

# The Cleobury Clarion



SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

AUGUST 2015

## ARCHIE'S A SPACE CHEF STAR



*Archie Lockett gets to know super chef Heston Blumenthal.*

Archie Lockett has been on these pages before, when his recipe for a meal in space was judged a winner. Part of his prize was to meet world renowned chef Heston Blumenthal and sample his own recipe as cooked at Heston's famous restaurant by the River Thames in Berkshire.

After a long wait, that promise was realised on July 3rd, when the sun shone, the food was cooked and one bright young man mixed with a star of the culinary world. **Read Archie's story in his own words on Page 19.**

## SARITA HAS HIGH AMBITIONS

"I've been training since Christmas, in the gym and walking. I've lost about two and a half stones." Sarita Smith doesn't just run the successful Ever After Nursery, she's aiming to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation with a sponsored walk to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa.

She became aware of the BHF when her brother Hilton had a stroke - at the age of 33. He's making a good recovery, but you can imagine the shock to the family, especially when it was discovered that he has a hole in his heart. He's due to have a corrective operation on September 3rd, the very day that his sister flies out to Africa.

She's been running events to raise money for the charity, and has reached £2,800 so far. She is funding the cost of her travel and the expedition to the peak known as the Roof of Africa, but for the charity she wants sponsors. You can donate to this wonderful cause at [www.virginmoneygiving.com/saritasmith1](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/saritasmith1)



*Big smile, big ambition, big task.*

It's certainly no walk in the park that she faces. Kilimanjaro is over 19,000 feet high, down at the foot the temperature is 30 degrees C and at the very peak it's well below freezing. Seven days climbing and camping, with the final climb starting at midnight so that the party reach the rim of the volcano in time to watch the sun rise. The two hour trek to the absolute peak is an option at this point. Wow!

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# The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page

## August 2015 - Volume Thirteen - Edition Five

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS AUGUST 24th**

### **Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails**

**CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR** - 07703 965 064 Theresa Parfitt; [theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES: Dorothy McBride** 07761 976610

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS: Ingrid Purslow** CM 270314

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**MARKET HALL**- Dorothy CM272717, 07761 976650 mobile, or [dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk](mailto:dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk)

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**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](http://www.cleobury.org.uk)

**POST OFFICE** - 01299 270211. Now in the Spar Grocery Store, Church Street.

**SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT** - Mark Greaves 07828 116810, [mark.stmarys@live.co.uk](mailto:mark.stmarys@live.co.uk)

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL** - 0345 678 9000

**SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM** - E-mail [richard@ssyf.net](mailto:richard@ssyf.net).

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# The Cleobury Clarion. August 2015



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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

August is all about relaxing and enjoying the summer. Schools have broken up, the holidays are here and there's no better time to have a barbecue, play garden games and splash about in the paddling pool. Our gardens are looking great with late summer perennials putting on a show-stopping display and the veg patches are sending produce in abundance. Relax and soak up the magic of summer.

If you're going away, make sure the garden can cope with the summer heat. If you can, ask a neighbour or friend to call in to water the plants.

At our June meeting, Paul Underhill, gave an interesting talk on Trees & Things. Paul runs Landscape Plants of Six Ashes Nursery, Bridgnorth Road, Cleobury. The nursery specialises in growing trees in containers for large commercial projects which are sent all over England and Wales. Many of the trees in supermarket or hospital car parks probably came from here. They also can supply cottage perennials, Italian Topiary, Bamboo and a wide range of shrubs.

It was also the club's Rose & Sweet Pea Show. Some good

specimens were entered and many thanks to Anne for judging the show. The results were Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Bob Marriott and Chris Cowdell and 3<sup>rd</sup> Austin Fletcher. Best Exhibit: Bob Marriott.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August and the speaker will be Alf Jenkins on Clee Hill.

*Pauline Bowen*

## CLOWS TOP SUMMER GARDEN SHOW

Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup> is the date for this year's Summer Show at Clows Top.

The show is open to anyone who likes to grow their own vegetable or flowers, making your own jams, cakes, biscuits, or handicraft and floral art skills. There's even a children's section, so there's something for all the family. It's in Clows Top Victory Hall with plenty of parking at the rear. Schedules are available from Colliers Farm Shop and Forest Stores.

The Show opens at 2.00pm with an admission fee of £1.00. There will be horticultural exhibits, refreshments, tombola, a plant stall and other side shows, plus a raffle.

The cups will be presented at 4.00pm.

Stall holders welcome, please pre-book with Marion Wilson

on 01299 270475 for availability. All other enquiries to Marion, please.

## THE FOOD AND ALE

### TRAIL, SEPTEMBER 5TH

Tickets are now on sale for this popular walking and eating event and can be obtained direct from Cleobury Country Centre CM 272300 or online at [www.cleoburycountry.com](http://www.cleoburycountry.com). Prices are £15 each for adults and £10 for children aged 12 and under. Advance booking is essential, and this year the walk goes to the south side of Cleobury. Dogs are very welcome but owners should be aware that there are several stiles and very few dog gates.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for marshalling duties on the day, please contact Alan Kimber on CM 271754 or Email [ajkimber@hotmail.com](mailto:ajkimber@hotmail.com).

*Carol Franklin*

## THE LACON LOTTERY

The June prize winner in the Lacon Childe draw was Derek Swain, who collected £70 for his £10 investment.

### SILLY BIT

'If you wish to smoke on this plane, the smoking section is on the wing and if you can light 'em up, you can smoke 'em.'  
(US Airline Flight Attendant)





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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## MANOR ALE FOR SEVERN RAIL



*Fireman Tim Clarke and Hobson's  
Clare Kerby toast The Severn  
Valley Railway's 50th.*

In July, Severn Valley Railway celebrated its 50th birthday. One of its supporters is Hobson's Brewery, which has now joined the railway's charitable trust.

The Manor ale carries a picture of 7812 Erlestoke Manor, one of the Manor Class locos that work on the line. Due back into service very soon is 7802 Bradley Manor, which will help the line's Manor 50 celebrations this November. And Manor ale is now available on draught from your local hostelry.

## JUST A THOUGHT

Our thanks to Julie Grimes at Carrot Tops for this very sensible suggestion. Although we print 870 copies of The Clarion every month, there are people who miss out and can't find one. If they don't have access to a computer, they can't use the on-line version either.

So Julie suggested that we put a little note in, suggesting that if you've finished with your copy, why not take it back to the shop and let someone else catch on local news. Just an idea; let's see if it catches on.

The alternative would be to print more, but the monthly bill has climbed quite a lot since we started and the editor does have a mortgage to pay.

## ROCK WALKS

The Rock Pathfinders dates for August. On the 6th, they meet at 10.30 at Eckington Wharf Picnic Place, by Eckington Bridge on the B4080 south west of Pershore. For sat navvers it's at WR10 3DD and for Ordnance Survey map readers, 922422. They advise that you bring a packed lunch.

On the 20th, again at 10.30, they gather at the Button Oak Inn at Kinlet, DY12 3AQ or OS 751780. More information from Alan on 01299 400304 or [www.rockvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.rockvillagehall.co.uk)

## BEWDLEY FESTIVAL

Now in its 28th year, this is one of those events where you're spoiled for choice. The line-up of stars this year includes Leo Sayer, Mari Wilson, Toyah Wilcox, Dr Phil Hammond with his slant on comedy, science presenter Professor Alice Roberts, food critic Jay Rayner and two experts from the Antiques Roadshow: Hilary Kay and Paul Atterbury.

That's just some of the evening attractions. During the day there's a range of presentations, from Robert Lewellyn of 'Red Dwarf' through to cartoonist Martin Rowson and 'The Archers' scriptwriter Joanna Toye.

The Festival runs from October 9th to the 18th and tickets are on sale now. Look up [www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk](http://www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk) for details or there should be a free flyer at the place you collect your Clarion from. It really is a wonderful week of great attractions, right on our doorstep. Enjoy.

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## NICE ONE, LADIES



*Sonia and Tara Beech and Victoria Williams looked amazingly fresh after their Midnight Walk.*

Congratulations to Victoria Williams and Sonia and Tara Beech for their fund raising efforts for Kemp House Hospice. They joined in the Magical Midnight Walk in Wyre Forest on June 20th and collected a total of £400 for the Kidderminster based charity.

It's an all-female event, with men allowed to marshal and help on the fringes. With lights moving along the five kilometre walk, the place comes alive and it's a great, happy social occasion.

Like so many great charities, Kemp House depends upon its army of volunteers to operate and donations to make ends meet. The NHS covers 20 percent of the operating costs, the rest comes from local fund raising. All to provide care for a variety of needs at no charge.

## SUMMER HOLIDAY EVENTS FOR KIDS AT STOTTESDON

The Old Vicarage Centre at Stottesdon has a big programme of events for children available through the school summer holiday period. It includes Adventure Days, Laser Days, Paddle Sports Days, and Family Days in the impressive facility. Too many details to list here, but a call to them on 01746 718436 or a visit to [www.vac.co.uk](http://www.vac.co.uk) will tell you more.

## THE NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND - NEW BLOOD NEEDED

The Nightingale Nursing Fund is a charity run by a small team, who have been taking care of it for some years. We do need people with fresh ideas on fund raising.

Patients and families who have benefited from the nursing care provided at times of a medical crisis really appreciate it. The care is non means tested and initially pays up to 60 hours of nursing.

We are holding an AGM on 9th August at the Sports and Social club in Cleobury Mortimer at 7.30 p.m. The

annual audited accounts have to be agreed.

It will be quite a casual, informal meeting, so please feel free to join us and give us your ideas and comments regarding your fund. Everyone will be made most welcome.

*Rosemary Abbiss*

## KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

We are on our summer holidays at the moment, but wanted to say congratulations to all of the local Early Years settings and schools who took part in this year's Cleobury in Bloom competition. We have all been trying our best to grow peas this year, and it sounded like there had been mixed results due to weather, but once again everyone had done a good job. KFP received a 'Highly Commended' award for our efforts, and a prize of a bee house which we have placed near to Playgroup so we can keep a safe eye on it from our playground.

*Zoe Pearson*

## SILLY BIT

'Foreign Aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries.'  
(Douglas Casey, friend of Bill Clinton)

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## WHAT ON EARTH IS STEM?

It's a government programme to develop younger children's interest in the world of industry. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths; subjects most people would never pick to excite the imagination of children caught up in Harry Potter and the like.

You'd be wrong to think that, as a June afternoon at Cleobury Primary School showed in a very convincing style. Teachers were there to back up the technicians and scientists, all from Malvern Instruments, who were showing simple experiments to stir imagination. In one room a laser beam was bent as it travelled through a vacuum vessel, intriguing most of the children apart from one young lady who seemed determined not to get involved. The scientist was equal to that challenge and handed out chewy sweets that changed colour in the beam; there was a queue for that. The effect upon some could be judged by a six year old, walking around and asking "Yes, but how do they do it?" That sort of enquiring mind in one so young promises well for his future; they were sewing seeds to develop later.



*Science and technology are fine, but free sweets do add to the appeal.*

In another room children were learning about the power of a vacuum by moving water from a vessel to a small tank. Told what to do, they learned fast and most could achieve the task.

Malvern Instruments made no charge for their time, but they certainly made their mark on most of these youngsters. Who knows what career path they'll choose with that experience behind them? The country needs scientists and people happy to work in industry; this is a move to make that option attractive.

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

By invitation of Chairman Flo we held a Big Lunch in the grounds of Catherton House in

June. A glorious day and we were entertained by a singer who sounded very like Frank Sinatra.

The idea was to celebrate with food we had produced and our members came up with some delicious dishes. Whilst we were sampling the food, a young man by the name of Sonny moved around and mystified us with some card tricks. They were amazing and we could not work out how he did it. We were also able to stroll around Pete and Flo's lovely garden which as usual was looking stunning. Our sincere thanks to them for this event.

For our meeting this month we will be visiting the Dorothy Clive Garden at Market Drayton.

*Liz Smurthwaite*

### IMPORTANT!

There's a Crime Reduction Group meeting at 7.00 o'clock on August 6th and it is important. On the agenda is the project to issue every household in the parish with a free Smart-Water kit. That's a big investment for someone, a big saving for the town and a great big turnoff for thieves.



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Fire and Rescue Service

**On-Call Firefighters Cleobury Mortimer  
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Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is currently looking to recruit on-call firefighters at Cleobury Mortimer Fire Station. On-call firefighters agree to be available for a certain number of hours per week; they carry a pager and must be able to get to the fire station within five minutes. For this they are paid between £1,587 - £2,116 per annum (dependent on contract) as a Retaining Fee plus payments for attending incidents and drill evenings at Cleobury Mortimer fire station.

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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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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## LEANNE, BRINGING BEAUTY TO YOU



*Have car, have quality equipment, will call. Leanne's new business.*

Leanne Newman is well known in the area, though she's worked on luxury cruisers and in Five Star health spas as she perfected her skills as a Beauty and Massage Therapist. And last month she launched Delivered Beauty, her new mobile treatment business.

The response has been really positive, her first advert in the Clarion bringing three new clients and others who have known her for years have been calling. The logic behind the service is clear: "Over the years I'd seen how parking and time issues stressed clients, and this led to me setting up business to provide a hassle free relaxing

experience. I arrive with a comfortable massage couch, luxury covers, scented oils and soothing music. In the comfort of your own home you can relax after your treatments."

She's well qualified and is still working to broaden her range of treatments. She already offers a wide range of Beauty and Massage treatments, diet and nutrition advice, plus Reiki and Hopi ear candles. And soon she'll add Indian head massage to the list. Naturally she has full insurance cover.

She can cater for pamper parties and has gift vouchers for that special occasion. She uses Dead Sea Magik's skin friendly range, allergen free with no parabens or animal ingredients. And for makeup application she opts for the Laura Geller range for a flawless complexion.

Her professionalism shows in her presentation and she's already been asked to treat some clients' family members. A warm and friendly style is genuine and she's learned to chat when the client wants to and remain silent if you prefer. And with a smile like that, you can see that she's bound to succeed.

## ROCK VILLAGE SHOW

A traditional horticultural and village show will be held in the Village Hall and on the Millennium Green at Rock village on Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup> at 2.00. We have had a good summer so far and look forward to a good entry of vegetables, fruit and flowers. Also on show will be jams, cakes, flower arrangements and photographs. Entries must be exhibited by 11.30am ready for judging.

The Bewdley Town Band will entertain, followed by Severnside Dance school. Entry to the show is free with free parking and we hope to make this a superb country show.

Show schedules can be downloaded from Rock Village Hall website, [www.rockvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.rockvillagehall.co.uk) and are also available from local shops.

*Bob Marriott*

## SILLY BITS

**The reason politicians try to get re-elected is that they would hate to have to make a living under the laws they've just passed.**

**Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.**



# CLEOBURY THE COUNTRY CENTRE

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- Food Hygiene Level 2: 21st Sept, 9am - 4 pm
- Manual Handling: 24th Sept, 9am-1pm
- Level 4 Health & Safety: 7,8,9,14 &15th 9am-4pm

**Business Networking this month:**  
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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### ARCHIE'S BIG DAY

Archie Luckett travelled down to Bray in Berkshire, with his mum Rae and teacher Mrs Claire Shelley, to meet Heston Blumenthal at his famous restaurant and have his own recipe cooked by one of Heston's chefs. This is Archie's own report, written for Abberley Parochial Primary School's website:

"On Friday 3rd July Mrs Shelley, my mum and myself went to Bray for the final part of my prize. We had a BBQ made by Heston's chefs. While the man from the 'UK SPACE AGENCY' was talking about space food Heston just appeared! It was really hard to listen what the man was saying because a celebrity was standing right in front of me!

The BBQ was really, really, good because the burger was lovely, the chips were lovely, the olives were lovely, everything was lovely and tasty. We were allowed to taste the new space food that Heston has created from our deas. It tasted out of this world! However we are not allowed to say what the food was as it is TOP SECRET. "

A great day out for the winners in this national competition and encouragement to original thinking.

### THE FAR FOREST SHOW EXPANDS TO TWO DAYS

August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> sees the new look Far Forest Show, bigger than ever. There'll be seven hours of entertainment to look forward to each day including live music, medieval battles, dog, falconry and dance demonstrations as well as fair and tractor rides.

Inside the food marquee, The Five Chefs will be showing their skills and cooking up delicious dishes using local produce. The marquee will also be full of food traders from all over the country. The Home-craft and Hobbies marquee will have loads of unique gifts for you to buy. There'll be an art exhibition in the Pavilion and the Horticultural marquee will be packed with flowers.

Outside the there'll be hundreds of stands and you can meet the animals in the livestock section. No wonder the children love this show.

The show is run by a small band of volunteers, and they'll be on duty when the gates open at 10.00am at the Callow Hill Showground on the A456.

Go to the website for more information; [www.farforestcountrysideshow.btck.co.uk](http://www.farforestcountrysideshow.btck.co.uk). Admission on the

gate is £8 for adults, £5 for children and under-fives go free. Family tickets cost £17.

### MOFFATTS' "BEST SCIENCE TEACHER"

#### HEADS FOR BURWARTON

Mal Theaker is actually modest, even if he does describe himself as "the school's best (and only) science teacher". Not a lot of competition there, it seems.

He's a popular figure and has a deft touch at craft and woodwork, which he'll be demonstrating at the Burwarton Show on August 6<sup>th</sup>. On the Moffatts stand will be a range of his handmade prizes to be won by anyone who can move a loop around a wire puzzle without setting the alarm buzzer off. Not as easy as it looks, it requires a steady hand and concentration.

The Burwarton Show is a great attraction, the largest one day country show in Britain. The entertainment in the Main Ring starts at 8.15 and the last display is scheduled for 6.50 in the evening. It really is a great day out.

#### SILLY BIT

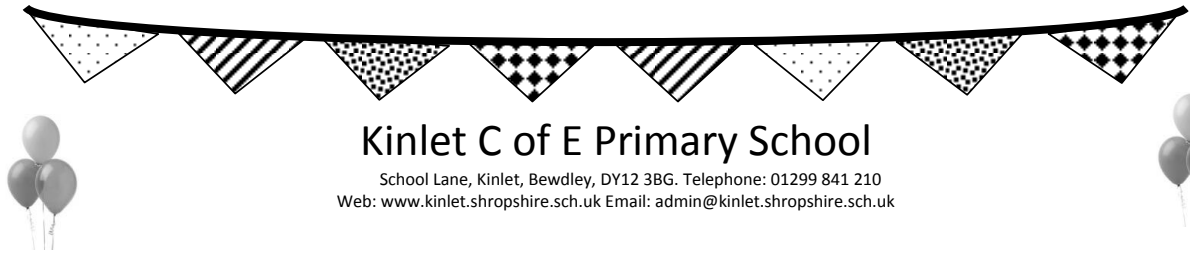
"I find it generally advisable not to eject directly over the area you just bombed."

(US Pilot and Senator John McCain, a man with a capacity for stating the very obvious)

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## Kinlet C of E Primary School

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# The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

## Lumps and Bumps



**Becky Robinson,**  
**Associate Vet, Severn**  
**Edge Veterinary**  
**Group, offers some**  
**sound advice**

Over the last few weeks we've seen quite a few pets brought in with 'lumps and bumps', so I thought I would share a few insights about them and what they might be.

A lump on your pet can be one of many things. Sometimes it will be nothing to worry about, but occasionally it will be a sign of something nasty, and if so we need to know early so we can help your pet get better.

We recently had Jet, a beautiful six-year-old black Labrador, brought into our branch to see me. Her owner had noticed a lump on her side which was getting bigger. It had started relatively small but had progressed to being about the size of a tennis ball. With most lumps, it's often not possible for a vet to tell exactly what it is by look and touch alone. In cases such as these we will take a small sample with a needle and look at it under a microscope in a laboratory.

This can normally happen right away, without having to put the dog under anaesthesia, and more often than not they don't even notice that we've taken a sample. Most of the time this is all we need to do to work out what it is.

Back to Jet: she was as good as gold when I took a sample of her lump and didn't even flinch. When I looked at it under the microscope, I could see it wasn't just a fatty lump (a lipoma) so I sent the slide off to the lab to tell me exactly what cells they were. The laboratory identified it as a cancer, and one that could potentially spread. As a

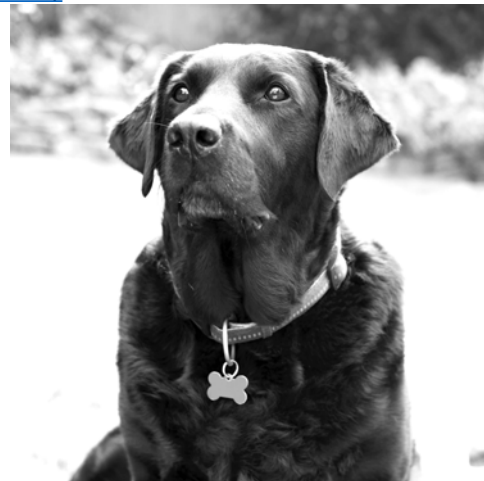
result, I knew that the lump had to come off and I had to be sure I removed the whole thing otherwise it would come back.

Jet was booked in for surgery a week after we got the results and I'm pleased to say it was a success, and she is recovering nicely. When Jet and her mum recently popped in to have her stitches checked she looked great. She is now cancer free and can look forward to years of happy, healthy life.

So please remember: if your furry friend develops a lump or bump, take them to your vet so they can make sure there's nothing to worry about. Hopefully it will be nothing, but if it isn't then they will need to act quickly like we did for Jet.

*Becky Robinson*

<https://www.severnedgevets.co.uk/staff/becky-robinson/>



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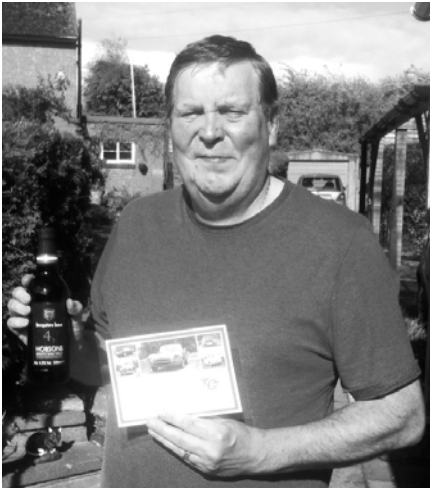
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## Happening on High Street

### NICE ONE, BOB



*Lucky man Bob Pickard, who sank a pint in the Kings Arms and won a very special prize.*

Bob Pickard of Bayton was sinking a pint in the KA and decided to try Hobson's new Shropshire Stout. And what a good choice it was. He's won a drive in a Jaguar E-Type, the iconic classic that he worked on as a lad in David Dunnett's garage in Moseley, Birmingham.

There's a big cat on the label of the new stout and that pint brought Bob a chance in a lucky draw, driving one of the greatest Big Cats. Sounds like another good reason for paying a visit to the pub.

### GREAT JOB

The town cemetery is looking very much better these days; Parish Clerk Matt Sheehan reports that he has not had a

single complaint about unkempt grass or graves this year. And it's the result of a chance conversation on the street.

Matt saw old schoolmate John Davies at the bus stop and asked where he was going. Into Kidderminster, to do voluntary work to keep his hand in while he was looking for a job, John explained. In one of those light bulb moments, Matt asked if he couldn't work in his home town, where there was much to do. With permission of John's Kidderminster managers and Cleobury Parish Council it was agreed.

His first task was tidying up the town cemetery and he did such a good job that Matt got him working on the skate park and other play areas. Then the authority in Kidderminster asked if Tom Mount, another Cleobury man, could work here on the same scheme. A maths graduate, he has produced databases for the council and helps John with litter picking and gardening. They are both mentored by Matt Sheehan and Councillor Debbie Brown, who will also provide references if they go for a job.

"The work done in the community by these two deserves a big 'Thank You'"

said Matt. It's one of those happy arrangements that gives two people a better chance of work and work in the town gets done at no cost. What you would call a real result.



*Good workers. John Davies on strimmer, Tom Mount on backup.*

### IMPRESSIVE LADY

Jo Apperly at Red Hare sorted out my overgrown mop at short notice, the salon busy and almost fully booked. She asked if we could mention in the Clarion that she needed a new apprentice, Chelsea having competed her training and now a stylist. Of course we could, and Sits Vac adverts are free. Could she get it to me that coming weekend? That was at 1.30 and at 3.30 the advert came up on my computer screen. She'd done it in a busy day, between styling jobs. Wow!

## M D Taylor

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## A STANDING OVATION

'An Evening With Peter Williams' was a toe-in-the-water operation, as it was a new experience for this famous motorcycle racer and for me. But a crowd of almost 100 people filled most of the available chairs, some warmed by a pint of the Peter Williams Beer that Hobson's produced for the occasion. A feather in their cap for our local brewery, always ready to cooperate.

Peter is unusual in that he has a range of talents, from engineering knowledge through a capacity for original ideas to a championship winning riding ability. All of this was revealed, along with a very modest manner and a frank ability to criticise himself; he seems to have no ego at all. At the end of the evening the audience rose to give him a standing ovation. A really decent man, still thinking about the new concepts in his 70s. JR

## A WOOLLY APPEAL

The Severn Hospice Knit and Knatter group are going from strength to strength and between 10 and 15 ladies meet every Friday afternoon from 2.00 until 4.00 at St Mary's Place. Latest projects have included a stylish tank top for Nick at Hobsons, some cute hedgehogs for the Hedgehog

Preservation Society and fish and chip outfits for premature babies in Africa, not to mention the great items they knit for the Craft Club to sell at Summer sales. All this knitting activity has lead to a shortage of wool! If anyone has spare wool they no longer want, from oddments to full balls, the ladies would be very grateful and will put it to good use. Donations can be dropped off at St Mary's Place or I can collect; please contact me on 01299 270647.

*Catherine Evans*

## THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

**Graham Simpson brings us up to date with what the CMFA are doing this summer.**

Our social walks take place on the 4th Saturday of the month and cover a wide territory. 15 CMFA members enjoyed a 7.5 mile walk in the sunshine on June 27th finishing with lunch at the Lock in Wolverley - try their "Flaming Hot" burger if you dare. In July we have walked on the Long Mynd and our August 22nd walk will be in the Little Hereford area. Contact [zellcmfa@gmail.com](mailto:zellcmfa@gmail.com) if you would like to join us.

On August 9th, we will be leading a walk on the Simon Evans Way as part of the War Walks on the Home Front series please book via

[cleoburyval@gmail.com](mailto:cleoburyval@gmail.com) Our Parish Walk on August 2nd will also follow part of the Simon Evans Way doing some clearance as we go - so please bring a pair of secateurs.

Later in the month on August 29th we will be leading linear walks through the Wyre Forest with 6 or 10 mile options. Again pre-booking required - this time at [walks@eaglelane.co.uk](mailto:walks@eaglelane.co.uk)

More details on [www.cmfa.co.uk](http://www.cmfa.co.uk) including the Food & Ale Trail on September 5th

*Graham Simpson*

## CLEOBURY W.I.

We were out and about for our July meeting and in spite of the rain had a very enjoyable evening exploring Gill Guest's flower garden at Cleanlyseat. She told us about the flowers and how to create a tied bunch, then we went out to pick flowers and foliage to make our own bunches. We enjoyed tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

Our September meeting on the 8th, at 7.30 in the Market Hall will be welcoming John Carter, who is going to talk about antiques and also identify and value items brought in by the group. Everyone is welcome. For further details contact me on CM 270470.



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## Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

As a country we have seen a strong economic turnaround in the past few years since overcoming the impact of the Great Recession in 2008. Rural areas like Shropshire were badly hit, as work dried up and people had to rely on welfare to stay afloat.

When the last Coalition Government came into office in May 2010, there were 1,054 people in the Ludlow Constituency claiming Jobseekers Allowance, 2.6% as a proportion of economically active 16-64 year olds. The most recent Office for National Statistics report - from May this year - show the number of people in the Ludlow Constituency relying on JSA to get by fell to just 408, or 1% of the economically active population. That means over 60% of those relying on out-of-work welfare in 2010, have ceased to be dependent on welfare and are now receiving a regular pay-packet. That means more security for local families.

I know for some it can seem like decisions taken in Westminster have little impact in Shropshire. But these figures clearly show how our economic reforms are having a positive effect right here in South Shropshire. Recent figures from the RBS regional growth tracker show economic growth in Shropshire is outpacing most other areas of the West Midlands, at 3.1% for the first three months of this year.

All this is good news for Shropshire, and it's vital we maintain conditions that encourage this growth over the long term. So the Chancellor used his budget speech last month to set out a plan for ensuring the UK's economic future is secure. I am sure people across Shropshire will welcome the Chancellor's announcement of a new National Living Wage. If you are over 25, this will mean a minimum hourly rate of £7.20 from next April,

rising to £9 an hour by 2020. A direct pay rise for 2.5 million people across the country.

The Budget also brought positive steps for Shropshire, including a 50% rise in the Employment Allowance. A new £3,000 allowance will mean local firms can employ four people, full time on the new National Living Wage, and pay no National Insurance contributions at all. This will give small businesses the confidence to take on extra staff as they grow.

Shropshire has one of the largest road networks of any county in England. So local motorists will welcome the decision to amend Vehicle Excise Duty and put it back to its original purpose – to spend on maintaining our roads. The commitment to maintain the freeze on fuel duty will also help Shropshire motorists every time they fill up at the pump.

I was also delighted that the Chancellor committed to maintaining spending of at least 2% of GDP on defence for each year of this Parliament, fulfilling our commitment to NATO allies. This will provide a real terms increase in defence spending, which as Minister for Defence Procurement, gives me renewed confidence that I can ensure our troops have the kit they need to meet our defence commitments for the next five years.

I support our ambition to move Britain from a low wage, high tax and high welfare economy to a high wage, low tax and low welfare society. This is the right direction for Shropshire and for Britain. I look forward to playing my part in helping create the conditions for growth, jobs and security in the Ludlow Constituency.

*Philip Dunne*

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## The August Clarion Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone
Sat 1st	8.00	Sale of Household Goods at the Knowle Sports Ground. Great Bargains to be had.		
Sun 2nd	10.00	CMFA Parish Walk. Meet at the Parish Church PAGE 25		
Wed 5th	2.00	Quantum Theatre bring their adaption of 'Tales of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunnt' to Croft Castle, near Yarpole in Herefordshire. HR6 9PW on the satnav		01568 780246
	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington's fine Village Hall, which has a decent car park.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thurs 6th		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	8.15	Activity in the main ring at Burwarton Show gets underway and will run on beyond 7pm in the evening		
	10:30	Rock Pathfinders meet at Elkington Warf Picnic Place, near Pershore. PAGE 9		
	7:00	Crime Reduction Group, big news about Smart Water PAGE 13		
Fri7th	11:00	The Edwardian Dessert Cook is an afternoon of period cookery. Croft Castle, near Yarpole. Se August 5th above.		
Sat 8th / Sun9th	10:00	The Far Forest Show grows to two days with enough entertainment to keep you there all of the seven opening hours. Great family event, highly recommended		
Sun9th	10:30	CMFA War Walks on the Home Front		cleoburyval@gmail.com
	11:00	'Dance like a Georgian' brings the Avoncroft Dance Group to Berrington Hall, near Leominster on A49 to show how they did it in the 18th Century		01568 615721
	7:30	Annual General Meeting of the Nightingale Nursing Fund, Sports and Social Club,		
Wed 12th	7:30	The Royal British Legion meets at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thurs 13th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 14th	11:00	Making 18th Century Ice Cream shows how they made it in time long ago. At Berrington Hall off the A49 near Leominster. HR6 0DW		01568 615721

### THE CLARION ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB

If you miss your copy on the first day of the month, you can always catch up with the local news via our website: [www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk).

All 60 pages are there, including the adverts, at the touch of a few buttons.

We know that we have readers in New Zealand and Singapore via the web - do you know of any other overseas readers? If so, please advise the editor and we'll try to acknowledge those distant supporters with a mention.



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## The August Social Calendar Continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone
Fri 14th	7:30	Open House at 10 Church Street, where John and Judy Sant will be offering a cheese board and glass of wine for the £5.00 entrance charge, raising funds for CoCo and the WI.		
	8:00	Bingo Night at Cleeton St mary Village Hall		
Sat 15th	2:00	Clows Top Summer Garden Show, Victory Hall PAGE &		
Wed 19th	1:00	'Pride and Prejudice' with laughs offered by The Pantaloons at Berrington Hall.		01568 615721
	8:00	Whist Drive at Doddington's fine Village Hall, which had a decent car park.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
	7:45	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane.	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 21st	8:00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. See August 5th above		
Sat 22nd	9:30	Early start for CMFA Social Walk.		zellcmfa@gmail.com
Wed 26th	7.45	Clows Top Gardening Club gather at Victory Hall to hear Alf Jenkins talk about War-time on Clee Hill.	Marion Wilson	CM 270475
Thurs 27th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 28th	8:00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. See August 5th above.		
Sat 29th	9.30	CMFA Wyre Forest Walks. Please pre-book. PAGE 25		walks@eaglelane.co.uk
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER...		
Wed 2nd	8:00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 3rd		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Sat 5th		The Food and Ale Trais is here again. PAGE 7		
	2:00	Rock Village Show is in the wonderful Village Hall and on the Millennium Green Traditional Country show is the aim, so expect jams, cakes teas to figure strongly.		

## CLARION ADVERTISING

It certainly seems to work for those who invest in these pages. One customer, who missed a few months through a misunderstanding, told us he saw a drop off in enquiries and that normally he's busier on the phone early in the month with people who've seen his advert here.

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A beautifully presented detached property located in Little Hereford. Having been maintained and upgraded by the current owners the property provides the following spacious accommodation: two double bedrooms, family bathroom, lounge with log burner, large open plan living kitchen, utility and useful detached garage. Delightful gardens to the side and rear with gravelled driveway, lawned areas and garden shed. Energy Rating TBC

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A beautifully presented detached property located just off Berrington Road in a desirable area of Tenbury Wells. This truly unique house has wonderful accommodation including: good sized entrance hall, cloak room with WC, utility, two double bedrooms (master with ensuite), family bathroom, conservatory, kitchen, open plan living/dining room and integrated garage. Energy Rating C.

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#### ST MICHAELS

A large extended detached dormer property in the popular village of St Michaels offering generous accommodation of lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen with breakfast room, four bedrooms, garage and utility. All set in large landscaped gardens with views to the rear and generous driveway parking. Viewing recommended to appreciate the position and size of accommodation on offer. Energy Rating E.

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#### TENBURY WELLS

Large detached Victorian town house with original period features including decorative Victorian tiling and fireplaces. Accommodation: lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen and four bedrooms (master with ensuite). Good sized gardens to the front and rear with lawned areas, paved seating area and driveway. Energy Rating E.

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#### TENBURY WELLS

A newly built detached cottage style property on the outskirts of Tenbury Wells, still within walking distance to the towns local amenities. Having 2/3 bedrooms and 3 reception rooms the property is set on a total plot of 3.4 acres which includes gardens, 3 acre paddock and useful yard having outbuilding ideal for operating business from home. Energy Rating D

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#### OLDWOOD

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## On The Market - Clare Todd, the Lady in Charge



*Mrs Todd in office mode, where things are a little quieter.*

Cleobury Country Farmers' Markets were launched in April 2013. There had been an experiment in 2012, run by Chris Dimond and Sue Davis, that went well and sewed a seed. In 2013, with Clare in charge, the flower blossomed.

There was a lot of work done before it all started: "Negotiating with the church wardens, getting a grant from the Parish Council and licences from Shropshire Council, planning consent for the shed to store all the stuff in and getting a Community Chest grant to buy the shed - we got a good price from M&M for that." And the idea worked

well, so much that a group of traders told her that if she didn't carry on through the winter months, they'd do it.

Ground rules were laid down, to ensure that it remains a true local produce market. Stall holders must sell produce or goods that are locally sourced within a 35 mile radius. If you have a local craft, there's the neighbouring Market Hall with its own show on the same Saturday; the Farmers Market is in and around the church, of course.

To encourage new stall holders, there's a free place for one month as a 'Featured Business' and the Community Table is available for local associations and groups to show off their causes, free of charge.

Estimates of attendance varied at the beginning, so Clare bought a clicker and counts the customers every month. There's an average of about 200 through the year, with a rise to 300 for Christmas.

She's involved with setting up the site on the day before the market, and is there at 7.30 Saturday morning to see the

traders in and help them unload. It works smoothly, the people there to sell getting on with the job to be ready for the 9.30 opening. At £10 for a stall it's an affordable place to trade.

By 1.00 it's all over, apart from the odd straggler. Traders don't waste time and clear away very quickly; normally Cleobury Country directors David Webb and come down to help Clare, regulars Steve and Iris Todd and whichever staff members are there help to clear away. It takes about an hour to stow all the equipment in the shed behind the Market Hall and the day's over.

Few people will realise that the staff and Clare are not paid for this Saturday work. They're a keen lot who want the whole idea to succeed.

Future plans? "We'll have features, like the apple pressing booked for September. Things like that do give the day a lift. But not too much, because it makes more work."

And it's mildly profitable, which is split with the church. "Not a lot, really," she admits. "It wouldn't pay wages." A labour of love, then.

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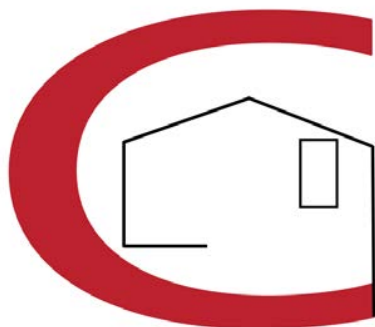
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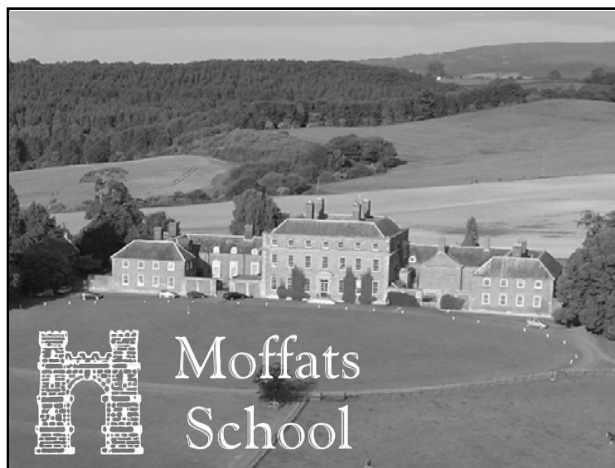
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## Farming - John and Catherine Evans

As always this month's discussion comes down to the weather. In the middle of June the harvest was going to be early, everything was ripening and we needed to take a holiday soon before combining started. Now, in the middle of July, we are still waiting for the corn to ripen sufficiently to start and it is likely to be next week, 21<sup>st</sup> July. The harvest always starts around the 21<sup>st</sup> July – how do I know this? It's our wedding anniversary! Top tip to any future farmer's wives – don't get married in the summer as you will never get to celebrate your anniversary (assuming he even remembers)

So August is the month of the Harvest, fields and roads full of giant machinery, size really is everything and it is always a race against the clock to get the crops combined and the straw baled before the weather changes. Hopefully the good weather we have been experiencing will continue well into September. The first crop to be combined will be the winter barley, most of which is used to feed our own stock, next will be oats, and those with oilseed rape will also be harvesting it. The largest crop is wheat, some of which is used

by us and the rest is sold, mainly for pig and chicken feed. Corn is traded globally and the price fluctuates due to events throughout the world. A poor harvest in Russia or USA could mean a good price for UK farmers but when they have a good harvest the price for us plummets. So, when a crop is planted in the Autumn or Spring there is no guarantee of what it will be worth the following August or September. We try to sell our surplus crops throughout the year to smooth out some of these variations. After wheat comes beans, these are for animal feed too, although if the quality is good enough, some are exported to the Middle East for human consumption.

Here at Broome Park we have new arrivals – nine baby chicks. Mother Hen sat on 20 eggs so I am quite relieved only nine hatched out, hopefully the majority will be hens and not cockerels as I already have two of those. We will also be getting another couple of weaners in August to fatten up for bacon and sausage for next year's B&B guests.

*John and Catherine Evans*



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# Clarion Coppers with CPSO Nick Morris



Between June 15th and 18th, damage was caused to a door handle and lock of a vehicle parked in St Mary's Place, but no entry was gained. In Grove Meadow between June 13th and 23rd there was an attempt to enter a garage, but although entry was not gained, damage was incurred to the lock. On June 25th/26th power tools were stolen from a garden shed in Bagginswood. Extra security paid off when an attempt to steal a parked Landrover Defender in College Close was foiled. It happened at about 11:00pm on June 26th and two males were chased as they ran away from the scene, but unfortunately not caught.

The Fire Brigade attended two deliberately caused fires by the skateboard park on July 7th, thought to be by youngsters, but there were no witnesses. There was a shed burglary overnight at a smallholding in Button Bridge on July 7th/8th, in which power tools were stolen. Five other sheds at the same location were forced open, though nothing more appeared to have been stolen. A caravan which was kept in a secure yard at a house in Kinlet was broken into between July 8th and 11th. Equipment stolen and damage caused amounted to over £3000. The owners had been due to go on holiday in it a few days after the discovery of this crime. Overnight on July 16th/17th a van parked in Rock was broken into and power tools stolen.

On July 13th there were two separate reports of loud bangs being heard. Elderly residents in Eagle Lane were alarmed when they heard what

sounded like gunshots a very short distance from their garden at approximately 4:00pm. Youths appearing to be aged about 15 were seen and at least one was wearing a school uniform. Later, at about 8:00pm, loud bangs in St Mary's Churchyard were reported to have been heard by an angry resident who went to speak to youths in the area who he thought were the perpetrators. It seems likely that youths had obtained some 'crow bangers', (used on farms for protecting crops from marauding birds). Although it is illegal to set these off in a public place, and by under 18s, there was probably no attempt to cause distress to anyone, - just a 'schoolboy prank'. However, if this continues, we'll be keen to speak to those involved.

A Crime Reduction meeting is being held at The Market Hall on Thursday, August 6th at 7:00pm. Among items to be discussed will be the project for Cleobury to become a 'Smartwater town' when it is envisaged that every household in Cleobury will be given a Smartwater kit to help protect their property. Also to be discussed is the proposed installation of two further CCTV cameras for which funding has been secured, and the need to upgrade the existing cameras to produce clearer, and therefore more useful, images. Everyone present will be given a chance to speak and put forward any ideas that they have which may help to reduce crime even more in the Cleobury area.

*Nick Morris*

The Clarion is on the web, from the 4th of every month:

**[www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk)**

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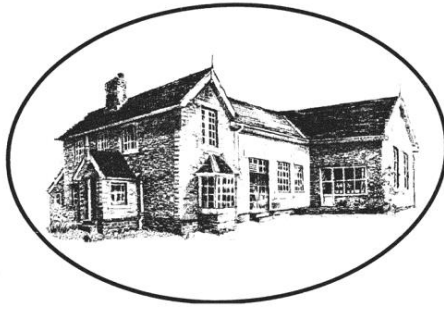
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At the start of the summer term the children at Bayton C of E Primary School have been busy helping Victoria Harrison create a mosaic which shows a poppy surround with the names of past pupils who lost their lives during the two world wars. I am pleased to say that the mosaic is now complete and has been hung on the external wall at the front of our school.



When making the mosaic the children take it in turns to work in small groups with Mrs Harrison arranging the pieces of glass to make the pattern. Mrs Harrison then glues the glass into place, leaving it to dry before the next day when more children contribute to the process. Eventually when the mosaic pieces are all glued she grouts the artwork and cleans it up before putting on display.



Finally, at the end of the summer term we said a sad farewell to our year six children who are mostly leaving here to go on to Lacon Childe for the step in their education. On their penultimate afternoon the children put on a performance for their families of a highly amusing play called The Pirates of the Curry Bean, which kept the audience in stitches throughout. All year six children were given awards according to some of their achievements during their time here and the afternoon was then completed by the rest of school singing the very emotional Leavers' Song. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new schools.

*We currently have places available in our new year 2 and year 5 classes. For further details about our school, contact the office on 01299 832393. Alternatively, visit our website at [www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk)*

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★★★★

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept - **70's & 80's THEMED DISCO** - Reminisce and boogie to some old school classics

★★★★

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept - **RUGBY WORLD CUP STARTS** - Featuring Home Nations games on a large screen TV

★★★★

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October - **FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY** - Spooky Fun & Games - Party Disco

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Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November - **FIREWORK PARTY** - Hosted by CRUVO

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Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November - **COVER GIRLS** - 1940's Musical Entertainment Night



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# Linda Iles

## August In The Wyre Forest



*"Bet Mum won't find us in here."*

There are plenty of forest-themed events going on this month.

The format of Wild in Wyre has changed a little over the years but still the aim is to give 8 – 11 year olds a time of fun and adventure playing in a secret forest location. This year Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August are available and one or both of the days can be booked by calling 0300 067 4855 or emailing [learning.west@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:learning.west@forestry.gsi.gov.uk). The days, which start at the Discovery Centre at 9.00am and end at 4.30, will be led by experienced Forestry Commission Learning Team staff and include shelter-building, fire lighting and making bows and arrows. The cost is £25 per day and a £10 deposit will be needed.

Make sure that you get to the Wyre Forest exhibition at Bewdley Museum over the school holidays. This is an introduction to the

forest for those who haven't been before, and even those of you who know it well may discover something new. You can find out about the archaeology hidden under the trees, learn how the landscape has inspired the arts, and have a go at the quiz centred around the display of weird objects. There will be some wildlife and craft activities for children, and during the month there will be a programme of 14 guided walks in the forest which will cater for a range of interests and abilities. I'd love to go on one of the Dusk Walks to listen for bats and owls, or walk from Bewdley to Cleobury. And will I rise to the challenge of the 7-mile Cleobury Food and Ale Trail? ('It depends how much you eat', I can hear my friends saying) Pick up a leaflet from the library, museum and other outlets around the town or call at the Forest Café or Forestry Commission offices when you're in the forest. The exhibition and 'Walking Festival' are brought to you by the Wyre Forest Landscape Partnership – a group of organisations and individuals who care for 'our forest' and want to share their enthusiasm and knowledge with others.

Don't forget the forest during the holidays. You have to pay if you park your car but the beautiful and varied habitats and their wildlife are there for you, completely free, each day.

*Linda Iles*

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# Clarion Calamity News - The Bus Service

## ON THE BUSES

It's official. The inmates have actually taken over the Asylum! Worcestershire Council have again awarded the 2L contract to Diamond Buses. The reason given is that they submitted the lowest tender (of two) and despite the fact that they have just been fined nearly £35,000 by the Traffic Commissioners for poor levels of service on other routes. You might think that this would colour the views of potential customers (i.e. Worcestershire and Shropshire councils) but apparently not, as the fine having been paid, no further notice has been taken of any infringement. Even 'Fawlty Towers' would have rejected this as a plot line...

Diamond Bus combustibility, fast becoming a legend, reared its head again the other week with the Cleobury fire crew being called out to Angel Bank to find another of their finest wreathed in smoke. Apparently there were no passengers on board which was a blessing – perhaps they had all been frightened off. Reliability is still a problem as a friend bought a weekly ticket for his daughter to go to Kiddy each day but had to go and collect her on two out of the first three evenings due to the non appearance of the 2L. There have also been a number of reports of buses awaiting rescue or under tow. Further to the time taken to get to Kiddy, the World record for the half marathon (just over 13 miles) is 58 minutes 23 seconds which means that the holder could leave Cleobury at

the same time as the 2L and still have time for a fag at the bus station before the bus rolled up. (*Editorial Intrusion: Excuse me, Mr Todd, but are you seriously suggesting that the holder of the World Record Half Marathon smokes?*)

Yet another trip to the Diamond depot in Kiddy in search of timetables yielded a nil result: 'All out with the drivers'. Later the same day, I asked a 2L driver for timetables. She had one, her own, which she kindly gave me. I am guarding this jealously as it could well be rarer than original copies of the 'Magna Carta'.

**Question:** When the timetable changes, how long does it take Shropshire Council to change the information at the bus stops to reflect this?

**Answer:** No idea, as the last change was on 31 May and as I write this on 25 July, they have still not been altered.

This will soon be academic as I am told that the timetable is to change yet again in September. Not sure if this will involve further diversions en route to Kiddy but there will be a small prize for the first person to correctly guess the new route. Suggestions to the 'Clarion' editor by 10 August please. (Helpful hint: a route via anywhere south of Buenos Aires is probably a non starter...)

Drivers are still charging users of the 9.14 £1 despite assurances from Shropshire Council dating back to last December that this was not happening. This charge has now been extended to Far Forest due to the earlier

running time. A (very) rough calculation indicates that this charge has raised around £600 from the stop in the centre of Cleobury alone so is this fraud or theft? No, I don't know either. I have asked Shropshire Council how they plan to claim it back but am still awaiting a response.

I have now written twice to the Traffic Commissioners about the 2L but have yet to receive an acknowledgement, let alone a response. Perhaps this is now official policy in the hope that the problem will go away. It won't. This edition goes to press before the LJC meeting on 28 July so a report will have to wait until next month. However, I gather that the Operations Director of Rotala (the parent company of Diamond) is due to attend although representatives of both Councils are likely to be conspicuous by their absence. 'Too expensive' apparently, although possibly not as expensive as throwing nearly £40,000 of taxpayers cash annually at a service that doesn't serve.

Sorry this is all negative but as one friend said : "At least Diamond don't run the Brewery"  
*Steve Todd*

## SILLY BITS

'Hockey is a sport for white men. Basketball is a sport for black men. Golf is a sport for white men dressed as black pimps.'  
(Tiger Woods)

## DISORDER IN COURT

Attorney: Doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

Witness: Did you actually pass



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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## LACON CHILDE ART EVENING

Not a widely publicised event, this was an opportunity for parents of Year 11 pupils to see some of the work they had produced.



It was a very impressive display of talent, both in the execution of the work and the imagination that triggered it. It showed how young brains can find inspiration in areas others might never consider. A statue fabricated from oddments, portraits of friends and a series of facial expressions in one man. Would you have ever thought of making a flower from a few old playing cards? There it was, much admired.



Mrs Wilson was there to meet and greet proud parents and she explained that three pieces of work were being considered for an exhibition in London. It was confirmed later that two of the three were chosen. More local talent being seen in the wider art world and a great incentive to other students.

## LAKE DIPPING

Not a pastime that comes automatically to mind at school holiday time, it's on offer at Berrington Hall, on the A49 near Leominster.

Children get a net and a '50 Things' scrapbook, for a visit to the lake with the rangers. There's a great array of wildlife there, including the heronry, to excite the imagination and curiosity of the younger ones. It costs £3.00 a child, and it happens on every Monday in August, from 2.00 until 3.30. You can book your places on 01568 615721.

## WHOOPS!

A number of readers have pointed out to the dim-witted editor that the Clarion that appeared on July 1st claimed to be the June issue. It wasn't, as a turn of the pages would reveal, it was simply an error by the man who really ought to know better. But it seems that he doesn't - clearly a slow learner.

## THE LIBRARY

The future of Cleobury Mortimer's library looks to be secure with the news that money is available for three branches of the County service, one of them being Cleobury.

The funds come from the Transformation Challenge Award, and are intended to help convert public buildings to

community led facilities. Just what the implication is for the library staff is not clear, but a report in the Ludlow Advertiser suggests that part of the funding might go towards helping voluntary groups handle provision of services.

## LUDLOW DOG DAY

July 19th saw some 3,000 visitors at Stokesay Court for this Ludlow Round Table event. There were 50 trade stands for the crowds to visit and at the end of the day a very impressive £20,000 had been made for local charities.

The automatic assumption after such a success is that it will become an annual occasion, but the organisers will get over their weariness before making any decision. Congratulations to all involved in such a splendid success.

## RAINBOW CANCER GOLF DAY



*Winner on the day, Mark Watson with his wife.*

Over 130 players turned out for the Rainbow Cancer Day at the Golf Club. The day was raising funds for the Rainbow charity and the result was £8,000 to help their support for cancer sufferers.

Club captain Jon Gaskell and his wife Ange organised the event and want to thank everyone who turned out in support.

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# The Clarion Wagon Is For Sale



It's been a faithful, roomy friend since I bought it February 2012. It was owned from new by the Prison Service, to ferry staff about, and had been fitted with a new engine in December 2012.

It's a Citroen C8 LX, with the well respected 2.0 litre HDi engine, which gives about 40mpg on a journey. It cruises very quietly at 70mph on Motorways and tackles the hills

on the monthly distribution run around South Shropshire's hills with little effort.

It has a five speed manual gearbox, a radio/CD unit, air conditioning and the previous owners left a fire extinguisher and a First Aid box in there.

There are seven seats, very comfortable according to my passengers, and they can be removed if you want to move bulky stuff. I take one rear seat out to get the 870 copies of the Clarion and boxes in there. The rear passenger doors slide open, making it easy to get out in a crowded car park; the coating on the door handles is peeling.

Servicing has been carried out by Ray Attwood of Stourport, a very good man with Citroens, who runs one himself as a customer car. It has four good tyres and a full service history;

there is the service handbook plus a file with a copy of all the items that have been dealt with in my ownership. Insurance is not expensive; I pay £391.03 for comprehensive cover for myself and my son driving.



Total mileage on July 28th was 88,768 . The MoT expires on December 10th. Offers close to £1800, please, to 01299 270642.

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### THE LACON LOTTERY

Winner of the £70 prize in the July draw was Mandy Smith. And in August - drawn early to boost someone's holiday money, perhaps? - it was Gil and Jane Dayus who came out on top. Congratulations to all of them.

### NORMA BRATT

Rosemary Thompson would like to thank all those who sent cards of sympathy and tributes, after the recent death of her mother Mrs Norma Bratt. Thanks also go to Cleobury Funeral Directors for arranging everything so efficiently.

Thank you

### STOTTESDON W.I.

I will begin with apologies to Jane Ward for erroneously promoting her exclusive floral silk hats as a horticultural event. As a former student of textile design I was even more sorry to miss the chance to create a decorative flower from her beautiful fabrics. The evening was much enjoyed by a good turn out of members with four visitors, all of whom were delighted to come away with a unique Sinamay silk Calla lily.

We hope to see friends this month at Burwarton Competition marquee, then at our Chorley Show WI stand on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, where

there will be items for sale; jam, jelly and chutney entries accepted on the day between 11.00 am – 12.00. Our own little show follows on 19<sup>th</sup> August 7.30 pm at Farlow Village Hall. Do drop in on one of the summer events.

Marian Wootton

### THE READING GROUP

Daniel Mason's 'The Piano Tuner' brought out a wide range of opinions, from enthusiastic approval to utter dismissal of this unusual story. All delivered in fairly calm tones, but did visitor Ron Booker foresee fierce arguments growing when he decided to bring a recording of the two pieces played on a grand piano in the wilds of Burma according to this work of fiction? If that was his intention, music certainly calmed any savage beast and left us in a mellow mood.

We are currently reading Edmund de Waal's 'The Hare With Amber Eyes' with plenty of time to digest and consider its contents. Some members had already read the work, but seemed willing to repeat. With no gathering in August, our next meeting is in September. Monday the 21st is the date, the Library the venue and 7.30 the time.

### LACON CHILDE

#### SPEECH DAY

Head Teacher Darren Reynolds was warm in his praise of the efforts of students and staff in opening the afternoon event. He went on to explain the formation of the Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust last October, which has seen Cleobury Mortimer and Clee Hill Primary Schools join, with Stottesdon adding to the number next month. The object is "to provide a more progressive, joined up approach to students' education within our extended community."

The school's results continue to be very good, the English Department producing the best levels of progress in all Shropshire, for the fifth year running. Other excellent results came in the measure of Progress and Achievement. He smiled when saying how happy he was that the school was bottom of the County league in one table - exclusion of students from school. In the year the students raised £4,152 for a range of charities.

A happy occasion that filled the Sports Hall completely as prizes were handed out and the winners applauded warmly. A good day.



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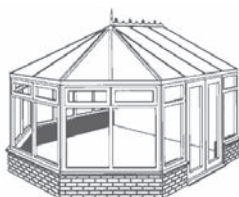
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## IN BUSINESS: We Glean

Peter Saunders is a highly trained upholsterer. The sort of craftsman who will take away a tattered antique chaise longue and bring it back looking like new. That skill comes from a long apprenticeship and a strong drive to do whatever job he faces to the highest possible standard.

He was getting refurbishment contracts from hotel chains and other big businesses, flat out to keep up with demand for his skill, when he was asked if he could clean as well as repair. With that question a new idea was born - he should offer a cleaning service as well. Not that he didn't have a full time job already, but no ambitious self employed person turns away work.

Spending time with a veteran cleaner in Oldbury taught him a lot. "He showed me how to mix the chemicals we use to clean and that's been really useful," he explains. "The household cleaners today have been so cut back in strength for safety reasons that you can't use them for some of the soiling we meet. So I buy the basic elements and mix my own to suit the job." The cleaning business has grown hugely and he's invested a lot of money to do the job efficiently, both commercial and private.



*Peter with sign written van. "Park it while I'm doing a job and I can guarantee I'll be asked for my card by the neighbours."*

He combines the two aspects of work to fill most weeks almost to overflowing. Including working a full weekend to complete a large cleaning job over the two floors of the Droitwich Medical Centre. There was no interruption of the Centre's work and Peter had four trusted subcontractors with him, plus a lad to help.

So how many hours a week does he work? "Difficult to say. If I'm doing upholstery work here in the workshop I normally start at about 7.30 in the morning and carry on until it's done, which could be late if there's a lot of details. I suppose

I must work about 80 hours most weeks."

Katie Saunders fits in her own job with paperwork and publicity for Peter, so this is a one-man and half-woman business. He'd like to take on an apprentice to pass on his skills and ease some of the workload. If he's found time to do it, there should be an advert on the Clarion Jobs page.

We Glean don't restrict work to the local area. If there's a big job some distance away, Peter will subcontract it to a known and skilful operator. For two people working from home, it's quite remarkable how much they can do and how far they reach.

That all sounds good, but what do customers say?

Clarion printer Linda Fowler: "We had Peter clean our carpets. A great job; quick, efficient and he moved the furniture. I asked if he could re-upholster a set of Victorian chairs. The job was neat, the corners perfect and best of all padded in keeping with their age. I have no hesitation in recommending We Glean."

And the dynamic Dinnie Jordan of Kudos Blends: "We Glean did a fantastic job, with much professionalism. Nothing is too much trouble."

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## MAWLEY MILK OPEN DAY

It's a sign of the growing popularity of the Robinson family's Open Day that they had a field reserved for visitors' parking. By 11.00 it was nearly full, even though the drive across that mighty uneven surface gave the family cars' suspension a severe workout.

The first sight was a row of machinery, from combine harvester to large tractors, which gave a hint at the capital investment in the place. Beyond that was the wind driven electric turbine, a reminder of the farm's move towards independent power generation; long term thinking much in evidence.

In the huge barn that is the milking parlour, the herd of Holsteins can come to be milked whenever they want to. The system is completely automated, the cow pushing the gate open and standing there as her teats are washed, the milking unit attached and she is free to go when it's over.



*Milking the Mawley way, all done by machine with no human intervention.*

Further on was the creche where the younger calves and pigs were kept, an obvious attraction for the younger children. All ages of visitors were queuing for the food, while Al Boden and The Organic Hillbillies kept them entertained.

Another fascinating glimpse at modern dairy farming and a fund raiser that totalled £1400 to be split between the Little Hearts Matter charity and Saint Mary's Youth Project.

And the Robinsons welcomed local churchgoers to their Songs of Praise evening, which raised £766 for the Birmingham Children's Hospital. Those are good people up on the hill.

## CLEOBURY YOUTH PARTNERSHIP BAND NIGHT

Local youth talent got a chance to perform on stage on June 26th at Band Night, held at Lacon Childe School. At the same time they were raising money to help local youth projects.

Local four-piece band Vision opened and closed the evening, with music ranging from Johnny Be Good through to the Arctic Monkeys. Danielle Andrews sang and played guitar for her own compositions and some covers, then Charlie and Jen harmonised in fine style for their set.

Tom Harris was something of a star, getting the room rocking along to some classics, then being joined by the bassist from Vision for an ear bashing Stand By Me. All this excitement on nothing stronger than orange juice!



*"Let me hear you, Cleobury!"  
Tom Harris works the crowd.  
(Picture by Richard Morley)*

"Some were first time performers, but given the level of professionalism you would be hard pressed to believe this. And it was encouraging to see how the other performers are getting more confident with each performance they give," said Vicky Turner. Our thanks to her for the other details in this report.

Cleobury Youth Partnership coordinates and fund raises to continue providing activities for young people in and around Cleobury Mortimer. On this occasion, they raised a handy £120.

## LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

This is the public meeting where we've been promised a representative of the group who own Diamond would be present. As it happened at 7.00 on July 28th, the day the Clarion was sent off to the printer, we cannot tell you what was said until next month's copy. We do expect Steve Todd, complete with sharp ears and acerbic wit, to be there and telling you more in September.

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#### BURFORD

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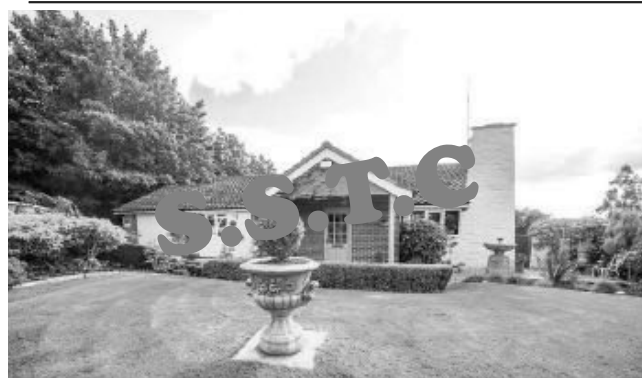
#### STOCKTON

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