

# The Cleobury Clarion



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**October 2017**

## SAD TIMES AT MAWLEY HALL

So the bank is in charge at Mawley Hall and the Galliers-Pratt family, long time owners of that fine building that overlooks the town, are living temporarily in Devonshire.

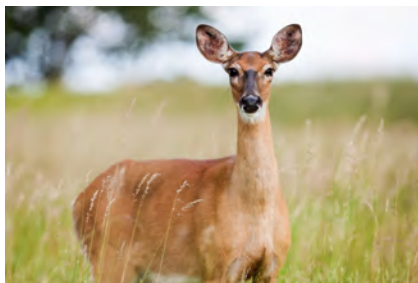
We understand that they have offered the bank an immediate payment that would recoup all the money loaned, plus a "significant amount of interest." They have also proposed that the fees and default interest be paid when their damages claim against Forsters LLP is settled, providing it is. The bank have rejected this offer and are moving to put Mawley Hall up for sale. No advertisement has appeared in Country Life magazine at the time of writing.

There is a further litigation hearing due on January 31st next year. Whether that is successful and the Galliers-Pratts will then be able to live at Mawley once more remains to be seen. We do not know full details of the litigation, so offer no comment on these pages. JR

## CARE, PLEASE

Autumn is a lovely time of year, when the countryside is at its mellow best and the colours deepen before the leaves start to fall. It's also a time to be extra careful on the local roads, particularly those through the Wyre Forest and other wooded areas.

Because this is the rutting season, when the local deer move along ancient paths that were there long before we laid roads through the country. They are following an inbuilt habit that doesn't recognise our ideas of safe road crossing. A stag in pursuit of his lady has other things on his mind.



So do please take extra care when driving through. You won't want to hit any animal, and I can tell you from personal experience that a deer will do

your car no good at all. Not to mention possible injury to your passengers, human or canine.

If you should hit a deer, there are people you can contact to get help. We picked these up thanks to the Kinlet Newsletter: Ed Brown on 07860 570080 or 01299 266777 or Phil Rudlin on 07711 239428 or 01299 266302.

## SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES

The Parish Church no longer produces the 'Unity' magazine it had shared with other churches in the area. for many years. Sarah Wilde edited two copies as a temporary measure, but no volunteer came forward to take on the job long term.

The Clarion has agreed to publish details of special services in the Parish Church to give wider publicity than verbal or written messages during Sunday gatherings. We do not have room to list all services, but do feel that special occasions should be made known to the general public, so will gladly find room to let you know when a notable event is planned.

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# The Cleobury Clarion, October 2017

Volume Fifteen - Edition Seven



*This lady got a standing ovation for real determination at Willowdene - Page 11.*



*New face in charge at Bayton C of E School. See Page 29*






*Man and dog working as a team. Food for Thought. See Page 45*

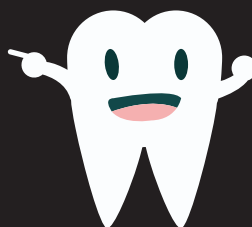
## And On Other Pages....

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## THANK YOU

Ken and Dot Mullard celebrated their Golden Wedding at Wharton Park Country Club on September 9th with family and friends. We would like to thank everyone for their cards, presents and donations to Chemotherapy Day Centre, Shrewsbury

*Ken and Dot*

## LOW LIFE AT WORK

**It's so sad that we have this message to publish. How low can those who steal cash go?**

Would you mention in the next Clarion that our Severn Hospice Shop Collection Box was stolen on Friday morning 8th September. Our volunteers were busy at work changing the stock in the shop so we didn't notice it was missing until the change over took place at 1.00 pm. If any one finds the discarded box, please let us have it back so we can inform the Police.

*Gayna Woodland*

## ATTENTION ALL SMARTWATER USERS

The telephone number for SmartWater has changed. This will impact those residents who move house and need to notify SmartWater of a change of address by telephone. Could

you please put a note in the next Clarion to let everyone know?

The new telephone number for SmartWater is 0333 320 7797.

To change your address online, please visit the website [www.smartwater.com/contacts](http://www.smartwater.com/contacts), scroll down to the enquiry form and select the option 'Update my address details' from the drop down menu. Complete the form as required and submit; your details will then be updated on their database.

*Dorothy McBride*

## CAR BOOT AT THE COCKS

There's a charity car boot sale at The Fighting Cocks in Stottesdon on Sunday the 8th this month. All car spaces have to be pre-booked on 01746 7 1 8 2 7 0 or [www.fightingcocks.co.uk](http://www.fightingcocks.co.uk); there will be no entry for cars without booking. Site cost is £7.00 a car.

It opens at 8.00 and runs through until 11.00 in the morning, with all proceeds going to charity.

## 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 to 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 our August Summer Show, the results were as follows; -

Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Cups won by T. Bore, R. Evans, J. Griffiths & J. Williams

Cookery Cup won by J. Williams

Handicraft Cup won by S. Carseledge

Floral Art Cup won by Marion Wilson

Children's Shields won by D. Williams & T. Williams

The Club would like to say 'Thank you' to all helpers and exhibitors because without you there would be no show.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 25th and the speaker for the evening will be Brian Draper on The Severn Way.

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## THE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

It's that time of year again, the start of Christmas really. Can I ask you to fill a shoebox, or maybe two - one for a girl, one for a boy? Could you do that?

Covered shoe boxes will be in Saint Mary's church and the Parish Hall, together with leaflets to give you an idea as to what to put in your boxes; there are also elastic bands to close them.

Remember, these are very special boxes, the only gifts the children who receive them will ever have, if you can imagine that. I have been abroad and helped give out shoeboxes four years running. I have seen the amazement and joy they give: "All this for me!" It's not something you ever forget.

Thank you on behalf of the children.

*Jenny Vanderhook*

## THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

62 people sat down to what was agreed by all to be a fabulous night of Tapas food and fun on September 1st. Many thanks to our excellent MC, Richard Smith, to Shadia for producing wonderful food, and to Ashley

and Estelle Pugh for their donation of the delicious Mediterranean breads. Also thanks to our hard working staff, Oli, Jess, Christy and especially Syd, who was invaluable help in the kitchen too. All money raised will go to the continuing enhancement of the Club premises. Many people were asking when is the next one? Watch this space!

Our band of volunteers are hard at work providing disabled access to the Club, constructing a ramp and making the building more disabled friendly. They are also working to improve the external appearance and building a retaining wall with steps up to the field to replace the damaged slabs. The Committee and Directors would like to give huge thanks to Lee Rollings and his friends for the time and effort they are giving to completing this work.

CM Rugby Club will be holding their Vice President's Day on October 14th, 12pm arrival for sit down buffet lunch at 12.30pm.

On October 27th the Club will be running a fancy dress Family Halloween Party from 6.00 to

9.00pm. There will be Halloween party games and a party bag for each child- cost £2 per child.

On November 3rd, the Club will be running a Karaoke Night- 8pm start. Come along and find the hidden singer that lurks inside us all.

For further information or if you wish to make a booking of the Club's facilities, please contact Club Steward Gemma Canty on 01299 271448 or via our Facebook page.

## OLD POUND COINS

Philip Dunne MP writes to remind us that the old round one pound coins will no longer be valid currency after October 15th:

"From midnight on Sunday 15th October, the round £1 coin ceases to be legal tender, meaning shops and businesses will not be accepting old coins and should not give them out as change. The coins will not become worthless however, and will still be able to be deposited at a customer's bank account - either business or personal - at most high streets banks and the Post Office."

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### NEEN SAVAGE W.I.

Although we didn't meet in August we held a successful Afternoon Tea in the Parish Hall at the beginning of September. This was our third event and hopefully will continue for many years to come. Over 40 people, WI friends, members of the Parish and visitors from further afield gathered to enjoy a savoury scone and choice of three desserts from a groaning table of deliciousness. The hardest thing was deciding which to try, with many taking a portion home for later. Helped by a raffle and eclectic sales table a total of £385 was raised, to be shared between Neen Savage WI funds and Ludlow Food Bank, our charity for 2017.

We met again to listen to a fascinating talk from Alison Hastie of Bewdley Willow. She and her husband purchased a small plot of land outside Bewdley, then had to decide what to do with it. They planted an acre with nine varieties of willow, which when harvested needed a purpose. Through trial and error Alison has developed her own technique for creating 3D sculptures, the hall hosted a life size deer and larger than life wicker lady. What started as a hobby has resulted in a full time

passion for Alison and I think we all went away in awe of her hard work and skill. September is the month for submitting ideas for the next national WI campaign and we are pleased member Mary Warrilow is hoping to present a resolution campaigning for greater awareness of Lipodemia – watch this space to see how it progresses.

Our next meeting is on October 11th, 7.30pm at the Parish Hall, when we will be welcoming Ailie Hill from Pricklebums Hedgehog Rescue. You may have seen Ailie and her hoggy hospital on Channel 4's Shed of the Year recently, when she won the most unexpected shed category. Visitors are welcome to come and listen, only £4 to include refreshments.

*Catherine Evans*

### THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

September saw us return to indoor meetings after several outdoors during summer. Derek Walker greeted us with a profusion of plants to show us the best way to plant up containers for now and for the Spring. It doesn't matter which way up you plant a bulb, the

shoot will always find its way to the surface.

Source your container, then fill with a good compost. Select a key plant for the centre or back and place it in the compost, followed with a selection of other plants, then push your chosen bulbs down through the compost as far as you can get them. In the Spring they will push up and you can replace any surrounding plants with something fresh. For example, replace pansies with primroses.

Along the way David explained the growing of plant plugs in various countries, that find their way to nurseries in this country. All automated and untouched by hand until checked before leaving for their final destination.

This was also the evening when our allotment holders were presented with their cups and a prize. Overall winner was Debbie Tysall and runner up Malcolm Fanner; congratulations to them both. Our next meeting is October 16th in the Methodist Hall, but before that we hope all our members will support the plant sale on October 7th in the Market Hall.



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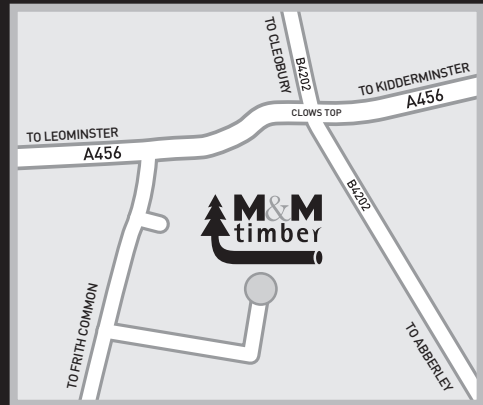
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## **WILLOWDENE MOVES EVER FORWARD**

There is this remarkable place out in Chorley, a working farm that takes in people who many would dismiss as lost, and turns their lives around. It's called Willowdene, a place very few people know about, that has been visited by Government ministers who wanted to see how these near miracles came to happen.

In September it took another step forward, by opening its Women's Recovery Centre. It was an occasion that attracted the great and the good and some very down-to-earth speakers to balance the programme. This new unit is the result of long hours raising funds, getting the place built and setting up the training the women will receive to get their lives back in order.



*Frances Crook OBE, Chief Executive of the Howard League for Penal Reform.*

Rosanna O'Connor of Public Health England couldn't make the date, but sent a video message of support and encouragement. So the first live speaker was Frances Crook OBE of the Howard League for Penal Reform. She was scathing about government plans to build more

prisons when they have so little good effect. In 2016 12 women committed suicide in prison and Frances made it clear that she sees small, working units like Willowdene across the country as the real solution. "Don't let the past dictate the future," was the telling phrase she used.

The Clarion had the chance to talk to someone who'd been through Willowdene and found a new life after 20 years of total dependence on amphetamines.

Jane Hefferman was given the chance to take a seven week course and turn her life around. The deal was that she'd work and not take drugs. "There's a daily routine of work, you have to do your job," she explained. At first she wanted to resist, but then realised that this was real help. After just seven weeks she went home and her partner had a supply of her old friend laid out on the table - she refused it and walked away.

She's been clean for four years, living with her daughter in Cardiff and getting to know her grand daughter: "My life" as she calls them. How did she get on with her daughter when she was on amphetamines? "Don't know, I can't remember," she admits.

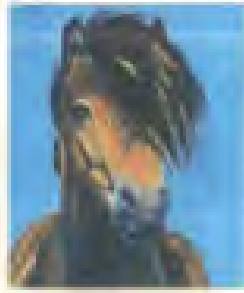
What was the greatest benefit she found in her time at Willowdene? There's no hesitation in giving the answer: "The therapy." Later in the day Jan and another lady whose name I didn't get, were talking to the audience about their experience and taking questions from the floor. They both praised the therapy they'd had. At the end, they got a standing ovation; two brave ladies.



*Jane Hefferman, four years of clean living after just seven weeks at Willowdene. When she rolls her sleeve up to show you the needle marks in her arms, you shudder.*

Another appointment meant I couldn't take in the visit to the new Women's Recovery Centre, where visitors were transported in vehicles loaned by Shukers of Ludlow, one of Willowdene's sponsors along with NFU Mutual and NatWest Bank. People who sponsor this place deserve a mention. The Centre is the product of a three-year contract from the Ministry of Justice, a sign that the amazing work being done in this quiet corner of Shropshire is being recognised.

It's owned by the Home family. John and Jenny opened their hearts and their home to people in desperate need in 1988 and since then son Matthew has joined the team to become Managing Director in 2011. He has carried that compassionate vision forward to launch the first residential alternative to prison for women in England and Wales. Here was evidence that vision actually works.



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## THE CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

Faced with a new possibility to use both selected words and open their stories with a particular phrase, or to follow only one of the options, most of those gathered in September took the more demanding route. It seems that a willingness to read a script aloud to the rest of the group has toughened members' resolve, and the atmosphere of congratulations made us smile.

We continue with the same pattern for this month's challenge. Open the writing with the phrase "The mysterious and dark..." or use the following words: rugged, scenes, reprobate, overwhelming and poppy. If you're up for a challenge, use all of them. We will hear the results on October 9th, in the Library, starting at 6.30. A friendly and welcoming atmosphere guaranteed.

## CLEOBURY W.I.

Sometimes it's good to reconnect with your roots and September's meeting did exactly that. Jam and Jerusalem is the commonly accepted strapline of the Women's Institute and promoting education and enjoyment its primary aim even

in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The meeting opened with a rousing rendition of the uplifting Hymn 'Jerusalem,' led by new member Judy Reid. This was followed by a demonstration of Lemon curd making using ultra-modern microwave technology by Gill Davies. An enjoyable evening was had by all with tasting, not only the lemon curd made into a delicious cake, but also members' own jams and marmalades – both educational and enjoyable. The AGM on October 10th will be followed by a bring and share buffet with 'drinking games' for all. 7.30pm in the Market Hall, visitors always welcome!

Our popular Winter Warmer Soup lunch is back on November 2nd, 12.00 - 2.00pm in the Market Hall with home made soups and puds. This time proceeds are to be split between funds and the local Nineveh Ridge Care Farm.

More information on Cleobury Mortimer WI's Facebook page or contact Judy Sant [01299 270983](tel:01299270983) email [judysant10@gmail.com](mailto:judysant10@gmail.com).

## SILLY BIT

**At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.**

## POSITION SOUGHT

**In Cleobury Mortimer and surrounding area.**

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## BINGO ON THE HILL

Clee Hill Royal British Legion have a Prize Bingo Night on Saturday the 14th of this month. It's at the Village Hall, with everyone welcome as it's raising funds for the Poppy Appeal and it's "Eyes down" at 8.00.

This is the time of year when Legion branches all over the country are working hard to raise money for this great cause. They deserve support.



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If you are interested please send an application letter and CV to Mr Sean Thorogood by email to [sean.thorogood@cleobury.org.uk](mailto:sean.thorogood@cleobury.org.uk) or post to The Market Hall, Church Street, Cleobury Mortimer by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Interviews will be held w/c Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

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or Contact the Parish Clerk on 01299 271535



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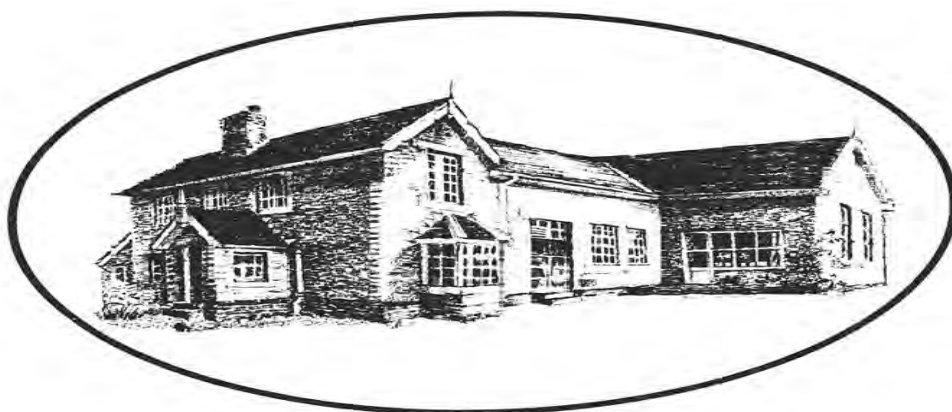
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For an information pack please contact us on 01743 260220, or email [HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk](mailto:HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk), **stating your name, address and quoting Cleobury Mortimer**

**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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## ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

Too late to be reported in this issue is a conference in Theatre Severn at Shrewsbury on September 30th. It's about speed limits and a campaign to have the speed limit on residential streets reduced to 20mph.

The figures are convincing, with research by the Seattle Department of Transportation showing that of pedestrians hit by a vehicle travelling at 20mph, nine out of ten survive. At 30mph the survivors drop to five out of ten and at 40 it's only one. It makes the 20 limit on Cleobury's main street sound like good logic, but for a long time the signage was not correct and that limit could not be exercised.

We hope to attend the conference and report next month. Apparently Shropshire has a bad rating for people killed and injured on roads, but that figure is not expressed in detail to show how many of those affected were pedestrians or if they were on residential streets.

The promise is that evidence will be presented to show how the county can move from 'significantly worse' in the matter to 'significantly better'.

## MYSTERY PHOTO



Our thanks to Dr Mark Baldwin for this picture of a proud young man with his Triumph Speed Twin motorcycle. It was taken by Freddie Morrison in Lower Street and is dated April 1947, but the rider's name is not clear. Cyril Early perhaps, but that's no more than a guess. Does any Clarion reader recognise Cyril E.... and can you tell us more, please?

We can tell you that the bike dates from 1938 or 39, and that its 498cc twin cylinder engine started a fashion that spread throughout the world. Today, the Triumph factory's best seller is a descendant of this bike.

## SMART MOTOR

Voll at The Stable Tavern has a very sharp looking Ford Focus parked outside and getting a regular wash and polish treatment to keep it looking good.

It's a two litre turbocharged power unit and he's impressed with the way that it goes and that so much of the equipment is electrically operated. He agrees that's part of Ford's general move up the quality scale and getting their sporting image back.

Great colour too. A bit more than yellow is one way of saying it, but in Ford lingo it's 'Tangerine Scream'.

## BLOODHOUND

This is the name of the jet-powered car that world speed record holder Andy Green will be driving in an attempt to lift the record to 1000 mph. The car is due to make its first trial runs at Newquay airport at the end of the month, as part of a long build unto the real attempt in South Africa.

The man driving the concept forward is the remarkable Richard Noble and you can keep up to date with the team's news at [www.bloodhoundssc.com](http://www.bloodhoundssc.com). If you get in very quickly, you may get your name on the big tail fin.

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## **Severn Edge Vet Frithjof Praetsch BSc MRCVS discusses common skin issues found in our pets**

Your pet's skin protects it against the environment, regulates its body temperature, and enables it to have a sense of touch. Certain skin conditions can not only become severely debilitating for your pet, but they may also cause very unpleasant symptoms in humans. In recent years significant progress has been made allowing your vet to help most pets with skin conditions quickly and effectively.

The most common skin conditions in pets are atopic dermatitis, flea allergic dermatitis, and ear disease. The former two are often referred to as allergies, but over 70% of cases of ear disease are also secondary to an atopic dermatitis.

Atopic dermatitis is an inherited disease, characterized by itchiness and a reddening of the skin. The most commonly affected parts of the body include the paws, the underside of the belly, and the ears. Fortunately, there is now a medication available that is just as effective as steroids for the treatment of atopic dermatitis, but does not cause any side effects.

Flea allergic dermatitis is the most common skin disease in cats, causing itchiness as well as hair loss and scabs. This condition can be controlled with effective ectoparasite treatments,

provided reinfestation can be prevented. This may necessitate the treatment of other pets and the affected pet's home.

Ear disease is more often seen in dogs than cats, and results in persistent head shaking, reddening of the skin of the outer ear, an acidic odour, and often severe pain. Primary factors causing ear disease are bacteria, yeasts, ectoparasites, foreign bodies and trauma. If treatment is started early, most cases of ear disease can be cured with ear drops, but management of an underlying atopic dermatitis and regular ear cleaning may also be required. Severe chronic cases of ear disease can be successfully cured by means of surgery.

If you suspect your pet might be suffering from a skin condition then contact your local Severn Edge Veterinary branch.

Dr Frithjof Praetsch BSc MRCVS



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## **APPLES FOR BREAKFAST**

The Breakfast Club assembled at the Golf Club on September 12th to hear Jane Cullen explain the work of her company, AppleTeme, founded about five years ago in Brimfield. She and her small team of three manage 5½ acres of orchard, with over 100 varieties of apple. From these, AppleTeme make not just juice, but also delicious combinations such as apple & ginger, apple & damson, and apple & blackcurrant, but no sugar is ever added.

The trees are carefully tended, but the fruit is never sprayed, and if any extra apples are bought in from neighbouring farmers, it's essential that these are unsprayed, too. Daily inspections of the trees identify the optimum harvesting time, to ensure maximum yield and flavour. Then comes the splashy bit – all the apples are washed by hand, which also allows any substandard fruit to be spotted and rejected. The washed apples are then fed into a 'scritter' which reduces them to pulp, from which the juice is expressed using a hydraulic press. The juice is bottled, and

the remaining pulp fed to local sheep. Before sealing, the bottles of juice are pasteurized, which means they'll keep, if unopened, for years.

AppleTeme products are sold at local Farmers' Markets and food shops, and are served in many pubs and restaurants in the Ludlow area. The meeting ended with a tasting session, and a vote of thanks proposed by Diane Waddington.

The Breakfast Club next meets on October 10 at the Lacon Childe School, to hear Jon May talk about 'Intergeneration Matters'. Members wishing to attend should contact Jonathan Fair (271913) or Angela Drennan (270636) to book places.

*Mark Baldwin*

## **THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION**

The October Parish Walk on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> takes us further afield on to Catherton Common. Meet at 10.00 about 400m beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> cattle grid, or if you need a lift, at 9.40 from Childe Road (west) car park.

Our September work party was successful with a new gate installed on the path from the Bridgnorth road at Dinmore going towards Neen Savage

ford. In October we plan to work on the two footpaths leading to the bridge over the River Rea below Sadlers Barn Farm. Top priority will be replacing the well used seat on the ridge above the river. Dependent on manpower, we will do other jobs up to and including the bridge.

The work done by individual members to keep our paths clear of summer growth is over for another year. Most crops are in too, so with the exception of a major obstruction at Withypool farm caused by a maize crop, our paths are in good condition. Perfect to get out and enjoy the autumn colours.

Our next members' meeting is on Friday October 13<sup>th</sup> in the Bell at 7.30 – do come if you are interested in our activities.

*Graham Simpson*

## **CHILDREN'S DAY**

Here's a good idea. Cleobury Dental Practice have a Children's Day on the 25th of this month, with lots of fun and games with a dental health theme. It's to persuade nervous youngsters that this is a friendly place where everyone wants to help you be healthy and never have toothache.



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## **CLEOBURY PATIENTS' VOICE**

Saturday October 14th is the principal 'Flu Clinic' for the 2017 season. This is a mass vaccination initiative, which sees hundreds being vaccinated in a single morning; it's something of a social occasion. For most, flu is a week-long illness. For the more vulnerable, such as pregnant women and the elderly, the complications of flu can be very damaging. Australia has just experienced its worst flu season on record, causing the NHS to "fear the worst flu season in history". Different strains of flu evolve and become more or less prominent from year to year, and a new best-guess vaccine must be developed every year. If you are 65 or over, pregnant or a carer, please book with the Medical Centre and come along between 8:30 and 12:00 on the day.

September's CPV featured a discussion of how a local Support Group might be set up to share experiences of stroke, with practical information and mutual support and advice. Over the next couple of months, the plan is to gauge the level of interest in such a group and hold an event to promote

awareness of stroke, coping with it and preventing. Anyone interested in getting involved is encouraged to contact Val and Graham Simpson through CPV (details below).

Front page news on last month's Cleobury Clarion was the new 'Cleobury Hills' nursing home, expected to provide 60 beds, of which 25 have apparently been earmarked for high-dependency dementia patients. This represents a welcome doubling of local provision, but also a significant uplift in associated workload for our local GPs, so it was alarming to learn at the same CPV meeting that no approach had yet been made to the Cleobury practice by those building this home. One might have thought they would have been among the first to be consulted.

CPV meets at the Medical Centre every third Monday of the month at 6.30pm. We welcome new members so if you would like to get involved please contact us: telephone 01299 407224, email cleoburypatientsvoice@hotmail.co.uk or make use of our comments box in the Medical Centre's reception area.

*Mark Radford*

## **THE READING GROUP**

'The Improbability of Love' by Hannah Rothschild did not excite every reader with its title, but proved to be a popular work that was unanimously approved of.

It's the story of Annie, buying an old painting as a gift for a fickle lover, only to have him leave her. Saddled with something she has no use for, she finds that it may be a long lost work by Antoine Watteau. The journey of discovery takes her into the turbulent world of rare art, where she finds an outlet for her ambition to work as a chef; this section provoked a strong reaction from some members, who could not believe one woman could produce so much of the exotic food described.

But the structure of the tale, with the voices of different characters, the picture itself not least amongst them, telling their versions of events, caught the imagination and was widely praised. A recommended read.

On October 16th we meet in the library at 7.30 to hear opinions on Bishop's Castle author Paul Binding's 'After Brock'. Opinions will differ and points of view firmly stated, but all in a friendly atmosphere.

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## CHANGES AT THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



*New Club Steward Gemma Canty with Andy Goold, who's done so much to make the club come alive.*

Gemma Canty has taken over the big job of Steward at the Sports and Social Club on Love Lane. She been helping out there already and has a good background in the licensed trade, working for Marstons and running her own pub in Stourbridge until she started a family.

She moved out to Bayton and has been a member of the S&SC for some time. Now she's a director of the company that the club has become and is looking forward to taking over the reins

on October 1st. Except that she'll actually be on holiday then, so will be relying on the regular bar staff to cope with the crowd.

Andy Goold has done a great job in building the club up as a venue for all sorts of events. He has a variety of jobs to keep himself occupied until he decides just which direction he wants to take next.

He would like to thank some local firms for help and service beyond the norm. Like Andy Perkins at E-Z Solar for installing solar panels and heating, Paul 'Finchy' Southall for his work on the toilets and LED lighting and Lee Rollings and the team at L R Developments for the external work that has made the place so much more attractive.

### FROM THE BANDROOM

Well the National Finals at Cheltenham didn't go in our favour – we didn't play what the judges wanted to hear on the day! But we still had a great day with our banding family, so it's a case of chins up and on to the next set of engagements.

Our next main concert will be held on Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup> at Kidderminster Town Hall. This will be a joint concert with Black

Pear Symphonic Winds and promises to be a great evening. Ticket are £10 each and can be purchased via Katie Griffiths on 01299 270262 – please leave a message on the answer phone and I will get back to you.

Our programme will include Radio Ga-Ga (complete with band members singing!) The Gael, which always goes down brilliantly with the audience, Blue Rondo a la Turk and not forgetting The Floral Dance.

The massed band piece will be Toccata in D Minor – which could be a show stopper, for all the right reasons.

November brings the annual Remembrance Parade – this year on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>

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

[www.cmcb.org.uk](http://www.cmcb.org.uk)

Katie Griffiths

### HOPTON QUIZ

They always have good suppers at Hopton Wafers and there's another one coming up. It's on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month, starting at 7.00 and featuring a three course meal and entertainment by the talented Ludford Duo. Tickets and more details from Marilyn Wood on 01299 271245.

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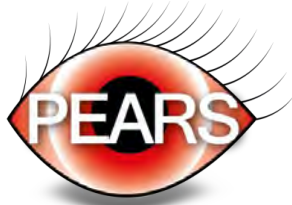
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**Fire Services consultation**

The terrible fire which engulfed Grenfell Tower last summer reminded us all of the vital work of our firefighters to keep us safe. Our fire services have generally been very successful in preventing fires, with Shropshire sharing in the national reduction of 40% in attendances to fires by crews over the five years from 2010/11.

We are fortunate in Shropshire to be very well served by Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, operating from its 24 stations across the county. It has 640 staff, of whom 79% are firefighters, with 177 full time and 332 retained (part-time). All eight fire stations in South Shropshire are manned by retained officers. They attended just short of 4,000 calls in 2015/16, of which 1,234 (30%) were to fires. It is one of the smaller fire services in England with a large geography to cover, so needs to retain its pattern of tenders and firefighters to man them.

But nationally there is a whiff of change in the air, as fire services around the country are considering their future governance and organisation structures. Over the border to the south, Hereford & Worcester Fire Service has decided to merge its control room with West Mercia Police, to reduce back office costs which can then be invested in frontline services.

West Mercia's Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion, has raised the question of whether Shropshire would benefit by joining this collaboration. He has published a consultation on merging the governance of police and fire services in West Mercia to encourage closer collaboration for the fire service in Shropshire with Hereford & Worcester.

The potential changes to governance would not see any change to the identity of Fire Services or Police. Local fire crews and police officers would still serve their communities, as they do now, and each fire service would retain its own budget, ring fenced to each service and geographic area. But this proposal would enable significant collaboration across back offices, helping save an estimated £4m per year. Some efficiencies might be found through a shared control room; routine sharing of stations and other assets; shared intelligence; or combined resources when attending incidents such as Road Traffic Accidents or missing person cases.

Governance would be through a single directly elected Police and Fire Commissioner, aiming for more direct accountability and transparency in the Fire Service, as Police and Crime Commissioners have done for the Police. A combined Police and Crime panel would provide public scrutiny to any actions or decisions taken by the Commissioner. This would replace the governance role of the existing separate Fire Authorities, currently primarily comprising appointed local councillors.

The consultation into these proposals ended last month, and I hope interested local residents took the chance to have their say. At the time of writing I do not know what feedback the consultation gathered, but I am interested to see what the response will be.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue do an excellent job, and with Hereford and Worcester Fire Service already looking to combine more closely with the police, it is timely to consider whether services in Shropshire might benefit from doing something similar.



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## BAYTON C of E SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW HEAD



*Jolanda Simmonds: "It's a beautiful place, I'm very lucky to be here."*

Bayton School's new head teacher is Worcester born, bred and educated. She even earned her degree at Worcester University.

She takes over a place with a great reputation, an experienced teaching staff and enthusiastic parents who work to support the school. Something she values highly: "There are lot of hoops to jump through, running a school today, but I want to keep the core values," she says.

Little things will begin to change as she feels her way into what is a very demanding job. The school motto 'Be the Best That You Can Be' is now on all the children's exercise books and she intends to make the Church of England connection in the title much clearer. That C of E is not there for decoration, it means that in addition to the usual Ofsted inspections of proper management, there is also SIAMS - Standard Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools - to ensure that proper teaching of religious standards is practised. The last SIAMS report gave Bayton an 'Outstanding' rating, so it's been five years before the next check, due this year.

In a time when mention of Faith Schools brings criticism, does the C of E title worry non worshipping parents? "No, being part of the church and community is what lies at the heart of the school and this is well supported by our parents," she says. She is actively communicating with parents and wants to keep that special well-rounded feeling of confidence that most of the pupils find here. Not street-wise and aggressive, more thoughtful and kind. In a world where too many want to shout and push

their way forward, meeting a young mother - she has a daughter of 13 and a son of 10 - whose ambition seems to be teaching the better things in life is a refreshing experience.

This year's academic results were better than last year's, the school roll remains high at 104 pupils and asked if she intended to stay here for the long term her immediate reply was "Oh yes." Another asset to the local community.

### NIGHTINGALE NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of the Nightingale Nursing Fund is on Sunday October 29th, 7.30 p.m. at the Sports and Social Club in Love Lane. Please feel free to come along and hear about the activity throughout the year.

The previous year's accounts will be available to view as they are to be signed off. The more the merrier.

We would also like to say a special thank you to Cleobury Mortimer Bowling Club, who donated £310 to the fund at their Presidents Day on September 17th. Anything that helps swell the funds is appreciated, as it is helping patients within your community.

*Rosemary Abbiss*



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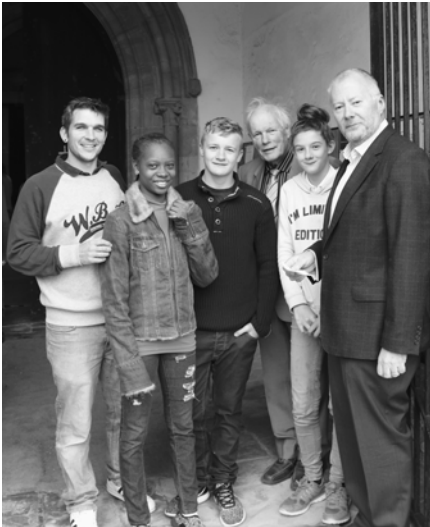
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**CLEOBURY MORTIMER  
LECTURES HANDOVER**



*Smiles all round at the cheque presentation. From left: Mark Greaves, Ashanti, Seb, John Barnes of the History Society, Esther and organiser Robert Hodge.*

There was a very happy little presentation ceremony outside the Parish Church in September, when Robert Hodge handed over the proceeds of this year's Cleobury Mortimer Lectures. It is a measure of the success of that summer series that the cheque Robert handed to Mark Greaves at Saint Mary's Youth Project was for £1739.84, more than four times the money made last year.

The Youth Project used the money on two projects. The first was an adventure trip to Llyn Gwynant in Snowdonia and the

second was to help buy climbing shoes for youngsters taking part in the Active Education Programme that is designed to build confidence.

**RED HARE TIP  
AND FACT**

This month's Tip and Fact comes from first year apprentice Courtney Jones:

**Tip**

When shampooing your hair, massage your scalp for at least one minute to stimulate hair growth and enhance the strength of your roots.

**Fact**

Men might be from Mars and women from Venus, but there is absolutely no difference between male and female hair in terms of growth cycle and structure.

**BAYTON'S  
CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT IS BACK  
HOME**

Bayton Church has been closed for the last 18 months or so for major renovations, which are now nearing completion. The annual Concert for Christmas last year was held at the Clows Top Mission Room with afternoon and evening performances and proved to be a huge success with concert

goers. This year we are delighted to say that the Christmas Concert is 'back at home' at Bayton Church and promises to be a superb afternoon out. Sunday December 3rd is the date to remember, starting at 2-30pm and this year we will have the popular Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir as our special guests performing one of their superb concerts. As a new feature concert goers will enjoy a full afternoon tea with sandwiches, cakes and drinks in the interval. The Christmas Concert always attracts a full house with people travelling many miles to attend this well produced function and this year there will also be a lot of interest from everyone wanting to see all the work that has taken place.

Tickets for the Concert are now on sale at a cost of £15 each which also includes the afternoon tea. To ensure the best seats please book as soon as you can, either by phoning 01299 832219 or 01299 270287 or emailing [brianlink.uk@btinternet.com](mailto:brianlink.uk@btinternet.com)

*Brian Link*

**SILLY BIT**

**I didn't make it to the gym today. That make five years in a row.**

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Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	The Parish Walk starts on Catherton Common. PAGE 21.		
	11.00am	Harvest Festival in the Parish Church		
	12.00pm	Stottesdon Apple Day at the Fighting Cocks. Great Event. Page 12		
	6.00pm	Open Mic.night at the KA. Acoustic only, all types of music		
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm	Town Council Meeting, new venue, Cleobury Country Centre		
Weds. 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30-12.00pm	Open Day at Bayton CE Primary School. See Page 16		
	10.00am	Walking for Health. Meet at the Sports Centre for a decent, healthy stroll		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Sale of Household goods and furniture. Knowle Sports, Tenbury Road, Clee Hill		
		Plant sale in the Market Hall. Page 9		
Sun. 8 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Charity Car Boot Sale, Fighting Cocks, Stottesdon. Page 5		
		Cleobury Concert brass play at Kidderminster Town Hall. Page 25		01299 270262
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Creative Writing Group meet in the Library. Page 13		
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.25am	St Mary's Breakfast Club, Lacon Childe School, Jon May talks about Intergeneration Matters. Page 21		
	7.30pm	Cleobury WI AGM, Market Hall followed by Bring and Share buffet. Page 13		
Weds. 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Cleobury CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall. Good social atmosphere		
	7.30pm	Neen Savage WI. Village Hall. Allie Hills tells all about Pricklebums Hedgehog rescue. Page 9		
	8.00pm	The Royal British Legion meet at the Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thurs.12 <sup>th</sup>		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	CMFA meets at the Bell Inn, Lower Street. All walkers welcome. Page 21		
Fri/Sat 13/14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Old Time Music Hall, Neen Sollars Victory Hall	Trevor Wood	01299 272666
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	CMRFC Vice President's Day, lunch at the Sports & Social Club. Page 7		
	7.00pm	Harvest Supper at Hopton Wafers Village Hall. Page 25		
	8.00pm	British Legion Prize Bingo Night, Clee Hill Village Hall		



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Mon. 16 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Cleobury Patients Voice meets in the Medical Centre, Page 23		
	7.30pm	Horticultural Society meets in the Methodist Hall, Church Street. Page 9		
	7.30pm	The Reading Group meet in the Library. Page 23		
Weds. 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Walking for Health meets at the Sports Centre		
	11.00am	Sing, Laugh, Breathe meet at the Market Hall to enjoy simply singing		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
	7.00pm	Service of Wholeness & Healing in the Parish Church. Page 39		
Fri. 20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat.21 <sup>st</sup>		Coach Outing to Chester.	Mrs Gregory	01584 891464
Weds.25 <sup>th</sup>		Children's Day at Cleobury Dental Practice		
	10.00am	Cleobury CoCo Coffee morning. Good Company, excellent value		
	11.00am	Sing, Laugh, Breathe meet at the Market Hall. Good, relaxes & friendly		
	7.30pm	Clows Top Garden Club meet at the Victory Hall. Visitors welcome. Page 5		
Thurs. 26 <sup>th</sup>		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri. 27 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Family Halloween Party, Sports & Social Club. Page 7		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sun.29 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Nightingale Nursing Fund AGM, Sports & Social Club. Page 29		
Mon. 30 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	The Poetry Club meet at the library. Friendly, informal atmosphere		
		<b>AND LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER</b>		
Weds. 1 <sup>st</sup>	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thurs.2 <sup>nd</sup>		BLACK WHEELIE BINS & RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
	12.00pm	Cleobury WI Winter Warmer Lunch in the Market Hall. Homemade Soups and Puds. Page 13		
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00pm	Karaoke Night, Sports and Social Club. Page 7		

**The Clarion is on the web from the 4th of the month**  
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## **HAPPENING ON HIGH STREET**

### **Think Pink Night at the KA.**

A very special night coming up at the Kings Arms on Saturday the 21st of this month. All in aid of the Wear It Pink Day that works in support of breast cancer treatment.

It's a Cocktail and Casino Night, with music to entertain plus Black Jack and Roulette to have a wee flutter. There's a raffle as well, with loads of prizes to be won, and you're supposed to wear something pink for the occasion. In fact, the winner of the Most Pink Outfit will take home a bottle of Prosecco sparkling wine, unless they've drunk it on the night..... It all kicks off at 8.00 and promises to be quite a party.

### **Carrot Tops for Sale.**

Nothing firm yet on the sale of the popular Carrot Tops business. Proprietor Julie and landlord Gwilym Butler have arranged for the sale to be put in the hands of an agent, which should give it wider publicity.

The reason for the sale is that Mike Grimes, Julie's husband, has changed jobs and they'd like the chance to spend a bit more time together. She still loves the shop and the customers, but family come first.

### **A recent newcomer to the High Street is Melissa Romeo.**



She's taken over the lease on what used to be Shirley Pugh's salon. Now it's called Cleobury Barbers and is paired with her other outlet, Highley Barbers. In seven months she's established the new shop as a good place, a real barber's shop in the traditional style. If you want a hot towel shave, one of the good ways of relaxing, this is where you'll find it.

Melissa, an ex Lacon Childe pupil, has been in the business for ten years and if you ask her if she's a hairdresser she'll tell you she's a barber. No doubt what this is all about, though she has recently recruited a

lady's hairdresser in response to local demand.

As you'd expect in a place for the discerning males, plus their lady friends now that there's a hair stylist on the strength, there are special preparations to flatter the customer. In response to the current fashion for beards, she stocks the beard oil produced up on Clee Hill by Rhian Gurney, who uses Bennett and Dunn's pure rape seed oil for the best effect.

She also offers a body piercing studio, a private area curtained off from the rest of the smart shop. Opening hours are 10.00 to 6.00 Tuesday and Wednesday, 10.00 to 5.00 Thursday and Friday and on Saturday it's a short working day, 10.00 to 2.00.

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### **SILLY BIT**

**Last night my wife sent me a text, saying she was in casualty.**

**When I got home I watched all 50 minutes of it and never saw her once.**

**She still hasn't come home yet.**

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No let up in the tales of breakdowns and no shows during the last month. There have been a number of letters to the Kiddy 'Shuttle' complaining about your favourite bus company and a petition has been started to fight the removal of the no 1 route. The 'Clarion' Editor has also received a letter from a resident of Yorkshire who visits Cleobury regularly, telling the tale of his trip to Bewdley with a 9.15 no show on the way in resulting in a 90 minute wait. On the way back - surprise surprise - another non appearance resulting in an expensive taxi ride home to Cleobury. The writer ends his letter by saying he hopes Diamond will have got their act together before his next visit. Unfortunately he didn't include contact details or we could have told him not to get his hopes up....

There have been numerous instances of stranded buses – so many in fact that it might involve less effort to note the ones that are still running. It seems that hardly a day passes without at least one problem which makes a mockery of Diamond's claim to be providing a good service and there are regular sightings of puzzled Diamond employees peering hopefully into the engine bays of silent buses. Just this morning, at about 9am we saw one coming up the Bewdley bypass with 'Not in Service' showing. I imagine this was a relief vehicle for a broken down 2L but no doubt people will let me know...

Even if the bus does appear on time, your troubles are not necessarily over. The son of a friend was a little late getting to the stop when the bus hove into sight on time. Never mind, he thought as there was already someone at the stop waiting so there would be time to get there whilst they were dealt with. Wrong. The bus sailed right past leaving both of them waiting in vain. Perhaps the driver thought they wanted another service (memo to Diamond drivers: there is only one service so if there are people at

the stop, they will want to board...) This may have been a blessing in disguise as better to be stuck in Cleobury than somewhere in the wilderness.

Talking about the wilderness, I have just been reading a book about a 12th Century monk who doubles as a detective (Cadfael for those familiar with the Ellis Peters novels). In it, a group of people travelling from Cleobury to Bromfield have their money taken by a band of robbers and are then abandoned on the unforgiving slopes of Clee Hill. No doubt Cadfael would be amused to see that this practice is still alive and well nearly 900 years later...

There is also a more serious side to these situations. One friend visits a lady with vascular dementia whose main pleasure is going to Ludlow on the bus. If all goes well, she can cope with the journey by herself. Unfortunately, the return bus didn't appear and, as she has problems with appreciating how time passes, this was a serious problem. Luckily there were others waiting who made sure she got on the right bus when it eventually appeared but she has now lost all confidence and will not use the service, thus losing one of the few opportunities she has for her to be independent.

At least the 2L route is fairly short by global standards. One group of British Airways passengers were due to fly from London to Athens which normally takes about 3 ½ hours. Two days, four aircraft and one fire later, they arrived at their destination. And you think you've got problems...

Apparently the Diamond empire is growing (Heaven knows why) as they have just bought a struggling bus company in the West Midlands. I am sure all our thoughts are with their new employees – out of the frying pan etc springs to mind.

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## **KIDDERMINSTER MALE VOICE CHOIR**

There is a small group of people who work tirelessly to keep the structure of St Mary's church safe and sound. They are the Friends of St Mary's Church and they number less than a hundred, with a Committee of half-a-dozen who meet regularly under the chairmanship of Alec Osbaldiston to plan fundraising events for the future. When the church requires repair, they draw on their reserves and hold dedicated events to contribute necessary funding.

The Committee adheres to the principle that its events should both serve the community and attract a large audience. One example of their efforts was held on September 22nd, when the Kidderminster Male Voice Choir held a concert in St Mary's. The choir has been a frequent visitor to Cleobury in recent years and their conductor lavished praise on the acoustics of St Mary's, which gives hope that they will continue to visit us in future.

Dressed in their immaculate red jackets and white shirts, they opened with the audience joining in the National Anthem. This set the tone for the evening: a jingoist festival with much waving of Union flags by

members of the audience. There were songs as varied as Zadok the Priest and Bohemian Rhapsody, or Scarborough Fair and Nessum Dorma. A new innovation was the inclusion of two interludes of harp music played delightfully by Hannah Coleman. The task of being an amusing master of ceremonies was taken by a member of the choir with a particularly wry sense of humour, although amusement was hardly necessary since the audience were all smiles throughout the evening.

There was an interlude where wine and soft drinks were served by members of the Friends at no additional cost. What was not to like?

Immediately afterwards members of Friends sprang into action to make the church ready for use over the weekend. No mean task when it requires turning those weighty and awkward pews around to face the altar. Just one of the ways this sturdy band of volunteers commit themselves to creating an enjoyable evening's entertainment that raises money for a worthy cause. Would you like to join them? Then call the Membership Secretary, Diane Waddington on 01299 272820.

## **OLD TIME MUSIC HALL**

If you have a taste for traditional music hall entertainment, this could be for you. Trevor Wood is organising an Old Time Music Hall at Neen Sollars' Victory Hall on Friday and Saturday the 13th and 14th of this month.

The fun starts at 7.00 and Trevor can provide more details and tickets. He's on CM 272666.

## **SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES**

There's a Harvest Festival service in the Parish Church today, October 1st, starting at 11.00. It will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch. Apologies for this late notice, but the information was not available in time for the September Clarion.

On the 19th of this month there's a 7.00pm Service of Wholeness and Healing. It's a simple event, where you can sit and reflect. If you need to talk to someone, the pastoral team will be in attendance.

And on November 5th there is a 6.00 pm Service of Light, in remembrance of lost loved ones. Another informal gathering, where you can sit and remember someone you've lost, or maybe find a sympathetic ear to listen.

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Landowners (including gardeners) in and near the forest tend to find out that they are supplying the local wildlife with food. This may be by choice: at Unclyls Farm we get through sacks of sunflower seed and peanuts for the bird feeders at an amazing rate. These attract Tits, Nuthatches, Goldfinches and Great Spotted Woodpeckers. We have a record number of juvenile Blue Tits around the house which, not content with the peanuts, have been pecking at the paintwork of the window frames, damaging the new putty/paintwork and competing with the cockerel to wake us early in the morning. By October the sun will rise just after 7.00am so we hope for a longer sleep.

We have a traditional cherry orchard and a few old damson trees, and newer plantings of apples, cherries and plums. Cropping varies from year to year, but the trees always supply food for wildlife in the form of nectar from the blossom, ripe fruit and living and dead plant material for herbivores of all sizes. This month the last of the apples will be harvested. A few such as Bardsey and Captain Tom (a cooker) were ready in early August, and I had to be on the alert to get them before they rotted on the trees or were eaten by wasps or Hornets. Since then the Herefordshire Russet, Worcester Pearmain, Bramleys and sundry others which lost their labels have gradually ripened. We

planted many trees of Scotch Bridget because it was used successfully in the Teme Valley in the past and it has proved to be a heavy cropper and resistant to disease. It isn't a particularly juicy apple but forms the main constituent of our juice which is pressed, pasteurised and bottled for us by Richard Styles at Lower Blackstone Farm.

Our fields are fenced to keep sheep and cattle *in* but are not high enough to keep Fallow Deer *out*. When we moved to Unclyls we were surprised to discover that all the grazing animals we have had on the farm (and I include the pigs) seem to prefer to browse the branches of trees and shrubs rather than eat grass. Chickens, on the other hand, surprised me by the amount of grass they eat, given the chance. All our young trees have to be protected with tree guards but still sustain damage at times, especially when the weight of fruit bends the braches down to reachable height. We have found over the years that deer are cheeky and persistent but I hope that at least our defences around the garden will continue to be successful. I'm slightly worried about the encroachment of Muntjac Deer which are smaller and can squeeze under stock fencing quite easily and also recent sightings of rabbits on my lawn. Maybe the days of my beloved flowers and vegetables are numbered.

*Linda Iles*

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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A couple of years ago I learned another lesson in life. I was leaving my dog Jenks in good hands and took his food and equipment for the weekend to leave with his carers. I was buying a well known brand of mixer to go with dinner meat and the reaction on seeing the bag of mixer was eye opening. "Just read what's in this stuff," I was told. "It's full of Es that you wouldn't dream of giving to a child, so why give it to your dog?" I changed his diet and he's looked better ever since.

Recently I was talking to Gordon Winters, who advertises raw dog and cat food, delivered to your door. The basic food comes from Nutriment, a Surrey company who publish full details of their products and the contents. Why raw food? Because that is what a dog in its natural environment will eat - they don't have cooking facilities as part of their make-up.

Gordon works from Far Forest and lists the staff as himself and Rocky. Rocky's an interesting chap, an 11 year old black Labrador who had health problems until Gordon got him on the Nutriment diet and

Rocky lost a lot of weight. Not too much, he's still a stocky looking chap and clearly enjoys his role as Company Food Tester.



*The staff. Food Tester Rocky on the left, boss Gordon on the right.*

Gordon takes a lot of care when showing how to mix the base meat element with fresh vegetables. "Change the food, don't just settle on one flavour or the dog will build an intolerance," he explained. He changes both meat and the vegetables that he puts through a shredder to mix up a dish. He's very particular about hygiene, washing the vegetables before putting them through the processor to get rid of the

chemicals that are all too often used to keep pests at bay. Rocky is very fond of a slice of butternut squash.

Gordon delivers the food to your door, in a thermal box if you're buying a reasonable quantity. There's a big range of meats, the Core Range offering 14 different choices from chicken through to venison, the prices varying with the product's content. It comes in 500 gram or 1.4 kilo packs.

And there's a Cat Range as well, modest in size at the moment with three formulae, chicken, beef or salmon, in 500 gram packs.

I was impressed enough to buy a 1.4 kilo pack of Turkey for my good old friend and will report on his response when we've had a chance to assess it properly. The idea of raw meat I readily accept, but mixing with fresh vegetables is a totally different route from the chicken and brown rice currently used. Maybe he'd appreciate a change.

Gordon Winters is on 07523 805094 and reckons to deliver within two days of an order being placed. He's talking about adding other services as the business grows, but right now it's quality food he offers.

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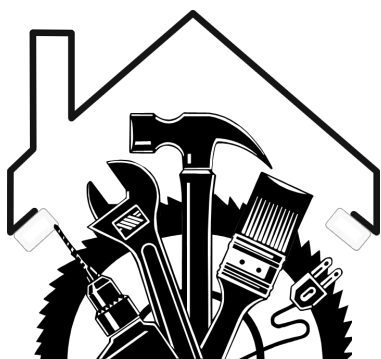
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# CLEOBURY MORTIMER PARISH HALL

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## **Cleobury Mortimer Friendship Club**

A big thank you to the Clarion for the advert for our club, We now have new members joining and we have others wishing to join but do not have transport facilities to get to and from the hall.

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### HAPPY FIRST ANNIVERSARY

October 29th is the first anniversary of Emily Yates' Style House Salon opening on the High Street. In a blitz of family members grafting away, what had been the unoccupied office of an estate agency was transformed into a place that lives up to its title. And its very distinctive blue frontage does make it stand out.

"I'd like to thank all the clients who've supported me in the last 12 months and to welcome all new clients with open arms to continue the journey," she told the Clarion.

She's added Biolage R.A.W. shampoo, conditioner and treatments to her range, which comes with no sulphates or silicone. Plus she's introducing Balmain Hair Couture, to offer luxury ring and tape extensions, great for special occasions or to create a thicker or longer hair look.

And joining the established duo of Emily and apprentice Lucy Shinton is Brooke, a graduate stylist with a professional background in dealing with both ladies and gents hair. She'll be working alternate Wednesdays and

Saturdays plus full days Thursday and Friday.



*The full team at Style Salon. From the left: Emily, Brooke and Lucy.*

If you want a free consultation, call the salon on CM 271919.

### A BRIEF MESSAGE FROM THE LEGION

On behalf of the Legion, auctioneer Jim Hulme would like to thank all those who gave to, or bought at, our recent Harvest Auction.

The result was better than in recent years. We hope to provide a longer report in November's issue.

### LACON CHILDE'S SENIOR CITIZENS' PARTY

Early notice that the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party at Lacon Childe School will be on December 12th, starting at 1.30

and ending at 3.00. Every OAP can expect an invitation and a happy event, with entertainment and service by the students. It's a good opportunity for we more mature people to be reminded that we have a lot of very well mannered and capable young folk coming along to eventually take our place.

### CLEOBURY COUNTRY NEWS

The monthly networking meetings for Cleobury Country members are having an overhaul and will be relaunched shortly.

Watch this space next month, when we hope to have full dates and details.

### SWIFT'S BAKERY

Swift's are planning a big official opening of their town centre shop next month. In the meantime they've got the decorators in and the place is being given a new look inside and out. Jayne Swift is in charge of the work and we gather there will be a number of old period photos of the place as part of the new image. As a renowned traditional baker, that does make good sense.

We hope to have a firm date for the occasion in the November issue, but while you're waiting they're still



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In June 1918 a hut was burnt down on the slopes of Brown Clee. The setting of the fire was identified as being deliberate.

In June 1916 The Home Office offered Conscientious Objectors, whose reasons for refusing to serve were considered genuine, an alternative to serving a prison sentence. The hut on Ditton Priors Camp dated from 1917. Its presence was largely forgotten until 2012.

The situation changed when Dave Hinton took three photographs to the local History Centre. The view was placed on Brown Clee alongside the Incline Railway that carried stone from the quarry at Abdon to Ditton Priors station. The twenty five men living there were stone breakers, all survived and all were Conscientious Objectors.

By the end of 1915, the outlook for Britain was bleak. It was expected that the Western Front would prove to be a success for the Allies but these expectations had been dashed and in the East Gallipoli had been an outright failure. Losses were high already and the country faced a war that would require increased numbers of men and loss of individual freedom because of greater government involvement in everyday life.

Conscription was seen as necessary to boost the numbers serving to hasten a victory. The Military Service Act came into force in March 1916 and introduced conscription to the UK.

Those who appealed against serving had to face local tribunals to determine whether their action was "cowardice or conscience," bluntly this meant proving their beliefs. There were several categories for refusing to serve in a combat role.

### **Religion**

Quakers had since the eighteen century been excused service on religious grounds and still were.

### **Socialism**

Socialism was growing in importance and war was considered as having no place in a Socialist world.

### **Philosophical Arguments**

Bertrand Russell supported the No-Conscription Fellowship who worked for increased wider pacifism. Siegfried Sassoon, a military hero, went public in 1917 to question justification for the war.

### **Social Changes**

Britain was moving away from the Victorian age. People were able to construct their own take on events. You did not have to think as your employer did to be assured of a job.

These categories gave people who had concerns about fighting a voice and they used it. Research of those in the Ditton Camp found members of the Church of Christ, members of the No Conscription Fellowship, the Independent Labour Party, the British Socialist Party and non conformist preachers.

The first six months of the Act saw 750,000 cases being heard by tribunals. Tribunals generally consisted of the middle class and were very much behind the cause of finding able bodied men to fight. Opposition to the war was a minority view and less than half of one percent of men eligible held the view.

From March 1916 until the end of the war only 16,000 men were registered as objectors and these were allocated to service of "national importance" in the Non Combatant Corps, The Medical Corps or labour on farms and in factories. Some 1350 men refused to serve in any role in the military and of these 1000 refused to accept tribunal findings. These men were eligible for court martial and repeated imprisonment and hard labour.

The most extreme example was possibly that of the Richmond Sixteen, sent against their will as non-combatants to France in 1916 and sentenced to death for refusing to obey orders. This was commuted to 10 years in prison; they were released in 1919. It is to Britain's credit that during an intensely difficult period for the country Objectors were protected by law.

Thank you then to Lance Corporal William Harold Coltman who served from 1915 to the end of the war and died in 1974 aged 83. He is the most decorated enlisted soldier of WW1 earning a VC, Distinguished Conduct Medal and Bar, Military Medal and Bar and the Croix de Guerre from the French.

William was a Conscientious Objector and served as a non-combatant stretcher bearer.

*Paul French*

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## NEWS FROM THE FARMERS' MARKET

Bennett and Dunn, whose rape seed oils are reaching into more markets and quality restaurants, were showing their latest development at the September Farmers' Market. They have a range of oils with different infusions to give an extra touch of flavour.

It's interesting to read the list of ingredients on the bottle: Cold Pressed Rapeseed Oil 77 percent and Mixed Herbs and Spices 23 percent. With no known allergens. Beat that for a healthy specification.

We've tried the Mediterranean Herb and Spice version and it worked really well on both meat and vegetable stir fries. Recommended.

Rhian Gurney's Magpie Hill Soaps are spreading into a novel area with a range of soaps using a blend with Hobsons beers and other interesting ingredients.

This has all grown from Rhian not liking what she read was used in too many domestic soaps and deciding to produce her own in her kitchen. Friends liked what she was making and said she ought to be selling it. A stall at the Market was a success and she hasn't looked back.



*The Honey and Hops soap uses Hobsons Twisted Spire and honey from Pot House Farm.*

There will be eight different fragrances, but for the launch this month there are just three available.

Honey and Hops uses Twisted Spire and honey from Pot House Farm on Clee Hill, plus Hemp Oil, sustainable Palm Oil and Coconut Oil. Sounds fascinating; wonder what it tastes like....

The Pits uses Hobsons Shropshire Stout with activated charcoal and fragrance of Coal Tar. Plus the oils mentioned above.

And finally for this first stage, there's Cinnamon and Orange, using Twisted Spire blended with Sweet Orange and Cinnamon essential oils, plus the other oils mentioned above.

We don't know the price, but they'll be on sale at the Farmers' Market this month or you can order through the website at [www.magpiehillsoap.co.uk](http://www.magpiehillsoap.co.uk)

This brand may have started out being processed in the kitchen at Rhian's place up on Clee Hill, but demand has been so strong that the family have dug into the hillside and built a decent sized shed to accommodate the new production unit.

Take a look at her website and read the feedback she gets. You can see why she has a growing business.

It's a little known fact that the staff from Cleobury Country Centre work at the Market as volunteers. And they in turn get a lot of help from family and friends, like Steve and Iris Todd and Cleobury Country chairman David Webb. They all graft early in the morning to set the market up and then take it all down at the end of trading and restore the Parish Church to its normal layout, ready for Sunday's usual services.

What our local market offers will not worry the big boys at Ludlow and Worcester, but it does bring some good people, taste and treats to the town once a month. A great asset.



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## THE BORDERS

### CLASSIC BIKE SHOW

Goodness, how time does fly - this was the 30th show. All of them in Lacon Childe School, with the proceeds going to the Parent Teacher Association to benefit the students.

We set a new record with the age of machinery on display. The oldest was Peter Cox's 1902 Clement-Gerrard, its restoration recently completed.

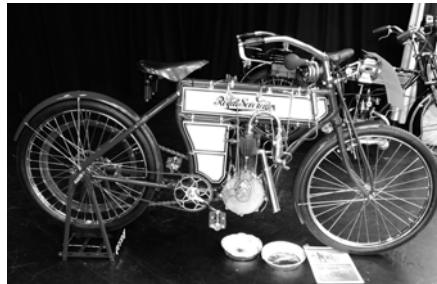


*Peter Cox brought his 1902 Clement-Garrard, the oldest machine we've ever had on show. You can see its origins - a bicycle with an engine bolted on.*

It has been rebuilt to be ridden and Peter knows what that means, having completed the annual London to Brighton Pioneer Run on a similar bike. That's no easy journey, with just 142cc of ancient engine needing some pedal assistance up the hills.

Almost as old was Brian Glover's 1903 Royal Sovereign,

the only known example of this make in existence. It was voted Best Veteran at the International Classic MotorCycle Show earlier this year, Brian having rebuilt a rusted wreck with just a copy of a sales catalogue to guide him. It won the Best Pre 1940 Bike award.



*The only example of the London built Royal Sovereign known to exist.*

Guest of Honour was Colin Seeley, multi British Sidecar Champion, builder of racing machines and frames and at one time the man who ran the Brabham Formula One racing team and its car building business, as well as his own bike building venture. A remarkable man with a host of good tales to tell.

Down from Conwy, the British Motor Cycle Preservation Society put on a varied display of machinery to win Best Club Stand. The Bewdley Club were close behind with a range of bikes parked on artificial grass

to add a touch of extra colour. The grass would have suited a fine array of grass track racers, which an

ice speedway racer complete with spiked tyres was enough to frighten most sensible people.

On Sunday a selection of racing bikes were fired up, all competing for the SWATS award. It stands for She Would Appreciate That Sound, in memory of Valerie Reynolds who always enjoyed the sounds of the bikes ridden in to the school. Mick Wainwright's 500cc Seeley won the day, its unsilenced exhaust a reminder of him racing the bike in the Czech Republic. Colin Seeley looked very pleased with that result.

The catering at the show is a popular feature, because the food is cooked on site and some excellent cakes come in from the students' parents. And we must acknowledge the generosity of local sponsors Mawley Milk and Sadlers Barn for providing milk, cream and eggs free of charge.

A popular competition was a draw for a £100 cash prize, which was won by Neil Howells. At the end of a busy weekend the halls were empty by 5.00 o'clock and the money counted. £3,000 profit.



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#### Business Promotion Evenings:

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**DR ENIGMA  
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Dr Mark Baldwin, often known as 'Dr Enigma', has developed such a wealth of expertise about the Enigma machine (Germany's secret WW2 cipher machine) that he has been invited on an all-expenses-paid trip to Toronto to address the Canadian Alternative Investment Management Association. This invitation stems directly from his appearance at Scotland's biggest IT event – the Turing Fest, held in Edinburgh in August.

By a strange coincidence, one of Mark's contacts in Toronto is the eldest son of Sir Arthur Bonsall, a Bletchley Park codebreaker in WW2, who stayed with GCHQ after the

war, and rose to become its head in 1973.

Mark and his wife, Myfanwy, will be flying to Toronto, with their Enigma machine, in October 2018. However, he is also taking bookings for a speaking tour of California's Silicon Valley next February. Before then, he has a busy speaking schedule, with ten bookings this October and November. Closure of Baldwin's Bookshop at the end of last month does not mean retirement.

**THE YOUTH  
PARTNERSHIP**

The Youth Partnership continues to thrive and this year was successful in winning a Lottery grant, 'Awards for All', which enabled Richard Morley and Mark Greaves to provide a number of different

activities for a wide range of Children. We continue to work with our schools, guides, scouts and other partners including Shropshire Housing Group and Bromford Corinthia, police, the health sector and our Local Parish Councils. We are grateful for their continued support. Many thanks to Steve Todd for auditing our annual accounts.

*Chairman Cllr Madge Shingleton, Secretary Vicky Turner, Treasurer David Haywood.*

**STOTTESDON  
APPLE DAY**

It's today, October 1st! At The Fighting Cocks, from 12.00 noon until 4.00, with lots of apple-themed things to attract and surprise you, plus apple pressing in the village-owned device. Apple advice by expert Wade Muggleton and lots of apple games for children. Great!



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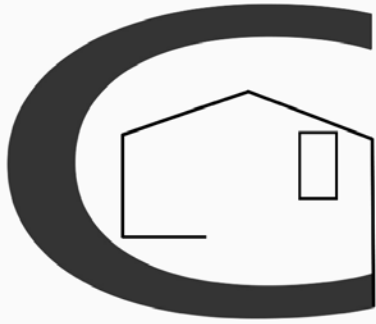
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## CANCER SUPPORT GROUP WIN QUEEN'S AWARD

The Kidderminster and Worcestershire Prostate Cancer Support Group have been presented with H M the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for Voluntary Service by Groups in the Community. At a ceremony in the Town Hall on September 4th, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Worcestershire, the Honourable Lady Morrison, congratulated the group on their work supporting prostate cancer sufferers and their families. She added that this was a difficult award to win, the equivalent to gaining an individual MBE.

This outstanding award is the result of many years raising funds to sponsor free PSA tests in Kidderminster and spreading the word that prostate cancer can be successfully treated. The group has grown from a Kidderminster based one to take in the whole county, with regular meetings in Pershore as well as the established Kidderminster gatherings.

There is a scheme to keep in touch with those who have had treatment for the disease and an active programme to advise what the latest developments are. Ten years ago a PSA blood

test was the standard, but more advanced tests are available now, as you would expect. This is the most common form of cancer in men over 50 and the best way of combatting it is a regular test so that it can be traced early. I have been through that process, had radiotherapy treatment and remained clear of cancer for years since.

The group meets every quarter and the next gathering is at Kidderminster Town Hall on the 17th of this month. Doors open at 7.00 for a 7.30pm start. It won't be all about cancer this time, as Paul Cook and Friends will be talking about gardening and taking questions from the floor. If you're a keen gardener, it should be a good night.

If you would like to get involved with the group, their address is 13 Coningsby Drive, Kidderminster DY11 5LU or call 01562 228535. And they have a website too: [www.kwpcsg.co.uk](http://www.kwpcsg.co.uk)

What you have to remember about cancer is that treatment for it is advancing all the time and that early diagnosis means the best chance of beating it. It is not something that cannot be tackled, it's an illness where a lot of time and effort is being expended in the search for a better cure. This group have a favourite saying: "You're Not Alone." They can help.

## MOVING ON, MOVING UP

This month's Town Council meeting marks a notable move on from years of gathering at the Market Hall in Church Street. There is a logic to the latest venue, in the Cleobury Country Centre on Love Lane. That is where the Town Clerk's office is now based and the convenience of more space, properly heated and air conditioned when necessary, plus plenty of parking space on site, adds up to a much more attractive place for everyone. Not to mention the acoustics that help you hear what people are saying.

## EXPENSIVE GAME

For the Captain's Classic Trophy day up at the Golf Club, Club Captain Bob Lucas offered a bottle to every player who beat him and club pro David Pain's score. They finished with 38 points, then came the reckoning.

Several games later it looked like Bob would be stumping up for 10 bottles, but conditions were improving from the early morning downpour...

The day ended with Andy Thomas and Roger Evans taking the Trophy, but there were 15 pairs who beat the leading duo, which makes 30 bottles. Big day and a big bill for the Captain!



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## **A FRIENDLY EVENING WITH POETRY**

With poet Roger McGough one of the stars at this month's Bewdley Festival, there's an awareness of this literary form. You find a wide range of styles and talents when the Poetry Club gather in the library on the last Monday of the month. September's meeting was a good example.

Janet Dickinson from Chaddesley Corbett made a return, her son patiently delivering her to the meeting and waiting outside, ready to drive her home rather than leave her to undertake the journey in the dark. She brought a copy of her 'Poems of a Shropshire Lass' to read extracts from a book that's sold 500 copies. And she had a copy of Gwen Woodhouse's 'The Homecoming and Other Poems' published long ago but with no date. She also had a 1963 copy of 'Cleeton Carols and Silvington Songs' by Elsie Vera Hewins.

No callow youngster, Janet can remember Cleobury's poet postman Simon Evans, who would sit in his hut after delivering the morning round, quietly writing away. He was a quiet man who talked to the

children, always a sign of gentleness.

Kay Downes read work written for friends, the affection there to be heard in every word. And David Walford, Cleobury's outstanding poet at this time, read a number of short pieces reflecting time spent walking the many footpaths of this fine country.

Pauline Ray is a shy talent, never one to push herself forward. She offered her published work 'Autumn' to suit the early dusk of the season and printed here with her consent:

*'Autumn'*

*End of summer, cooling down in the morning and evening.*

*It's starting to look like autumn now, go and pick those blackberries from yonder bushes.*

*Remember when we saw the delicate pink flowers first in spring, How the time has flown now.*

*There is something very special about this time of year,*

*It's as though we have lost something with the summer gone, and yet*

*What beauty lies in every curve along the road we travel.*

*Early morning brings the weaving of spiders' webs to be seen, clear blobs of dew upon the grass and the flowers beneath.*

*Oh what a sight, vast hills array*

*Splendid in colour after morning mist has lifted, catching the eye.*

Tony Smith, the Kidderminster poet and a keen supporter of the club, called to apologise that he had a meeting with a man doing the artwork for another book of Tony's work. His message for the evening: "Keep the fire burning." He always helps the evening move along, enthusiasm bubbling all the time.

Robert Hodge emailed his apology for absence. What is it about this pastime that brings out the manners in people?

I don't write poetry, but I find the company of a wide range of people who do stimulating with their enthusiasm. My job is simply to chair the evening and encourage the more shy members to offer their work with a reading. And when a gem of expression emerges and earns a round of applause from the rest, the effect upon the reader is a real pleasure to witness.

Don't like poetry? If you think of it in terms of schooldays of the 50s and a complete lack of emotion, that's understandable. But in a relaxed, tolerant group, where wine helps with the nerves, you can find real pleasure. Next meeting: 7.30, October 30th, in the Library. JR



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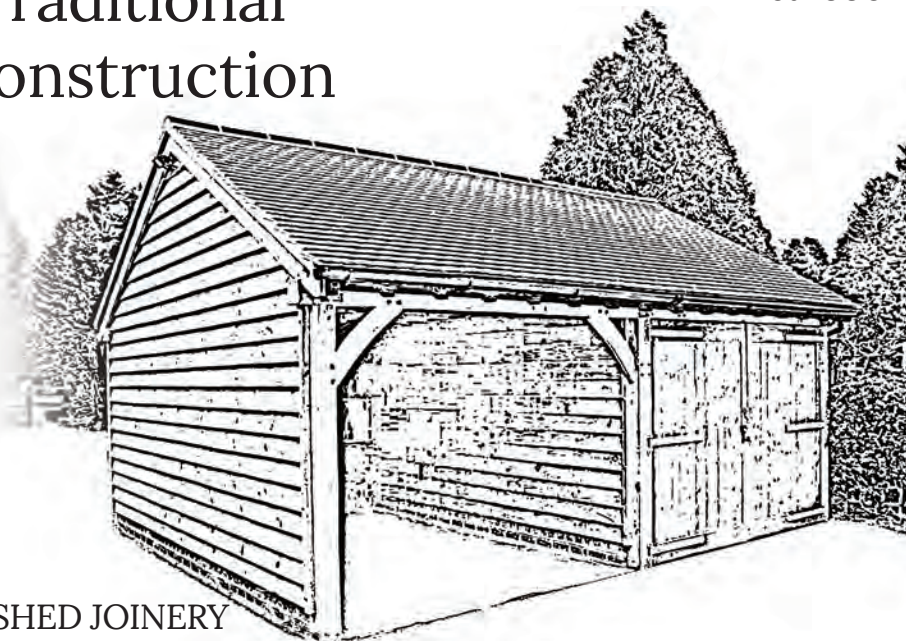
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## Community Contacts for Clarion Readers

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