demand. A lot of plain cows in the entry again which depressed averages.

Prices were as follows:-

Grade 1 Cows to 136.50p av. 133.18p

Grade 2 Cows to 129.50p av. 124.55p

Grade 1 Cows to 136.50p av. 133.18p Grade 2 Cows to 129.50p av. 124.55p

FINISHED SHEEP – 4,807

A large entry of lambs was competed for by plenty of buyers. A good firm trade resulted with best lambs reaching 215.5p/kg. Several tup lambs amongst the entry that met with a firm level of demand with the Muslim Festival on Friday. Exporters very busy sending sheep meat to Europe for the festival which fueled demand. *Prices were as follows:-*

Light Lambs to 156.5p av. 156.5p Standard Lambs to 207.5p av. 160.3p Medium Lambs to 215.5p av. 163.4p Heavy Lambs to 176.0p av. 154.5p Overweight Lambs to 153.5p av. 147.6p

Best export lambs again have their own following with lambs well over £2.00 per kilo. Export lambs will again be wanted next week. Export quality lambs sold up to 215.5p per kilo and averaged 170.2p per kilo and home trade lambs sold up to 162.5p per kilo and averaged 158.6p per kilo 1428 ewes forward met with an excellent trade with the festival this Friday. Ewes of all sorts were sold to advantage. There was an excellent entry of Killing Ewes for the Muslim festival. Plenty of buyers and a firm trade. Killing Ewes up to £120.00 with an overall average of £60.00 Killing Rams to £119.50 Next week several of our average £81.61. Muslim customers will be on holiday so ewes will not be required until the following week, Monday 5th November.

REARING CALVES & WEANLINGS - 30

Large entry of TB calves we and plenty of buyers looking. Trade matched the calves with continental bull calves at £162 a lot of Friesian bulls on offer which readily sold between £40 and £60 a head with plain sorts less money

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November - Page 37



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Clarion Clippings - Local News

OUT OF AFRICA

Alison Parsons has a very unusual event at The Fighting Cocks in Stottesdon on Wednesday the 14th of this month. She'll be showing a range of African art and craft work, from original drawings and hand thrown ceramics to small pieces like knitted or wire animals and jewellery.

It's all from Zimbabwe, where she and her family used to live, and was brought back after a visit there last year.

The object is to raise funds for the Riding for the Disabled fund that is the pub's chosen charity this year. The doors open at 7.00.

YOUR RIVER NEEDS YOU

Just a reminder that the Severn Rivers Trust has a discussion evening at the Pioneer Centre on Wednesday the 28th of this month, starting at 6.00. The object is to find out what issues there are with the River Rea and what work needs to be done.

As the meeting will interrupt most people's dinner time, there's a free bowl of home made soup and a roll on offer. A friendly, hospitable touch.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Robin McCarthy, recently appointed Head Teacher at Moffats School after serving as Deputy. It's a homecoming for Robin, who grew up at Moffats and had her first teaching post there before setting out on her travels. She is the sixth member of the family to lead the school.

CONGRATULATIONS TOO

To Hobson's Brewery, who came away from the annual Campaign for Real Ale

Champion Beer of Britain awards with their Mild and Town Crier declared winners. They were winners in the West Midlands competition and at the National finals won Silver in the Mild category and Bronze in the Golden Ales with Town Crier.

It's a tribute to their quality products that Hobsons have a bulging awards cupboard and next time they extend the buildings it might be an idea to have an Awards Wing. With over 1000 British breweries producing real ales today, Hobson's are rated in the Top 20.

Top marks to Nick Davis and his crew on their ability to stay in the top flight in such a competitive world. Makes you want to lift a pint and toast their continuing success.

Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club Christmas Menu

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CONTACT DETAILS

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Clarion Coppers - The New Faces



The new faces with responsibility for the Cleobury area as part of a very big patch. WPC Anne O'Leary and PC Ben Harris.

At the recent Joint Local Committee meeting in Neen Sollars, our new police presence were there to meet and greet. With the stringent budget cuts we all know about, policing levels have been reduced. Our new crew, Anne OLeary and Ben Harris, have a big patch to cover

and we can't expect the regular presence on the streets that Tony Sewell provided. A big stretch of Shropshire is covered by these two plus three Community Support Officers including our regular man Nick Morris.

Inspector Rob Thomas from Ludlow introduced Anne and Ben and emphasised that being a lady does not impair Anne's effectiveness as a police officer. Just a few days before the meeting she was chasing a burglary suspect, who is now on remand. The message is clear - do not underestimate this lady.

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE NEW POLICE COMMISSIONER

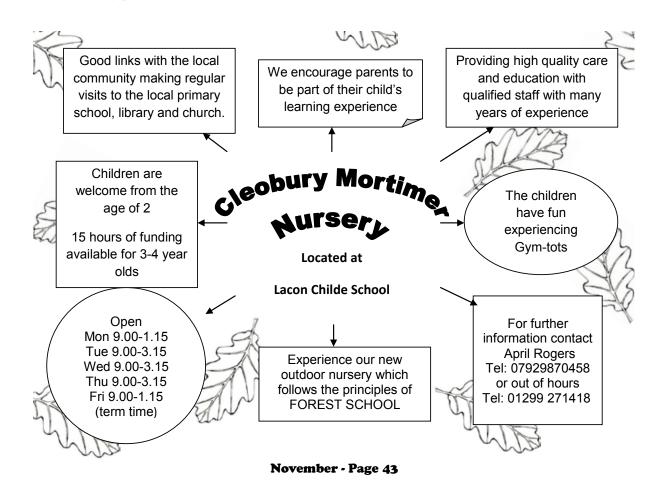
In this month's Letter from Westminster, Phil Dunne MP asks us all to vote in the November 15th election of a new Police Commissioner for West Mercia. Quite right too.

But how much do any of us know about this business? The

Clarion office has been notified that there is a meeting at 7.30 tonight, November 1st, in the main auditorium of the Harley Centre at Ludlow College. We understand there will be three candidates for this important post, one independent and one each from the Conservative and Labour camps. You can get further information from Colin Sheward at 01584 875946, but we do not know what Mr Sheward's official position is.

Isn't it sad that what we are told is an important election seems to be a well kept secret? Did whatever authority is responsible for the election hand the job of publicity over to MI5?

If you are keen to know just who is standing for this very powerful post, this short notice may help if you can get away to attend. But we should have been hearing about this three months or more ago, not been left in ignorance.



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The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

Day	Time	Event	Contact	Phone
Sun	08.30	Holy Communion, Parish Church	Oontaot	CM 270624
Outi	09.45	Parish Communion, Parish Church		CM 270624
	09.00	Mass, St Elizabeth's, Lower Street	Canon Walsh	01584 872906
	10.30	Cleobury Country Archers, Lacon Childe Sports Field	Lesley Burnside	CM 271374
	10.30	New Life Church – for venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
	11.00	Morning Service, Methodist Church	Rev H Roberts	01584 819649
Mon	08.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School Mon to Fri	TREV II ROBERTS	07794 166514
	08.00	Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon School Mon to Fri	Zoe Day	01746 71879
	09.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe School Mon to Fri	April Rogers	CM 271418
	09.00	CM Playgroup, Primary School, Mon to Fri	Jane Preece	07816 193933
	09.30	Morning Workout, Sports Hall	Deena	CM 271317
	10.00	Age UK, Monday Club, St Mary's Place	Sarah Wilde	
	15.45	Gym Club with Ann Davis, Lacon Childe Mon & Wed	Don Carter	CM 270312
	18.30	Karate Club, Lacon Childe School	John Nelson	CM 879210
	19.00	Tai Chi Class, Lacon Childe School	Rose Jacks	01584 875544
	19.30	Rangers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Helen Smith	CM 270912
	19.45	Bingo, CM Sports & Social Club	Alan Evans	CM 270114
	20.00	Women's Clog Dancing Classes	Linda Small	01746 718624
Tue	10.00	Nippers, Moths & Tots, Methodist Hall, Church Street	Emma	CM 272959
	14.00	Friendship Club, Parish Hall, Church Street	Janet Rolston	CM 270353
	15.45	Ballet Class, Lacon Childe School	Liz Broadway	CM 251246
	17.00	Sports Roundabout, Sports Hall, Love Lane		CM 271317
	17.30	Beavers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Becky Keeley	CM 271416
	18.45	Bridge Club Hopton Wafters Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
	19.00	Bell Ringers' practice night, St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808
	19.30	Modern Dance Sequence Club, Lacon Childe School	E Wrigglesworth	01562 822291
Wed	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
	16.45	Gym Club for 6 & over, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	17.15	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Emma Reynolds	CM 272746
	19.00	Guides Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street		
	19.00	Yoga Class with Anna, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	19.00	Zumba Class with Emma Forni, Lacon Childe School	Emma Forni	01746 862842
	19.30	CM Concert Brass Band practice, Parish Hall	Stella Wilcox	CM 270560
	19.30	New Life Church prayer meeting. For venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
	19.30	Choir Practice, Parish Church	Philip Engleheart	CM 270627
Thu	09.30	Little Tiddlers, Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School	Zoe Pearson	07794 166514
	11.00	Sale of second hand goods, Knowle Sports Club, Clee Hill	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
	14.00	Scrabble Club, St Mary's Place, Non residents £1.00	Jo Booton	07969 104808
	15.30	Cleobury Comets Netball, CM Sports Centre term time	Mandy Smith	CM 271809
	17.30	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Rebecca Barnes	CM 272945
	19.00	Bell Inn Band improvers rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street		
	19.15	Cubs Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Kate Pearce	07772 102986
	19.30	Tums and Bums, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	19.30	Adult 7-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre	Dave Hinves	CM 271317
	20.00	Bell Inn Band rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street		
	20.00	11-16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
L	21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
Fri	10.00	Tiny Stots, Chorley Playgroup, Stottesdon School	Zoe Day	01746 717769
	10.00	Tiny Tots, Parish Hall	Bettina Poole	CM 271868
	17.30	Rainbows Meeting, girls 5-7 years, Old Pump House	Jean Basham	07792 813774
	19.00	Scout Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Chris Andrews	CM 270937
	20.00	Badminton, CM Sports Centre		01584 881359
Sat	08.30	Sale of second hand goods, Knowle Sports Club, Clee Hill	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
	10.30	Junior Coaching, CM Golf Club, Wyre Common	Robert Watkins	CM 271112



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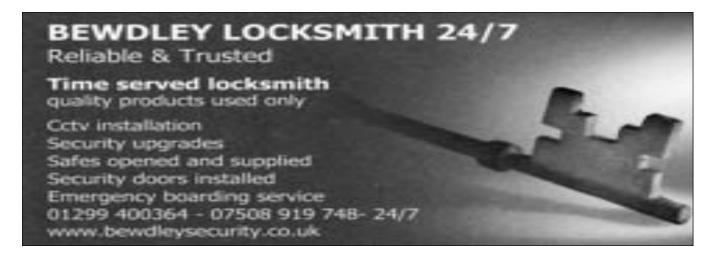


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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

AN OLD FAVOURITE RETURNS

Advent Soup Lunches are on the social menu again, starting on the 30th of this month and carrying on every Friday until December 21st.

It's a good, simple formula. Home made soup and freshly baked local bread is followed by apple pie and cream, served up in the Market Hall from 12.30 to 2.00. Every Friday for five weeks, the charge is very modest and all proceeds will go to charity.

In addition to the lunches, there will be home made cakes and chocolate Christmas tree decorations on sale, a Bring and Buy and a Christmas Cake Raffle.If you need a left to the Lunches, call organiser Shaunah Murrell on CM 270386

JOINT LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The latest was at Neen Sollars village hall on October 23rd, with about 40 speakers and members of the public. As usual, Councillor Madge Shineton was in the chair.

Inspector Rob Thomas started with a police report and introduced the new Cleobury crew, who will be based at Bridgnorth. See Page 43 for more details on them.

He reported crime in the West Mercia area down percent in the April September period, with bad behaviour following a similar pattern. The force has had its budget for this year cut by £10 million and it has combined with the Warwickshire force who face a similar cut - to help spread the load. There was some close questioning about police cover and the solution seems to be in more effective of manpower educating the public to protect themselves, particularly against theft. With garden and barns now sheds favourite target for thieves, an investment in Smart Water is recommended and some insurance companies insist upon its use. We'll try to tell you more about this treatment in a future issue.

Toby Guise talked about the Fire and Rescue Service in Shropshire, which has 500 firefighters. 300 of them are retained people who have other jobs and provide cover as an add-on. In Cleobury there is a problem with day cover, as so few people are available from local businesses.

It would help the service if every call came with a grid reference as well an address, to make finding the place easier. Good news was that despite budget cuts, no Shropshire retained fire station will be closed.

Sue Arrowsmith spoke briefly about the Medical Centre and progress towards the new facility. It seems that there is a review due to budget cuts and the proposed scheme has to be approved by the new body. She was cautiously optimistic.

Emma Buckingham spoke for the Severn River Trust, a charity that watches over water quality and asked for feedback on what the community needs. There is a meeting at the Pioneer Centre on the 28th of this month, 6.00 9.00pm, for a wider discussion about our rivers and streams. Flood and Water Manager David Edwards explained the responsibilities of landowners with rivers passing through their property. They have a responsibility to help keep the river clear and responses made it clear that many farmers and landowners recognise and practise this.

There was some discussion about the need for flood preventive measures, with the need to look ahead provide before the emergency. Mr Edwards pointed out that there are more effective tools than the sandbag, which is heavy to move and not totally effective. Chairman Shineton suggested that in the light of recent problems, parish councils should look at local flood risks, such as debris building up. and arrange for such risks to be dealt with.

The next Joint Local Committee meeting is in the Market Hall in Cleobury, on February 21st 2013.

This was a good meeting, covering a variety of subject in a reasonable time and very little waffling allowed. Joint Local Committee meetings have come a long way since the first gatherings; think about visiting the next one to see for yourself. *Jim Reynolds*

A reminder: Severn Rivers Trust meeting at Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer on November 28th, 6.00 to 9.00pm. Have your say about your river and what you want from it.

A free bowl of homemade soup and a roll will be provided. Book your place with Mike Morris on 07970 4 5 1 6 0 1 or mike@severntrust.com

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November in the Wyre Forest - Linda Iles writes



At Uncllys Farm we get a glow of satisfaction seeing our new log store full of seasoned firewood. Ready to keep the kitchen range and the Ruskin Studio stove burning through the cold, dark months.

Like us, the forest wildlife is preparing for the winter. following instinctive behaviour to survive the hard times ahead. Moles are seldom seen in person but in the autumn spend time collecting dry grass and leaves for their sleeping chambers underground. They patrol their tunnel network looking for worms and other soil invertebrates, including garden pests such as cockchafer and carrot fly larvae. They dig with their powerful, heavy-

clawed forepaws, pushing the soil behind them while bracing themselves against the walls of the tunnel with their hind limbs. When a good pile of soil has accumulated the mole turns and pushes it back along the tunnel to a shaft leading to the surface, creating the familiar mole hill. The shallow, linear tunnels which you sometimes see as slightly raised ridges of soil could be a sign of moles colonising new areas. The ground seldom freezes, moles can continue to feed through the winter, mainly on worms which they often store underground in large numbers.

Forgive me for mentioning it in November, but the time is coming when the Discovery Centre will be decorated with aromatic green boughs and fairy lights, Charlie the Deer will wear his holly crown, and schoolchildren will be visiting the forest in droves to find out what happens to the wildlife in winter. Our celebration of the season is open to all members of the public this year at the Wyre Days of Christmas through the weekends

December at the Community Discovery Centre. As well as very offering some specimens of Norway spruce and Noble fir as Christmas trees, there will be decoration workshops for adults children over eight years old on December 8th, local producers' stalls and a visit to Father Christmas's forest cabin. Please call the Recreation Team on 01905 533839 for more information or to book for the workshops.

Meanwhile, if you would like to get as far away from such things as possible, or even spend some time creating home made gifts for friends and family, you'll be very welcome to come and share the Ruskin Studio at Uncllys Farm on Mellow Mondays. For a small charge of £5, drinks included, you will be able to use the studio as a base to sit and spin, paint, knit, or whatever your chosen craft, from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Please ring me on 01299 403691 if you're intending to come.

Linda Iles

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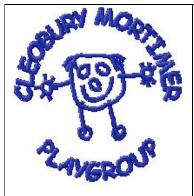
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THANK YOU

I promise not to mention this again, because old men going on about their operations is not an interesting subject.

I just want to thank everyone who sent good wishes or enquired after my health, which is headed in the right direction after treatment at the Heart and Lung Centre in Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital. I cannot speak too highly of that centre of excellence, a place devoted to saving or prolonging lives.

And finally the biggest thanks to my wife Valerie, for devotion beyond what any reasonable person could expect.

Thank you all. *IR*

VILLAGE GARDENS WINNERS

Stottesdon and Chorley were joint First Prize winners in the National Gardens Scheme and Shropshire Star 'Garden of the Year' competition. They were both entered in the contest after the success of this summer's joint Open Day that attracted a lot of visitors, despite the weather. And they sent a total of £2,000 to the NGS to help cancer charities, Crossroads Care and hospices.

Tina King for Stottesdon and Pat Home for Chorley were each presented with prize certificates and £25 of garden vouchers by TV gardener Chris Beardshaw.

A fitting sequel to a very good weekend that reflected a lot of effort.

A CLEE HILL VISITOR CENTRE?

About 50 people gathered in Hopton Wafers village hall last month, after having a look around the 140 year old Primary School that now stands empty. They were there to hear a proposal that could see the school brought back into use and possibly help develop tourism in the unique Clee Hill area.

There's a strong historic connection, as the school was donated in 1872 to the Hopton community by the Woodward family, financed by the product of mining on Clee Hill. There is a commitment by the Titterstone Clee Heritage Trust to develop a visitor and learning centre for the broader Hill complex, which stretches from Hopton across to the Saxon village of Bitterley.

Glyn Chambers and Alf Jenkins both spoke passionately about the history there is all around the hill. Glyn as an archaeologist who visited the place before working around the world, including at three World Heritage sites, before coming back to this part of Shropshire. Alf spoke as a native of the place, who grew up in a pub where his father did any number of jobs as well as looking after the miners' and quarrymens' thirsts.

The list of historic industrial sites on the Hill is truly astonishing, and there is

evidence of human activity for the last 4,000 years.

Alf has laboured for years to spread the word about the Hill and its remarkable heritage, but has clearly been frustrated by a lack of interest from many bodies. Now that he has the support of the Titterstone Clee Heritage Trust there is added momentum and determination.

People will naturally query the idea of Hopton Wafers for a visitor centre. Why not one up on the Hill itself? The simple answer is that the search for a suitable site produced nothing to suit, while sites like The Novers has limited access that will not encourage visitors. But in Hopton is a building looking for a new life, that cannot be used for anything other than educational purposes under the terms of its original gift. There is parking nearby - subject to the consent of the trustees - and access for vehicles is not a problem. Both the school's governors and the TCHT agree that this would be a practical

Not that wishes become reality quite so easily. Glyn Barratt has visited the Minsterley Bog Centre, where a similar venture is up, running and self supporting, so there is evidence it can work. There is a long way to go before this germ of an idea can grow, including the matter of finance. But the quiet spoken Mr Barratt found £60,000 to finance the purchase of The Novers. Watch this space

Knowing that many readers have busy lives that can't be ruled by the simple matter of picking up your Clarion, we've put it out on the internet.

Just type in www.cleoburyclarion co.uk

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

WADE MADE GOOD But only after he persuaded his teachers to see it his way.....



Wade Davies, the proud proprietor in his new Talbot Square shop.

Wade Davies has been fitting carpets since he was 13 and sneaking time off from Lacon Childe School to go and earn a bit of pocket money. In the end they reached a compromise, realising that this rebel was not going to toe the five-days-a-week in class line and that he'd be better off learning a trade to support himself when he left.

He speaks well of the school and headmaster John Sullivan for their flexibility: "I did three days a week learning how to fit carpets for a trade and two days a week in school," he remembers with a grin. Not much chance of that happening today under the iron grip of the national curriculum.

Wade's big Transit is a familiar local sight and the next logical step was to open a shop where people can browse through the range he offers. It's open from 9.30 to 3.00, to fit in with his wife and sister looking after the place and the children. And let's not forget his mum Merle, doing her bit for the family enterprise. Nice

shop, very open and welcoming and worth a look in.

BOWLING NEWS

During the Month of September one Competition Day and one Charity Fund Raising Day were held. On September 16th there was a competition between the President's team and the Club Captain's. Three games of seven ends were played and the highest score wins the President's Trophy. This year the President's team won with 203 shots to 186. A cheque was presented to Maurice Evans of the Midland Ambulance Service, money raised at two Air Ambulance Days held in conjunction with Highley Miners Club. Winners of Cleobury Club competitions the during Season were presented with their Trophies at the end of the day.

On September 22nd the second Royal British Legion Poppy Fund Day was held. 46 people attended Legion from branches Cleobury, Clee Hill, Far Forest & Rock. Club bowlers were paired with non-bowlers and over two days the funds raised were well worth the efforts. Winners of the Competition were Burnside, partnered with novice Lucia Cox from Clee Hill R.B.L. Chairmen from the Branches gave their thanks to the members of the club for an excellent day.

The bowling green is now closed until April 2013 and we will welcome new Bowlers of all ages next season. *Dave Harley*

EXTRA POST OFFICE HOURS

Recognising the need of those who leave early for work to get access to a Post Office service, our Cleobury one is now open at 8.00 in the morning from Monday to Friday. So you can get cash, stamps or Euros and even tax your car. Postmaster Butler reckons this is the only full office in South Shropshire to offer such a service - looks like another Cleobury Mortimer first.

FRAMING BUSINESS EXPANDS

Georgina Instone's framing business at her Cross House Arts gallery in Mamble is well known, with local artists using her framing and exhibition facility. The lady has a reputation for doing a good job, producing the frames herself to the customer's specification and size. None of the "one type suits all" stuff you can suffer at big outlets, where price is everything.

Now Georgina and partner Dean have taken a big step up, by taking over Mark Leadbetter's established Frames Design business at the Old Station Business Park on the Bridgnorth Road. It's a big learning curve they're on, with the capacity to make really big frames and to print copies of pictures onto what looks very much like a proper canvas. There's a whole range of pictures you can choose your own family masterpiece from, then have it framed in traditional style, perhaps to convince visitors that you have noble ancestry

In the meantime, Mark will be concentrating on his rather quirky car hire business, famous for its stretched VW Beetle and a restored original camper.

We wish Georgina and Dean the very best with the new venture and will be paying them a visit when they're sorted out and able to show off the range of services.







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IN BUSINESS: Carrot Tops



Her smile sets the style for one of the friendliest shops in Cleobury. Rachel outside Carrot Tops.

This happy place works: "If you're having a bad day, it doesn't last long," smiles Rachel Siddall.

It's two and a half years since she over a took small greengrocers with a modest fish trade and began to do things her way, the smiling, obliging way. The van with the Carrot Tops logo and the warning 'No Carrots Left in this Van Overnight" on the back door still makes people laugh - and happy people are more likely to spend with you.

The fish business has doubled and after recent work that has doubled the display space, she's planning to add a fish counter to boost sales further. A recent lucky to find any left when you addition is Coley, a white fish she tips to become a top seller.

We talked in mid October and already there were 75 Christmas hampers on order, 30 of them to go to Cradley Heath.

The box deliveries she inherited have grown and she has one big delivery run that takes in The Ship Inn at Highley, Moffatts School at Kinlet and the famous Frog restaurant Leintwardine. That can be close to a vanload at busy times.

The range of foods on offer has grown enormously, with the Bagginswood range of jams and chutneys a recent addition. She's very proud to be an appointed stockist of Forest Pig charcuterie, an honour she shares with Harrods. Is that the Far Forest Harrods? "No, it's the Knightsbridge one," she laughs. Keeps good company, Carrot Tops, and the Forest Pig range is a favourite in her very successful hampers.

The Ludlow Nut Company's range of spices feature in a wall display and she always tries to have her English fruits from local sources, like strawberries from Little Witley. She was waiting for 60 precious jars of honey from that same source when we talked and after a bad season for the bees you'll be

read these words.

With a record wet summer over and poor crops, she's had breaks in supply when her regular sources had nothing to offer. So she's looking beyond established circle; fine to offer local produce whenever you can, but when that runs out the customers still want to eat.

She employs Sue Pearce and Lorna Yapp part time in the shop and relies on mum Ruth Bird and friend Ruth Beale for help with deliveries. When she broke her leg recently ("I fell off my flip-flop! Great after climbing, horse riding playing rugby!") and was in plaster six weeks, family and friends took on the transport tasks. It's that happy family atmosphere working again.

Ambitions? "I don't want another shop, but I'd love more vans. And to do hampers on line." There's a website on the way.

Two and a half years after taking on a shop with minimal retail experience, what lesson has she learned? "Don't give everything away," laughs. "And everything can't be done in a day. There's a lot I still want to do." She'll be out delivering on the Sunday before Christmas, still building success.





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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page November 2012 - Volume Seven - Edition Eight

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Or Out in Cleobury Country at: Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood, Clee Hill Post Office, Cleobury North Village Store, Clows Top Post Office, The Sun and Slipper at Mamble, Hopton Bank Service Station, Mawley Oak Garage, The Fighting Cocks at Stottesdon, The Duck Inn at Chorley, The Live and Let Live at Neen Sollars, The Eagle and Serpent at Kinlet, Parker Motors at Ditton Priors and McCartneys Estate Agents in Tenbury Wells.

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

THE DEADLINE FOR EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 23rd

The Cleobury Clarion is a member of the Cleobury Mortimer Chamber of Trade

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR - 077 039 65064 Mrs Theresa Parfitt.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE - Women's Aid, 24 Hour support: 0800 783 1359

HOME FROM HOSPITAL - 01584 878046. For help over the first few weeks back home.

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

MARKET HALL- Dorothy on CM270324, 07761 976650 mobile or mcbrideneenpc@aol.com

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

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

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

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

POST OFFICE - 01299 270201. Many services in Cleobury: car tax, foreign currency cash point SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT - Mark Greaves 07828 116810, mark.stmarys@live.co.uk SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - 0345 678 9000

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

VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME - 01299 270833. Mrs Val Simpson is the new coordinator.

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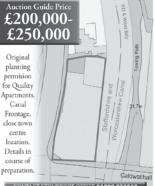
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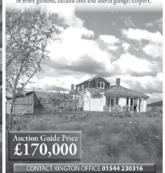
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48 Bargates Leominster Herefordshire

A spacious terraced property located close to the town centre in need of modernisation. With entrance hall, sitting room dining room, kitchen, utility room, downstairs WC, two double bedrooms and bathroom. ditional benefits include part double glazing, extensive gardens and gas fired central heating.



NTACT LEOMINSTER OFFICE 01568 610222

96 Lickhill Road Stourport

40 M

A very well located three bedroom semi detached traditional house requiring total refurbishment. The property stands particularly well on a large level plot with an excellent rear particularly well on a large level prot wirn an excellent rear-garden extending to over 100 foot in depth, backing on to the recently built Stourport Primary School, therefore lending a high degree of privacy together with a pleasant open outlook. Reception hall, through living com, separate dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, first floor bathroom, vacant possession se further poten



9 Weston Road Bucknell Shropshire

Enjoying a lovely southerly outlook across open countryside this detached timber clad bungalow affords two bedrooms, two reception rooms, front and rear gardens, off road parking and carport, UPVC double-glazing and oil fired central heating



Lower Lickhill Road Stourport

A three bedroom semi-detached house in need of repair and ation. Hall. Ex-w.c./cloaks. Two reception R Kitchen. Large plot.



Drapers Lane Leominster

Located within the centre of the market town this spacious maisonette sold with planning permission to be converted into three self-contained apartments.



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