

The Cleobury Clarion



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OCTOBER 2015

PRAISE FOR OUR PARISH COUNCIL

Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council has been singled out for praise by the National Association of Local Councils. Their newsletter on September 15th said: "This week we would like to celebrate the work and recent accomplishments of a small rural parish council in Shropshire that is punching above its weight."

It goes on to outline the recent announcement that we are the first to become a Smartwater and We Don't Buy Crime Town, calling it "an amazing achievement for the community." It also praises Inspector Rob Thomas of West Mercia Police and Vicky Turner of Shropshire Council, who have worked with the council to raise grants and get the idea up and running. While the council agreed to back the effort, the initiative began with clerk Matt Sheehan, who currently chairs the Crime Reduction Group and is coordinating the Smartwater distribution through local volunteers.



Parish Clerk Matt Sheehan, a man doing a great job for the town.

This initiative means that every household in Cleobury will have the chance to protect their property and possessions with SmartWater at no cost, while businesses and farmers can get their supply at a reduced price. There will be signs around the town and on the main road approaches, to tell the less than honest that we are protected and if they nick our goods they can be identified. It's a big deterrent that will send them away from our streets.

EARLY WARNING! THE NEXT CLARION MAY BE LATE

The Editor will be flying out of the country on the 12th of this month and returning on the 27th. He will make every effort to get most of these 60 pages ready before he heads for a break that will take in Singapore, Australia and Malaysia, but may be unfit for work when he gets back to his desk. Some would say that he's never been fit, anyway.

Would all our correspondents please get their November words to him as early as possible this month, so that the delay is minimal. Thank you all in anticipation of that and a special mention must go to Linda Iles, whose November in the Wyre Forest page actually arrived at Clarion Towers on September 21st. Does this woman have magic thought reading powers?

So an early apology if we are late, but this opportunity to see a bit more Moto GP racing around the globe was too good to miss.

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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page October 2015 - Volume Thirteen - Edition Seven

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

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

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE IS OCTOBER 10th

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR - 07703 965 064 Theresa Parfitt; theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk

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

CITIZENS ADVICE - 08444 991100. Advisors on line 10.00 to 4.00.

CLEOBURY CARERS - Wendy Duley CM 270562

CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES - CM270018 Katja Ward 10.00 to 12.00 Wednesday.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY - 01299 272301. Vicki Alexander is our librarian. Open 9.00 to 7.00 Monday, 9.00 to 5.00 Tuesday to Friday and 10.00 to 1.00 Saturdays.

LOCAL POLICE - Constable Anne O'Leary; ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES: Dorothy McBride 07761 976610

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS: Ingrid Purslow CM 270314

CRIMESTOPPERS - 0800 555 111. Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.

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

HOME FROM HOSPITAL - 01584 878046. Help over the first weeks back home from Age UK.

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

MARKET HALL- Dorothy CM 272717, 07761 976650 mobile, or dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk

MEDICAL CENTRE - 01299 270209. Out of surgery hours, the Shrop Doc Service.

SHROP DOC - 08444 068888. Service available evenings and weekends.

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

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

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

POST OFFICE - 01299 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 - E-mail richard@ssyf.net.

VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME - 01299 666119. Mrs Val Simpson is the coordinator. BUT SEE PAGE 7.

WASTE DISPOSAL - 0345 678 9007. The contractor is Veolia

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For more information contact:

Nicholas Hughes on 01562 822295 or Wendy Beaumont on 01299 822033

The Cleobury Clarion. October 2015



It's been a long haul, but the views were stunning and there's a refreshment stop just up the lane. The Food and Ale Trail, Page 11.



If you want to retire in style, do it with a good breakfast and your friends. Tank did. See Page 13.



Someone to watch over your pet while you're away? Meet Lulu at Animal Au Pair. In Business - Page 55.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

IN REMEMBRANCE

We are holding a simple service of remembrance and thanksgiving on Sunday evening, the First of November, for all those who have lost loved ones in the past two years. It will last about three quarters of an hour, names will be read out and candles lit, with appropriate readings and music. Afterwards there will be tea and coffee, and an opportunity to chat if you would like to do so.

Although the names of loved ones who have passed away over the last two years are read, all are welcome to the service.

*Sam Adams,
Benefice Administrator*

CHANGES TO BOOKING COMMUNITY CARS

From October 5th all booking requests will be taken by the Medical Centre reception, from 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, by calling 01299 270209.

Patients will be asked for the date and time of your appointment, where it will be and its purpose. For example: scan, sets or consultant visit. You will need to tell them your name, full address with postcode and telephone number.

Val Simpson will collect this information from the Medical Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays, find you a driver and call you back. To change or cancel your appointment phone Val on 01299 666119.

AUTUMN FAYRE AT KINLET SCHOOL

Kinlet School have a very fine sounding Autumn Fayre planned for Saturday the 3rd of this month. It will be open from 11.00 until 2.00 in the school grounds and there's a lot to see and do. Like having a go on the bouncy castle, apple bobbing and panning for gold, or you can sample the refreshments including a cake stall and a jar tombola.

Theresa Parfitt is entering into the spirit of the occasion and having her head shaved by Julian of JFM Barbers, to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Care. You can donate to her effort on line at <https://bravetheshave.org.uk>, going to 'Donate' and putting Theresa's name in.

This is a lovely little school, full of character and run by a really enthusiastic team. Well worth looking in, whether you have children of primary age

or just to see what energy and enthusiasm can achieve.

A PROMISES AUCTION AT STOTTESDON

Stottesdon Primary School is hoping to beat its fund raising record at the Promises Auction on Friday the 9th of this month. It starts at 7.00 and over 70 lots will go under the hammer, all gathered in from the local community.

It's quite a collection of prizes to tempt you to dig deep. Top choice must surely be a row of rugby tickets for the West Stand at Twickenham, or is it the chance to be Head Teacher at the school for a day? There are loads more to choose from and bid for, like someone baking just for you, a winter log supply, a ride on a combine or for the keen gardener, a pile of muck.

Entry is free, no pre-booking needed and everyone welcome.

AGEING SILLY BITS

"Duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound."

"When the kids text me 'plz' which is shorter than 'please', I text back 'no', which is shorter than 'yes'."





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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CHAMPION JAMES



James Butler of Lacon Childe School has had an outstanding first season as a triathlete. He took up the sport in April and managed to win his first running race at "Storm the Castle" in Ludlow. He's come first three times this season including the recent race at the Shrewsbury Duathlon, an energy zapper with the sun blazing down and no training due to a family holiday. James ran 3.5 kilometres, biked 6 km then a run of 2.2 km winning the race by some 100 metres. All with a shoe lace undone within the first kilometre! After losing time untangling it from the crank of the bike he continued,

to succeed. Triple knots rather than double knots for next season!

James puts his success down to the sports he has enjoyed at Lacon Childe and the clubs where he trains. Ludlow Swimming club, Kidderminster and Stourport Athletic club and Black Country Triathletes. Football is still his first passion; he's played for Cleobury since he was six and wants to continue beyond school years. He's been invited to trial for the regional triathlon squad, so his sporting future is bright.

Anybody wanting to participate should contact James's father Richard on 07984 687562 who could point you and your child in the right direction. A great start would be the club in Kidderminster where Dave the youth coach does a wonderful job. The season is closing but cross country running continues through the winter.

CLEOBURY W.I.

After two interesting and different meetings when we went out; in June on a visit to Mawley Town Farm and in July to Gill Guest to see her flower garden, where despite the rain

we were able to make our own tied bunches, we had a change in September. We entertained John Carter, who identified and valued a mixed collection of objects, from silver buttons to old maps. A very interesting and informative meeting.

This month our meeting on Tuesday October 13th will be the AGM, followed by a sing-a-long session. All are welcome at our meetings in the Market Hall.

Gillian Senior

HEARING AIDS

We are trying to get the Audiology Service of the N.H.S. to come to Cleobury Medical Centre to service hearing aids, instead of all going to Ludlow. To facilitate this aim we need to know how many people would use this service, which we hope would be at least once a month. Please contact Gill Davis, of Patients Voice, 2, Vaughan Road, Cleobury, call CM 271359 or email gillcakes@btinternet.com

Reg Chapman

MORE AGEING SILLY BITS

"My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work."

"The biggest lie I tell myself is 'I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it.'"

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The Food and Ale Trail - Another Great Success



Heading into Neen Sollars, they all smile and reflect the atmosphere of the day.

This year the Trail headed south of the town, taking in new vistas and reminding visitors that we are surrounded by beauty. Organiser Carol Franklin reports:

Registration at Cleobury Country Centre on September 5th saw 130 walkers signing on; from their warm smiles, eager to go. Within 30 minutes they were on their way.

A short hop saw them at Reaside for pastries by Ashley's Bakery, with fruit juice. Thanks to the Barlings for use of their barn and the Tibbittses for manning the stop.

On past Reaside Manor, Shakenhurst and Neenshilltop to make their way to Neen Sollars for lunch at the Victory Hall. Thanks to the Waddingtons for

manning the bar, a welcome sight to the walkers, courtesy of Hobson's beer and cider. Mazella Witts-Hewinson and Val Simpson served the hungry horde with Brian the Butcher's pork.

On to cross the drive for Reaside Farm which led the walkers to the riverside path and Barnsland Farm for the afternoon refreshment stop. Catherine Evans and her CoCo team supplied cakes, tea and coffee. Catherine gave everyone a goody bag of locally grown plums to refresh them on their way. Thanks to Jayne and John Barnes for use of their barn.

Finally the walkers saw the wind turbine at the Brewery and their last food stop in Hobson's Visitor Centre. Thanks to Wendy Chadwick and her team from the Kings Arms who provided the food, and music was provided by 'The Ranters'. The weather had been kind all day and we basked in the early evening sunshine before trooping off back home after a very good walk across Cleobury's lovely countryside.

Thanks to all who took part, to the landowners who allowed us to cross their land, and to everyone else who helped in the

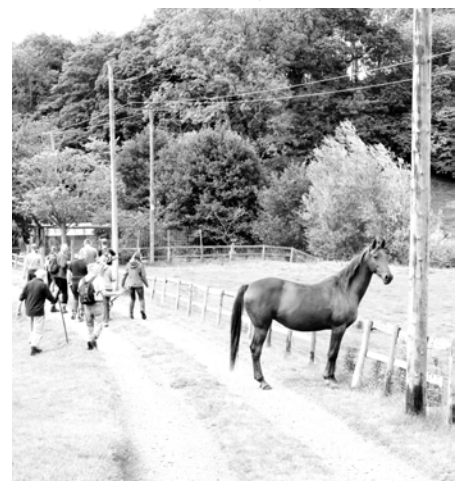
organisation. We couldn't have done it without you.

See you in 2017!!

Carol Franklin



Through a garden, out onto the path and an unusual spectator.....



who wondered just who these weekend intruders were, strolling through meadows where his freedom to roam was seldom questioned.



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Business Networking this month:

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Clarion Clippings -- The Local News

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A VERY FINE IDEA



The smile says it all. Tank had a good retirement party.

Professor Peter Waddington, better known as 'Tank', has retired from full time lecturing at Wolverhampton University. He and Diane moved here from Reading some years ago and have really fitted in with the community. Anyone who heard Tank's Elvis impersonation at a Reid Warblers event will know that he has a great sense of humour.

Not sure how to note the occasion, he was talking about the problem when a friend suggested a breakfast. The KA was duly booked, a selection of friends arrived and enjoyed a Full English that included Black Pudding, so any dietary ambitions were shelved for a day or so. It started at 10.00 - these professors don't get up too

early, you know - and some early lunch customers were coming in as the final guest walked out. A good way to bid work farewell, but we suspect he'll be producing more learned tomes and dispensing wisdom for quite a while yet.

CLOWS TOP

GARDENING CLUB

October brings a richness of colour to the garden with displays of autumn foliage; the autumn colours are at their best this month. Make the most of them as they pass very quickly. The night frosts and clear sunny days bring out the intensity of the colours. Fruits and berries are an added attraction, not only to us but the birds as well. There is still time to plant winter-flowering plants, such as pansies, Violas and wall flowers. Don't forget to plant your spring flowering bulbs now until the end of November.

At the August meeting, Alf Jenkins gave a very interesting talk on his life as a small boy growing up on Clee Hill during the wartime. It brought back many memories for a lot of the members.

This year's Summer Garden Show had some very good entries, the cookery section was generously packed, but the fruit

and veg sections not so, mainly due the cold July. Plenty of sunshine on the day gave it a real country show atmosphere. The Club would like to say 'Thank you' to all helpers and exhibitors because without you there would be no show.

Show Results were as follows; - Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Cups won by T. Mills, H. Jenkins, A. Fletcher, J. Griffiths B. Williams and Marion Wilson. Cookery Cup: A. Hood. Handicraft Cup: C. Lloyd.

Floral Art Cup: Marion Wilson. Children's Shields: E Morris, D. Williams and B. Williams.

On an evening in September, members gathered in Cleobury for a tour around Hobsons Brewery. Various ales were on offer to taste with a light supper. It was a lovely time with everyone thoroughly enjoying the evening.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 28th October, and the speaker for the evening will be Derek Walker.

Pauline Bowen

EVEN MORE AGEING SILLY BITS

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The Clarion Jobs Page

Job Title/ Company	Job Requirements	How to Apply
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Van Based Salesperson Autoglym; Branson Automotive, CM	Maintaining and driving new business within an agreed customer base. Excellent communication skills with a customer focus is essential. Previous selling experience ideal but not necessary as training will be given. You must have a full UK driving licence with appropriate categories enabling driving 3.5 tonne vehicles and above (category C1). A competitive salary package will be offered to the successful candidate.	For more information/ send your CV to: Branson Poyner, Branson Automotive Ltd. Clay Farm, Worcs. DY14 9NN bransonautomotive@aol.com Tel: 01299 832900
Client Account Assistant Dolphin Events Solutions, CM	Working directly with clients offering a wide range of services including venue sourcing to full event management. Candidate should ideally come from a service orientated background or be able to show ability to communicate effectively, knowledge of windows based systems essential. Training will be provided.	Applications made to: Mr R Smith Richard@dolphin-corporate.com



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For an information pack please contact us on 01743 260220, or email HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk, stating your name, address and quoting Cleobury Mortimer

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

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

FROM THE BANDROOM

It has been a busy summer once again for CM Concert Brass. We have played at a variety of venues, including Malvern bandstand, Himley Hall, Ironbridge Brass Festival, a number of private functions and our favourite engagement of the year, Pershore Midsummer Brass.

At the beginning of August several members took part in our own 10 mile sponsored walk and managed to raise the band funds by £450. Two of our members will be travelling to Cambodia in November and will be raising money for Macmillan whilst taking part in a trekking expedition.

We will be holding a social evening at CM Social Club on Thursday 29th October, a talk by our Euphonium player Sue Williams about her expedition to Base Camp Everest. Tickets on the door £3.50 to include the talk, nibbles and a quiz sheet – we extend an open invite to everyone.

Moving into Autumn, we will be fronting the annual British Legion Parade in Cleobury on Remembrance Sunday and also the Clee Hill service in the evening.

The band will be competing at the Leicester BBA Contest at end of November and will shortly be starting rehearsals for this.

Then we will be into the Christmas set of engagements .

Our annual concert will be on December 13th – details to follow in next month's Clarion.

Our website lists our forthcoming engagements and also has contact numbers for both senior and training bands. www.cmcb.org.uk

Katie Griffiths

KINLET FAMILY

PLAYGROUP

Our return last month was lovely, as we got to see all of our friends again and talk about the exciting things we did in our Summer holidays. It was special to see all of our older friends who have started at Kinlet School too - they all looked super smart in their uniforms and seem to be having a fab time in Reception class.

We have been starting our term getting to know some new faces, and have been thinking about ourselves and our families. Our family drawings and paintings have been beautiful.

Kinlet School will be hosting an open day on Saturday October 3rd, 11.00 to 2.00, and staff will also be in Playgroup at the same time. So if you would like to visit us during that day, please do.

Zoe Pearson

HISTORY SOCIETY OPEN EVENING

Cleobury Mortimer in the nineteenth century was not the sleepy place you might imagine. For more than 70 years, Thomas Pope practised as a surgeon in Cleobury, dying in 1874. His obituary painted a picture of a dedicated medical

man, of eminent abilities and a simple manner of living.

But he was a regular and determined writer of complaints about his fellow citizens. For at least 50 of those years, he did his very best to bring down the careers of the other surgeons in the town. Was he a veritable nemesis - a spirit of divine retribution?

All will be revealed at a History Society open evening Wednesday October 21st (7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall – ample parking). Admission is £3 including refreshments.

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

The Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra return to St Mary's on Sunday the 11th, with a popular programme of Mendelsohn, Strauss and Beethoven. Conductor will be Michael Lloyd.

The concert starts at 7.30, tickets at £15 include a drink at the interval and you can find them at the Library, the Pharmacy or Spire Hairdressing. Alec Osbaldiston on 01584 89135 is the contact for more details.

NOCK DEIGHTON

Nock Deighton, who certainly smartened up the appearance of 36 High Street when they moved in a year ago, have made some changes.

Jane Key will still be the main contact, with a concentration on valuations, working out of the Cleobury office. The sales side has been combined with the company's Kidderminster branch and all enquiries, for sales and valuations, are now directed through 01562 745082

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

HISTORY SOCIETY CONTRIBUTION

The Society promised to make a donation to the Poppy Appeal for every copy of Chronicles 11 sold. After deducting costs, members decided to round up the surplus and at the September meeting of the British Legion, the History Society presented a cheque for £100.

THE MYSTERY SLEEPER
Jo Booton, Warden of the two special housing projects for the aged, had a surprise one morning:

On September 16th I found a Sports Direct bag containing items of clothing, DVDs and magazines, on the grass at St Mary's Place. I think it belongs to the man who spent the night sleeping on the road in our cul-de-sac, seen by one of the residents when walking his dog at 2.00am!

If you know whose it is, my contact number is 07969 104808.

Jo Booton

COCO NEWS

Recent weeks have been very fruitful for CoCo. St Mary's Breakfast Club raised £20 for us, and Cleobury WI have donated £200 from their year of fundraising. A big thank you to both groups for their hard work

and generous gifts. We have also been busy, having raised £240 from the Simons Evans event during which we set up a Vintage Afternoon Tea shop, and a further £240 from the Food and Ale Trail afternoon tea stop. All money raised will be used for training and travel expenses for volunteers, and expenses relating to our centre in the Market Hall which makes us accessible to the community. Our next training event for new CoCo volunteers will be held at the Market Hall on October 20th. A useful training session was delivered by Liz van Quickenden on the theme of dementia. This covered the types of dementia, and strategies to care for those affected, and at the end we were all designated 'Dementia Friends'. This has allowed us to plan further training in this area to use sympathetic strategies for clients and others with dementia.

If anyone would like to support CoCo in any way please contact Katja: Market Hall Office 01299-270-018; Mobile: 07966-080-111; E: cleoburycoco@hotmail.com

THE BEWDLEY FESTIVAL

A final reminder that the Bewdley Festival, a splendid array of entertainment spread through the town, begins on the 9th and lasts until the 18th of this month. You can pick up a programme from the Market Hall or Cleobury Country Centre, or look in at www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk

AND BEWDLEY W.I.

This new branch of the W.I. is certainly very busy and building a good reputation for its monthly meetings. October's is at 7.30 on the 5th, in Saint George's Hall, when Richard Perrin, Chair of the Civic Society, will talk about 'Bewdley, a Riverside Town.' It's a rich history and should produce a fascinating evening. £3.00 for non members.

BOWLING CLUB A.G.M.

Cleobury Bowling Club's AGM will be held in the green clubhouse at 7.30 on Monday, October 26th.

More details from Lesley Burnside on CM 271374

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Also see what Kinlet Family Playgroup have to offer (2-5 Years) www.kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk Telephone: 07794 166514



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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

Top Tips for Fearful Dogs

Dr Dan Nicholls BVMedSci BVM BVS MRCVS

with some well informed advice:

A fearful dog can be stressful for everyone. For the friend who just wants to say hello, for another dog who just wants to play and for the owner who wants their dog to be able to do all those things. There is no quick fix for a dog who is often frightened or nervous but here are a few tips to get the ball rolling.

Tip 1. Stay Calm

When you predict something is going to make your dog scared (such as another dog or person), the natural reaction is to become nervous yourself. You might subconsciously become tense or reassure your dog that everything is ok.

By tensing up you are telling the dog that there is about to be an incident that is worth worrying about. If you remain calm and don't show the dog that you are afraid of the situation, they are less likely to be afraid themselves.

If you comfort a dog while they are acting frightened or nervous, you are actually rewarding them for showing that behaviour with attention. They will then repeat that fearful behaviour in future, in order to get more of your attention.

Tip 2. Training Classes

Through training classes and strengthening the bond between you and your dog, you will increase their confidence when they are with you towards other people and dogs.

Start off slowly, just by being in the same vicinity as other people or dogs. Don't try to get anyone to greet your dog straight away, start off just by being around others. Over time (may take many months) and regular classes you will build up to people greeting your dog.

Don't rush! One bad experience for your dog could possibly set you back to the beginning.

Tip 3. Desensitization

By taking your dog to places with unusual sounds or lots of people and dogs regularly will slowly increase their confidence in these situations.

If your dog is particularly frightened of loud noises, you could always get a CD that plays noises such as fireworks, cars backfiring etc., in the house. By having this on quietly to start with and over time increasing

the volume, the dog will get used to the noises that used to frighten them.

Tip 4. Behaviour Modifying Pheromones

When a dog is born the mother releases a pheromone, called Dog Appeasing Pheromone (D.A.P), which calms the puppies and makes them feel safe. This pheromone also works on adult dogs and has been developed into products such as collars and diffusers for the home.

The pheromone doesn't affect anyone other than dogs and we can't even smell it!

Next time you're at the vets or in a pet shop, ask if they have any D.A.P products available and have a look.

Tip 5. Seek Professional Help

Sometimes, the first 4 tips just won't be enough. If you are still struggling with your fearful dog you may need help from a professional canine behaviourist. Although we vets can give some behavioural advice, often we may refer dogs needing more in depth help to a professional behaviourist who deals with it all the time.

There are many different canine behaviourists out there and it can get quite confusing trying to find the best one for you. So before you get in touch with any ask your vet who they recommend.

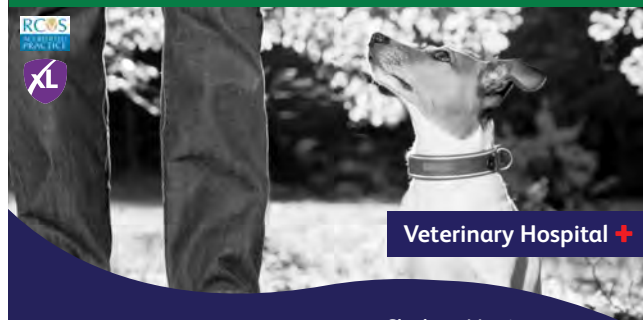
Tip 6. Don't give up

Getting your dog to be more confident and overcome their fears can be a long, challenging experience but by getting through it you will have a happier companion with a more fulfilled life at the end of it.

If you have any more questions please feel free to call us and book an appointment to see someone for some face to face advice.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE LIBRARY CONSULTATION

This is a time of austerity, as you may have noticed. The effect of Government cuts in their contribution to local council budgets has made headlines in Shropshire, as the Council tries to trim back its spending by many millions of pounds. Inevitably the Library Service is one of those affected.

There is no risk of Cleobury's library closing, but there have to be savings in its operation. You can have your say in this matter if you're quick off the mark, because October 7th is the deadline for opinions to be expressed.

The quickest way is to go online and follow <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y9S99VO>, where you can complete the County's questionnaire. Or you can pick up a printed version in the library, complete it with a pen (remember those?) and post back in the box provided by October 7th.

You can also come along to the drop-in session at the library at 7.30 on Wednesday the 7th of this month, where you can see plans for the new office and pod. There will be a Library Service Manager there

to answer questions from the public.

It has to be said that there are some inconsistencies in the plan as presented earlier and what is being told today. There will be some space given up for Cleobury Country to make a small office available for rent, to help cover costs. The details on the questionnaire do not mention this, only the need to make a confidential telephone area available for people to call a range of county services. The reception area, which does take up a lot of room, will probably be redesigned to save space.

Sadly, the lateness of this notice to Clarion readers is the fault of the editor, not in any way the council, and I apologise for that being so.

There are three alternatives you can vote for, showing modest savings at this stage. If the experience of other towns is repeated here, the money available in the coming years will be reduced and it seems that the library will be funded by local sources in the long term.

Please take time to give your view, whatever it may be, and do come along to the meeting on October 7th and show those in authority that this town values its library.

THE CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

Another Library matter, this is a very informal group who meet there at 6.30 on the second Monday of every month, to share and read their writings. The nominal format is that all members agree a theme for the coming month and each writes whatever inspires them about the subject. That isn't always followed to the letter (rules were, after all, made for the guidance of wise men and the blind observance of fools) and the result is a miscellany of words that are guaranteed a listening. Prose or poetry - we haven't had a song written so far - are welcome, whatever is your choice.

New members are made very welcome and the age range is huge, from 19 to 90 at the moment. It's a friendly gathering with no competition, just a sharing of words that has produced some hidden talents over the months. If you like words, it's well worth a try. JR

NEXT ISSUE

We'll bring you details of a remarkable speaker who will be telling his remarkable tale in the Parish Church in November. It suits all ages and promises to be a great night.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Frank Hardy addressed us on Allotment Management. He is the 'vegetable guru' at Webb's, with much experience of the trade of growing vegetables for profit.

He advised us to start small and firstly try to eliminate weeds, use weed killer and dig thoroughly; remove as many roots as possible, but they will recur. Next develop a plan of crops that will save money and that you like to eat. Concentrate on more expensive vegetables; potatoes are cheap to buy. No need for rotation, as a good dose of manure and organic material will replenish the soil.

Develop a crop programme to get two or three crops in a season. You need not leave as much space between seedlings as stated on the packet and a tip for leeks: plant three or four in the same hole and they will grow tall, slender and have a good flavour. Grow early cabbages that mature before the cabbage white arrives in June, or the later brassicas that mature after the summer months. A lively talk that we all found very interesting.

This month we have our autumn competition, four vegetables or fruits mixed in a

shoe size container. Our meeting is on October 13th, with a demonstration of Xmas decorations by Rachael McDonough. On October 3rd we will be holding a Plant Sale at the Market Hall.

Liz Smurthwaite

STOTTESDON W.I.

CENTENARY TEA PARTY

It can't have escaped the notice of those who tune in to The Archers or University Challenge, that Women's Institutes nationwide have been celebrating its 100th anniversary. Our meeting falling on the actual day was a perfect excuse for inviting friends from local WIs to join our own past and present members for a good old fashioned tea party. A hall full of 70 guests convened for a memorable evening: thanks go to Francis Englehart for providing the piano music, Janet Williams for her lively anecdotes, and all our members for their hard work in planning and cooking.

Stef Bryan did us proud with a birthday cake to accompany the obligatory toast to a great future. And of course, thanks also to everyone who turned out to make the event such fun.

On October 21st we meet at Chorley Village Hall at 7.30 pm For Katja Ward of Cleobury

CoCo, who will talk on 'Compassionate Communities'. Do join us. *Marian Wootton*

THE BOWLING CLUB

We are coming to the end of a successful season of bowling. The weather kind, the green in top class condition and all events well supported. Throughout the season our green has been used for numerous League competitions and cup ties which just goes to show the quality of the playing surface.

Our first team have qualified for both the Ludlow League Knockout and Highley League Presidents Cup Finals. We wish them luck and hope silverware comes back to Cleobury.

We have taken part in fund raising days which have amounted to about £800 donated to the Air Ambulance and British Legion Poppy Appeal. A huge contribution from a small community club.

The green will close on 10th October for routine yearly maintenance and re-open at the beginning of April. We are trying to encourage junior members to join to help sustain the future of the club. Their membership is free of charge until they reach 18 and coaching sessions can be arranged. *Lesley Burnside*



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LOCAL HISTORY ON A DVD

Kath Grove was a lady who led 'Walk and Talk' tours around Cleobury Mortimer, telling tales of the rich local history. She had a great knowledge, including the death of Bishop Leofgard fighting the Welsh in the Battle of Clarvers Hill. She recorded a video that Roy Rogers has produced as a DVD that will be on sale in November.
 Roy is on 01299 271418 or 07931 643 360

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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

Last month children across the Ludlow Constituency returned to school. In all of our primary schools children began their reading lessons. Key to underpinning educational performance is the ability to read. It's troubling that one in seven children aged 8-16 rarely or never read outside of school. That's why I am pleased with the emphasis being given to the latest campaign to support improved reading skills: Read On. Get On.

Good literacy skills provide the foundation on which children can build a great education. We must raise standards to ensure every child leaves primary school with a good grasp of literacy, and hopefully a love of reading.

Our literary tradition means British children have access to some of the world's best children's books. From modern novels like JK Rowling's Harry Potter, to classics from authors like CS Lewis or JRR Tolkien, there is a wealth of books available for children to read. My former involvement in bookselling may colour my opinion, but I truly believe there is a book out there for every child that can kick start a lifelong passion for reading.

I am determined more primary school pupils in South Shropshire become confident readers and are given the opportunity to experience the enjoyment and enrichment that comes from the world of books. Progress is already being made, with a record number of children - 89 per cent of children nationally - reaching the expected standard of reading at age 11 (key stage 2).

A phonics screening check was introduced during the last Parliament at age six. Phonics focuses on sounds rather than children having to

recognise whole words. This methodology helps teachers identify children struggling with reading, and gives them the help they need before it is too late. The first three years of the check have enabled teachers to identify nearly 568,000 six-year-olds who needed extra support.

The new national curriculum is setting high expectations for every age group. New exams place a greater focus on grammar, spelling and punctuation, with a new test for 11-year-olds and a strengthened requirement in GCSEs to use accurate spelling and punctuation.

For those schools who are struggling, there is extra support through a new programme to support up to 200 primary schools across the country, where reading attainment at key stage 2 is currently low. This includes help to set up book clubs and promote library membership, to inspire thousands more pupils to develop a love of literature.

It's also important to make sure children who may have struggled in primary school continue to be supported. So we have introduced a catch-up premium of £500 per pupil for secondary schools with year seven pupils who have not achieved level four at key stage two in reading. This enables secondary schools to deliver additional support, such as individual tuition or intensive support in small groups, for those pupils that most need it.

This commitment to improving child literacy rates reflects our ambition to ensure every child has the best possible start in life. I hope parents locally will support our plan and encourage their children to pick up a book and enjoy reading.

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The October Clarion Social Calendar

Date	Date	Details	Contact	Telephone
Thurs 1st	10.30	Rock path finders meet at Burlish Top Car park, Stourport for a social walk out. DY14 8NA or Ordinance Survey Ref:806736		
Sat 3rd	8.00	Sale of household goods at Knowle Sports Ground, Clee Hill. Great Bargains.	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
	10.00	Horticulture Society Plant Sale in the Market Hall.	PAGE 25	
	11.00	Autumn Fayre at Kinlet Primary School.	PAGE 7	
Mon 5th		Bookings for the Community Care Service changes today	PAGE 7	
	7.00	Parish Council Meeting in the Market Hall	Matt Sheehan	CM 271154
	7.30	Bewdley W.I Meet at St George's Hall.	PAGE 19	
Wed 7th	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall, where there's a very good car park.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Fri 9th		Bewdley Festival gets underway to begin ten days of great entertainment	PAGE 19	
	7.00	Promises Auction at Stottesdon Primary School. Lots of goodies on offer	PAGE 7	
	8.00	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall.		
Tue 13th	7.30	Cleobury W.I Meet in the Market Hall for their AGM	PAGE 9	
Wed 14th	7.30	Neen Savage W.I meet at the Village Hall to hear Jane Cullen talk about her change of direction from teaching to apple juicing		
	8.00	The Royal British Legion branch meet at The Bell Inn, Lower St.	David Taylor	CM 270793
Thurs 15th	10.30	Rock path finders gather at the Colliers Arms, Rock for their second walk of the month. DY14 9HA or OS Ref.752722		
	7.45	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 16th	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall, see October 7th above		
Fri/Sat 16th&17th	7.00	Supper at Neen Sollars Victory Hall, followed by an Olde Tyme Music Hall at 8.15. Tickets £10 to include supper. Licensed barr too.	Trevor	CM 272666

All book lovers and Library users have an opportunity to see and hear what the future plans for the town's Library are. It's the final day of the public consultation, the options will be outlined and the public will be able to ask questions.

In the Library, starting at 7.30 on Wednesday the 7th. This is a precious facility that serves all ages and tastes. Please show your support by giving a little of your time.



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The October Social Calendar Continued

Sat 17th	7.30	Flicks in the Sticks is back in the Parish Hall with 'Woman in Gold'		
Mon 19th		Road works start on Station Road, between Mill Poll and the B4363 junction, lasting up to two weeks.		
Tue 20th		Training Session for the new CoCO volunteers in the Market Hall, PAGE 19	Katy	CM 270018
	6.00-7.30	Free PSA Tests at Kidderminster Town Hall: use the Corn Exchange entrance. Sensible measure for men over 50, to detect signs of prostate cancer.		
Wed 21st	7.30	The History Societ meet at Need Savage Village Hall to learn more about Dr Thomas Pope of Cleobury Mortimer		PAGE 17
	7.30	Stottesdon W.I meet at Chorley Village hall too hear Katja Ward talk about ' Compassionate Communities'		
	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall, see October 7th above		
Fri 23rd		The Cleobury Concert Brass annual concert is this evening.	David Taylor	CM 270793
Sat 24th	8.00	Dance the night away at Cleeton St Mary village hall to the sound of Richie Jones. £5.00 on the door.		
Mon 26th		Road Closure B4363 from Station Road to Papermill Cottages Turning will last two to three weeks; diversion up the hill and left at the Mawley Turn		
	7.30	Cleobury Bowls Club AGM, in the club house		PAGE 19
Tue 27h		Children's Day at Cleobury Dental Practice, emphasis on fun but good habits message within.		CM 271747
Wed 28th		Clows Top Gardening Club gather at Victory Hall to listen to Derek Walker		PAGE 13
Fri 30th	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall, see October 7th above		
AND LOOKING FORWARD TO NOVEMBER....				
Sun 1st		Special remembrance service for those who have lost a loved on in the past two years.		PAGE 7
Wed 4th	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall, where there's a very good car park.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874

FREE PSA TESTS

From 6.00 to 7.30 on Tuesday evening the 20th, there will be free blood tests available at Kidderminster Town Hall. This is the standard test for prostate cancer, the most common form of the disease in men over 50 and one that can be cured if it is diagnosed early. It could be a life saver to have this simple test

Cleobury Mortimer WI will be holding a Winter Warmer Lunch on Thursday November 5th, in the Market Hall, from 12.00 - 2.00pm. There will be a selection of homemade soups, fresh bread, homemade puddings, followed by tea and coffee.

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DODDINGTON
Detached bungalow requiring some updating and modernisation, located in an elevated position with uninterrupted views over the surrounding countryside. Accommodation consisting of three bedrooms, conservatory, lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Set on a generous plot with mature gardens surrounding, including lawned areas, outbuildings and tarmaced driveway. Further area of land to the rear amounting to just over a third of an acre. Energy Rating G.

Guide Price £200,000
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NEEN SOLLARS
Detached character property set in approximately 2.38 acres of formal gardens and woodland area with picturesque trout stream. Accommodation includes: open plan lounge/dining room, study, family room, large breakfast kitchen, master bedroom with ensuite and dressing room, three further bedrooms and family bathroom. Energy Rating D.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

TO THE TRIBUNAL

A long running dispute between the Parish Council, who have ultimate responsibility for the Parish Hall, and a resident who owns the old library building next door to the hall, was taken before a tribunal on September 10th and 11th. Held in central Birmingham before a judge, it was attended by a number of witnesses and the disputing parties, Mr Leigh as the owner of the old library and clerk Matt Sheehan for the council.

The judge explained that the matter to be settled was whether access to the hall through the side gate had been established over the past 20 years. Mr Leigh acted for himself and the council was represented by a barrister briefed by the insurance company involved. After some preliminary discussion, during which the judge gave Mr Leigh sympathetic guidance and both sides expressed their views, witnesses were called, to be questioned by both sides.

The council had a number to call on, Mrs Zilla Pain explaining that she had known the hall since 1946 and that access to the back of the hall was through the side gate. Several more witnesses gave similar testimony, stretching over the later years. Donald Griffiths, who was chairman of the council at one time and later a member of the Parish Hall management committee, gave evidence but could not quote precise dates in the absence through illness of his wife, who was secretary to the committee. Mr Leigh questioned each of the council's witnesses, seeming to concentrate on the notice board that was on the library ground,

and the access to it by each witness; there did not appear to be a reason for this and it was not brought out in Mr Leigh's summing up.

Mr Leigh called two witnesses, the first a Mrs Blake, who moved away from the town in the 1960s. She described the hall layout as having the bar near the front door and the toilets just behind; this is not a layout any other witness or person present recognised, but it went unchallenged. Mr Leigh's daughter also appeared, but offered no statement after giving her name, address and date of birth.

The judge called an end to the day's proceedings at about 4.15, thanking the witnesses for their attendance and explaining that only the principals to the dispute needed to attend the following day. At the time of going to press, no decision had been made public.

We hope to report that in the November issue.

SHANNON



Shannon Smith (centre) leaps to make a return in the final.

Firstly can I say a big "thank you" to everyone who supported me during the School Games whether by watching on

the live stream, travelling up to watch in person or the kind messages of support. Well we did it, England Junior Girls came second in the Girls' competition, after entering the final undefeated our only loss was against the winning team Scotland West. This result was even better as England Junior Boys also won the Boys' competition leaving England Juniors as Champions overall. It was an amazing three days, living in an athletes' village, having to complete media interviews and being mentored by Olympic athletes. It is something I will never forget.

As to the future – I continue to play in the National Volleyball League and have been selected for Cleobury's 1st Ladies team. Looking forward, I hope to be offered more opportunities to represent England at national and international level. Let the training commence!

THE SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOE BOXES

There is a big heap of gaily covered shoe boxes in St Mary's Church, just waiting to be filled with toys and goods for needy children in the Third World. Please would you be one of the many people who are kind enough to take one, or more, and a leaflet which tells you all you need to know about what you can put in the box. This is only a suggestion, just to give you an idea.

Please can I have the filled boxes back in St Mary's by Remembrance Sunday, November 8th. Thank you on behalf of the children.

Jenny Vanderhook.

Tel: 01299 841379

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Farming - Jenny Everingham muses on life

All summer this old house has been full of children. It has been lovely, manic, noisy, and like catering for an army! The littlest one has been working hard on her walking and is now devoted to her wellies having discovered the delights of splashing in puddles! She is a persistent climber and, as my 'lightning reactions' have now slowed to the pace of a snail's, I've had some spectacular blood-pressure spikes, but there have been no broken bones! Three teenage boys camped in the orchard one night, and were unperturbed by a thunderstorm, but found the wildlife too noisy, and finished the night on the sitting-room floor.

Running through it all has been that very special relationship between grandfather and four-year-old grandson. They have walked miles checking the stock each day, discovering all manner of 'treasures', most of which are now in the vicinity of my back door! It's hard to just throw them away – the bent horseshoe, sticks, stones, bits of wire, old bones buried by long-dead dogs... There's no denying how lucky these children are to have access to such experiences. I often feel

our visitors relish just being given permission (expected, even!) to get wet and dirty. A century ago many urban children of my mother's generation had, like her, relatives who still had an agricultural life, and they relished memories of the summers they spent on family farms long into old age. I fear this web is more threadbare now.

So, it's all gone very quiet. You could almost hear the walls exhaling as September sneaked in. We are well into autumn now, and I really love the fresh feel of the sunny mornings with a golden tinge to the light. The spring-sown barley has been harvested and the wheat and beans are waiting for the next few dry days. The stubble fields are temporarily dotted with straw bales, and their shadows are lengthening as the leaves begin to turn. First are always the elder in the hedgerows – they are already a deep wine-red. Thoughts turn to log fires and frosty mornings, so let's just hold those images, and for now forget the other side of the coin.

Jenny Everingham



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Clarion Coppers with CPSO Nick Morris



There were two shed burglaries in Lincoln Fields, Billingsley, overnight on August 19th/20th. Two mountain bikes and power tools were stolen from one and tools from the other. Sometime between 3.00pm on August 25th and 7.00pm the next day, a mountain bike which was one of three secured to a cycle carrier on the roof of a parked vehicle in Lower Inhedge was stolen.

At approximately 9.00pm on August 27th the Fire Brigade was called to Langland Road where six metres of hedge was on fire. It was stated that the fire was started deliberately, as were three others earlier in the month. Between 6.00pm on September 4th and 7.30pm the next day, a wheel was stolen from a Renault Kangoo van which was parked at The Old Vicarage Activity Centre in Stottesdon. During the weekend of September 4th/6th, a workshop in Bagginswood was broken into and power tools stolen. Overnight on September 6th/7th, at a farm in Rock, two mountain bikes were stolen. They had been insecure, but the location is fairly remote and not visible from the road. During the late afternoon of September 12th the rear nearside quarter light of an unattended securely parked car at Earnwood Copse car park in Button

Oak was smashed. A white ladies' jacket was stolen.

Be aware that there have been many bicycles stolen recently in the West Mercia Police area. Even secure buildings have been targeted in order to steal bikes.

One theft of three bikes occurred recently near Bridgnorth where thieves approached a detached garage at a property hidden from the main road. They removed roof tiles and broke wooden roof laths to gain entry and then opened the door to exit with the bikes. Power tools were not taken, so it seems that there are thieves who are getting information of where high value bikes are kept. Anyone concerned about keeping their bikes safe should consider fitting an alarm, and a sensor alarm fitted at the entrance to a driveway could help in certain locations.

There has been a report of someone flying a paraglider very close to houses just outside Cleobury. The person reporting it said that it came so close to his house that it seemed to be out of control, and there was a genuine concern for the pilot's safety, especially if it flew close to overhead power lines. If any reader is aware of a paraglider pilot who has been flying locally, we'd like to contact him/her to ensure competency and that they pose no danger to themselves or others.



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During the last school year we paid particular attention to improving punctuation and grammar skills in writing during our literacy classes across the school, which resulted in a marked improvement in our Key Stage 1 and 2 SATS at the end of the year. To further support this, this year we are also focussing on creativity in writing.

To help bring creative writing skills to life, we have children's author, Ian Billings coming into school to share some of his ideas and writing strategies with children across the whole school. His shows are reported to be "giggle riddled" and imaginative and we are sure that having a real author in school will inspire our children's enthusiasm to write.

He will be particularly focussing on our Key Stage 2 children, who will be working with him to put on a production to entertain the rest of the school at the end of the day.



Ian Billings is an author, comic and poet and is known internationally. He writes scripts for popular CBBC television shows such as Chucklevision and his books include "Sam Hawkins, Private Detective, and the Case of the Cutglass Cutlass".

Moving forward, on Thursday 8th October, we are having an open morning in school, whereby prospective families looking for places for children starting school in September 2016 will be welcome to come and see the school in action!

We currently have places available in our year 2 and 5 classes. For further details about our school, contact the office on 01299 832393. Alternatively, visit our website at www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk

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Sat 31st October - **RUGBY WORLD CUP FINAL** 3pm onwards - Followed by **WKD HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Saturday 14th November - **COVER GIRLS** - 1940's Musical Entertainment Night
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NOTICE OF EVENT CANCELLATION

It is with regret that CRUVO has to announce
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We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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Linda Iles

October In The Wyre Forest



I hope many of you took the opportunity to look at the exhibition about the Wyre Forest at Bewdley Museum during the summer holidays. The 'tree' where visitors could write down what they liked best about the forest yielded some interesting results. "Climbing trees and feeding the fish" sounds quite a challenge and I'm sorry that Brooke, who "likes giraffes" will be disappointed, but I'm sure looking for fairies and hiding from dinosaurs is time well spent! Otherwise there were lots of votes for the kind of things you would expect: trees, nature, walks, bike rides. On the wildlife front owls and other birds, butterflies and bugs had plenty of votes while deer, spiders, frogs, squirrels and lizards each had a small but loyal following. Go Ape was top of the activities provided at the Forestry Commission's Callow Hill site but there were many mentions of the playground and the Gruffalo/Superworm trails. What I found most gratifying was the large number of children who loved to go to the forest just to run and play, explore, climb trees, kick leaves and build dens (and even "learn about nature" – hurrah!)

On Saturday October 24th visitors to the forest can do all these things but also have an exciting day at the Wyre Forest Fayre at the Discovery Centre, Callow Hill from 10.00 to 4.00. There will be guided walks and activities, a variety of local and traditional producers and craftspeople from in and

around the Wyre Forest. You can browse stalls, taste freshly pressed apple juice, try your hand at green wood working, watch some chainsaw carving, get involved in bushcraft and plenty more to keep the whole family happy. You can also bring your own bike and see some of the beautiful sights of the Wyre Forest on a guided ride with Step-Out, home of fantastic outdoor experiences! Wyre Community Land Trust will be bringing along some livestock. Come and say hello to the pigs (Peppa and George, surprisingly) - you can see some of their cattle grazing in meadows in and around the Wyre. Details can be found on www.wflp.org.uk

This is the time of year to see a good variety of fungi: the forest's recyclers. I've already seen a surprising number in my lawn, which must be rich in the mycelium (the vegetative structure, if that helps) of various species which produce the fruiting bodies above ground when conditions are right. A good crop of chunky, tasty-looking mushrooms (possibly milk caps) were largely munched by slugs even before the lawn mower got them! I'm extra cautious and never eat wild fungi because I can't trust my own identifications.

Make sure you enjoy the season.

Linda Iles

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On The Buses - The Saga Continues

I mentioned last month that we had been told the new timetable was little different apart from the departure point from Kidderminster changing. Naturally this was wrong and there have been a fair few changes which amongst other things stretch the interval between most buses out to two hours. This results in one less service to Ludlow although there is an extra late service in the other direction. However, closer examination shows that this appears to have been done solely to provide a regular half hourly (!) service through Bewdley and Kiddy. Yet again we appear to be the poor relation despite paying most of the subsidy. Perhaps it's because we don't live near County Hall...

None of the timetables on the bus stops have been changed (although we have taped the new times on those in Cleobury) and the Ludlow departure point in Corve Street still has no reference to the 2L. However, the new timetables were supplied as promised and are now stocked as mentioned last month, so thank you Andy from Diamond for that. At least one driver has also been handing out timetables. It's just a shame that they were the old ones...

There have been a number of incidents resulting in either late or non existent buses. One service failed to run as

the bus badged up for the 2L had been taken by another driver and used for a different route. Cue a 45 minute wait until another could be found. The 16.25 service bringing students back from Ludlow has failed to run on several occasions leaving passengers to wait in the rain for an hour and a half. Perhaps this is considered character building. The 12.40 departure from Kidderminster on September 11th also failed to run and the driver of the next service said that the previous driver was on holiday and that no replacement had been arranged. This was also the day of the Ludlow Food Fair so there was greater than usual demand and the later service was full to say the least. Several ladies were waiting for the missing bus and were wrongly told that there were no more 2L services that day. There was no way for them to check this due to the lack of info on the bus stop (see above) so in desperation they clubbed together and took a taxi all the way back to Bewdley!

Even if the bus does appear, your problems may not be over. At least one driver is playing a new game called 'Ignore the passengers.' This involves driving straight past the group frantically waving at the bus stop and must be quite amusing if you are not one of that group. Still, this

month has added several more reasons for failure to the long list already experienced, which now includes breakdown, running out of fuel, water leaks, no wipers, using the school day timetable on a Saturday, getting lost, catching fire, being hijacked, driver on holiday, driver but no bus, bus but no driver, failing to stop. Any further examples gratefully received.

You can always complain, but one person who did get cut off and despite immediately dialling back, found there was no answer. They then dialled again using the code which withholds the callers number and got answered straight away. Obviously a coincidence.

There is a new Director at Diamond to whom a number of complaints have been forwarded and he says he has been to the Kidderminster Depot dealing out death and destruction, resulting in several disciplinary cases. We shall see if this has any effect.

Steve Todd

SILLY BITS

- 1: How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.**
- 2: I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.**
- 3: I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.**
- 4: Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.**
- 5: A girl said she recognised me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never seen herbivore.**
- 6: What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus**

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion's Annual Harvest Auction was held at The Bell Inn and the grand sum of £1083-00 was raised for local welfare.

We would like to thank all that donated gifts and produce and all those who bought it, helping us to raise such a large amount. We would also like to thank the Bell Inn for being our host for the evening.

The annual concert will be held on Friday 23rd October, at 7.30 in the Parish Hall. Admission by ticket only (£10 which includes Fish 'n' Chip supper) available from the Bookshop, Ron Breakwell and Legion Members. There will also be a RBL information stand at the Farmers Market.

THE READING GROUP

The Hare with Amber Eyes by Edmund de Waal is a fascinating story about a collection of Netsukes, their owners, origins and travels. Covering a wide period of modern history it is a well-researched work and appealed to our entire group. It has a slow start but soon draws you in to the absorbing tale. We recommend.

This month we meet on Monday, October 16th to discuss Somewhere Towards the End by Diana Athill, which is available at the library if you wish to join us.

Deana Kimber 271754

YOUR OLD FILMS

Flicks in the Sticks is putting out a call out for people to hunt for any home made films or videos they may have of local events, from around 1930 to 1975. Launching The Bigger Picture Archive Project which was awarded a £10,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant, Flicks in the Sticks is hoping to unearth film of local life and community events and celebrations such as commemorations, fairs, or important visits that might otherwise be forgotten.

With the changing face of rural communities, this project aims to preserve some of the history, customs and events within living memory and to connect them with the present day communities. In the first instance The Bigger Picture Archive will be focussing on Cleobury Mortimer and Bishops Castle in Shropshire and anyone who has any film footage taken in the these areas, which they think may be of interest, should contact The Bigger Picture

Archive at biggerpicture@artsalive.co.uk or call Eliz-anne Williams on 0779 6687134.

The Bigger Picture Archive will build an online 'memory map' of digitised archive footage where people can view the films, leave comments and share their own memories about their community.

Ian Kerry, Director of Flicks, said: 'We are thrilled to have been awarded funding to set up The Bigger Picture Archive. This project gives us the opportunity to work more closely with the communities where we normally take the Flicks in the Sticks programme – this time it will be the other way round and will be interesting to see the films that people bring forward'

MOFFATS OPEN

MORNING

Moffats School are holding an Open Morning from 9.30 to 12.30 on Friday the 2nd of this month. Tours will be conducted by senior pupils of the school.

The school advise that they do have a limited number of places at Little Moffats. for children from the age of three up to seven years. More details on the morning, or you can call 01299 841230



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On The Market - Lickhill Lamb

You need a sense of humour when you deal with the public. So when a customer visiting Lickhill Lamb at Lickhill Farm in Stourport asked if the meat was local, Kay Carpenter assured them that it couldn't be any more so. She, husband Sean and their family live on the farm, rear the animals and sell much of the meat on the premises. And you'll find Kay at Cleobury's Farmers Market each month.

They are fussy about animals, and breed South Devonshires for beef and either Jacobs, Suffolk Cross or Texel Cross for lamb. All of them pedigree breeds. They use the nearest abattoir that can butcher the meat to their requirements, in this case at Chase Terrace in Staffordshire, 39 miles away.

They're registered with the Farm Assured Red Tractor agency, which is Government run and inspects the premises and their methods every year. And all of their meat is either sold directly from the farm or one of three local markets they support: Bewdley, Chaddesley Corbett or Cleobury Mortimer. They'll also sell at big annual events, but the three markets are their regular places. That's normally Kay's job and her ready smile and frank way of talking wins the Lickhill brands lots of friends.



This is how Kay Carpenter wins friends - she smiles a lot.

They do not supply any big outlets and proudly talk of the day Marks and Spencer approached them at an agricultural show and got a polite "No thanks" in reply.

"People can ask for a particular cut and I want to do it," explains Sean. "In a supermarket you have what's in the packet." Their prices were based on three big stores from the beginning, so you know it's competitive. And their meat is hung for 28 days, so it's at its prime when you buy it. They've had a request for some to be hung for 35 days, and if it's a whole side of lamb, they'll do it with pleasure. "There's nothing we can't do," says Sean.

Farming 104 acres of fine Worcestershire countryside and tending herds of animals is a seven days a week job. But Kay fits in three days a week as a teacher on top of that, and they are clearly happy being around animals, proudly showing off a one day old calf.



Just one day old, the latest addition to the cattle herd.

So is this the best way to make farming pay? "Probably, yes. Once you sell a farm it's lost forever," Sean explains. Then they showed me the oldest barn, with timber dating from Henry the Eighth's days. They are clearly in this business to stay.

See Kay at the market this month, or you can call them on 01299 829589, 07771 511 445 or 07770 402 970. Busy people, with beef, lamb or pork to please any family this Christmas. And most definitely local.

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Star of the Small Ads - Nail The Perfect 10

Karen Kearney used to have her nails done regularly, part of keeping up her smart appearance as a business woman. Then she decided to try doing the work herself, to fit in with her working hours, and soon she had friends and family asking her to take a look at theirs. The next move you can guess - she decided to look into training as a professional.

Her choice was leading American manufacturer CND Shellac, who have a host of Best New Product awards. There was a lot of learning to do, from common nail problems through to the precise process that is a quality nail job. At a three-day seminar she had to pass an exam on her knowledge and then another on the practical side.

The CND system takes about 45 minutes to get dazzling nails. It starts with an examination, then shaping and manicure before the base coat goes on, followed by the colour, any special decoration like a design and finally the top coat. If the customer wants an additional

strengthening coat, that's available too.

Karen had trouble with her nails, cured with a strengthening gel coat, so she's sympathetic to anyone with a similar problem. CND's huge range of colours to suit most tastes, but she can blend them for an individual choice; that goes on the client record so it can be repeated in the future. Part of her training was how to extend or repair a broken nail, to give an even appearance across the hand.

This transformation of a plain set of nails into what is almost a work of art will last two weeks with normal care, at which time the normal growth of the nail will be begin to show at the root. Removing the decoration is a matter of ten minutes with the special remover wrap, then you can have a change of colour and design or repeat the success that you've just had.

And it's not just fingernails. Pedicures are available to complete the picture, perhaps to complement that new outfit.



Karen in her salon. It's neat, welcoming and efficient.

This treatment is available as a mobile service, or in Karen's own salon, set in wonderful Worcestershire countryside. With the party season drawing near she's going to be busy, so booking an appointment soon makes sense. Whether it's a lady deciding to make a change to her appearance or a partner deciding to pamper her with a very special nail decoration, a little bit of Christmas sparkle and glamour has an obvious appeal. Karen can certainly make a glamorous difference.

The Clarion is on the Web, from the 4th of every month, including all the adverts:

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IN BUSINESS: Lulu at Animal Au Pair

A little over a year ago Lulu was working full time in an office. Fine, but she wanted to feel fresh air on her face and have different demands every day. She and partner Dave were on their way north for the weekend, their dogs Daisy and Lily boarded until they got back. "I said to Dave 'You need people you can trust to leave your pets with,'" she remembers. It was her Eureka moment.

"The morning after this ball we'd been to, I sat down and wrote out a business plan," she remembers. "I got trained in pet care and was CRB checked. And I'm a qualified Canine First Responder and a member of the National Association of Registered Pet Sitters."

At first she built up the business with Dave's support when she was at work, then in September she took the big plunge and went full time self employed with Animal Au Pair.

It's quite a complex business, looking after other people's pets, but she's a thorough and experienced organiser. "I'm fully insured, including for pets in transit in my car. Every dog is walked on the lead and I have a written authority to take them to the vet's, with a spending limit if necessary."



Lulu, out in the fresh air, where she likes to exercise dogs.

It's not just dogs that she looks after. Add cats, guinea pigs and in one particular change from the normal, a bearded dragon that she had to feed with live locusts. When she says that she's flexible so that she can meet any reasonable demand, you can believe it. Normal work is calling in to look after a pet's needs, saying 'Hello' and giving them a stroke before feeding and giving medication if the pet is on a regular dosage.

She follows the owner's established routine when feeding and carries protective

gear to prevent the accidental transfer of any germ trace. That's typical of her careful approach, which sees her taking the Animal Au Pair stickers off her car when she's calling; they could be a clue to an observer with less than honest intent that the owner of the house is away. For the same reason she doesn't wear the business name on her clothes; to the casual observer she's just another caller.

Her walking plan reflects the same careful thought. She won't walk dogs in groups or on the road; if necessary she'll take them by car to open country and the natural freedom it provides. If an owner says no to that she'll do as they ask - that flexible approach again. Each dog gets at least a 20 minute walk.

She's off to a flying start in her first year, with bookings already in for 2016. Future plans? "I'll be looking at nutrition. Dogs do have allergies and I've had great help from Severn Edge with that." A diet plan for your pet? If it means better health, don't dismiss the idea.

For someone who's been in this business for one part-time year, Lulu has a very clear idea of what the customer and the pet needs. She listens and makes friends with people and pets.

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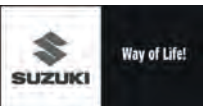
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE BORDERS CLASSIC BIKE SHOW

When you invite motorcyclists to ride across country to a show, you need good weather. The first morning was dismal and wet, but Sunday was a bright day and a big crowd found a record 102 classics on show, food that has made the show famous and a fire-up of the noisiest machines in memory of Valerie Reynolds. The fruitiest sound came from Stuart Shannon's 500cc Seeley.

Guest of honour Les Trotter was a real asset, with a display of his racing history on the stage and some good tales to tell in the interviews. He'd driven down from Barrow in Furness to support the event.

There will be a full report next month, but it should go on record that the Visitors' Choice vote went to Graham Horne's 650cc BSA dressed to look like a Triumph; it puzzled as many as it pleased.

The show raises money for the Lacon Childe PTA and when all the pennies were counted, there was a profit of £4,500. £500 of that will go to Macmillan Cancer Care.

Grateful thanks to all who worked or supported the show, including Mawley Milk, Katerfresh and Ashley's Bakery, who really put themselves out to keep the busy kitchen supplied with the essentials of life. People were smiling when they left and asking next year's date.

POSTMAN PAUL

Paul has taken early retirement from the Post Office, because of ill health. A really popular figure around Cleobury Mortimer, he was liked by everyone, particularly the dogs for whom he always had a little biscuit.

Why the Post Office moved him to Kidderminster no one understands, but he wasn't happy there and deteriorating health didn't help his situation.

The final words go to a friend of the family: 'He was a postie for 23 years. I'm sure I speak for all that come rain snow Paul was always smiling and had time to say hello. I would like to wish him and family all the best.'

Jane Martin

For Sale - The Editorial VW Golf TDi



It's been in the family since 2011 and was my wife's car, which she took great care of.

A great VW enthusiast, she said this was the best she'd ever owned, bought with 84,000 on the clock and now showing 115,000. It has been serviced by Ray Attwood of Stourport and comes with air conditioning, radio and single

CD player as part of the standard specification. The upholstery is in dark grey, the body paintwork black and showing some of the minor scratches that supermarket car parks seem to produce.

It's a delight to drive, the 1.9 litre turbo diesel pulling smoothly from low revs and shrugging off Shropshire's hills with ease. It has a manual five speed gearbox that lives up to VW's reputation for quality. If you need to get a move on, it's an easy Motorway cruiser.

I did a fuel check recently. Never mind what the official claims are, this was starting with a full tank, covering 685 miles of varied driving, from the local run delivering the

Clarion to our distributors, to a journey up the M6 to Barrow in Furness, getting back from there in less than three and a half hours. It had one top-up along the way and then the tank filled again. The result was 56.7 miles to the gallon; I was amazed.

A solid little car that will hold five people, though you wouldn't get three big ones in the back without them holding their breath

. Easy loading through the hatchback and a feeling of quality all round. No wonder they sell so many of these.

I'm looking for £2,700 or a sensible near offer. Talk to me on CM 270642 or email editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk

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BURFORD

An immaculately presented detached property with four bedrooms, two ensembles and three reception rooms. Approached via electric iron gates, the property sits on a generous plot with a detached self-contained annex to the rear. Energy Rating C.
£475,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



BURFORD

Burford Cottage is a wonderful detached period cottage having been improved and extended by the current owners who have created a spacious and comfortable country home. The property is set over two floors and includes a living room, separate sitting room, dining room, fitted dining kitchen with utility, four bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite shower room. Detached double garage and landscape gardens. Energy Rating E.
£425,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



STOCKTON

An impressive hop kiln conversion set in a courtyard location in Stockton; 8 miles from Tenbury Wells. With accommodation including: lounge, kitchen, 4 bedrooms (two with ensuite), family bathroom, snug, utility room and garage. Energy Rating C
£449,500

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



THORNBURY, NR BROMYARD

In a rural setting, a delightful period Grade II listed detached former farmhouse with large outbuilding set in 1.85 acres of grounds. Having accommodation of bespoke breakfast kitchen with Aga, three reception rooms, large utility room, second kitchen, cellar, five bedrooms, two bathrooms, ensuite bathroom and two further WCs. With superior far reaching countryside views, extensive parking, landscaped gardens and summerhouse. Viewing highly recommended. EPC Exempt.
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